

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE

EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION



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EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

Three months have sped by; the gales, rain and '12s' of high summer will soon give way to the gales, rain and hill-climbs of autumn; worse still another edition of 'BONK' commences here. Comments on the Summer issue ranged from the laudatory to the frankly disgusted. On the whole it seemed to please most of the people most of the time; surely no editor can hope for more. In this issue there is an appeal from your Chairman which should receive your close attention. We may be at odds with Maurice in other matters, but in this case we are with him all the way. Don't read the appeal, forget it and leave the sale of tickets to good old Stan, Jack, Norman or as the case may be. Those hard-working fellows will as always do their best, but they can't do it all; it's up to you to back them up. This issue also sees the mag' back to it's maximum size of twenty-four pages, and our thanks go to all contributors who have done their best to make this possible. To those who hope that there won't be any Pen Portraits but are afraid that there will be; and to that official Achilles fearful lest an editorial shaft find his heel, we'll say this :- you can't consider yourself safe till you reach the bottom of P.24.

Yours in Sport,

D.N.

Let me commence by warning you not to jump to any wrongful conclusions that the Association is in a state of financial difficulty at the moment; it is not. Nevertheless, the Treasurer's report at the last committee meeting showed very clearly that such could be the case unless a special effort is made by all to prevent it. It was pointed out that a general rise in the Association's running expenses, and a fall in one of the principal sources of income, was causing some anxiety. The cost of awards is up substantially; postages, stationary and printing all show increases. On the other hand, income from entry fees, upon which we rely so much, is down. The only other sources of income you must be aware are the 'Draws' run by the Social Committee, and donations.

The Committee has requested me to make an appeal to all to make special efforts to ensure the success of the Draw to be run in connection with the Manchester November Handicap. Books of tickets will shortly be available from club secretaries, 5 tickets per book 2s. Od., or single tickets 6d. each. The Association is offering in addition to the usual awards, a special prize of 10s. 6d. to the person selling the greatest number of tickets. So get going, boys and girls, make the Draw a success and win yourself that special half-guinea.

It is not unusual on such occasions as this for a senior official to make a special individual appeal to every member, whether onlooker, ordinary riding member or racing type, and I take the liberty of doing so now. I wonder if you have ever stopped to think what a difference it would make to Association funds if everyone made a donation of sixpence. Why not do so, more if you like, either direct to me or through your club secretary, who will, I am sure, forward them to me. It will be impossible to send a separate receipt and acknowledgment to each individual, but I will announce in the next issue the result of this special appeal, and please help me by giving your support, so that it may be a substantial sum.

Best wishes to you all,

MAURICE

N.B. The Chairman has already set you an example by making a donation of all expenses connected with the two events he promoted early in the season. Ed.

Since our last report on club activities we have seen several of our 'Forces exiles', but none appear to be doing any cycling in or around their various stations. One 'MIKE' strapped on his wheels and made a parcel of the 'iron' to take along to the C.O. just to let the bloke see what a bike looked like! Unfortunately the parcel went adrift and the 'Old Man' is still in the dark. We are organising a fresh attempt in the near future; I hope we have better luck. Time-trials sec. Ken made a welcome return to racing in the club '25' last Sunday and put up a good show. You will see him bashing along the roads of East Sussex again soon; the colour is black and green, remember? (Certainly do; I passed one once in a '50', Ed.). We are sending our lads as often as possible to Association events, but numbers are sadly depleted at the moment. Dave, John and Phil keep the ball rolling, and the only girl rider in the club, Sheila, seldom misses the start sheet.

New junior champion Roy Martin put up 1-8-28 on our 'special' course to win the cup for 1956, and also took third handicap. Dave is short of training miles this year, and is also suffering from lack of air in his tyres at crucial periods, plus twice collecting mechanical trouble. However, he has never 'packed' yet after leaving the timekeeper.

