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THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION



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SUMMER, 1961

EDITORIAL

As we leave behind the cold mornings and strong winds of March and approach the cold mornings and strong winds of mid-summer, the tempo of cycling activities in our little corner of East Sussex tend to increase. Already three of our member clubs have promoted open races - Southborough Wheelers a hilly 42 mile time trial; Eastbourne Rovers and Brighton Mitre road races - and as you will read in the club notes that follow, there are more to come.

All this points to a very healthy state of affairs in our sport, and with the encouraging news from many clubs that membership is rising, especially with regard to younger members, we can only hope that the trend continues, and maybe reach once again the heights obtained in the early 1950's.

One thing that seems to give our Association just that little extra over others is its social side (aided, of course, by "Crowsley Reports"), also clubs meet each other for such games as darts, ludo, etc., so why not take up the challenge of the Southborough Wheelers and really make the most of your chosen sport.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their good wishes following my last event, especially those people who were able to be present to witness the outcome of my take-over bid.

D.P.

P.S. Just a reminder my address is now :

10, Cambrian Road,
Tunbridge Wells,
Kent.

"GEN" from the Secretary

Since the last edition of our notorious publication appeared we have admitted the Brighton Mitre C.C. to membership of the Association. We extend to them a warm and sincere welcome, and trust that they will soon be out in strength at our various functions.

To Dave Patten our most worthy editor and Sheila we offer our congratulations on their recent marriage, and wish them all happiness for the future. Already, I understand, Dave has to get a signed pass before he is allowed out training with his club mates. Let this be a warning to any other Association members who may be seriously thinking of taking the final plunge into matrimony in the near future.

Our Road Events to date have been reasonably supported, and competition has been very keen indeed, with no one rider being outstanding. Dave Patten, for the third year in succession, won the Hard-riders, by the narrow margin of 10 secs., from Clive Ashby. M. Robinson won the March 25 miles with a good time, considering the conditions, with P. Crowsley the 1960 B.A.R. winner, having a convincing win in the 50 miles.

A feature of the events so far this season has been the riding of the junior members of the clubs, most noteworthy being the Hastings & St. Leonards C. & A.C. trio's win in the Team Time Trial over several more experienced teams. Other riders who are showing much promise are G. Lade of the Tunbridge Wells R.C., and C. Snelling of Eastbourne Rovers; before the season is out I feel we shall be seeing them highly placed in events.

Once again the time is drawing near for the longer distance events, and I appeal to all members to let the Racing Secretaries of their club know if they will be available for Marshalling or Feeding duties in these events. By knowing in advance who will be available on a certain date make the job of allocating these duties so much easier.

A reminder, if this is necessary - Rye Sports Day are once again promoting the Sports Day on August Monday at Rye. A very full programme of Cycling events will take place, including our 440 yards Championship. - With no other Open Meeting in Sussex on that day, let us in the Association make a special effort to support them.

R.H.

HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS C.C.

Our President's Opening Run was held at the beginning of March, on a glorious day, which probably encouraged such a large number of members to attend. In fact, the largest club run for several years made its way to Ashburnham, collecting refugees from Eastbourne Rovers en route.

The gathering was enlivened by the sight of Arthur drinking his after lunch tea from a pint sized earthenware mug, apparently without either sugar or milk. Members who went home in the afternoon were treated to the spectacle of a well-known St. Leonards cycle dealer being unable to repair a puncture in his tyre, and having to substitute a new tube for the punctured one.

The next function which appeared to be attended en masse by the male members of the club (so complained two disgusted females who had been riding around on their tod all day), was the Fellowship of Kent and Sussex Luncheon.

Cecils friends were saddened to hear rumours that the waitress at the George, Cranbrook, has sued him for breach of promise since this lunch.

10 members started out on the 100 in 8 run recently, 8 of whom finished, 2 getting mislaid en route, when the three tandems decided to have a burn up with a moped on the outward journey. Ted Coussens was once again the first finisher, despite being attacked from the rear by a motorist in Sidley, and suffering shock and abrasions.

Meanwhile, amid this frenzy of social activity, our racing men have not been idle. David was a shock winner of our first 25, with a personal best time of 1.5.16. from Bob and Lyn. A week or two later David, Bob and Lyn won the E.S.C.A. Team Time Trial. David then went on to win the Junior 15 with an event record time of 38.42. Clive Davies recorded a time of 40.21 in the same event at his first try at racing. On the same day Jack became the first winner of the new trophy presented for the Rye-Hythe-Rye event. Since then Bob appears to have regained his form with a personal best 25 time of 1.2.29. in the Canterbury 25, and a 50 of 2.12. 1. in the K.C.A. event. Lyn and Martin both did personal bests in this latter event, with 2.17.34. and 2.21.21. respectively. In the evening 20 events David has managed a third personal best time of 25.26. However, Bob is the fastest over this distance at the moment, with a time of 24.18 to his credit. Lyn has been trying hard in these events and has also managed to beat his previous best time.

Hastings & St. Leonards C.C. (continued).

With the sad thought that the only remaining social events are the Whitsun All Night Run and the Crazy Golf Competition with the Southborough Wheelers, I conclude these notes.

BACCHUS.

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EAST GRINSTEAD C.C.

