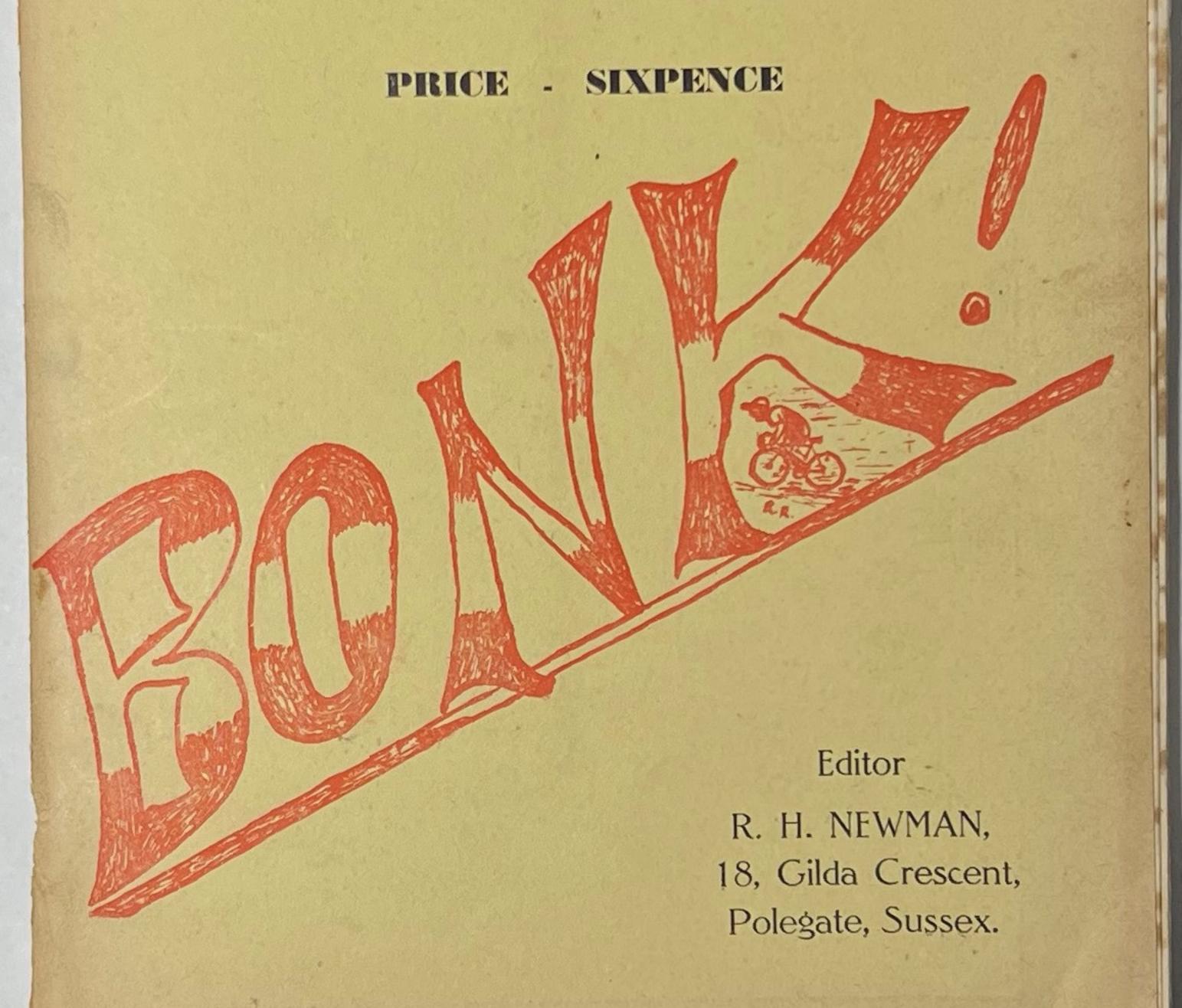
THE - OFFICIAL - ORGAN - OF - THE

EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION

Published Quarterly



We have the Privledge of supplying

MEDALS, PLAQUES & CUPS ETC.

To many of the Leading Cycling Clubs

May we Quote for Yours?

Special Designs using your Club Badge Submitted

L. Reich & Sons

Clockmakers & Jewellers

40, Monson Road . TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Phone 1352

N. C. U.

GEORGE HILL

18, Spring Street, BRIGHTON 1,

For

BEST SELECTION OF FRAMES IN SUSSEX RACING - TOURING KIT - GEARS CLOTHING & SHOES - DUNLOP TUBULARS Full Range in Stock. All goods carriage paid by return H. P. Terms on Frames or Accessories

Est 1920

Phone 25430

C. T. C.

EVES for CYCLES

Your Requirements for Racing or Touring will always receive Prompt and Expert Attention Cycle and Frame Stocks, include CARLTON CLAUD-BUTLER and all best makes.

2, Framfield Road, Uckfield

EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION

Founded 1946

SPRING 1954

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

NEW SERIES - No. 5.

Dear Folks,

Thank you very much to you readers who kindly sent me their congratulations on the Xmas edition. As you saw, it was bumper size, and it was due to the fine amount of material that you members sent in. It gave me a lot of satisfaction to produce it for you.

This is the first edition of the second year that I have had the honour of being your editor, and the last time it will be produced in this cover. The following editions will have a new one, in what I think is far superior in colour and style. The colour will be green, with dark green printing, and the Association badge reproduced thereon.

There is one point I would like to draw all members' attention to, and that is my address, which is 80 Gardner Road, Portslade, and NOT Gardner Street, as on the Officials List.

Well, I wish you a season of faster times and fine weather, and will be seeing you up The Road some time.

Yours sincerely,

EDITOR.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT "BONK" IS MAY 30th.

The Chairman's Letter

Greetings Members All.

First I must apologise for my non attendance at The Party and for not being about during the "Med. Gear 25". To be quite that it is a very cycling activities are getting so involved that it is a very cycling activiti

with the time-trial season once more well in its stride, may I this opportunity to wish all riders the best of luck. One appreciates that we cannot all be award winners, but let us remember that it is the chap that rides for the love of the game and just to that it is the chap that rides for the love of the game and just to that it is own time, or to do battle with some pal in his own the class, who makes our sport what it is, and puts it so far ahead of other class, who makes our sport what it is, and puts it so far ahead of other sports.

I would like too to thank in anticipation all the helpers, who
I know will willingly turn out in force as they have done in the past.
I look forward to seeing you all up the road "so early in the morning!"

Despite statements in an earlier issue of our Mag, don't be surprised to see my name on some of the start sheets. Be less surprised to see me actually 'having a go', however slowly I may surprised to see me actually 'having a go', however slowly I may surprised to see me actually 'having a go', however slowly I may surprised to see me actually 'having a go', however slowly I may surprised to see me actually 'having a go', however slowly I may surprised to see me actually 'having a go', however slowly I may surprised to reserving the right to be absent from the starting like if the weather is too bad. I have had my share of being "one of the team". Then nothing would have persuaded me to be a non-starter. Now I like to 'have a go' to please myself and for the starter. Now I like to 'have a go' to please myself and for the

I trust too this season may see many added to the ranks of the touring section. The finest holiday possible and the finest way to make the country. Maximum enjoyment and good weather to all tourists.