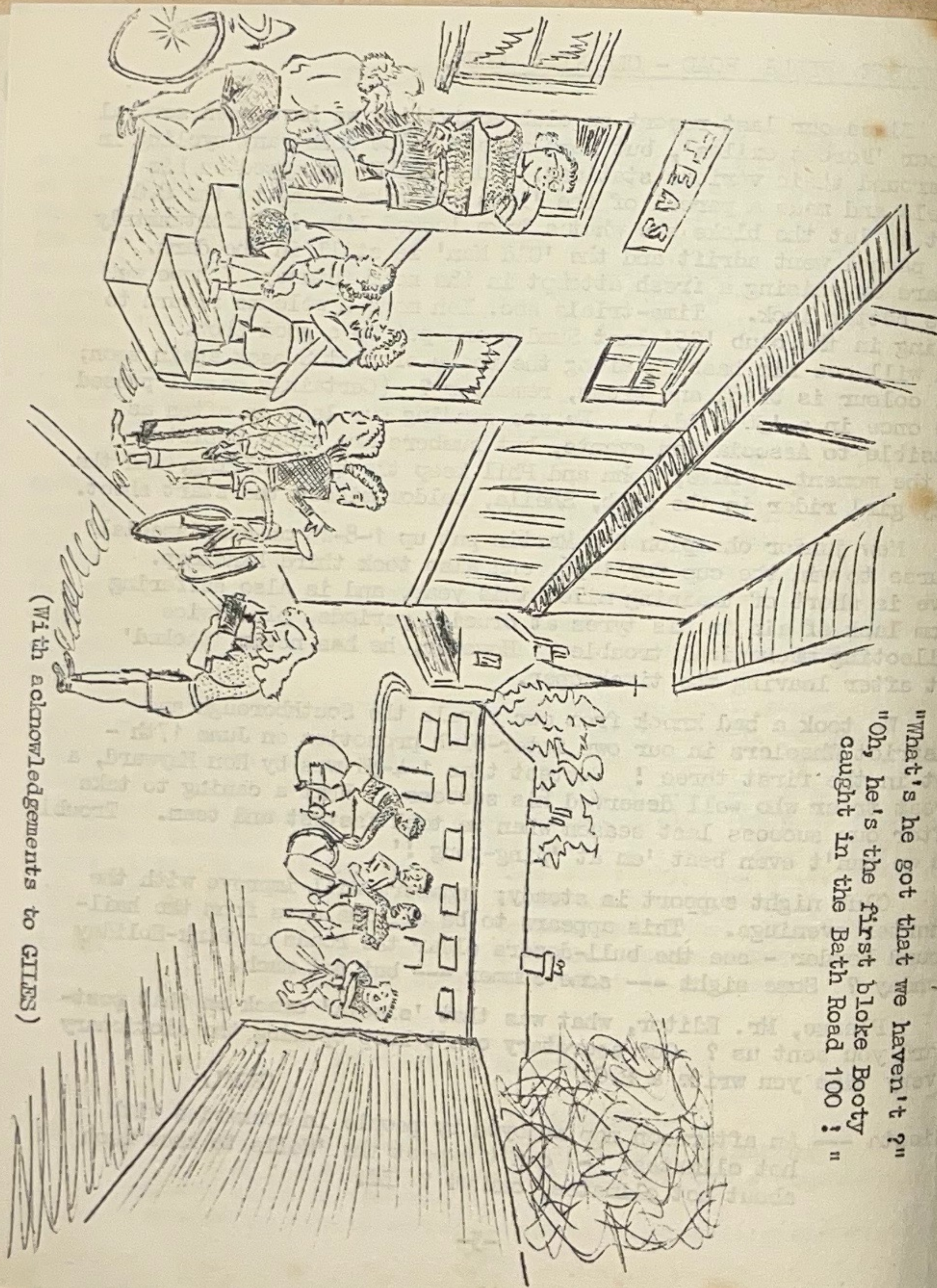
We took a bad knock from our rivals the Southborough and District Wheelers in our own inter-club promotion on June 17th - not in the first three! Fastest time 1-4-51 was by Ron Hayward, a great trier who well deserved his success. What a caning to take after our success last season when we took fastest and team. Trouble is we can't even beat 'em at 'ping-pong'!

Club night support is steady; numbers will improve with the shorter evenings. This appears to be all the news from the hail-bound border - see the bull-dozers clear the roads on Bank-Holiday Monday? Some sight --- some summer --- but not much.

Please, Mr. Editor, what was that 'siesta' crack on that post-card you sent us? Our secretary can't keep opening the dictionary every time you write a P.C.

'POP'.

Siesta --- An afternoon nap enjoyed by people in countries with hot climates; - can't expect the 'Wells to know much about hot climates, can we? Ed.



