



# **KINROSS CYCLING CLUB**

## **Secretaries Report 2011**

I would like to give a résumé of the 2011 year and comment on possible pointers for the future of the club.

In my opinion 2011 was the year that Kinross CC really established itself as a cycling club

Let me recap on some successes.

### **Membership**

The club was formed 3 years ago, in March 2009, in a room in this very establishment (Kirkland's hotel) by 6 members 4 of whom are still with the club. By the end of 2009 we had 19 members and by the end of 2010 this had increased to 38.

I am pleased to say we had 68 members in 2011. Thereby almost doubling each year.

I see so many lycra clad cyclist on the roads around Kinross there must be good potential for the club to grow further. It would certainly be pleasing to see numbers increase to in excess of 80 next year and hopefully to over 100 members in the next 5 year.

Larger numbers bring many benefits. From new initiatives to better support and managing of events. More members give increases participation in other cycling disciplines such as mountain biking and cyclo cross. All in all more members adds to a more vibrant club.

### **Kinross Sportive**

Without a doubt the highlight of the year was the Kinross Sportive.

This was a huge success with over 600 entrants in the first year. This year's 2012 event was completely booked in a matter of days and is all set for another splendid and successful day to remember.. I will leave any comments about the Sportive to Paul Zarb who was the mastermind behind the whole event and who rightly deserves our thanks.

### **Grand Prix (GP) Series.**

The GP series was another runaway success and the club has extended this competition to make it bigger and better in 2012.

I personally believe that the winner of this event definitely represents the clubs all round champion.

Angus McCulloch has been the main co-ordinator and has galvanised the development of the GP series. Thanks must be recorded for Angus who unfortunately cannot be with us as he works off- shore, but has sent a report on the GP series which will be duly read out.

## **Scottish Cycling (SC) & Fife Cycling Association (FCA)**

Since the clubs formation 3 years ago we have continued to affiliate to the governing body of Scottish Cycling. I personally think this is excellent, as a healthy governing body can fight the corner for cyclists like you and me. Whether it be for allowing racing to continue on our roads or for lobbying for safer roads when cycling.

Scottish Cycling allocates Kinross CC to one of 6 sub regions in Scotland. We are members of the Fife Cycling Association (FCA) which comprises of our neighbouring clubs: - Leslie Bike Club, Kennoway Road Club, Dunfermline Cycling Club, Fife Century & Fife Cycling 2000.

Ken Ogilvie is the club FCA representative and has ensured the KCC has had a voice at FCA meetings. Ken will give a short report of the FCA.

Fife Cycling Association organise several races a years and last year played host for the Scottish National time trials at 25 & 50 mile and the Team Time Trial event. To organise these they rely on each club supplying marshals. I would like to thank Ken Ogilvie for representing our club and for standing of some windy junction ensuring safety and giving encouragement to many riders. I hope that others will support him and give up just one Sunday in a year to ensure FCA events continue to run.

The FCA also organise the Fife mid-week time trial series held on Wednesday nights in the summer. These are extremely low key affairs and anybody in our club would not be totally out of place entering.

Last year KCC organised 3 of the FCA's mid-week time trial series.

2 on the Cleish 10 mile circuit and one on the 'around Loch Leven' course.

These all went without a hitch and showed that Kinross CC can efficiently organise open events for others clubs to confidently enter. Putting on events do not happen by magic, race permits need to be applied for, police permission sort, risk assessments carried out etc but the events cannot be put on without the support of members. I would like to name all that helped but there are too many to be mentioned who turned out to put up signs, done tabards, and keep riders on course, ensure safety, start riders off in correct order, keep times, hold bikes steady, give encouragement, etc etc

All the helpers friendly smiles and good nature on these evenings is by far the most enjoyable aspect of the whole event and ranks as a major factor as to why I get so much enjoyment of belonging to this club.

## **Sunday Group Ride.**

Another success in 2011 which may have gone somewhat un-noted was that a structure for the Sunday group rides started to materialise. Accommodating riders of different abilities is a major consideration for the club.

The structure for groups to form depending on ability, from G1 being the fast group down to currently a G2 group, seems a reasonable solution and one I hope the new committee in 2012 will develop and strengthen.

What would be disappointing to see is small cliques of riders forming who only ride together somewhat locking out others who may be of similar ability.

Depending on the routes it may be that a group will ride together before splitting after a specified distance. Communication is the key so that all know of any such arrangement.

Communication appears to be the key to successful group rides with routes being posted in advance but also for a leader to take control of a particular level of group on the day.