See you all 'up the road'.

"GEN" from the Secretary.

The 1954 Racing Season is now more than a month old and if the early events are a guide we are in for quite a few fast times this year. The first two events have been won with good times in spite of the unfavourable weather conditions that have prevailed. Here I should like to bring to the notice of all Racing Men the fact that the President of the Hastings & St. Leonards C. & A.C., Percy Bliss, has presented to the Association a Trophy for the Fastest 25 Miles inside the hour on Course G.52. This Trophy is to be awarded annually. It is now up to you 25 milers to prove that our course is one of the fastest in the county. Since my last notes appeared many Social events have taken place notably at our own Party at Polegate in February, when a company of just over 100 spent a very enjoyable time at the Junction Hotel, with our President Mr. Jenner being in attendance. Quite a few of us will treasure memories for a long while of the Dinners that we have attended during the past three months, at which many a story of the past year was told over a glass of ale. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all those clubs who have been pestered with my company at their Dinners this Winter I can assure them all that I have really enjoyed being present. To all club Social Secretaries I suggest that very shortly you get together and try and arrange your Dinner dates for the next Social Season so that any possibility of clubs holding their functions on succeeding nights does not occue next winter.

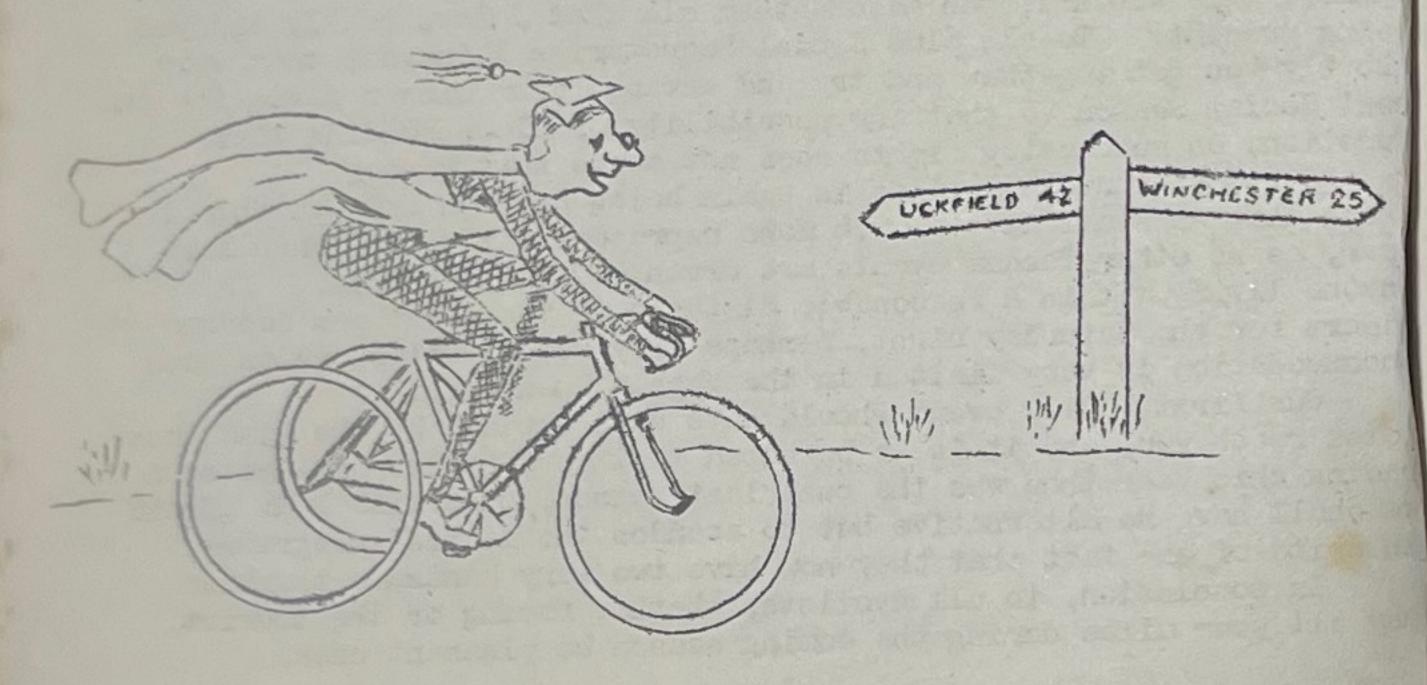
Our Open Tandem 30 miles is again being held on May 9th when I trust that we shall have a much more representative entry than last year, as no other Tandem events are arranged for that date. If anyone living within a reasonable distance of the start can accommodate riders for the Saturday night, perhaps they would contact me as good accommodation is very limited in the Magham Down area.

Our first Ladies event should have been decided by the time these notes reach you, and it is to be hoped that more Ladies will be seen racing this year than was the case last season, otherwise I am afraid we shall have no alternative but to abandon the ladies' programme, in spite of the fact that they now have two very handsome trophies.

In conclusion, to all cyclists, whether racing or the tourist, may all your miles during the coming season be pleasant ones.

ROAD EVENT RESULTS

12 Miles Hardriders, 28th February, 1954. 1st: D. Patten Tunbridge Wells Road Club 2nd: J.R. Dutson Uckfield & District C.C. 3rd: A.R. Trott Uckfield & District C.C. Team: Uckfield & District C.C. (J.R. Dutson, A.R. Trott & D. Funnell).	H. M. S. 35.23. 36.12. 36.16. 1.50.45.
25 1Hles 72" Gear, 14th March, 1954. 1st: G. King Hastings & St. Leonards C. & A.C. 2nd: G. Boxall Uckfield & District C.C. 3rd: M Horner Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. Team: Uckfield & District C.C.	1. 6.41. 1. 7.12. 1. 7.23. 3.24.29.



We hear that

TUNBRIDGE WELLS ROAD CLUB

I hope other Press Secretaries can keep pace with Old Father Time better than I. It seems only yesterday that we rushed the last edition to our hard-working Editor. Congratulations on the Christmas edition-especially to our artistic contributors. I hope we get some more "portraits" soon. In spite of the flight of the aforesaid old man, plans for the new season are well in hand, commencing with the Hard-riders on March 7th and including the Inter-Club 25 which we are promoting on July 11th. All Clubs will be welcome and will receive invitations in good time. The course is provisionally set for Paddock Wood.

Our old and new Club Officials are getting into their stride now. Sprockett has been re-elected General Secretary - address 190 Silver-dale Road (real name Ron Hackett), Dave Patten is track and mass-start Secretary at 34, Farncombe Road - both of Tunbridge Wells. Ken Chantler is again time trial secretary at 32 Woodside Road, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells.

We had a Christmas party at the clubroom - the first one ever. Balloons and streamers festooned the place, there were piles of cakes and pies and Fred was tea-maker in chief to give us poor girls a rest! We had records and Mr. Robbins brought his projector, so the "film-stars" could preen themselves. Have you seen Sprockett's white knee-socks? The films included the E.S.C.A. hill-climb; you should have seen the King of the Mountains in perfect timing to "Little Red Monkey"! No comment, but we all hope that Johnny is fit again now and will be on that Gillott again this year.