The 1961 racing season started for members from the North of Sussex with the Club 10, which was won by Mick Robinson in 25.30. Although there were a few D.N.S. in the field other times recorded were Dick Marchant 27.24, Chris Daniels 27.40, Pete Bradley 28.10 and Jim Golden 30.10.

The first 25 of the season was an inter-club event with the Crawley C.C. on the new G.11 course and once again Mick showed that the new course is faster with a 1.0.30 (his fastest this season). Other times showed that the new course is faster now that it has been revised. With Dick doing a 1.4.20, Ray Lunn (Club B.A.R.) 1.5.38, Chris Daniels (Junior B.A.R.) 1.5.42, Terry Sales 1.8.7, Jim Golden 1.7 25 (personal best), "Big" Bill Francis 1.6.53, while Pete Bradley riding in his first 25 recorded 1.7.25.

The Club's "fast girl" Val Baxendine put a few male members to shame with a 1.6.44.

(There was a report from a certain marshal that he thought a team time trial was in progress, when five riders came into view riding wheel to wheel.)

Terry Sales rode in the Apollo C.C. Middle-markers 25 and recorded a personal best of 1.7.55, and took the second handicap. Terry, by the way, has been christened "Tommy Simpson II", the reason being that he has the habit of talling off his "iron" and seldom using a gear less than 108", even on club runs and hills. Mick continued his run of fast 25's by doing a 1.2.3. in the Fountain C.C., a 1.1.52 in the Clarence Wheelers 25, and a 1.1.23 in the De Laune 25. With Club veteran Fred Marshall 1.5.45 also in the De Laune.

Chris, Jim, Terry and Bill rode in the St. Christopher's 25 and recorded 1.7.5., 1.8.20, 1.8.40 and 1.8.49 respectively on a hard morning.

East Grinstead C.C. (continued).

The E.S.C.A. 50 saw Phil Hitchcock 2.14.42, Ray Lunn 2.20.00., Fred 2.17.-. and Bill 2.20.00 riding. Phil, the previous week had recorded his fastest 50 with a 2.13.19 in the Southern Counties event.

Our sole rider in the Catford 50 was Bill with 2.16., while on the same day Mick, Ray and Phil rode in the Brighton Mitre Road Race; Phil retired with back trouble, while Mick and Ray finished equal 7th.

Val has also been putting in some fast times with a 1.8.40 and 27.20 in the S.W. London Ladies 25 and 10.

Well that's all the racing news from the wilds of the North Sussex.

While club runs have been more like massed start races, with Tommy Simpson II doing his best stirring up the pace, they have been well attended. One thing that Alan Hirst (who is now in Germany, complete with bike) has learnt, is never to shout remarks at people who sport beards (no offence Cedric !), otherwise they will chase you in their car and give you a lecture on good manners.

Mick has found another pastime apart from cycling, but as one member said: "She does ride a bike".

Well the time has come for me to put my quill back into its plastic box, and until I take it out again I leave you with this thought: If you cross a sheep with a kangaroo, would you get a woolly jumper ! (Don't all laugh at once).

BLACK PANTS.

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UCKFIELD & DISTRICT C.C.

All hail from the habitat of the Greater Sigged Rockclimber. Now that the racing season is under way, here is the lowdown on the sordid scandal of Uckfield (and District).

Before the scandal is well and truly stirred, here's the gen on the characters who are getting fit or something. Cedge as usual gained highest place in the Hardriders 12 with a fourth place ride of 34.55. The opening 10 in March caused little surprises, with Den, Tony and Mick Aldridge taking first three places, although Skippy managed to gain 5th place for some unknown reason. The S.C.A. 25 brought John out again with a host of new equipment and obviously beginning to fly with a 5.18, and 3rd place. Roy and Den completed

Uckfield & District C.C. (continued).

the second fastest team. Roy took the Club Championship for his third time, the only others having done this being "Chicken" Head and Griff. Den was second and surprise third was Ken Savage. The short start sheet of six riders was due to the bottle party held the night before (please see below !!!). John pulled out another 5 in the Solent 25 and Colin racing once more under our colours, although living in Slough, recorded a 7 in the Fountain 25 at Easter. Woppit, Skippy and Mick Gale rode away on E.3 on Easter Monday for the Acme R.C. 25 T.T.T., their time of 1.19.10 was uninspiring, despite two punctures. After a most disappointing ride in the Charlotteville 50 with a 15, John put his back on racing and despite the club's hopes that he would rise to the splendours of 1958 once again, has packed up. Once again the Farmers turned out in force with no less than four teams in the ESCA Team Trial. Not only did they manage the record for the most entries, but also for the most late starts! Roy, Norman and Mick proved fastest with 1.38.11., and Woppit, Lewes and Micky next with 1.43.00. Hos, Doug. and Pete recorded 1.44.20, and Cedge started, although with a bad hand, with Terry and Den, who rode round together for training (whatever that means!). (Let me know if you find out - Ed.). In the S.C.A. Championship all the times were mediocre, except Skippy's, who turned in a personal best with an 11.18. Pete unfortunately crashed and ended up in hospital with a broken nut. In the ESCA 50 the showing was just as mediocre, with Dennis fastest of our boys in 2.16.2. Cedge, suffering from Dolphin Fairitis, recorded 2.23.47, and once again Ken S. was third fastest with 2.27.36.