(With acknowledgements to GILES)

LIFE WITH THE FARMERS (No. 10).

"What's he got that we haven't?"
 "Oh, he's the first bloke Booty
 caught in the Bath Road 100!"

"GEN" from the Secretary

The season as far as we are concerned is now nearly over and already I have heard quite a few people say "roll on the Social season", but by the way I saw one of the riders in the 12-hours knock back a pint of Black and Tan at the Brewers Arms during the event I am beginning to think it now lasts for 12 months every year.

Several clubs have already announced the date for their Dinners, and let's hope that the clashes of last year will not recur this year. Our own function will again be held at the Regent Hotel, St. Leonards-on-Sea, on November 25th, and we have been very fortunate in obtaining two speakers who are well known throughout the country, namely Ted Harrison and Tom Owen. The price of the tickets will be within the region of 7/6d. and early booking is essential as the accommodation is restricted.

The Touring Competition which was held in May was better supported than last year, and the result was very close. Full results will be found elsewhere in this issue. Any suggestions for improvements to this event will be welcomed by the committee.

Our Draw on the Manchester November Handicap will again be held and I would ask all club members to read and digest the letter in this issue from our Chairman. Let's make a special effort and make this the most successful ever.

The venue for the Annual General Meeting will be circulated to clubs in due course, any items that clubs may have to be included on the Agenda should reach me not later than November 1st.

Two Track Championships have been decided at Rye Sports Day this year, and we congratulate A. Thorpe and M. Robinson on their wins. Lack of entries again caused the cancellation of the Team Pursuit Championship.

On the road competition has been very keen indeed both for individual and team awards. Perhaps the most outstanding ride was by D. Marsh in the 100 miles with a time of 4.19.31., which is a course and event record, also the best ride ever by a member of a Sussex club. Service life does not seem to make much difference to Dave. The 12 hours saw Bill Francis take the 12-hours Shield with Central Sussex taking the team award. Congratulations to our President on taking the Handicap award in the 12 hours, I wonder how many clubs or Associations can claim to have a President competing in Time Trials regularly.

In conclusion, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone who helped to make the 12 hours the success it was.

R.H.

EASTBOURNE ROVERS CYCLING & ATHLETIC CLUB.

Here is your quarterly supply of words from the Rain gauge which incidentally, friends, is doing very well this year, thank you! Suffering from an almost complete lack of the sun of which we so unjustifiably boast, it has been a treat this season to bask in the glory reflected by the achievements of our road boys, for with nine individual and eight team wins in opens so far we can fairly boast of one of our best-ever seasons. The one and only Denzil has compensated for the sufferings of last winter with some fine rides, notably his surprise win with a 'blob' in the Prestonville '25'. Sad to relate we lose him in September when he starts his "two years hard", but only hope that he succeeds in fiddling a local posting. Such things don't seem to worry Dave Marsh, who descends on us from the north at intervals in a series of hit-and-run sallies. His recent record is three events and three wins:- in the Chi. '50' - a marvellous 2-2 with a puncture and two changes of bike; the E.S.C.A. '100' with a 10 minute beating of course record in 4-19, and another victory (a tie) with a 2-4 in the Norwood Paragon '50'. A scrutiny of 'CYCLING' each week also frequently reveals traces of Marsh activity with places in queer events on unlikely-sounding courses in Wirral and district.

What of our team men? 'Gran' Moore has done some top-class rides and is always up with the 'eads, while Ken Stevens has got back some of his old speed and completed a surprise winning team in the Kingsgate '25' over the Hampshire Alps. 'Whippet' was going well early in the season, but never quite reached his 1955 peak, and has recently had to lay off owing to pressure of work, &c. 'Guy' (Durrant to you) seems to have recovered from his knee trouble and has enjoyed a full season (he really seems to enjoy it too, the queer fellow); and he and Dave Turner did good rides in the recent '12'. Pat has been doing well in ladies' events and has resumed her wholesale attack on club records. She has captured the "10" several times - best time 26-36 --- worried, fellows? (Worried? I'm demoralised - Ed.); also the '15' and '25'. Iris Heather is another newcomer to our charm school, and if keenness is anything to go by should be flying next year.