This fever of engagements is catching; the lastest are Margaret and Eric, and also Brenda and Geoff. Good luck all of you. They make a total of five pairs. The others are Molly and Reg, Joy and Fred and Shirley and Ray. I must watch our or I'll be on the shelf!

We heard from Tony Baldwin at Christmas - he's still in Malaya with the West Kents, but should be sailing for Blighty this month. He is in hospital with the local stomach upset and is pretty chuffed, but is hoping to pick up cycling again when he gets home. Alec is also in hospital at East Grinstead, but is nursing on night shift!

I am informed that we have a young casanova in the mob, but he seems to fall for the married girls. Watch out Pat! So if any members of the fair sex (that's us!) hear the cry of a hungry wolf on a Sunday club run, don't look now, it's only Mazey. He's after the club runs cup, I think, as he goes out every week. He gets his energy as do the others, from hot dogs and Oxo on Club nights. Sprockett still can't get up early enough, so he meets the Club for tea each Sunday.

Tumbridge Wells Road Club (Continued)

The Club was very pleased with the result of the Association

Mardriders, which Dave won in very good time. Keep it up, Patten!

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

Mardriders, which Dave won in very good time. Keep it up, Patten!

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to

More look forward to the summer with evening runs, Club runs to the summer with evening runs, C

HUMILIATIONS OF A HANDICAPPER

By Broad Gauge.

Here is the tale of Uncle Maurice,
Who with a bike was no raw novice,
But riding out in winter's grip
Oft suffered bruises from side-slip So thinking thus to miss the dyke,
He bought himself a natty trike.

But now imagine his dismay For when his skill he would display,
He could not steer the d----d thing straight
(not even at a gentle gait),
But in the road could only circle,
Or down the camber madly hurtle.

Now, being a determined type,
He rode it home that very night.
Through trying hard to trace his track
A harmless grass-snake broke it's back,
Though Cedric, hero of the day,
Zig-zagged beside him all the way.

And when he rode his trike to work
He stopped production with a jerk The manager, one Mr. Brown,
Looking upon him with a frown,
Displayed complete dissatisfaction,
and cursed him for subversive action.

And thus the long, dark months did pass, With snow and ice and wintry blast And on rode Maurice, tempest-torn
-:6.-

Humiliations of a Handicapper (Continued)

Until at last the spring did dawn.
His skill at trundling seemed to thrive So entered for a "25".

O'er the hill came the friendly sun, And off went Maurice, number one. Two minutes later Basher Kent (On catching Maurice all intent) Try as he would t'was past the turn Before he left the trike astern.

Now Maurice, taking up the chase
Kept Kent in view, despite the pace Iron Peartree Corner came and passed
(Where Maurice, going all too fast
Swung out too wide and blocked the road,
Roy bawling at him 'Selfish Toad !!!!!)

Till down Holmes Hill the tyres did hum,
Passing the corner by Den's Mum,
With Maurice overtaking Kent
As up the little hill they went,
Giving his nose an upward toss
And "pipping" him at Golden Cross.

But now it was brave Eric's turn
To pass again that ample stern
And up the Dicker they did race,
Each trying hard to heat the pace,
Until they reached McDougall's Mill
Where Eric flagged ah, bitter pill!

But then, as Maurice passed the line,
Handicap won by margin fine,
Swift to an end his triumph came He hung his head in dreadful shame,
When came a shout of "What's the caper AIN'T HE THE BLOOMIN' HANDICAPPER?"

"A Happy New Year" was what we were wishing each other three months and so far the toast has come true for the Hastings Warrior Cycling & Athletic Club. With new members continuing to come in, all official positions happily filled, and a stronger racing team in the making, things look much better than at this time last year.

Christmas was celebrated in traditional fashion by one and all; when and song taking precedence over cycling, with most members.

Then they did eventually return to the saddle, more than one rider who had been happily pushing "72" up to Dec 23rd. found that "62" was now as much as he could handle !

However, the Boys have long since recovered, and now that the midweek run has switched from "Potter out to Whatlington for wallop" to "Tear up to Boreham for tea and lemonade" we know that things have got going in earnest again.

The racing men have already had a couple of warming up events. The Club Hardriders "12" came first and Ken Miller started his second racing season well by winning it in 37 mins. 35 secs., pipping Doug Floyd 38-29 and Roy Bickmell 39-29. Pete Shaw found "77" fixed and the "Bonk" go hand in glove on this course; while new member Geoff Gladwell took 45 mins. including a tour of some lanes not included in the course!

The following week Ken Miller was the only Warrior to brave the winter sports conditions to ride in the E.S.C.A. "Hardriders" but could not produce the previous week's form.

STOP FRESS. For the Club "10" on March 7th, not ONE of the s turned up to avail himself of the timekeeper's watch! Fair Weather riders, that's what I call 'em.

The surprise in January was the Club's A.G.M. Beforehand, practically everyone was going to resign, and no replacements were in sight. However by the end of the Meeting some alchemy had satisfactorily filled all the posts, and left us wondering what we had been worrying about. Our President Mr. Buckland, is now Chairman as well, giving Mr. Colin Mitchell a rest after four years in the "Hot Seat"; Dennis Neeves has taken over as secretary, whole Doug Floyd fills the post of Captain. The latter gent has made a good start to his term of office. With new Members continuing to roll in, support for the club runs has lately been hetter than for several years past, and shows every sign of continuing. G.W.J. has made a welcome return to the club Teas, complete with shining new enamel and "Fast man's" handlebars on his Bike. Neevo on the other hand did not start so well; apparentlyshocked by his success in collecting three annual subs during his first week of office, he was taken ill, and has had to take things easily ever since.

Hastings Warrior C.C. (Continued)

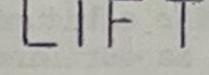
The Club's Annual Dinner was successful both from a gastronomical and a social point of view, and Ivan who does most of the donkey-work must have been well satisfied at the results of his labours. About sixty sat down to an excellent meal, followed by three hours of Dancing and Games, which made an enjoyable "Swan Song" to the Social season.

And so, with the delightful prospect of six months hard labour before us, we leave you, to rake our racing vest and shorts (Brrrr!) out of mothballs. Till next issue --- Good riding !