In the S.C.A. 25 team championship the Farmers again were out in force. Terry's magnificent ride of 1.3.32. was neared only by Den with a 6. Griff, riding in the A team for the fantastic total of 12 years running, screwed Cedge and Arthur, who both did 8's, with a 7. Colin unfortunately didn't turn up and the Farmers ended up fourth fastest. In the B team Woppit was determined to show everyone up but punctured, and the final line up was Mick, Ken and Hos, with 10, 11 and 12's respectively, again for fourth place. Spankers first 50 in the Catford event gained him a bronze standard, with a time of 2.20.37.

Ken Savage, so far the revelation of the Farmers racing season, carried off the Barnes Handicap 25 cup for the third time, the first to do so, and second fastest place with 1.10.57. The morning was generally acknowledged as the hardest of the year, and Den could only

Uckfield & District C.C. (continued).

manage an 8.15. Hos was third in scratch and handicap with 1.11.2. and Spanker and Woppit recorded 1.11.29 and 1.12.3. respectively. Skippy took second handicap and Pete recovered from his stay in hospital and ventured out to record 1.18.19, with only 20 miles in his legs since his accident.

Micky Gale came 7th in the Sussex Schoolboys heat at Crawley on Whit Monday. This was in a bunch finish at the end of a 25 m.p.h. plus 8 mile battle, in which he tried to get away with the eventual winner but twice failed. It looks as if he is following in the steps of big brother Tony, who you will remember came third in the ESCA road race to our esteemed editor a few years ago.

The scandal has been going well as usual, with nobody seemingly worried about the tuggoe rides that are being produced. Of course the ultimate is the news that Roy is training for the Met. Police, and has purchased a motor bike from which he has already been removed at 60 m.p.h. ! Celia has had her hands full lately with such characters as Woppit and Spanker to contend with for nights before races, but the lemon meringue still flows from the kitchen of 114D.

The Social Season was wound up with a fine party in the back garden barn at Wimpey's, the same lady having since joined the club. It appears that Spanker and another well known GENTLEMAN of the Farmers became intoxicated, but from the evidence which has been pieced together since, everybody enjoyed said affair. One young lady was heard to remark "Come and help me find my teeth, So !" The party eventually ended up with a pile of bodies on the dining room floor in the house and extended well into the morning. One young lady was forced to pay a visit to the garden after watching one of the boys tucking into a hearty breakfast. Spanker was carried home in the small hours of the morning with a large black eye, whilst Malcolm is still complaining of the wounds incurred by trying a pursuit round the barn. A certain Central Sussex Sir is still puzzling out whether he is "quite the type".

Woppit, Petnic and Bunny (now work them out !) went boating at Barcombe Mills. After rowing till a quarter to eleven they had to discard the boat and take to land. (Oh! that's interesting which one played gooseberry ? !! - Ed.). They only went on for an hour at a quarter past eight !

Roy and Spanker visited Wales over Easter, Roy being best man

Uckfield & District C.C. (continued).

at Pete Kirby's wedding. As yet neither has split on the other, but from what has been hinted the information must be quite valuable.

Thanks are due to Mr. Crowsley for his informative view on Cycling and Sex, because some members have read it over and over again to find out where they have gone wrong!

The Farmers spent an evening with the local motor-cycle club for an indoor obstacle trial on fairy cycles. Apart from Woppit getting stuck in a tyre and Dennis careering down a plank on his posterior, the progress was good and Micky won the best cyclists prize of a fine tankard, but more his size.

The local hairdressing trade is now going great guns, Mick's sister Tiddles and Wimpey all being involved, but the mysterious frequency with which Celia has her hair done needs considerable checking.

Well with the great news to all over-weight racing men to place their faith in Polythene and Stephanie, here's signing off - Good as Gold

..... Woppit.

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Hastings & St. Leonards C.C.

I should like to take this opportunity to comment on Mr. Crowsley's articles in the previous editions of "Bonk".

I belong to a predominantly male club, which I joined originally not to further my matrimonial ambitions, but merely to enjoy the beautiful countryside as economically as possible. Later, I observed the anti-fraternisation exhortations of a certain P.H.B., who shall be nameless, and applied myself diligently to training and racing.

As I flowered into young womanhood, even had I aspired to sexual adventure it would have been impossible, as the younger members were forsaking cycling for more leisurely pastimes, and the older members had been thoroughly brain-washed against sex by the aforementioned P.H.B.

At last I met the man who is now my husband. Possibly due to the fact that he was an ex-R.A.F. man, he was quick to seize upon

the opportunities mentioned by Mr. Crowsley. Although at first it was pleasant to be the sole property of mne man, after two or three years it began to pall, and I began to look for fresh fields to conquer. But to no avail, I was at a loss to know how to tempt the men who crossed my path. I tactfully pointed out haystacks, and suggested that it would be nice to go primrosing or blackberrying in pleasantly secluded woods, but was met with uncomprehending stares on every occasion. I decided finally that I would have to be satisfied with what I had got - an oasis of virility in a sexual desert.