They come and they go! Recent recruits include Ken Jones

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

from Glynde, (an enthusiast - he got up in our Club '30'); Brian Cornwell, a youth with M/S ambitions, and Jim Sherman and Ron Walsh from the Beachy Head R.A.F. Going (gone by the time you read this) is Dave Dunbar, swelling the ranks of, and doubtless extracting the gravy from the R.A.O.C.; Denzil as stated above and Dave Turner, who had the fateful medical last week. Mickey Horner has tired of Yatesbury life and recently spent a whole fortnight's leave eating with chopsticks and singing something about "a slow boat to China", from which you can draw your own conclusions. He is probably on his way now. Saw Dennis Stokes and Pam at the Bath Road '100' and am glad to report he is looking much better. He has had a pretty rough time in hospital but is now on the bike again though now yet racing fit. Incidentally, we had quite a week-end up there with a perfect night's rest on a bed for fourteen with a mattress 10 ft. thick (they do things in a big way in those parts). The climax came when the Booty burst the Barrier. What an epic - it was history, and I wouldn't have missed it for worlds. Back to Eastbourne and congratulations to Ken Champion and Doris on the arrival of junior, to wit, Stephen. We all hope that he will follow in Dad's illustrious wheelmarks. By the way, they are soon moving to Bexhill, and Ken has felt obliged to resign the section secretaryship. Wedding bells are shortly ringing out for Charlie Robson (of the high gears), and I'm sure everyone extends best wishes to him for the future.

'Tis brillig, and I must don my waders and read the rain-gauge -- I hope it is still above water!

'LANDROVER'

P.S. DINNER DATE will be Saturday, 19th Jan., 1957 - other clubs keep off - we want you here again this year!

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PEN PORTRAITS No. 3.

Derek Aneurin Agg is one of the original "backroom boys", a man whose name will be revered as long as the E.S.C.A. exists. Quiet, self-effacing and modest to a fault, 'Tourist Agg', as he is known by virtue of his steady, effortless riding, is a shining example to all aspiring cyclists.

In competition, however, his personality is transformed into that ruthless, forceful domination which has made him an object of awe and respect among his fellow riders. A veritable magnet to the fair sex, Derek has, up to the present, managed to preserve the hallowed status of bachelorhood despite several close calls in the Chester area. As he rejoins us after a sojourn in the Forces we wish him good luck;

Pen Portraits No. 3 (continued).

and we look forward to the Social Season when, with his usual apologetic cough, he advances to all but clear the table of the season's trophies.

(Don't shoot me, Derek, I didn't write this one - Ed.).

+++++
UCKFIELD and DISTRICT CYCLING CLUB.

Here we are again, with your 'umble even more up the wall than usual, owing to the imminence of a move and the problems of transporting goods, chattels, bikes, junk and loot to a new abode. However, I've pressed the Vicar into service and he's agreed to fill in the blanks; so here's a brief account of our escapades since May.

Apart from Central Sussex we were the only local talent to contest the Tandem 30, mustering four crews, and we were specially pleased to see Dut in racing kit for the first time this season. Next week Geoff scored a fine triple-two personal crusts and winning team in the Mitre 50; and a week later Agricultural Reg took first handicap in the Nomads' 25. Siggy will remember that day as the first in a run of bad luck lasting four weeks, with punctures in every event, and Geoff and Reg for a very windy Wessex 100 which marked the start of their tour. Roy took the club championship a week later, then Uncle Whiskers came back to the road game with a bang to win the Association 25 and lead the winning team. Another week and Cedric was close to his own record with a third in the Kentish Wh. 100, and Roy punctured again in the Kingston 25. The Sussex 50 was a disappointment with Ced out of the running with a spill, but Roy abandoned his tubs and got round on the Prof's sub-standard H.P's, while Spindle improved four mins. just to be awkward. Brian, just back from his Alpine tour, was D.N.S., not surprising considering the state of his iron (no comment on the state of the rider). A week later Roy, Colin and Griff took team honours in the Regent 25, while Cedric rook three mins. off his 1952 '100' record, and broke it again in winning the S.C.A. Championship and the Telscombe Cup for the second year in succession. Next Roy and Denzil departed to the West Country, while Colin Westgate and Mick went up into Wales for the first part of their holiday. The boys came back for the Paragon 50, then Siggy vanished for another week, thereby missing his 'medical' and the Eltham Paragon 25. Cedric mixed it with THE MAN in the Bath Road 100; a week later found the 'erbs quartered on cousin Jim for the Eltham while other less fortunate mortals ground round the E.S.C.A. '12'. And to end the news of this 3-month stint 'up the road', Reg Trott won the club 15, Ted took the handicap and Jock the Novices Cup.