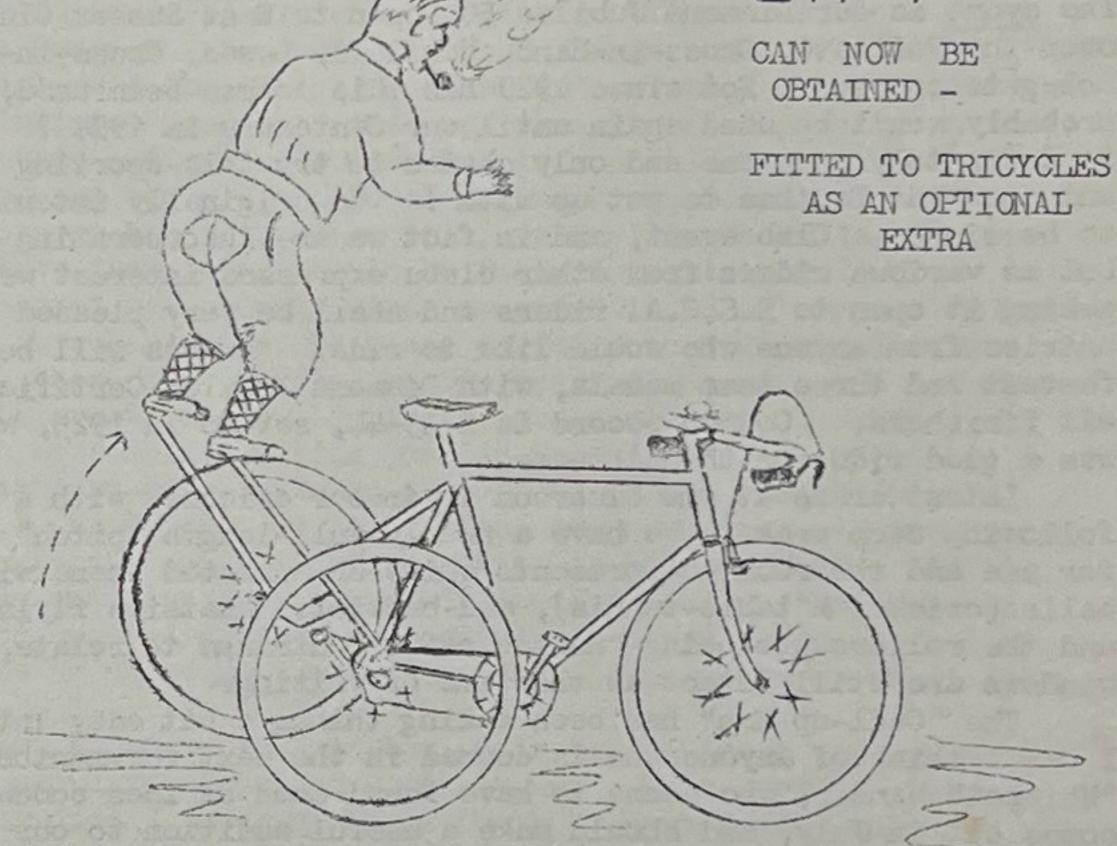
WARRIOR.

+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+:+

FERGUSON THE HYDRAULIC



FITTED TO TRICYCLES AS AN OPTIONAL EXTRA



Welcome to alarm clocks, cups of tea, blue-nosed timebers, big gears and the Dicker Drag, and hurrah for the disappearing minute-man and the rapidly approaching menace from the rear. You, too can have times like mine - come to think of it you can have mine as a Seriously, though, it's good to hear the old three - two - one the tubs purring up the road once more.

The boys have been out most Sundays lately, one target being chislehurst Caves - very interesting and well worth a visit from those the haven't been there. We also entered a party for the Brighton Recelsior "200 in 16", three of us finishing the course. This took us via Winchester to Salisbury and Christchurch and back over the New Forest. Fears that the party might be attacked by wild animals in the latter area proved to be groundless but everyone was pretty well soaked by continuous drizzle.

Now for a bit of crafty publicity. The date is August 15th.

The event is our Diamond Jubilee 50, open to East Sussex Clubs, held over the Polegate, Cross-in-Hand, Uckfield, Lewes, Cross-in-Hand, Folegate course. Not since 1929 has this course been used, and it probably won't be used again until our Centenary in 1994! This is definitely your one and only chance to try this sporting course and see what Dad had to put up with! We originally intended this to be simply a Club event, and in fact we are incorporating this, but as various riders from other clubs expressed interest we are naking it open to E.S.C.A. riders and shall be very pleased to receive entries from anyone who would like to ride. Awards will be first fastest and three team medals, with Diamond Jubilee Certificates to all finishers. Course record is 2-33-44, set up in 1925, when this was a good ride for the distance.

Latest craze at the Clubroom is indoor cricket, with a bigger following each week. We have a nearly full-length "pitch" available for use and the room now presents quite an animated scene with darts, balls (cricket & table-tennis), and badminton whatsits flying around and the rollers producing "noises off". Strange to relate, all the windows are still intact at the time of writing.

The "Call-up Man" has been taking things a bit easy lately, and I can't think of anyone who is doomed in the next few months.

"Whippet" Manser, who seems to have found some stripes somewhere, comes out in July, and should make a useful addition to our short-distance strength. Others still in uniform include "Blondie"

Wickham, Brian Kirtland, "Blue" Medhurst - somewhere in the Antipodes-

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

and Brian Smith, who I'm sorry to say had rather a rough time with illness soon after call-up, but who I believe is mending nicely now.

Finally, have you heard about the club-girl who thought a Separation Allowance was a special handicap for those with well-developed legs? You do meet 'em!

Be seeing you all at dawn,

"LAND ROVER"

"PLAGUES"

Sir,

Those of us who were foremost in the rush for entry forms for the recent E.S.C.A. Medium Gear 25 and who got as far as perusing the prize values, were not a little concerned to observe the first fastest award. What had a benevolent Association offered us - a cup - a shield - a medal? No, none of these things, but a veritable PLAGUE:

Knowing well the uprightness and integrity of our Committee, we at once dismissed from our minds any thought of complicity on their part, but this left us no option but to conclude that this ghastly inspiration was the brainchild of our hitherto respected Secretary. Reluctant as we are to believe this, we feel it is in the public interest that the matter should be fully investigated.

therefore improbable that he bears a grudge towards the distance. Can it be, then, that he dislike the restriction on gears and proposed to kill the event (and incidentally, at least one competitor), by the imposition of such a shocking penalty for winning? Or is it, perhaps, that he has developed a maniacal phobia for 18-tooth sprockets? Unpleasant as these alternatives appear, we prefer them to another idea - one which we hesitate to put on paper. Is it conceivable that our Secretary had already sized up the probable winner, and descended to this unchivalrous depth to guard against repetitions in subsequent events? Club loyalty can be carried too far!

Another aspect which strikes us is the sinister vagueness with which the award is described. A Plague. What sort of plague? Locusts, or just a touch of Black Death? What deadly cultures are maturing behind the curtains of Clyde Cottage? The winner has a right to know! & will he be allowed to keep it to himself, or

"Plagues" (Continued).

hand: is the winner covered against this risk by his Third Party
Insurance.

No, we feel that this idea is pregnant with preposterous possibilities which will lead to undesirable publicity for the time-trial game,
and, if for this reason alone, we would urge our Secretary to find
some other way of rewarding our perspiring pedallers. Only then will
we be plaquated !

We are, Sir, Yours &c.

(Sgd.) M. TAKER
P. RINT (MISS)

+:+===+:+===+:+===+:+===+:+===+:+===+:+===+:+===+:+===+:+====+:+====

UCKFIELD & DISTRICT C.C.

So the social season has come and gone again, with the gannets making the most of their chances by attending every club dinner they could while funds permitted. Apart from the more formal functions the Club Xmas Eve Party provided a lot of fun as usual, though the appearance of a posse armed with water-pistols put paid to the pre-arranged programme. Four Forces members turned up - Arthur, Don, Webby and Tony - it certainly seems that the "Do" is a permanent date in the calendar.