After my marriage, I became extremely brazen, and after one of the riotous social functions which Mr. Crowsley describes, I forced my attentions upon an infinitely desirable clubmate. The results were worth the effort! Alas, three days later, he slunk to our domicile, threw his hat over the threshold, and proceeded to apologise for my sinful behaviour.

No. Mr. Crowsley, I am forced to the unhappy conclusion that sex and cycling are incompatible, especially as I can recall one male cyclist boast that he is a virgin at 50 and proud of it. Male cyclists are so busy theorising about sex, the sensations experienced and the effect of participation upon their times, that they have no time alleviate female frustrations.

I fear that you will discover that you have made a grave error, "Crow", in writing such controversial articles, as I can visualise Edenbridge being inundated with hordes of thwarted female cyclists, all eager to meet that rare phenomenon of the Cycling World - a man who apparently places girls on the same high plane as alcohol, bikes and photography.

(Signed) Would-be Cupid.

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SOUTHBOROUGH RACING NEWS.

Since the last edition, much road has passed under the Southborough racing wheels. In fact, something in excess of 3,000 miles - quite a lot for early season. Clive Ashby started the season well, with a second in the Hardriders 12 (32.43) with Brian Leyland 4 mins. behind and Crow at a further 2½. The following week, a cold frosty mist bedecked the club's favourite Q.131 course, and times were much slower for the M.G. 25 which attracted some 13 entries. Clive achieved a 1.5.54 followed by Ted with 1.7.34 and Roy Pyne at 1.10.22. One P.T.T. (who shall remain nameless, but belongs to near neighbours

Southborough Racing News (continued).

of ours) successfully collapsed twice in the morning, due to the effects of the cold !!

March 12, found Crow making fourth in the ESCA 25 with a 1.6.40., whilst Ron and Brian returned 1.5.47. and 1.6.38. respectively in the Counties 25. Clive Ashby was by now the latest victim of the mumps circulating the club. Without him, the Club 25 on the following week was won by Ron with 1.6.11 against a cold North wind. Close behind were Roy Pyne 1.6.38, Ted 1.7.20 and Clive Orchard 1.7.50. The next week, again coldish, saw Roy return 1.7.5. in the K.C.A. 25, with Clive at 1.7.24 and Brian 1.8.56. Meanwhile Carol, who had also been plugging away at the club 25's, rode the Mercury Ladies 10 and achieved a 30.17 on G.22.

On old club favourite was tried again this year, when some dozen riders tackled the Hilly (Hastings Road) 50, in cold steady drizzle on Easter Monday. Ron collected another medal with 2.27.1. whilst Roy managed 2.32.45 for second place. Worth a mention, was long-marker, Dave Gillett's ride for fifth place of 2.40.36. April 9th found Brian selling out in the ESCA team time trial, and virtually being dragged round by Ron and Crow for a 1.33.13. Meanwhile, to the N. West, Clive Orchard achieved a 3rd place in the Apollo Mid-Markers with a 1.4.25. Backing him were Roy 1.5.22 and Mick Armitage 1.7.58.

Dawn came on April 16th, to give a fine looking morning. If I mention the Army Signals Unit, enough marshals to stand one every two thirds of a mile for 42 miles, 5 timekeepers, enough food and drink to feed a regiment, and a field over-subscribed by some 30 entrants, you will know it was Southborough Hilly 42 day. From ESCA, Dave Patten did well against a class field, to take second place in 1.55.28, against 1.54.23 by Robin Buchan, and 1.56.8 by Roger Wilkins. Our lads, Crow, Brian and Ron returned 2.1.1. (a good ride), 2.7.55 and 2.8.31 respectively. Just imagine, two teams having a third man doing 122 minutes to count under the Bidlake system; the Bromley scraping it from the West Kent R.C. with a 2.2.20, against a 2.2.34. Just imagine also, the fastest junior doing a 1.59.43 - J. Mernikle of the Middlesex Clarion. The Ide Hill Prime, again went to Dave, with a 4.32 and all in all it was another successful event. The one black spot - 12 non-starters, when we had to turn away entries. Particularly, when some nameless ones had the check to turn up in time to ride, and were in

Southborough Racing News (continued).

obvious good health !!!

Since that day, club results have certainly looked up. The 50 team record has been broken twice. First in the Counties 50, where Clive Ashby, Crow and Terry achieved 2.8.25, 2.8.39 and 2.16.53; and more noticeably on May 16th, when riding the course made famous in the Vic Gibbons era, Clive Ashby led the team with a 2.1.59 !! Backing him, were Ron with a middle 8, and an off-form Crow with a 17 ! Whilst mentioning 50's, the club took the team in the ESCA on April 30th, Crow winning with 2.11.52. In this event, Phil chipped down the club's trike 50 record to a 2.26.35. The KCA team time trial attracted 2 club entries, when Ron, Ted and Arthur returned 1.15.32 for the 30 miles, and Lou with Les (down from Scotland) finished the course in a middle 27 after Pete Cooke had finally dropped out with severe cramp. Meantime, Clive Ashby came second in the prime, in the Kingston Hilly 30 (which covers 34 miles), and on a hard morning also achieved a 1.2.50 on G.9.

