

Huddersfield & District CTC



HeadSet Magazine Autumn 2013



www.huddersfieldctc.org.uk



HeadSet Magazine

The magazine of Huddersfield and District CTC
A local group of the Cyclists Touring Club
The national cycling charity

HeadSet is published twice a year, in the Spring and in the Autumn, and is usually distributed by email. If you want to make sure you receive your copy send your email address to the editor on: gpearce1@aol.com

If you do not have an email address and need a paper copy, please let me know and I will get it posted to you.

Some of our rides are specifically intended for beginners who have basic cycling skills. Newcomers are welcome on all of our rides. Please see the ride details to give you an idea of the route. If you have any questions please contact the Ride Leader. You do not have to be a member of CTC to join in our activities, although you are encouraged to join after coming on a number of rides.

For your own safety we recommend that you ensure your bicycle is in good working order and carry a spare inner tube and tyre leavers, just in case!

If you want any further information please visit our Web Site:

www.huddersfieldctc.org.uk or

contact any of the committee members listed below.

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Voice from the Vice (Chairman) & Editor

What a 6 months it has been! After the late winter snows, I can still feel the cold and wet feet after carrying my bike over about 1/2 an mile of snow drifts to get a mug of Tea at Langsett. Being continually battered with high winds and Rain, please see the report on our summer holiday!

It has also been a time of change and learning by the new members of the committee but I think that we are all getting to grips with our new jobs work to forward the interests of all cyclists in the area.

We are all thinking about the “Le Tour” and what a fantastic spectacle it will be. I am sure we will all be out riding the route as summer arrives whether this will be as part of an organised ride or as individuals lets savour the moment that the greatest show on earth come to Huddersfield.

On a personal note I would like to thank all of the people that have given their time to produce articles for this edition of HeadSet. I will be asking for even more contributions for the next edition whet I hope to introduce a “Letters to the Editor” page so get you thoughts on any cycling issues and get them to me ready for the Spring edition.

On a very serious note we have seen more that our fair share of accidents over the last 6 months. We must always remember that it hurts when we fall off our bikes and it can be more serious if we are involved in an accident with a motor vehicle. I recognise that wearing of helmets is a personal choice but let us make sure that we are as safe as we can be when we are out on the roads, especially on these dark and wet evenings, so let us make sure that we have lights that work and make sure that other road users can't say “Sorry Mate I Didn't See you”

Geoff Pearce

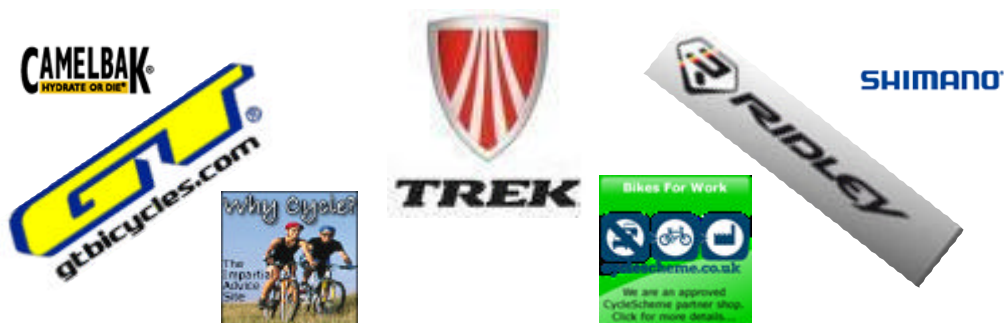


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Web Site: www.hargreaves-cycles.co.uk

Adventures on a Tuesday Evening.

Well I have enjoyed all my Tuesday evening rides in 2013. I hope you have?

The weathers been good and the company's been wonderful. I joke sometimes that I would happily go out on these routes on a Tuesday evening on my own. However, it's so much better to ride with such a friendly group of people whose participation makes the evenings ride even better.

I hope everyone has enjoyed this years Facebook updates and pictures of the Tuesday rides. Hopefully this has reflected the good nature of the ride and riders, despite the lumps and bumps I take you over whilst still trying to join in a conversation (I think Peter sees it a good excuse to ignore me as he doesn't always chat back to me when we are going uphill).

The club's Facebook page is intended for everyone in the club, so do feel free to add anything on our Facebook page you feel is relevant or otherwise amusing to all. And not just about Tuesdays.

Good to see the likes of Denise and Jim making use of Facebook.