Some of the 'erbs took advantage of the seasonable weather to get a bit of skating in, on Piltdown Pond that is, most of us had enough skating on icy roads without going out to look for it, still, no accounting for tastes!

Almost forgot, last season seems so far away, but Siggy's fine ride in the Central Sussex Cyclo-cross certainly deserves mention.

MacH and Webby also performed gallantly, with the menace collecting 17 punctures just to round the day off.

The experiment of dispensing with professional entertainment at the Dinner in favour of a social evening proved a great success, many thanks being due to Roy Humphrey for an excellently devised programme of games, chiefly remarkable for the amount of noise they engendered.

Three brave spirits, including your 'umble, performed under the critical eye of the C.T.C. in the West Sussex D.A. reliability trial, had a most enjoyable time and can certainly recommend the event - a proper pot-pourri of riding and "gen" tests.

A small band of stalwarts kept their wheels turning during the

Uckfield & District C.C. (Continued)

winter, collecting a few wet shirts in the process. No doubt they will have their due reward in the fullness of time - instead of aches and pains in early-season events due to lack of miles they'll have gout and rheumatism in their old age (like I've got anyway).

The racing season has opened well, with club events being brought ever further forward to enable the bods to get a ride in before the Association events start. The "10", on a reasonably good morning, and the "15", in a howling gale, proved once again that Dut takes less notice of adverse weather than most riders. The results of the first two E.S.C.A. events are most encouraging, 3 places and 2 team wins, the latter by hefty margins and with plenty of reserves in hand. Special mention to Geoff for an outstanding performance in the Medium Gear - as a matter of fact most of our chaps did better rides than in the corresponding event last year on a day when many other riders were slower.

Phyl's postbag is pretty full these days, I must say we get some really interesting letters from the Scragly Erbs. We've just heard from Cedric to say that he's moved from the comforts of the Canadian Hospital at Kure, first to a convalescent depot and then to a reinforcement camp at Hiro, preparatory to rejoining his unit. Says working again after a life of leisured ease comes pretty hard, but sends a graphic description of a trip by launch along the Jap coast to Iwekuni - seems the trip out was O.K. but the journey back caused most of the lads to donate to the owners - fortunately Ced., having trained with the Uckfield Gannets, remained master of his fate (and breakfast). (Sir) Don writes from Kota Tinggi to say his jungle training is now completed, and he will shortly be moving up-country (he also sends a few kind words of advice to Webby about this and that, eh, Webby ?). The latter, by the way, is now counting the weeks until he comes out - I really believe he thinks he's going to enjoy civvy street ! Arthur was to have ridden in the Medium Gear, but the R.A.F. switched his leave at short notice, so he missed that one, anyway he's getting in some miles and apparently has got his feet well in at Innsworth, is now Station Team Manager (with exes something I've never achieved !).

Turning to higher (?) forms of Service Life, Cpl. Tony Shrapnel (paid) celebrates his 21st this month (I had my 21st in the mob, 'nuff said). Good luck, Tony! L/Cpl. John Pearce, due out this year too, looks like seeing a bit of life in Germany before his number's up, as we gather his battalion's on the move. And a

hand at the cycling game, C.P.O. Tony Hayward, late of H.M.S. "Eagle" and now in Northern Ireland (bike and all) for a spell. (For the hand of the R.A.F. bods, H.M.S. "Eagle" is nothing to do with the colden Eagle who performs on Fridays).

Leaving the dizzy Olympian heights of non-com. rank, we find Pat marstill nicely dug in, thank you, at Bicester. Pat doesn't say not but I reckon he's on a cushy number. Lofty adorns S.H.Q. at Barmhorn, and apparently is exercising his wood-spoiling talents to and effect. Trooper Harrison came to see us last week-end with a wrible tale of 'ardship about life in the 'Ousehold Cavalry. Funny thing is, he seems to be enjoying it, and certainly he looks as fit as a fiddle. After passing out at Windsor he's due to go to Carlisle for a spell, so no bike for a bit longer yet. Latest recruit to the Forces, Ivor (How's she GO, mush?) Crowhurst, is now training to be a big flat-footed S.P. Hope you've got your passes handy, chums!

Regular readers of this column (if any) may remember that some months ago we introduced a gang of Horrors. Well, they're still with us, and a week or two ago represented their local Youth Club in a cycle initiative test which involved performing in relays for 24 hours in about the most appalling weather one can imagine. They won hands down. Good show!

THE PROF.

Reflections on Touring

It has been said many times, with all truth, that touring is the backbone and foundation of the cycling game and club life. On tour the cyclist learns to love and appreciate cycling for cycling's sake. Once this is done he remains a cyclist for life, realising the cycle affords him the most convenient, healthiest method of travel to be found anywhere.

Approach to touring is a most important thing. It must be understood from the commencement that a tour should never be regarded or allowed to develop into an extended training spin. The returning tourist should be able to talk about what has been seen and learned, not the number of miles that have been covered.

On this question, if one is to enjoy to the full all that is to be seen and learned on tour, 50 miles a day is plenty to be aimed at.

This allows time for sightseeing, photography, leisurely meals, a not too early start (say, 9 a.m.), and a reasonably early finish (say, 6.30 to 7 p.m.) to the day, with a stroll after supper.

Taking it for granted that the object of touring is to explore new country, the idea of touring from one or more centres, depending upon the time at the tourist's disposali is worth consideration. So often the best country lays off the main roads and those who merely pass through a district miss much which is well deserving of a visit. By staying two or three nights at a central point riding out and home by a different circuit each day one has the opportunity to get to know the district. One can travel light, and is not worried by the problem of where shall I stay to-night. Often too, a district warrants leaving the machine behind and tramping over field or woodland paths for a day. Here too, the centre tourist scores.

Reaching the touring ground is also deserving of careful planning, if the chosen area is a long way off and time limited, which is all too often the case. Do not be put off from using the train as a method of getting you well on your way, and bringing you back over the last 100 miles or so of familiar ground. Should expense prevent you making use of this assistance in both directions, do not hesitate to use it at one end or other of a tour of short duration. It will not only allow you longer time in the touring area but will save you "flogging yourself to death" to make your destination and again to get back in the allowed time, which can quite spoil the enjoyment.

Choose your equipment and tools carefully; it is well worth a little thought. Do not overburden yourself, but make sure you have spanners to fit all nuts, here a really good class adjustable is often a great boon, but fight shy of the cheaper, inferior quality which are a curse. Don't forget a cone spanner, and two things so often quite neglected by the average cyclist - a small strong screwdriver and a medium sized pair of pliers, preferably sharpnosed. Naturally, a repair outfit is a necessity, but carrying a spare tube always pays high dividends, it is far better, if caught in the dark or wet, to make a tube change in case of puncture, and to repair at leisure in comfort at the FIRST opportunity.