Last Wednesday saw the first evening 10 of the season. Against a strong headwind, Clive won in 23.59. Following him were Roy, Ron and Clive Orchard with 24.55, 24.57 and 24.59 respectively. These then are probably the names to watch in future weeks. We must not forget, however, Brian Leyland and Terry Hughes. Also, (keep it quiet), Arthur Parks, resplendant with new sprints and tubs, and a jubilant Lou, who has twice beaten evens this year at 30 and 50 miles !!!

Hmm, maybe it it's just as well I'm known only as:

TUG-O-THE-NORTH.

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SOUTHBOROUGH SOCIAL NEWS.

Contrary to the usual post club dinner lull, this quarter has had a good quota of social happenings in the Southborough part of the world. Naturally the annual swing to racing has cut the numbers on the all-day club runs, though as most of our "couriers" make the effort to reach lunch or tea (sometimes seemingly more than their racing endeavours), our tea numbers remain around the 20-25. Club membership still hovers around the 70 mark, and a most welcome trend this year has been an influx of several female members. This

Southborough Social News (continued).

has not come about without a certain amount of "changing partners" within the club ranks which in turn has made the club night scandal circle buzz with rumour, and Lord Daniel refers to the laggardly part of our clubruns as "The Kinsey Section".

Our energetic social secretary Teddy Boorman has really got things moving and as a result we have had some most enjoyable get-togethers with neighbouring clubs. One such event took place at the Barlow Mow, Punnetts Town, after the ESCA 50, when a "Darts'n Ladders" match was contested (?) with the Eastbourne Rovers. The Bathurst/Crowsley team won by a narrow margin against the Stevens/Alloorn partnership at darts, whilst Den Neeves is now convinced that Lord Daniel has the Mississippi gambler touch at dice throwing in snakes and ladders - a most enjoyable event.

The Barley Mow was also the scene of another contest sometime previously, when their buffet tea system tempted Crow and Lord D. to see who could out-spend the other at tea; the latter won by paying out 5/9d. - nowadays we just bring our own cheque-books.

Easter was noted for its indifferent weather - the writer still has horrors of ascending Hardknott pass in the Lakes in pouring rain on Easter Saturday - the club had two Tours: The President's run to the New Forest and Wiltshire, which required dexterity at darts as well as legs from its participants, and YHA run to Jordans and Tanners Hatch, led by Phil Hennessy. The rest of the club were not prepared to hazard the vagaries of Easter weather, and ventured little farther than the Herne Hill meet on Good Friday, and local runs otherwise.

Although our Hilly 42 is a racing event, it has its social side too, and generally acts as a stimulant to get our older and retired members out marshalling, or making themselves useful. We reckon to have 50-60 members and friends out round the course. For 1962 entrants the Committee announce that true to Southborough tradition there will be a lot more food and drink at the finish than hitherto.

The other big event in April was the Geoff Hayman/Anny Barnes wedding, which was graced by a large number of Wheelers and arch of wheels, also a downpour of rain. Teddy contrived to fit a cowbell on the going away car chassis, to give a fire engine effect.

Southborough Social News (continued).

Our Open 100 mile Reliability run on May 14th attracted several outside entries, as well as most of the club. This Hennessy organised effort had good weather, and practically everyone got round within the stipulated time of 7 or 8 hours including that actively retired Rover Yacky Cornwall.

Club illness a la mode this spring has been mumps, first Spider Dumford, then Mick Armitage, and finally the only bloke who throws darts down to a dart board, yes the entire length of Clive Ashby was smitten, but having managed a 2.1.59 for a 50 less than a month later, it looks as though the effect were only a temporary reversal to the fantastic Ashby form.

The children's cycling proficiency scheme takes quite a lot of club members' time, along with the R.O.S.P.A. activities. The South East England Secretary came down to the clubroom recently and gave a talk to 25 members on R.O.S.P.A.

At the time of going to press, the club's annual pilgrimage to the Isle of Wight for Whitsun is recent history. Seventeen of us went "overseas" this year and managed reasonable weather, if too cold for swimming for the majority, as usual it was a gormans tour, with enough exercise in between eating to give a reasonable appetite for the next meal, nothing sensational happened, but a good time was had by all.

For the future, there are the club's birthday celebrations on May 30th, crazy golf with the Hastings club, the club's August Bank Holiday camp at Cuckmere Haven - incidentally anyone is welcome to join us at our camp, providing they can bring their own tent. And finally don't forget, September 30th - Southborough Wheelers Dance Social, Railway Hotel, Tonbridge. (Could the Southborough Committee get together on this, so far I have had three venues - Railway Hotel, Railway Hall, and Preston Hall !!! - Ed.)

Here's to a decent summer and enjoyable hols, home or abroad.

CROW.

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SO SIGGS IS TRAINING TO BE A COPPER !

EASTBOURNE ROVERS C. & A.C.

Whether or not these remarks reach a wider audience than two depends on the magnanimity of our Editor and the elasticity of his copy dead-line. I am already three days late ! (Shame on you - Ed.). However, with confidence in the former, and a fair amount of trust in the latter, with apologies to the editorial staff, let me forge ahead !