As some infamous American once said, it's not just about the bike. And looking at the Facebook pictures, it's clearly not just about our bikes. But as long as your bikes almost roadworthy and gets you round, you are welcome on our rides. I don't think we have had a serious mechanical problem this year.

As I said, it's not just about the bike; it's the biscuits as well. Thanks to Susan for providing these, along with one or two others who might have jumped on the bandwagon and bought some along as well. Not being one to discourage this behavior, I am always happy to eat the biscuits just to be polite. I even go as far as taking the leftovers home.

And not just biccies, this year we expanded into scones and high teas. However, as Tuesday evening rides leader I might want to discourage this before we get too carried away. You never know, we might have to start having rides with designated tea breaks...and then it's only a short jump to a pub stop. I do intend to put a stop to this in case we all start to enjoy ourselves too much.

Two visits to Compo's and one Subway in one season is more than enough.

However, as a democratic club, if it's what you as the members want, who am I to say no.

I said we don't seem to have had any serious mechanicals problems on our Tuesday evening rides. However, we have had one serious mishap with Jim, a new rider this year, and his daughter Kayleigh, on only her second ride. Both were knocked off their bikes on the way to a Tuesday evening ride due to a car door opening in their path. Kayleigh came off worse with a head injury (no helmet) but after a couple of weeks in hospital she is otherwise pretty

much OK now. Hopefully we will see Kayleigh out on a club ride in the future and Jim said he would make sure she wears a helmet. (but that's a debate for another time).

It's been one of the benefits of having a club Facebook page to keep in contact with Jim after this happened. And to keep everyone else updated as well.

Most of the rides have been very well attended, with more than 15 riders on most evenings. I can only remember a couple of wet evenings, one of which was when we went into Calderdale. And as it was a warmer night a couple of us more hardy riders didn't bother with an extra jacket. We did get some colder sideways showers on the windmills ride too. But otherwise most evenings have been dry with excellent riding conditions. I would like to welcome several new riders this year. Hi to newcomers Karl, Rob, Jim, Keem, Dawn, and Steve who all came out on several rides this year. One of my highlights was the ride up Holme Moss where I believe three riders did this for the first time. And they all came out again.

I would also like to say thanks to a couple of regulars who have provided excellent back marker duties. To Mick I thank you for looking after a new rider who had come out from Leeds, who I thought I had lost somewhere in the Colne Valley. And for Nigel and Eaun, who have had great patience as back markers with one or two new riders who have struggled on our lumpier routes.

Your help has not gone unnoticed. And all the newer riders have said how helpful and friendly everyone in the group is.

This year we had a couple the new riders who came out who have really struggled on our routes. This just shows me that even though our rides are steady paced and sociable, we all have a very good basic level of fitness to do these rides week after week.

If you are new and intending to join a Tuesday night, you do need a basic level of cycling experience to get over our lumps and bumps. If in doubt I would recommend the club's easy rides or even the Sky Rides. However, if you do come along then we will always make sure we get you back again.

If you have any comments or suggestions about the 2014 season of Tuesday evening rides, please let me know by email to apriim@yahoo.com. If you have any routes to consider or even want to lead a Tuesday evening ride, then let me know. I won't be finalising the 2014 calendar until the end of January 2014.

New for winter 2013/14

For those of you who are missing the rides between October 2013 and April 2014, this winter I am going to lead a series of Tuesday evening rides on a Sunday morning. Eh? I hear you say. Tuesday evening rides on a Sunday morning? What's all that about?

Well, maintaining the spirit of the Tuesday evening rides, I intend to lead one ride per month on a Sunday morning. All will start at Somerset Bridge at the same time as the regular cub run, 10.00am. The rides will be longer than a Tuesday evening but should take only three to four hours with a possible tea stop. If you can get round on a Tuesday evening these rides will be ideal for you. The first one will be the longest at about 36 miles and the others will all be between 24 and 30 miles long.

Just enough to keep us thru the winter until next year's Tuesday evening season again.

See Headset or Facebook or email me for full ride details.

Hot of the press.

We have had the first of my Tuesday evening rides on a Sunday morning. We had a glorious sunny dry day on Sunday 6th Oct where 24 riders turned out to go to Penistone. Simon had devised the route from the windmills at Royds Moor to Penistone, avoiding the greenway, but finding some new hills. He also found an excellent café in Penistone.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the ride and route and in that case I would like to thank everyone that came out to make the ride such a success. I can't guarantee another day as good as this one was. The only way to find out is to come out on the next one. Details in our rides listing. (Pencil in the 10th Nov and 8th Dec)

If I don't see you before April 2014, have a good winter and stay safe on your bike. If you come out for a Tuesday/Sunday ride I'll see you there.