Reflections on Touring (Continued)

Just one word about accommodation. With the lifting of food restrictions, etc., it is much easier all round. Nevertheless, it is well to look in advance if you can, and certainly worth the trouble. Should you find yourself stuck in this respect at any time, remember there are two people in every village, or town for that matter, who can often help when all else seems to have failed. The policeman and the parson. I have used both in the past and always found them nost willing to co-operate. Remember the police too in any sort of its light experience has been that they are most helpful; practically, and in giving advice. Many years ago my father gave me that piece of excellent advice - "Make a friend of the policeman". I have found it useful more than once, and pass it on to you.

I trust these few sketchy notes may be of use and interest to beginners and old hands alike, and wish you all good luck and good touring this summer.

"BROAD GAUGE"

WE HEAR A

RUMOUR

THAT THE PROF

HAS FOUND

HIS PIPE

AGAIN :



This is the tale of Tourist Agg, A bloke his clubmates love to rag; His fastest times are done, 'tis said, While dreaming peacefully in bed! His pet ambition would empower Our hopeful lad to beat the hour, But up to now his times look grim -It seems the clock has beaten him ! We cherish memories of the time When all were gathered on the line And Tourist Agg hove into sight, Pedalling with all his might, Announcing as he tore along: "I've done it ! Where's that blinking 'gong' ?" Alas, this story has a twist, A little point the lad had missed, A crippling blow to future fame -His stop watch lived up to its name And failed - so plain to all around As Agg lay helpless on the ground ! So now in 1954 We trust he's better than of yore, And that the boy will cross the line Victorious - in Timekeeper's time !

A MEDICAL GLOSSARY OF CYCLISTS' COMPLAINTS

By Doctor Creep-Bignell, M.A.

- A ACHES (All over).
- B BONK (Not this Magazine).
- C COLD (Exposure to).
- D DEATH (Where is thy sting).
- E EXHAUSTION.
- F FRUSTRATION.
- G GHOUL (Racing Secretary).
- H HANDICAPPER.
- I INFURIATION (Due to H).

A Tedical Glossary of Cyclists' Complaints (Continued).

J JACK (I care not for thee).

K KNOCK (Hunger).

L LUNACY (TO start).

M MARSHAL (Grinning).

N NUT (Doing my).

0 OW MY

PUNCTURES.

Q QUIT (About time I did).

R RIGOR MORTIS.

S SECRETARY (Racing). See G above.

T TIGHTS (Ask the Prof).

U UNHINGED (See L).

V VARIOUS VEINS.

W WOODEN SPOON.

X XANTHOPSY (See Dictionary).

Y DID I EVER START ?

Z Who Z entry forms ?

+:+:=-=-+:+:=-=-+:+:=-=-+:+:=-=-+:+:=-=-+:+:=-=-+:+:=-=-+:+:=-

WHAT MR. BIDLAKE SAID IN 1896

(On learning to ride): "It is wiser to have your earliest experiences on a machine not intended for your own future use."

"Should you run away on a hill, use the flying leap only as a last resort."

(On trousers): "There is no sense in having them double-seated. The carrying about of a patch before it is wanted is a peculiar waste of labour and heating."

"Half the cyclists of the day are over-geared".

(On training): "In this matter there is a risk of making too serious a business of the whole affair, and sacrificing the pleasure of racing to the worry of getting fit."

"If (a cyclist) rings unnecessarily he is soon asked whether he wants all the road, or told that he is big enough to be seen".

"The difference between bicycling and tricycling is the difference between perching on a one-legged stool and sitting on a respectable chair".

What Mr. Bidlake said in 1896 (Continued).

"Mudguards resembling paddleboxes are made for tricycles".

"Some riders like large bags holding a sort of model tool shop".

(On tandems): "An idle passenger makes cycling terribly heavy work".

From "CYCLING" by F.T. Bidlake (Published by G. Routledge & Sons Ltd. 1896).

LEWES WANDERERS CYCLING CLUB

Well, folks, having somehow got through the social season for another year all Wanderers are in full training and rarin' to go. Since the last "Bonk" our 12-hour specialist, Tony Cornford, has answered the call to government hire and we all wish him the best of luck in the next two years.

Our most notorious personality, "Tourist" Agg, opened the 1954 season in his own inimitable style by promptly pulling his wheel over on the starting line in the Hardriders' "12", and had to borrow a spanner before he could get away! It is rumoured that he intends to do better than this in future events.

Undercover work by an un-named member resulted in the acquisition of two "dragons" to our ranks, so our hardest task will now be to prevent them volunteering for too many marshalling jobs !

The fit and those "about to be" got sorted out in the Medium Gear "25" in which R. Russell was the best of our riders with a creditable 1-9-53 in such gusty conditions. Still, it takes time to recover from an orgy of wine, dinners and parties, so, as the season progresses, we're hoping to see great improvements in the most unlikely places. That seems all for now, so cheerio and all the best from the Wanderers for 1954. See you all down the road.

Geoff.

The Sags (Schizophrenia) and/or the Knock (Aegrescit memdendo):Two allied complaints induced by self-hypnosis. An advanced form of hypochondria.

Sprog (Cyclo-maniacuss) :-

A species of anthropoid, believed in scientific circles to have been extinct since the Cromagnon era. A throw-back from this period has recently been discovered in the unexplored hinterland of the Some Common Cycling Expletives (Continued).

impenetrable Uckfield & District wilderness. This specimen could only "speak" in signs and a few utterances of irrational gibberish, e.g., "Cor dang oi".

Dragon (Species Caticus) :-

Self-explanatory. Unfortunately no St. George has yet come forward. (For further information on this subject read the admirable treatise by Dr. Agg and Prof. Grover).

Grimpeur :-

A stern faced coureur with no visible means of support (viz: "Anti-gravity" man).

To the Editor, for publication.

Dear Sir,

May I take advantage of your columns to apologise on behalf of my Club to the riders in the Medium Gear event for the late arrival of our turn marshal, and to thank Mr. Lock, of the East Grinstead C.C. for his timely assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Time Trials Sec., Uckfield & District C.C.

Change of Address of Officials.

Social Secretary, East Sussex Cycling Association:-F. Sealy, 37 Jubilee Road, Bexhill-on-Sea.

Magazine Editor:-

R. Newman, 80 Gardner Road, Portslade, Sussex.

Congratulations to Percy Bliss on being awarded the "Fellowship" Trophy by The Fellowship of Kent & Sussex Cyclists. Well done, Percy. This is the second year in which a member of our Association has been honoured by the Kent & Sussex Fellowship. In 1953 it was awarded to our Secretary, R. Humphrey, for services rendered to our pastime.

-- 20:--

DISCONNECTED JOTTINGS

We were all very sorry to hear that Mike Kenward had had his bike pinched - bet you were glad it wasn't that cap, Mike!

Our readers will join us in congratulating Ken Padgham on his new appointment in Wiltshire. Ken was our first Social Secretary and played an energetic part in our affairs in the early years of the Association.

We hear that the Great White Chief has vowed to get the Prof bottled on March 28th. By the time this is in print we shall know who was under the table first.

Sorry to hear that Johnny Coomber's leg isn't progressing too well - seems it hasn't set correctly and has to be re-set.

We wish him a speedy recovery.

Full marks to Pedlar Palmer for his very teasing quiz at the New Year's Party. Judging by the answers given to the last question few of us poor cyclists ever handle a pound note long enough to see what's on it!