## **New Club Kit**

In 2011 the decision was made to develop new club kit to give the club a more modern appearance and have a design that is appealing for the majority of members to wear.

We are moving to the somewhat local manufacture of Endura who are based in Livingston and whose quality, competitive prices and extensive range of garments has proved very attractive.

A lot of time and effort has been put into developing new kit and at times it has been a very frustrating business. Most of us have strong opinions on colours and design and it is a difficult task to try and please everybody. It must be mentioned that the club is putting in £2000 to subsidise each member to the tune of £30 for the purchase of new kit.

An incentive that I am certain will be well supported.

## **Spinning Classes**

A surprise success, well to me anyway, was the introduction of winter spinning classes. These are held on a Thursday night and have proved to be very popular. This is an excellent exercise class and a bargain at just £2 a session. Julie is an incredibly fit instructor and a superb motivator. One of the consequences I envisage is that there will be numerous PBs recorded in 2012 on the Loch Leven and other set TT courses.

## **Training & Tempo Sessions**

On the subject of training . In 2011 John Gallacher offered Thursday night 'Tempo' session. These were not for the faint hearted but certainly did give a warm glow of satisfaction once completed. The committee has recently had a wonderful offer from a member to possibly organise more structure training in 2012 which will increase variety.

It is early days of formulating a schedule for training and the best I can say is watch this space.

## **Mountain Biking**

Mountain biking has also taken off thanks to the efforts of Kenny Dalglish. Numbers taking part are low at the moment possibly due to the mild winter we are currently experiencing allowing us out on our road bikes. There are lots of mountain bikers out there and the potential to increase this section of cycling within our club is massive. In doing so I believe there will be movement from the mountain bike members to try road cycling and racing. I hope the new committee will support and encourage Mountain biking as it will strengthen the club and is certainly a good avenue to recruit younger members.

## **New event - Road Race.**

Paul Zarb under the guidance of Sandy Wallace has moved the club up another gear as KCC will be hosting a road race in 2012 on the roads in the Kinross area. This certainly raises the profile of our club and I hope many members will provide support on the day with marshalling and other duties.

## **Grants**

Since the clubs formation in 2009 we have received many grants. In 2011 we were awarded £1800 from the '2014 communities' award. This fund hopes to build a legacy from the commonwealth games. It was pleasing to see that Kinross Cycling Club was well thought of. It has allowed for some excellent timing devices to be purchase which will have extensive use over many years to come. As I speak we are also having start / finish flags being produced together with event banners to promote our club and give a polished edge to events we organise.

## **Web site**

Another success is the emergence of a club web site is due to the effort of one man, Trevor Keer. We live in a technological age and this one aspect of the club has really elevated the profile of the club and must be viewed with a certain envy from other clubs. Again, time does not permit me to mention all the benefits and quality of the web site but our appreciation should be given and recorded for Trevor.

## The Committee

This is my last year as secretary.

The KCC constitution states that the 3 required post holders of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer should only hold this office for a maximum of 3 years.

This has a number of advantages including:-

- ensuring a fresh face takes over a key post so that new ideas are introduced.
- ensuring members of the club get involved with the organisation of the club so it is not left to a few.
- ensuring a person is not in a post for a long time and imposing their particular style on the club.
- Ensuring that it makes it easier to take over these key roles as they do not become a hard act to follow.

I trust somebody will come forward tonight to support the club and take on this roll. It is not difficult and you will be well supported by others. I intend to stay on the committee for another year so will be in the background if needed.

In 2011 the committee was greatly strengthened by Ian Duncan who gallantly came on board as treasurer to keep the somewhat increased money amounts in good order. Ian took over from Alan Corsie who had done so much in initial setting up of financial structures for the club since its conception. I would like to record major thanks to Alan Corsie from all

All the committee has work very hard in 2011 and they deserve our thanks.

Angus McCulloch keenness for the GP series. Ken Ogilvie in maintaining links with the FCA and giving KCC a voice and profile. Roddy Pattison has been spinning in the background on his watt bike. Trevor Keer has done an amazing job as web master. Veronica Duncan is keen to continue as kit manager...when it comes??? and Paul Zarb as chairman has been incredible with his drive and enthusiasm. I think they all deserve a round of applause.

Although the committee is strong we can accommodated some extra fresh faces.

I hope some of you will tonight volunteer to come on board with the committee. Most business is done by e-mail but we have found that meeting 3 or 4 times a year really helps to fully formalise any new initiatives.

Enough from me, 2011 was definitely a success for Kinross CC  
but 2012 is set to be even better.

**Thank you**

*John Myerscough*