Thanks to everyone for making the Tuesday evening rides as good as possible for me and everyone else. There's not one Tuesday I can't remember enjoying myself when out on these rides.

Alan Priim Oct 2013



Right to Ride Representative Report by Peter Charnley

Late last year I received notification of the vacant post of Kirklees Ride to Ride representative from Lynette Evans [Kirklees Cycling Officer]. I was on Lynette's mailing list because I had contacted her in regard to a particular stretch of Halifax Road at Edgerton that I recognised as a danger to cyclists due to a wide traffic island and protruding section of pavement. CTC membership was a requirement for the post and since I was a member I thought I should offer to take up the role.

I met with Annette, Murtaza Ayub from the Highways Development Team and John Gleadow, the previous Right to Ride Representative. It was explained to me that the role involved the Transport Department of Kirklees Council sending me details of changes to the road network by email. I would then forward the details and seek comments from the CTC people on my distribution list. Anyone in the Huddersfield and District CTC can be on the list. I then respond to the Council with comments.

In practice almost all the changes have involved parking restriction changes. Such restrictions are often of benefit to cyclists because it reduces the hazard of restricted road space. However I do not remember being provided with advance information about the speed humps and cushions on Birkby Road. Perhaps this was all decided before I took on the role.

I live just off Birkby Road and I now find cycling down it trickier. Traffic has slowed down to such an extent that I now have to brake as cars in front of me often slow to less than 20 mph. The random mixture of plateaux and cushions also create an obstacle course.

The highlight of the year has been the proposed Greenway between Dalton and Deighton with most of the funding coming from Sustrans. Kirklees Highways Department will make modifications to the chicanes on Dalton Road West that will allow cyclists a route through avoiding them.

Dalton Road West is a very narrow road made even more difficult to cycle on with the cats eyes placed further out into the road than is safe for cyclists. It also has the effect of irritating drivers who cannot overtake cyclists on the hill. Let's hope the Greenway funding is forthcoming.

Now that the Tour de France is coming to Yorkshire there is an increased interest in the legacy for cycling that it could achieve. I take heart from the All Party Parliamentary Report that is recommending that Government spending should be £10 per head to improve the road infrastructure for cyclists. In the Netherlands £24 per head of population is spent on cycling specific transport issues.

Segregated cycle ways are of course ideal. Realistically though sharing limited road space with motor vehicles will probably always be necessary to some extent and measures to make it safer are most welcome. I have found that the simple provision of a cycle lane marked by a white line to be helpful in making me at least feel less vulnerable on the road.

I would like to see Kirklees Transport Department end the practice of making our roads narrower with wide central traffic islands and built out pavements. Roads are busier and vehicles have all grown in size over the years so I wonder how making a road narrower can make it safer for anyone, not just cyclists. Please send me examples of road narrowing that you feel is creating a hazard for cyclists and I will pass them on to the Transport Department.

Taking on this role has now got me involved with Huddersfield and District CTC. Previously although a member of the CTC I had never cycled with the CTC. I now thoroughly enjoy going out regularly on the Tuesday evening rides and I have joined the Wednesday and Sunday rides on a few occasions so far this year.

Peter Charnley

Right to Ride Representative Huddersfield & District

WINTER RIDES PROGRAMME 2013/14

Welcome to our program. All rides start at 10a.m. from Somerset Bridge, Aspley, Huddersfield, unless otherwise stated.

In the event of inclement weather please ring the ride leader to check before you set out.

In the listings we have tried to give some indication of the approximate length and difficulty of the ride.

October 2013

Sunday 27th Bradford via Brighouse (Some on tracks)
40 miles medium GP

November

Saturday 3RD Easy Ride-Bowling Park from Crow Nest Park PR

Sunday 10TH 3 Masts the Hard Way
(Emley Moor, Holme Moss, Pole Moor) TK/SH
40 miles * Hard

Sunday 17TH Shipley Glen * 45miles * Easy JN

Sunday 24TH Cannon Hall * 35 miles * Easy JN

December

Sunday 1ST Winterset (Meet up with Calderdale CTC)
45 miles * Medium KR

Saturday 7TH Easy Ride-Sowerby Bridge/Mythholmroyd
from Brighouse Train Station (mainly on
tracks) MA