Den Funnell had a spill on a training spin. Now Stephanie's fractured her arm - hard luck, Steph! But perhaps old Den's got the worst of it after all as we gather he's now doing all the housework!

We understand that after the episode in the Hardriders Gordon King is using Chater cranks. Has anyone told him what Eric Kent did to one at Preston Park? Dear Fellow Cyclists,

Once again we are nearing the time of year when all pedal pushers start creeping out of their plusses and windcheaters and head for the country. The racing men begin creeping around at unearthly hours on a Sunday morning. Why do they always make the start of a course a position where there is no shelter from the elements ?

We of the Heath are also beginning to sit up and take notice, some of the boys have already been burning up a few miles. Times have not been as good as they should be but then neither has the weather (it's a good excuse anyway).

As I expect you already know, we no longer have the services of Jill (Half Pint) Cruttenden as secretary. This year I think she intends riding with our Uckfield friends. We thank her for her past services and wish her luck in the future.

During our social season attendances at our Franklands Village headquarters have been fairly good. Janet Golds is still in charge of the tea urn, and we have had plenty of elbow bending practice. We have also been pleased to welcome some of the Southern Wheelers and Central Sussex members who have just dropped in for the evening. We are always glad to see anybody at any time.

Club runs during the winter have been kept going under the able management of our Captain Reg Tew, and have had fairly good support. On a recent run to Leatherhead there was some talk about two members (one male, one female) who explored some shrubbery, but I think that subject is best left alone or my life will be in some danger from a certain lady.

It is with some regret that I have to announce that our Captain Reg Tew has decided to resign from his position. We are sorry he has decided to take this step as we have been very happy under his leadership. Our present Vice-Captain Clive (Gabby) Fry will, we hope, take over the position, with a little gentle persuasion.

In conclusion, may we of the Heath Cycling Club wish all the readers of "Bonk" a very successful and happy season.

Till the nest issue.

Yours in Sport, -: 22:-

EAST GRINSTEAD C. C.

Ah! 'tis Spring, when a young man's fancy gently turns to thoughts of hardriders & medium gear events. That's what the poet said, wasn't it? I thought I would just like to put that in to remind readers that it is Spring. Seems quite a change from when the last 'Bonk' came out, there we were basking in glorious November sunshine, still in shorts and summer garb - & now this ! (Having written that what's the betting that there's good weather by the time you read this ?) However, enough metriological observations & down to the adventures & misadventures of the 'Grinstead crew over the last few months.

First in chronological order (I will now put back the dictionary) was the Association dinner & prize giving which was attended in force by our club. I think everyone in the Association who attended agreed it was an excellent do at the right time of day and at an almost unique price! We certainly came home a lot wiser about the happenings of the S.E. Tricycle Association.

The Christmas Day Club Run was a success if not so numerically strong, but to shame it all the Treasurer, Press Secretary and Chairman of the Committee turned up - by car. (We are made of stronger stuff, of course). To follow this a few of us went on a 'day after Boxing Day' tour of East Sussex. We now consider that one of the objects of the E. S. C. A. should be "to give guidance to cyclists who get themselves lost round unsignposted East Sussex lanes" ! called in at that famous East Sussex establishment known as "Den's Mum's", and heard all the latest gen on the winter activities of various Association personalities.

On January 23rd we held our annual dinner & prizegiving at the Whitehall, East Grinstead. Unfortunately, we got practically no support from Association clubs, rather a let down in view of the fact that some of our club members attended the dinners of nearly all of our neighbouring clubs. However, the do itself was a great success. Pete Brooker collected a goodly lot of silverware while Johnny Coomber went up to collect the magnificent "Courier Cup" on his crutches. Cross-toasting was introduced for the first time at our dinners, which proved to be very hilarious, even if disconserting to various individuals who thought that their various misadventures had been forgotten in the depths of time ! I won't bother with what was said by who etc. as the details appeared in the 'Cycling' & 'Bicycle',

EAST GRINSTEAD C. C. (Continued).

but just "Thank-you" Roy for coming along and representing the E. S. C. A.

Soon after the dinner we had the Reliability Trial season and that spell of abominable weather. Pete and Don Lock were the only starters in the Catford event of Jan 31st and both called it a day at East Grinstead after getting round over half way on extremely tretchorous roads. The following week saw the start of the Southern Elite affair - for this 3 starters were mustered, Messers. Brooker, Lock & Crowsley. The weather man really went to town that day & handed up rain, sleet, snow & a gale to boot. After 10 miles Crow decided that the quickest way home did not lay on the course route, & left Don & Pete at Westerham. The 2 plugged on on and despite taking a wrong road and doing several extra miles, came in as some of the very few survivors at the finish of the shortened course.

Pollowing this we attended the less strenuous (?) Association party at Polegate which everyone agreed was a very enjoyable affair. Crow won a comb (a useless reward considering his crew-cut) for some balloon busting with the close co-operation of Janet Golds of the Heath C.C.

On February 21st 'IT' started - the racing season, I mean. Club members made their way to a deserted sport near Pound Hill and there partook in a 10-mile event. Winner was "Garth" Robinson on his brand new "Super-dazzeling Claud" (whose make I am not allowed to advertise) in 26-17. Crow was 2nd 26-31.

3rd Ray Lunn with 27-17. In the handicap Don Lock took premier position from Chris King. Pete Brooker was not riding.

The first open was the E.S.C.A. Hardriders where 'Grinstead took the 2nd Team. Crow coming in 4th 37-03, Pete 6th & Giles Job a little farther down to make a new third man for our team award.

Ray Lunn was our fourth man.

EAST GRINSTEAD C. C. (Continued).

down with 1-11-3, 16th.

Now for the rest of the news. Johnny Coombed negotiated a very crafty move on Boxing Day last by becoming engaged to the Treasurer's daughter, Pat Meadmore. It was rumoured that his absence from work was making him financially embarrassed. Unfortunately, Johnny has had to go back to hospital for a reset which will delay his complete recovery even further, but if the wishes of everyone in the Association could do anything I know he would be O.K. right now!

Our boys in H.M.F. continue to get on all right. Tony Chapman has recently come out and joined our ranks again. Eric Gibbs will be out by April. Reggie Meeks still resides in the canel zone, rather browned off but tells me that he hopes to be competeing in the Association hill climb at the end of the year. Lu Roberts is, I believe, at Blackpool still. Unfortunately we shall be losing Don Lock and Pete Brooker some time this summer, which will greatly reduce our racing strength.

That's about all for now, so if this ever gets published you might know something about this club - that's saying you ever bothered to read it.

CROW.

WANTED!

Poverty-stricken club secretary wants the following articles cheaply: Chater cranks, San Ambrosia 'Coppi road' bars, Mansfield North Road saddle (not sprint), 3" stem. Pair of brakes with hooded levers, pref. Bartali, Mafac, Alp or G.B.

P Crowsley, Mill Hill, Edenbridge, Kent.

FOR SALE

G.W. Lightweight Frame. Red Flam. 74° x 72°. 39½-inch

W.B. 22½-inch frame. ¾ chrome F. & R. ends. Track ends. £8.