Competitive pedal-pushing is of course the number one subject these days, but to date our boys have shown no sign of endangering comp. records. Steve keeps turning 'em round and, in what I believe is his 14th racing season, is still improving. His latest effort was to win the Club 50 by over six monutes with a P.B. of 2.11.2. Chief challenge at the moment seems to be from Chris Snelling, our

Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. (continued).

last season's Most Improved Novice, who surprised everyone with his second place to Mick Robinson in the first Association 25. He has since got down to a "3" but is still trying to get the hang of 50's.

Quite a promising breed of youthful first-timers turned out for the Novices 10, and are now trying their wings in the Evening 10 series. The best results so far have come from one John Woods, whose first 25 was an 8, and who has done a 25.40 for a 10. At the other end of the age scale Harry Heather's comeback proceeds apace, his latest being a 10 in the Club 25, a performance which, incidentally, humbled your scribe, who considers himself a mere chicken compared to Harry's 50-odd summers. Co-veteran Bert Fox has also distinguished himself with a first handicap in the Club 50.

In the S.C.A. Individual Championship few crusts came our way - Steve was our best with a 5. Chris called it a day when he stopped to go to the aid of his minute-man, who had come to grief, and Tony Bartlett chase Findon Roundabout to demonstrate that faith is not the best adhesive to attach tubs to sprint rims. In the G.46 mountains, too, we found ourselves well down the list behind the youths who hear the strange device "Excelsior".

John Mayes is following the trail blazed by the late lamented Denzil in boosting the stock of the A.C.U. From some lair in the depths of Ireland he makes lightning forays to various parts of Britain to ride on unheard-of courses - best 25, so far, is I understand, a 2. Life at base isn't all cloceens and shillelaghs, though - he recently got caught for a 24-hour guard !

"Opens" are in the air now, with our Road Race on top of us and the 25 curiously enough, on the 25th. Fine weather has been laid on for both events, and we are hoping for a bumper entry for the 25.

Scandal, regrettably, seems to be at a low ebb at this time. Alack, that my pen cannot find one Rovers' indiscretion to pillory before the avid readership of this News of the Escaland ! Either my private eyes have failed me, or else the boys really are behaving themselves. Maybe it's a case of mass sublimation to the racing urge !

One example of indiscretion of another kind is that of Bruce, who is currently indulging in a week of pony-trekking in the Scottish Highlands. To the uninitiated, this sounds a somewhat hazardous

Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. (continued).

occupation - dare we attempt a limerick ?

A young pony-teckker called Bruce,
Found his saddle exceelingly loose,
So he finished the pass,
On the seat of his ass,
And said: "Next time I'll fit a Holdsworth saddle support" (advt.).

And if you can think of a better last line - the best of luck !

LAND-ROVER.

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CENTRAL SUSSEX C. C.

In view of the fact that the closing date for copy is with us, I find that I must rack the old brains once again and turn out all the news from the Central Sussex C.C.

In the last few months we have had a concerted recruiting drive, and this seems to have worked wonders. We now have more juniors than at any other times, in fact the balance has swung right over to the young side. If keenness is anything to go on these lads will work wonders. (I hope !!!).

Up to now things on the Racing front have been fairly quiet, but as the nice weather comes along the times seem to be hotting up. In the first East Sussex 25, Malcolm Verey did a 1.8 odd, and the old man of the hills a 1.9. However, in the Sussex Individual Championship Malcolm off No. 1 did a very creditable 1.3.57, Mick Wren 1.5.25 and Beryl's David 1.5.26. Ken Atkins clocked 2.12.25 in the S.C.C.U. 50 to almost repeat it in the East Sussex 50 with a 2.12.34 for 2nd place. In the Sussex Team Championship 25, for once, we had both an A and a B team. The A team were in the hay for the first time ever with a 3rd place. The lads in the B team rode like fury and were 2nd. A good day all round.

In our first club 25, Malcolm won in 1.4.53, with Ken hot after him in 1.5.1 and Mick Wren 3rd in 1.6.28. The handicap was a prominent feature of this event, won by Mick Burkett with a nett time of 1.0.28, no less than 9 riders finished with 60 seconds. This says

Central Sussex C.C. (continued).

a lot for our Timekeeper and Handicapper, Mr. Maurice Smith.

Malcolm Verey is going strong on the Track stuff, and is performing at Herne Hill each week. Ken A. entered the Sussex Individual Pursuit just for the hell of it, and qualified for a ride with Terry Chambers in the next round. Heigh Ho and out we go !!!!! So much for the racing news.

In the big turn off of light the other week, we had a Committee meeting, John Gallsworthy shared a studio couch with Edie Barrow and Mrs. Beryl Dalziel. You should have heard him scream when the lights went out. However, the Secretary nipped smartly away and got a bike lamp, which spoiled their fun. By the way, the Chairman now does washing up by lamp-light - any offers for his services ?

At Easter the gang went on tour, Bledington was the target this time, and I am given to understand that most of the riding was of a "vertical" nature. I do not know what this means, but I leave the thought with you.

I am afraid that this is all that I have time for now, I hope to see you all again soon,

Be good,

HONEST GINGE.

+++++

TUNBRIDGE WELLS R.C.