Sunday 8TH Tockwith Carol Service KR
Depart Tadcaster 10.00A.M * 20 miles * Easy

Sunday 15TH Kirklees Light Railway-Clayton West PR
25 miles * Medium

Sunday 22ND Marsden (Riverhead Tap) * 20 miles * Easy JR

Sunday 29TH Yet More Stale Mince Pies-Thornhill PR
15 miles * Easy

January 2014

Saturday 4TH Easy Ride-Ossett & Thorns Park
from Savile Wharf PR

Sunday 5TH Last of the Christmas Pud Start Thorne 09.00am
100k on a flat route PR

Sunday 12TH National Mining Museum * 35 miles * Medium KR

Sunday 19TH Tong Garden Centre * 45 miles * Medium RS

Sunday 26TH Hepworth Gallery, Wakefield
35 miles * Easy PR

February 2014

Saturday 1 ST	East Ride-Denby Dale from Trycycling, Kirkburton 10.00am	KR
Sunday 2 ND	Red Beck Café, Crofton * 40 miles * Easy	DE
Sunday 9 TH	Halifax via Dewsbury & Queensbury 45 miles * Hard	GP
Sunday 16 TH	Hollingworth Lake * 50 miles * Medium (Get-together with Calderdale CTC)	AI
Sunday 23 RD	Haworth * 50 miles * Hard	TBA

March 2014

Saturday 1 ST	Easy Ride Hadfield from the car park on the Derbyshire side of the Woodhead tunnel 10.00 am TJ	
Sunday 2 ND	Winterset (some on tracks) 45 miles * Medium	DE
Sunday 9 TH	Wentworth * 45 miles * Medium	PR
Sunday 16 TH	Uppermill via Rippondon & Denshaw 50 miles * Hard	GP
Sunday 23 RD	Wessenden Head via towpath, Marsden & Meltham * 40 miles * Hard	TK/SH
Sunday 30 TH	Sherburn in Elmet * 60 miles * Medium	DE

April 2014

Saturday 5 TH	East Ride-Denby Dale from Trycycling, Kirkburton 10.00am	KR
Sunday 6 TH	Addingham Get-Together 08.30am 65 miles * Medium	KR

Code	Ride Leader	Contact Number
AI	Andrew Ireland	07724155599
GP	Geoff Pearce	07881874713
HP	Helen Pearce	07881874713
JR	John Radford	07724155603
KR	Ken Roberts	07724156417
MA	Michelle Atkinson	07724156417
PR	Peter Ralph	07771545867
RS	Robin Stevens	07826317694
SH	Steve Hall	07975504365
TJ	Tony Jaggard	07975504365

GO WITH THE BLOW

Flexibility was required on the annual Club September holiday, based in Cromer this year.

Our Tuesday ride was substituted by Friday's Sheringham Park walk due to the strong winds and persistent rain. Joe's large tent proved a little inflexible, and he returned to find broken poles and a flattened tent. Refuge for Joe that night was kindly provided by Ken and Janet in their static caravan, with the bonus of Ken's excellent porridge and bananas the following morning.



The ever resourceful Joe pitched his back up tent, a storm proof Hillsberg for the remainder of the holiday.

Strong winds also exceeded the elastic limits of Christine Blanco's tent poles and Brian Keighley's awning on Tuesday. Christine and Mick moved into the last available static caravan on the site. Brian and Marion eventually managed to stow their damaged awning, minus its legs, with the motorhome fortunately escaping any collateral damage.

Good rides were enjoyed on the fine days, exploring Norfolk's lovely lanes, the coast and the broads. Walks included the cliff tops to Sheringham and a return route via the beach. Sheringham Park and Felbrigg Hall provided lovely scenery, courtesy of the National Trust.

We indulged in social evenings at the White Horse in East Runton, where a private room accommodated our group in comfort.

New friends were made and old bonds strengthened during the week. Charlie was popular with everyone. He is a loveable and friendly border collie cross belonging to Kev from Morley.

Ken and Andrew were delighted that 16 of us (plus Charlie) managed to come for all or part of the holiday. We are already plotting next year's adventure.



What can we say?
Do we ever take notice of warning signs?

Sky Rides Local

This year as well as taking part in club events and, off course, the Tuesday evening rides, I have also been involved in the local Sky Rides.

I first took part in a Sky Ride in 2012 in Bradford that went from Baildon to Ilkley and back over the Cow & Calf climbs. This was classed as a challenging Sky Ride but was not really much more than a longer Tuesday evening ride, or a half-day Sunday run.

