



# Newsletter

**Gravesend CC** est. 1923

Club Presidents : Dorothy & Ian Stone  
Secretary : Mike Coulter  
[www.gravesendcc.org.uk](http://www.gravesendcc.org.uk)



## Certificate of Appreciation

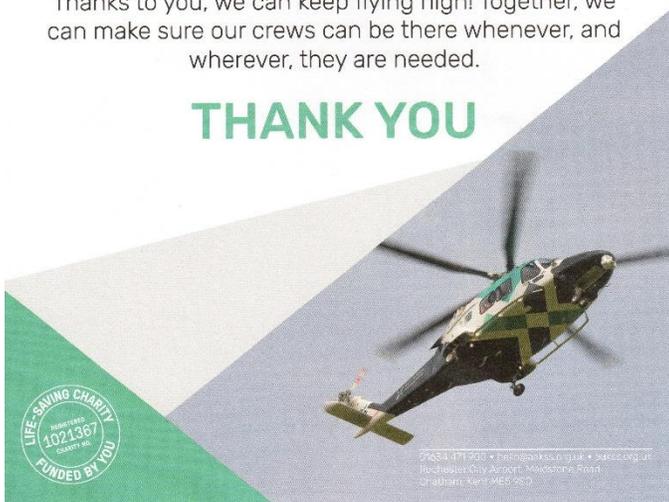
Gravesend Cycling Club  
& Gravesend Touring Club

**£535**

**Reliability Trial 2020**

Thanks to you, we can keep flying high! Together, we can make sure our crews can be there whenever, and wherever, they are needed.

**THANK YOU**



This year's Reliability Trial went very well, as ever expertly organized by Patrick McMaster, I myself didn't compete this year due to knee injury but have done so twice before and know that the route is always challenging. We had 77 entries this year and raised £535 for the Air Ambulance.

In addition to the good work by Patrick the Jumble was a success again, thanks to Roger Stevens for running a very good event this year.

From what I gather there were the usual suspects in attendance, but unfortunately not that many others. I know all too well that a Saturday morning event can be difficult to get to especially if, like me, you work in the retail sector. Hopefully I'll get to the next one.

As we move towards Spring we will see the return of the 10 mile Time Trial. Organised by our Race Secretary Kate Savage and her motley band of timekeepers. The first one is later this month (can't wait), there is usually a club ride out to Grain for the first event of the year.

I'd like to say a big thank you to Dave Abbotts as our timekeeper this year, without whom the event would not happen. The first event is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March – I'm not sure on the start time but imagine it will be approx. 11am.

What else can we look forward to in early Spring? There is the On Yer Bike Sportive on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> of April. This is always a well attended event attracting a wide range of riders, tackling the 15 mile route (families) the 30 and 45 mile routes. The latter is a hybrid of the Grain route with a loop out towards Vigo and back down through Hartley bottom to Gravesend. The entry cost is minimal – about £20 I think. Last year there were 5 of us riding, mostly together. It would be nice to see more riders at an event that is run in Gravesend, especially as we are the local club, so to speak.

I remember last year riding at high speed with Mark, Jack and Rob on the return back to town. The check-points you go through have free food and refreshments including Bread pudding at Cobham Hall, as an event a local club is certainly getting more exposure. The event attracts good sponsorship and last year we got a lot of favourable publicity.

There is a new kit ordering window which is not active until 4<sup>th</sup> April. If we meet the minimum 10 items the kit will be produced and delivered by the end of April, so this would be ideal to get any new kit needed for the summer. The link to the club shop is

<https://eucustom.champsys.com/teamstore/?pLl1Zxj2mjjJcDn3>

## So Café time



You know the drill – you head off and you have a place in mind as a destination and then think but what if I need to sit down and eat some warm food for my return home – well my friend I've asked our members and some of them have come back with some suggestions.

The one pictured is on the Hawhurst cross roads has actual safe bike parking and offers an all day breakfast for £4.95 including a cup of tea.

However, some may feel spoilt for choice here so here goes. This is not definitive but just a list of the most popular frequented stops that are an easy reach and if you feel that you need an excuse for a day off then here's a few destinations for you.

## Out in Kent

Ide Hill Community Café/shop – situated at the top of Ide Hill with a decent bike parking area and always busy in the sun. Good quality food like a drink and a cake will cost you about £4-£5.

## Kemsing Italian Deli

Good stop for a quick drink or a bite to eat, ideal as a god I'm hungry stop to recharge the legs for the final push home, £5.

## Trosley Park Café

Situated quite literally at the top of Vigo Hill, in Trosley country park. Is a usual stop for MTB or CX rides. Serves good food and drinks and is reasonably priced, £5.

## Café Coco

Located in Forest Row and about half-way round the quite aptly named Kentish Killer route. Can be an ideal stop if you require it - and you normally will. Good food, sensibly priced. £5-£7.

## Melia's Place

Next to the main cross-roads in Borough Green. Easy bike parking outside and decent food and drink, £5-£6.

## Teapot Island

Yalding, reasonable menu offering everything from the usual tea and cake to a decent meal £4 - £7.

## Hoo Riverside Diner

Lovely little café just on the mouth of the Medway ME3 9GS very reasonable.

## The Village Butcher

East Peckham, lovely little Deli this, sitting on the village square in East Peckham. Always a nice stop and a very popular place in the summer. No hot drinks but a good sarni available here from the deli. £5.

I'm sure that I've missed out your favourite place or haunt however these are the most popular and are all (except Café Coco- as you'd have to be committed for this one) within easy reach of a decent ride. Most offer a point that will give a good ride out, with a decent stop and then a nice return trip back home. Which is the point here.

However, if I've missed yours' you may find it on

<https://www.westkentctc.org.uk/cafe-list/>

or

<http://www.cafenetwork.info/>

Happy riding

Will any of the larger Belgian Races be affected to?

In the meantime it's full speed ahead now and lots more rides and turbo sessions to get fit and get out on the road.

So in the meantime stay healthy and ride safe.



Yeah – first ride on the bike for ages the other day. Felt it the next day but it's up from here.

Looking forward we have some of the Spring Classics coming up, however with the outbreak of Coronavirus we will look to see how many of these races actually take place. Cycling Weekly regularly publishes news on several teams stuck in quarantined hotels because of Covid19. Milan San Remo has already been postponed. The problem is that moving the race will be difficult as the calendar is busy – will it affect the Giro? We shall see.