

## Chairmans report April 2025

It has been a very mixed past 12 months, attendances are still down post covid, Sunday rides are down on numbers and so are the Tuesday rides, Saturday easy rides are still popular, and Wednesday rides appear to have increased in numbers. This could possibly be because of the ageing members we now have, as most participants will be retired and can attend on a mid-week ride.

As the warmer weather is now coming, the Sunday and Tuesday attendance should increase. We still have a lack of ride leaders so if anyone can suggest a ride of their choice and is willing to lead it, please enter your ride on the club website or get in touch with a committee member.

As usual our annual club tour was a great success and last years tour was in the Yorkshire Wolds. Numbers always fill up extremely fast for these tours and this year's tour is a fixed base tour from Leominster in Herefordshire. I would like to say a special thanks to Steve Kennedy and Ken Roberts for organising all our past tours, and Phil Robson for the routes he mapped out for us.

To try and encourage new and inexperienced riders, it was suggested at our committee meeting to have some 2 stage rides. A steady morning ride with a mid-morning coffee stop, at which point some may wish to return home, others can then proceed at a faster pace and a greater distance to a lunch stop. I think this will be worth a try as it has been said that our club rides too far and too fast. E-Bikes are now becoming popular on our rides possibly due to the ageing members and creaking arthritic knees. It has been discussed at our meeting to hold an E-Bike invitation ride to attract new members that are worried about keeping pace.

Finally, thanks to all our committee members for all their hard work in keeping the club going.

Steve Randerson

Chairman