So I thought, I could do this.

Luckily Sky are constantly looking for ride leaders and in 2013 they were expanding in West Yorkshire to bring Sky Rides to Kirklees, Calderdale, Wakefield, and Leeds, as well as Bradford. (Commonly known as West Yorkshire).

So how hard can it be to become involved in the Sky rides?

First things first, do you want to commit yourself to leading a few rides during July, August or September, taking out a group of people and introducing them to new routes in our areas. (I already do this).

Secondly, do you know the area well enough and are you confident in leading a group of people you might not know? (Thanks go to Kevan Shuttery for mentoring me in this).

And thirdly, with Sky Rides you won't be on your own.

During the winter I contacted Sky Rides through their website, clicking on the link that says I want to be a rides leader (it's that easy). Several weeks later I was offered a place on the Sky/British Cycling ride leader course and followed this up with a Sky/BC Route leaders course.

Both courses took a full day each, at no cost to me, and I now have a British Cycling Level 2 Award in Ride Leadership. Sky Rides also pay for me to join British Cycling. In return I commit to at least 4 rides per year.

Although the rides and courses are run jointly by Sky and British Cycling, there is no problem with being a CTC member. In fact, it a good way to join both groups.

So, how's it all work?

Early in the year Sky co-ordinate with all local Sky ride leaders and route planners and this year aimed for about 25 rides in each of the five areas mentioned above. Once the routes are agreed on, the route leaders have to check and provide a risk assessment on the suitability of the routes. Once Sky approves these, the routes are accepted and then published on the Sky Rides website. Rides take place in July, August and September. Sky work on one ride leader per 8 riders, who need to register in advance, free of charge, via the sky rides web site.

Ride leaders can apply to go on any ride in any area. Then it's a case of seeing how many people register for the ride, and then it's the ride itself. For the main ride leader there is a bit of admin to do on the Sky ride website after the ride, but this only takes a few minutes.

It might sound like a lot to do to put on a bike ride but it's only what we do in the Huddersfield & District CTC, although we call it common sense with a little bit of responsibility. (I bet there's a few members who never realised how they were being looked after on the rides....)

Sky Rides have three levels of rides

Easy Rides

Not cycled for a while and looking for an easy way to get back in the saddle? Fancy a fun way to get your friends or kids riding? Easygoing rides are great for all abilities and ages, taking place along relaxed, mostly traffic-free routes. Probably no more than 6 miles.

Steady

If you're fairly confident on your bike and ready to broaden your cycling horizons, Steady rides are ideal. At a comfortable pace, and possibly with some modest hills along the way, rides take place on mainly quiet roads with plenty of sights along the way. Probably 10-20 miles and on roads and greenways.

Challenging

You don't have to be the next Bradley Wiggins, but you'll need to be fairly fit to take part in Challenging rides. As well as covering a good distance, there may well be a few hills along the way! If you fancy a fresh challenge, these rides are perfect for you. Like a longer Tuesday evening ride or half a Sunday run.

This year I have done my four rides and plan to do more next year. It's good way to get a ride in with a group of new people. I have also added my Tuesday evening rides to the Sky calendar in what they call Social Rides and have had several new riders out on a Tuesday evening ride. It's a great way to publish rides in our area.

I do intend to do more Sky Rides next year and Sky have committed to these rides until at least the 2016 Olympics. The Huddersfield & District CTC will be leading rides for a lot longer than this, so we might just pick up more new riders on the way. I can highly recommend the Sky Rides and I know a few of our club members have taken part already. If you want to know more go to www.goskyride.com or just ask me when you see me out on a ride. Or give me a call or drop me an email.

Alan Priim
October 2013.

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SECRETARY'S REPORT.

First off I'd like to take this opportunity of thanking members of our Committee who have taken on additional work to help us close the huge gap left at present by John. I know it's a pretty impossible thing to accomplish but thanks, folks, for all the extra help you have given to keep the show on the road. I would especially like to thank Joe Naylor who has put himself unselfishly forward to take on additional duties as a Rides Leader, and also Geoff Pearce who, recently elected as Vice Chairman, and thinking no doubt of having to compose the odd extra e-mail and make the teas for the AGM, now finds himself thrust into the thick of it.

