

1963

Membership remained stable at about 44. Two new officials appointed for the year were Tom Skinner as time trials secretary, and Stan Russell as social secretary. Stan Newport, Catford C.C., made the main speech at the annual dinner which was again held at the Castle Hotel, Hastings, on 26th January. President Fred Martin entertained 41 at lunch on the occasion of his "opening" run in March. Other club events, also well supported, were a map-reading contest, a photographic competition, and the Christmas tea at Battle on 22nd December. Dave Swaffer was "Best Clubman".

The open "50" attracted 87 entrants from 31 clubs. Brian Kirby, Medway Wh., the 1961 British B.A.R. champion, was the winner in 1h 59m 45s, Roy Manser, San Fairy Ann C.C., was second in 2h 0m 17s, and Andy Kirk, Scottish 50-mile champion and record holder, was third in 2h 1m 7s.

For the first time for many years the Club was represented in Sussex C.A. events. E. Carpenter was third fastest in a ladies' "10"; and R. French, M. Carpenter and J. Southerden were placed fourth in a 3-up 32 miles team time trial.

Another first for some members was participation in some events on the Isle of Man during the cycling week there.

The East Sussex C.A. time trials in which Club members competed with success:-

- 12 miles "Hardriders": Bob French fastest in 36m 31s.
 - 25 " March 10: Andy Kirk fastest in 1h 4m 55s, Bob French 5th and Maurice Carpenter 6th team winners.
 - 35 $\frac{3}{4}$ " 3-up team time trial: Won by R. French, M. Chambers and J. Southerden in 1h 35m 4s.
 - 25 " June 16: R. French, 4th in 1h 2m 28s, M. Chambers and J. Southerden team winners.
 - 50 " Sept. 1: Don Hook, 2nd in 2h 8m 21s, M. Carpenter and M. Chambers team winners.
 - 100 " D. Hook, the winner in 4h 28m 58s, J. Southerden and M. Chambers team winners.
 - 12 hours: M. Chambers, J. Southerden and B. Kent team winners.
 - B.A.R. competition: M. Chambers (3rd), J. Southerden (4th) and Brian Kent (8th) averaged 20.460 m.p.h. for 25, 50 & 100 miles and 12 hours to win the team contest.
- Altogether nine members won 34 E.S.C.A. awards.

In Kent C.A. events R. French was second in the March "25" in 1h 4m 52s, and J. Southerden was third in the June 100 miles in 4h 48m 19s. In August Bob French did a personal best "25" of 1h 1m 20s in the Mephisto C.C. event. Jack Southerden won the V.T.T.A. Kent Group "B.A.R." competition for the second year.

1963 continued:

Maurice Carpenter again competed on both bicycle and tricycle. He won a Tricycle Association S.E. Region "50" in 2h 26m 5s despite a puncture delay, and he made a club 30 miles tricycle record of 1h 24m 18s. Maurice also did a 12-hour ride of 226.297 miles on two wheels.

Bob French had some successes in road racing, with wins in a kermesse at Crawley in April and in a Southern Coureurs C.R.C. 40 miles event at Chailey in May, as well as a second place in a Tunbridge Wells R.C. 48 miles race at Frant. In a 40 miles event held by the Brighton Velo at Rushlake Green in July Jon Dumas, on holiday from France, rode for the Club and took third place just ahead of Bob who was fourth. Members were also active in several other road races, including the Sussex senior championship. Paul Brooker won the Sussex heat of the national schoolboys' championship at Brighton in June.

On Sunday, June 9th, Maurice Carpenter became the first member of the Club to gain an R.R.A. certificate when he and Michael Dunn of the Catford C.C. made a successful attempt on the London to Brighton and back tandem tricycle record, with a time of 4h 44m 43s, an improvement of 2m 13s.

At the Rye sports meeting on August Bank Holiday Monday members won several prizes in the six cycle races. Bob French had three wins, a second place, and third place in each of the two East Sussex championships held. Maurice Carpenter had a second and a third placings; and for the first time the Club took the Gasson team trophy home.

Club time trials:

10 miles juniors	Powell shield	G. Skinner	26m 40s
15 " "	Bliss trophy	P. Brooker	43m 53s
15 " "	second event	G. Skinner	40m 58s
25 " "	Opening trophy	R. French	1h 8m 42s
25 " "	Ron Eastes Mem. trophy	" "	1h 3m 44s
25 " "	Carpenter trophy	M. Chambers	1h 6m 55s
50 " "	Croft trophy	R. French	2h 6m 41s
100 " "	Martin trophy	J. Southerden	4h 46m 00s
12 hours	Bliss trophy	M. Chambers	217.197 miles
Rye-Hythe-Rye	Hughes trophy	J. Southerden	2h 0m 0s
Evening "10s" competition:	Won by	R. French for the fourth	
	year,	and fastest time -	23m 36s
Hastings-Rye-Hastings		M. Chambers	1h 7m 53s
" " " juniors		G. Skinner	1h 9m 52s
Junior best all-rounder		" "	
Best all-rounder	Martin trophy	M. Chambers	21.103 m.p.h.