1 Pr. New No. 1 Tubs. £4. pr. Alloy Sprints, Airlights, No. 3

Tubs. £5. Constrictor Rollers £5. 1 pr. Nisi Sprints on

large F.B. hubs £5. 1 pr. Alloy Sprints on small F.B. hubs £4.

2 No. 2 and 1 No. 6 Tubs. nearly new - 30/- each. One D/S

gear/fixed sprin as new £2. 1 pr. Pirelli Specialissimo Corsa

Tubs. £2 pr. 1 B.47 Sprinter as new 25/-. 2 F.B. Track

Chainsets, 1" x 3/16" as new 35/-. 1 - 1" x 3/16" Block chain

17/6d. 1" and ½" 5-pin chainset with 5 B.S.A. & Williams rings

£1. Crash Helmet 15/-. Track shoes, shorts, odd tubs. Bends,

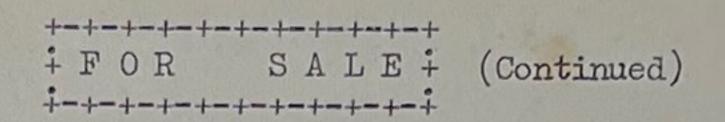
Stems, &c.

D. Hughes, 7 Undercliff Terrace, St. Leonards, Sx.

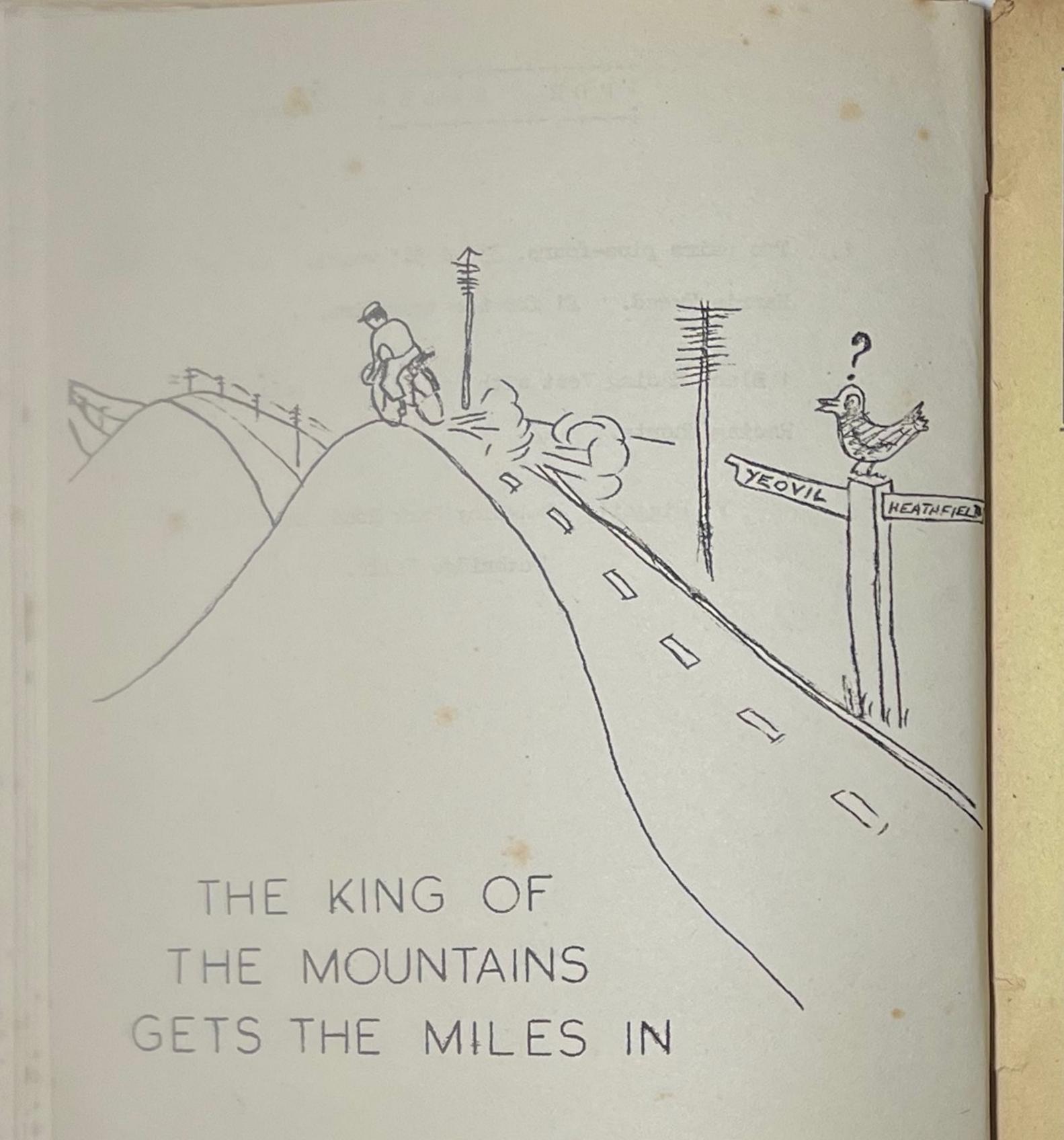
Pair 27" Scherens alloy sprint rims on Solites, D.B. rustless

spokes. 2 No. 2 Dunlops (used one "25" only). Bargain at

Five Guineas. A.W.D. Thorpe, 10 Park Road, Haywards Heath.



- 1. Two pairs plus-fours, 33" & 34" waist. One of Harris Tweed. £1 for the two pairs.
- 2. 1 Black Racing Vest with pockets. 1 pair Road Racing Shorts. 10/-.
 - F. Figgett, 29 Ashley Park Road, Rusthall,
 Tumbridge Wells.



CLAUD BUTLER

British and

Continental

Lightweight

Accessories

F. R. LEPPARD

Clock Cycle Stores CUCKFIELD,

Speciality

Wheel Building

SUSSEX.

HILL SPECIAL

Confectionery Tel 109 Cigarettes

MONTAGUE STORES

Hailsham Road, Polegate
(Joining Cupressus Nurseries)

Minerals, Ice Cream, Tea, Coffee, Sandwiches. Home Grown Tematoes and Lettuce in Season Cut Flowers: Plants etc

CYCLISTS WELCOME

Open on Sundays from Easter onwards

Strudwick Cycles LTD.

Specialists in

Lightweight Frame Building, Wheel Building, Gear Fitting.
Accessories and Cycle Clothing available from Stock.
Racing Vest in Club Colours supplied to order Prompt Mail Order Service.

> 15, Oxford Street, BRIGHTON 1.

Tel. Brighton 21461

THE HOUSE OF RIX - ESTABLISHED 1865

SEE our outstanding
selection of
Sports Trophies, Medals, etc.



MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GOLDSMITHS

5 & 6 ALBERT ROAD - HASTINGS - Tel. 3455

East Lussex Radio Ltd.

7, Gilda Parade, High Street.
Polegate.

CYCLES - ACCESSORIES - REPAIRS

Wheel Building - Gears

Any make of Lightweight Supplied

RADIO - SERVICE - TELEVISION

TELEPHONE 478