Here we go again turning out some more gen for you lucky people. As usual, the first event this year was the ESCA Hardriders 12 and as usual Dave Patten pedalled round to win with a time of 32.33, this time with Grahams 36.1 and Gordons 37.21 gave us the team award. A fortnight later the team award again went to the Road Club in the ESCA 25, here Dave came 3rd with a 1.5.34 and Gordon took 1st handicap with a 1.8.26. Graham taking it wasy doing a 1.8.2. The next event was the Bromley Road Club Hilly 25, which was won by Dave with a time of 1.12.37. Other members of the club, namely Graham, Gordon and Ron Day doing 1.19.59, 1.23.9 and 1.20.19 respectively. Dave, Graham and Ron came 2nd in the ESCA Team Time Trial with a time of 1.31.22, even though Ron had to be carried for about half of the way. A week later saw the Road Club riding in the Southborough and District Wheelers Hilly 42. Here Dave

Tunbridge Wells R C. (continued).

came 2nd with a time of 1.55.28, but on the Ide Hill prime he completely outclassed the rest of the field with a time of 4 mins. 32 secs. The nearest to Dave being Robin Buchan with a time of 5 mins. 12 secs. After this performance one wonders just what Dave would have done had he been training instead of resting before his forthcoming downfall. The only other member of our team to finish was Graham, who returned a time of 2. 7. 5. An all junior team represented the club in the S.C.A. Championship 25, highest placed was Graham, being seventh with an excellent ride of 1.4.20, Gordon doing a personal best of 1.5.33 and third member Dave Nightingale going off course.

The following Saturday Dave finally got laced and tied when he got married to Sheila at St. Stephens Church, Tonbridge. Here he was given full team support, complete with cleaned sprints and tubs.

The next day Graham and Gordon rode the ESCA 50, Graham coming 3rd and also taking 1st handicap with a time of 2.13.50, Gordon doing a 2.19.18. In the SCA 25 team championship the club entered five riders, these being Graham 1.6.55, John Goldensmith 1.8.5, Roy Martin 1.8.18, Dave Nightingale 1.8.23 and Gordon 1.9.28. The last event to date was the Canterbury CC 25, held on the Q.8 course. In this event Graham did his fastest time this year with a 1.3.41, Roy Martin had the misfortune to puncture about three miles from the finish and ended up doing a 1.9.45, if this had not occurred he would have done about a 1.5, Gordon did a 1.7.11.

The last couple of weeks have been spent on club runs, one to Barcombe Mills, the other to the Eastbourne Road Race. At Barcombe Mills some members of the club were disappointed when Gordon failed to fall out of a boat. Also we have proved that it is possible to keep afloat with just as much water flowing about in the boat as there is outside it.

See you around,

ANGEL.

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LEWES WANDERERS C.C.

Salutations to all fellow "never had it so goods". As usual at this time the breath of scandal once more wafts through the Wanderers' set-up, bringing you lucky people up to date with the latest and more furtive goings on in the Deep South. Happily we report a rosy outlook for the future and your scribe is as pleased as the Chancellor suddenly finding a few outstanding subs. coming in, or joyfully slashing some poor trier's handicap! And for why? Well, a timely surge of local interest fostered by our keen lads has resulted in a veritable horde of new members and been responsible for the staggering figure of no less than 15 on a Lewes clubrun! Thanks to Mick Seabrook we have a clubroom available in Lewes which it is hoped to open as soon as some squaring up is completed, so it would seem that our long-neglected social side is due for a shot in the arm if all co-operate fully.

The racing season so far has found our boys active as usual, Burbery once again losing no time in showing the others the way home. He won the Lewes-Newhaven and Return in 37.6, followed by "Copper" Burgess with 38.5, a time which abducted the 1st handicap award. Dave, the younger of the Barton brothers, grabbed the 2nd handicap with 39.39, a good ride on a none-too-easy morning. The S.C.A. 25 saw Burbery and Burgess both doing 9's, which they improved to a 5 and a 7 respectively in the Individual Championship. "Dick" Barton, riding his first event since a cartilage operation, managed a 10 with Dave two minutes slower. The Association 50 saw Burbery doing a 15, Tourist Agg still carrying too much social season tonnage, a 19, while Burgess finished with a 25 and wearily commented: "I've disproved all these fancy theories about mixing sex with cycling!"

The first 10 served up a shock with Maurice Colbourn, one of our recruits, doing a 26 in his first event. To show this was no fluke he trounced his five team mates with a 1.7.19 in the SCA Team Championship, beating Burbery by 22 secs. "Dick" Barton and Agg did 9's, and the Cooper a 10. The Club 25 was won by Burbery with 1.4.33, and Mick Colbourn again raised the eyebrows with 1.6.55! "Dick" Barton crept into third place with 1.7.14. This event was noteworthy in that Willcocks not only arrived in time but actually finished! (Never - Ed.). His time of 1.19.48, despite having ridden a 10 the previous Tuesday, was deplorable, and led to the comment by one critic: "How unfit can you get?"

Agg recently got down to a 5 in the Portsmouth 25, so one can almost see those surplus inches taking wings as fitness looms ahead.

The resource of Lewes men was amply demonstrated by Dick Barton, who found a pedal broken just before a training run. After fruitless efforts with wire and elastic bands, he used an old bootlace, and the resultant lash-up took him from Portslade to Lewes and back without mishap !

