

## Cathedral Cycle Champions (CCC)

### The Cathedrals Cycle Route (CCR)

#### 'Cycling with Purpose'



#### What is a Cathedral Cycle Champion (CCC)?

A CCC is essentially an individual responsible for promoting cycling to and from the cathedral, including the Cathedrals Cycle Route. They champion the cathedral's welcome to cyclists.

#### Who can become a CCC?

The cathedral may make any member of the cathedral or local community – lay staff, clergy, volunteers or congregation members – a CCC. A cathedral may have more than one CCC, for example a team consisting of a public-facing champion, an admin champion and a publicity champion. They do not all need to be active cyclists, but should be enthusiasts for the project.

#### What is expected of a CCC?

It is not expected that a great deal of resource will be required to undertake the role.

Enthusiasm for cycling and sustainability is the key requirement. Their purpose is to:

- Help ensure the cathedral provides a warm welcome to cyclists. We see welcome and local knowledge as even more important than the route. Welcome might making sure volunteers, staff and clergy are used to the idea of cyclists visiting and going to services, and refilling water bottles.
- Help put in place a 'reward' for cyclists riding the CCR. This may be providing a stamp or sticker in a 'passport' and possibly other 'rewards' such as discounts at the cathedral café.
- Consider where cyclists – NB these might include congregation members – can safely leave their bikes while visiting the cathedral – perhaps bike racks or an enclosed or supervised space. <https://www.parkthatbike.info/> has some good information on bike rack designs and free installations in some areas.
- Help connect the route to significant buildings and spiritual landscapes along the way, develop rides to local churches and other sites.
- Help add local knowledge to the routes, providing cyclists with flexibility.
- Help support CCR initiatives such as the 'Cycling with Purpose' Relay event.
- Engage with local cyclists and local media to gain publicity for the CCR and their cathedral's involvement with it.

## **What support is available to the CCCs?**

The aim is to build a structure to support and reward those wanting to cycling from cathedral to cathedral. Route downloads and information are available from <https://www.komoot.com/collection/1281556/-cathedrals-cycle-route> or <https://www.cyclinguk.org/cathedrals-cycle-route-challenge>. Regular drop-in update sessions on zoom with the founder of the route, Shaun Cutler, are organised through the AEC contact Anne Locke, and there are opportunities for online discussion with project partners such as Sustrans, Cycling UK and the British Pilgrimage Trust.

## **Does the CCC have a budget?**

At this stage no direct funding is available for the CCCs. Donations made to the CCR are entirely used for expenses such as insurance, the website and providing medals to those completing the route.

## **About the Cathedrals Cycle Route (CCR)**

“The CCR is about connecting our historic cathedrals and enjoying the spaces between them...about strengthening the cultural and heritage links between these important and historic buildings. About ‘Cycling with purpose’ and raising funds for good causes”

The CCR is open to all, whatever your beliefs, background or age.

## **Primary Objectives of the CCR**

- To strengthen the physical and cultural heritage links between England's cathedrals.
- To increase cycling to and between England's Historic cathedrals.
- To double the average visitors arriving at cathedrals by bike (currently circa 5%).
- To establish or support charitable cycle events taking place between England's cathedrals.
- To improve the cycle-readiness and the welcome to cyclists across England's cathedrals.
- To support the collective national responsibility of leading a healthy lifestyle.
- To support the mission of England's cathedrals through wellbeing and heritage.

## **Contacts**

Shaun Cutler, founder of the CCR [hello@cathedralscycleroute.co.uk](mailto:hello@cathedralscycleroute.co.uk)

Anne Locke, coordinator of contacts with cathedrals [anne.locke@englishcathedrals.co.uk](mailto:anne.locke@englishcathedrals.co.uk)

## The original CCR Relay Route: Circa 2000 Miles. 1 Baton. 42 Cathedrals. 42 Days



**The 42 English Anglican Cathedrals** (1) Newcastle Cathedral - (2) Durham Cathedral - (3) Ripon - (4) York Minster - (5) Bradford - (6) Wakefield - (7) Sheffield - (8) Lincoln - (9) Southwell - (10) Derby - (11) Leicester - (12) Peterborough - (13) Ely - (14) Norwich - (15) St Edmundsbury - (16) Chelmsford - (17) St Albans - (18) St Pauls Cathedral - (19) Southwark - (20) Rochester - (21) Canterbury - (22) Guildford - (23) Chichester - (24) Portsmouth - (25) Winchester - (26) Salisbury - (27) Exeter - (28) Truro - (29) Wells - (30) Bristol - (31) Oxford - (32) Gloucester - (33) Hereford - (34) Worcester - (35) Coventry - (36) Birmingham - (37) Lichfield - (38) Chester - (39) Liverpool - (40) Manchester - (41) Blackburn - (42) Carlisle

Note: the routes may be varied according to local experience and the types of bike being ridden. There is now an alternative southern route between Canterbury and Guildford via Tonbridge to avoid returning to London.