By the time of our next "Headset" Le Tour will be almost upon us and we will be deciding on where the best vantage points will be and how we can best promote the activities of Huddersfield and District CTC during this remarkable period. I already feel excited about the whole event, and I do wonder what must be going through the minds of riders like Brian Robinson and Barry Hogan who made those ambitious pioneering moves into the European racing scene back in the '50s and who now see the reality of the Tour de France passing close to their front doors. One bonus is that the roads around Holmfirth have already been improved, and have you see the number of new cyclists out on the roads during our excellent summer weather?

As far as our Winter program goes, we have gone with a traditional mix of rides which have proved to be favorites as well as adding something different, such as Geoff's ride to Halifax (check the route!) on February 9th. and Pete Ralph's cultural sortie to the Hepworth Gallery on January 26th. The success of this year's Three Masts ride has encouraged Steve Hall and Tony Knight to repeat it on November 10th, only reversing it to make it a little harder than the early soft route (!) We are also pleased with the joint rides which we have ridden with our neighborly comrades from the Calderdale section and so we also feature two more on December 1st. and February 16th.

So, we hope you find our programme enticing and imaginative and, although it's time to rummage for those tights and thicker jackets, we hope to see you on our rides this Winter. We'll take photos to show John when he is back with us.

Ken Roberts Secretary

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Wednesday Venue Meets

Website,
huddersfield and district etc.
halifaxctc.org.uk



The persons named under each section are the co-ordinators only.
Cyclists to make their own arrangements for getting to the meeting venues.

Calderdale also have a meet on Saturday, contact Phillip Lees.

Craven Tints www.camlno-norte.co.uk

Huddersfield/Wakefield & North Yorks Christmas Dinner, at Lotherton Hall

Names & deposits to Des before 24th Nov

2013/14 list 6	Calderdale Philip Lees 01422 357632	Huddersfield Pete Ralph 01924 500335	Wakefield Des Hampshire 01924 387365	North Yorks Sylvia Jakeman 01904 339866	Craven Tints
Dec 4th	Christmas Dinner Windmill Court, Green	Marsden Motormans café	Selby Morrisons		Ilkley Booth's Café
11th	Delph Edna's café	Scissett Mustang café	Newmillerdam Beauley Café	Murton, York Auction Centre café	Hedden The Old Schoolhouse Café
18th	Cleckheaton Crown café	Meltham or Ivy café or	Christmas dinner Lotherton Hall Lotherton Hall		Olley C C Clubroom
25th	Christmas Day	Christmas Day	Christmas Day	Christmas Day	Ad Hoc
Thurs 26th boxing Day Baxters Arms, Fenwick, Nr Askern					
Jan 1st	New Years day	Crofton Redbeck café		New Years day No Run	Barrowford Heritage Centre
8th	Oakwell hall Park café	Dewsbury Marina café	Worsborough Wigfield Farm	York Designer Outlet	Burnsall Wharfe-View Cafe
15th	Marsden Motorman's Café	Langsett Bank View Café	Selby Morrisons café		Olley C C Clubroom
22nd	St Ives, Harden Park Café	uppermill Little Shop Café	Winterset Squires Tearooms	Tadcaster Tykes tearooms	Hellifield Station The 'long Drag' Café
29th	Meltham Morrisons supermarket	Newmillerdam Beauley Cafe		Stamford Bridge Temptation café	Airton Town Lnd Farm
Feb 5th	Hollingworth Lake Visitors Centre	Cannon Hall Farm Café	Lotherton Hall Stables Café	Murton, York Auction Centre Café	Wycoller Craft café
12th	LONG Garden Centre		Fulhamhouse Farm Café	Wetherby Morrisons Café	Ilkley Booth's Café
19th	Cullingworth Childspring Mills	Otley Cyclist Clubroom	Winterset Squires Tearooms	Sherburn in Elmet Penny Café	Olley C C Clubroom
26th	Dewsbury Marina Café	Worsborough Wigfield Farm		Stamford Bridge Temptation Café	Burnsall Wharfe View café
Mar 5th	Delph Edna's café	Scissett Mustang Café	Crofton Redbeck Café	Boston Spa The Deli Café	Kilnsey Park Tearooms
12th	Shelley Deerne Lea Café		Newmillerdam Beauley Café	Knaresborough United Reform Club hall	Barrowford Heritage Centre
19th	Holmfirth Corneyhouse Café	Dewsbury Crownest Park Café	Lotherton Hall Stables café		Olley C C Clubroom
26th	Haworth Villette Café	Winterset Squires Tearooms		Angles Tearooms On Old Mill just past marlton arm gaffer.	Airton Town Lnd Farm



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