To all the queries as to what has happened to Russell, we are obliged to reveal the sordid truth about the rides to London previously mentioned. Facts are that he was not training at all - he was simply flat "broke". The reason, as a certain P. Crowsley would appreciate only too well, is that Russell has got himself embroiled with the opposite biological faction: indeed, it has been rumoured that he's engaged ! However, as this has been going on in London, your scribe is at a disadvantage, but it is hoped to dredge up enough on this to make the next edition of Lewes "dirty linen" really worth reading. We've seen very little of Russell lately, although it is known that he and "Tin Legs" Grover were recently in the Fell County and Lake District (by car, of course). These two stumblebums are said to have tried mountaineering and "bog trotting" as one sceptic put it, but readers are advised to take this with a large dose of salt, or, in view of the latter description, should we say "salts" ? Probably there was much more lifting of elbows than ropes and rucksacks, and if perchance they did venture up the slopes there must have been a few cases of stitch, through laughing, among the mountain goats !

Peter Sharp, now in retirement, said that if Willcocks finished in the Club 25 he'd ride in one of the 10's, despite not having touched a bike for years. If this kind of reckless abandon goes on we'll be having the Chancellor prancing up to the line prepared to take on the field in an open 50 !

"Dick" Barton is supposed to be after buying Dutson's road iron since someone told him that it does 30 m.p.h. with no one on it !! He said: "That'll be OK for a start. I've got to win the BBAR somehow".

Doug. Chisholm, whom everyone expected to see tearing 'em all up, says he's concentrating on cross-country running. WE've already pointed out that cyclists live longer than cross-country runners, anyway, and also that cycling is easier on the feet, but he seemingly

won't be swayed. His "confidence" can hardly have been boosted by Maurice Colbourn's riding to date !!

Finally, your scribe, having been urged, cajoled and practically ordered to make some reply to two recently articles in "Bonk" by the aforementioned Mr. P. Crowsley, would respectfully point out that his general unfitness and lack of club life lately hardly qualifies him to give a dissertation on cycling, while owing to the now notorious "wildcat strike" he has most regretfully experienced precious little of the other commodity about which Mr. Crowsley writes at length !

So there it is, folks, once again. Best of British till the Autumn number, and lots of good weather, etc. etc.

Yours in tatters,

ALSORAN.

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CYCLING AND SEX - The Author replies.

I would like to thank Mrs. Patten for voicing the woman's angle in replying to my articles. As I seem to have been misconstrued in some instances there are some points on which I would like to elucidate.

Firstly I did not state that when a clubman has been caught that he is only interested in his captor, it is usually a battle with his conscience whether to give primary consideration to one or to the other. If I may illustrate this by a somewhat poor analogy, it is rather like the monkey who can't get the nut out of the bottle because on clenching his hand round the nut he is unable to get his fist out, and he is also worried about another monkey coming along with a thinner fist ! Girls are indeed a necessary part of any balanced club, as both Sheila and I agree, and the open mindedness of the average club man and woman make the whole set-up eminently successful, nevertheless, the saying that love is a man's plaything and woman's all cannot be disregarded.

Concerning the second point Sheila made about racing men slipping off the back of clubruns to aid saggy club girls, I would

Cycling and Sex (continued).

venture to suggest that Mrs. Patten is in the usual position of being the sold female in a racing club (since the almost legendary Gay Lord went out of orbit, anyway), and for that reason the rest of her clubmates will view their racing as being of primary importance, to her own discomfort.

Anyone else any comments ?

CROW.

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Southborough and District Wheelers

end of racing season

DANCE AND SOCIAL

is to be run at the: Railway Hall, Tonbridge, 7 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. on the 30th September, 1961.

Admission 3/6d.

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Tickets are available from:

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CROSSWORD. For amusement only - solution next edition.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	
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11				12		13		
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	20				21		22	
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26			27		28			
	29							

CLUES

ACROSS

1. Hillclimb Champion, 1952.
8. To neglect.
9. To melt.
11. One of the Lyons.
13. An abbreviation.
14. Opposite to out.
15. Vessel.
17. Electrical term.
18. Brightness.
20. With 15 down makes a dance.
21. Name.
23. Liquor.
24. Coloured liquid.
26. To allure.
28. Oriental judge.
29. Gentle.

DOWN

1. Bird.
2. An incident.
3. Receptacle.
4. Indefinite object.
5. Street.
6. Unit of electrical resistance.
7. A balsam.
10. Town.
12. Long straight rod.
15. With 20 across makes a dance.
16. By.
18. Famous surname.
19. Water nymph.
20. A peal of thunder.
22. Finish.
23. Able-bodied seaman.
25. An outfit.
27. Thank you.

HERE AND THERE

The "STOP" board as used in the braking test of the ESCA tourist competition has been acquired by one of the Southborough lady members; she takes it to the cinema with her when accompanied by her boyfriend.

"At Windsor we spent most of our time looking for a television shop which was showing the boat race in the window". Maureen Pollington writing in the Southborough gazette about the Easter tour.

After reading "Landrover's" report in the last edition about the other event on the 25th June, it is reported that Cedric is considering riding the other event - i.e., 24 hours.

Ian Jenner is said to be considering a come-back on the track, after hearing that Arthur Thorpe had eventually retired, as he thought that the riding standard might rise and become too tame for the spectators !!

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