Uckfield & District C.C. (continued).

To more leisurely topics:- Spindle holds his lead in the club-run competition, with a certain amount of swapping about lower down the list. The family section (all three of them) have been seen at club teas, the result which the boys don't see being the almost complete prostration of the Prof on Mondays. Attendance on runs is about the same, i.e., the same people don't come out (bitterness). After a long silence - welcome news from Rob, due for a spot of leave in Kyrenia after almost continuous convoy escort duties interrupted by a spell of sandfly fever. Make sure you get home in time for the Xmas Eve 'do', Rob. Ken (lofty Ken that is) might just get this copy buckshee, but after September West Malling will see him no more, and John, after having his leave upset by the Suez 'flap', is down to about 60 days as I write. And now I must pack this stuff off to the Vicar --- over to you, Reg (Prof signing off).

Well, thanks for a nice introduction, Norman, and Hello to all my parishioners. As you are aware, I have recently changed my Parish, or should I say, extended it. I thought my days of writing in "BONK" were over, but I have been bullied (sorry, asked) to write again so I will try to keep up with Parish news as Association Vicar. Norman has covered most of the competitive riding, but last week-end turned out to be a nice 'social' event with Geoff, Cedric, Colin Whittingham, Reg Adams and Yours Truly taking a trip up to the famous Brentwood '50' course to ride in the Dixie Wheelers '50'. Due to very heavy 'wind' Colin thought better of it and was D.N.S. Cedric did a 2-17 on a very hard morning and with a puncture, Reg Adams 2-26, the Vicar just beating 'Dut', both with 2-28s. Geoff was a non-starter but for a different reason to Colin, but as I said, it was only a social event; more 'bonk' was taken laughing than actual riding of cycles all the way home.

Norman says I should fill in the gaps in the story, so I shall have to tell you of a very miserable Professor who set out one Sunday with Geoff, 'Dut', and the Vicar to see Cedric in the Kentish Wheelers '100'. We got as far as Haywards Heath, when suddenly a voice from the rear says: "STOP". Machines were halted and voices from the front growled: "What's up now?" (We'd just got on after Norman walked up Scaynes Hill). The voice then dismally states that he will have to ask members to search their pockets for coinage. This produced, Prof then delves into his

Uckfield & District C.C. (continued).

own pockets, expecting as usual to find a 'Humphrey-looking' object called a pipe. He didn't produce it, so saddlebags were then frantically searched, with sweat now beading his frowning brow and a dirty great question-mark hovering over his head. No luck - no pipe, Norman forgot to pack it; but undaunted he stomps in to the public building. More noises as he stomps out cursing Cuckfield U.D.C. for lack of Public Spirit; more delving into bags, and bang goes Prof's "Racing Man's Kit". At Cowfold we see a very much aged and dilapidated 'Sir' browned off with life - no pipe and no sympathy from his mates. Time passes, it's now 7 a.m. and all good respectable people are going to church, while the aged Professor bangs on the local tobacconist's door, desperately trying to buy a pipe to soothe sorrowed self. But no luck, so in pouring rain on to Handcross, where he spots a paper-shop open. But alas, still no luck, so the aged nerves are soothed by a packet of "Woods". Then to top the day, at Whiteman's Green on the return journey he runs into the Vicar's bestest bike and falls off in the middle of the road with a big car pounding nearer. There never was such a tense moment since Pearl White's railway track escapades in silent films. The story ends when the Prof arrives at No. 20, bursts through the front door, not to embrace his beloved wife or daughter, but to clutch most lovingly - yes, you've guessed it - that rotten stinking incinerator. Trouble again came when baby Linda rolled up the "Sunday Express" and poked it in poor Daddy's eye, thus causing 'Sir' to gallop around Nelson fashion. All is over now, and things are back to normal - alas the Edwards are retreating from Framfield Road - it won't seem the same somehow - neighbours R.I.P.

Congratulations to Bill Francis of East Grinstead on his 12-hr. ride. A good performance on a very windy day. Many of the youngsters did very well for first twelves.

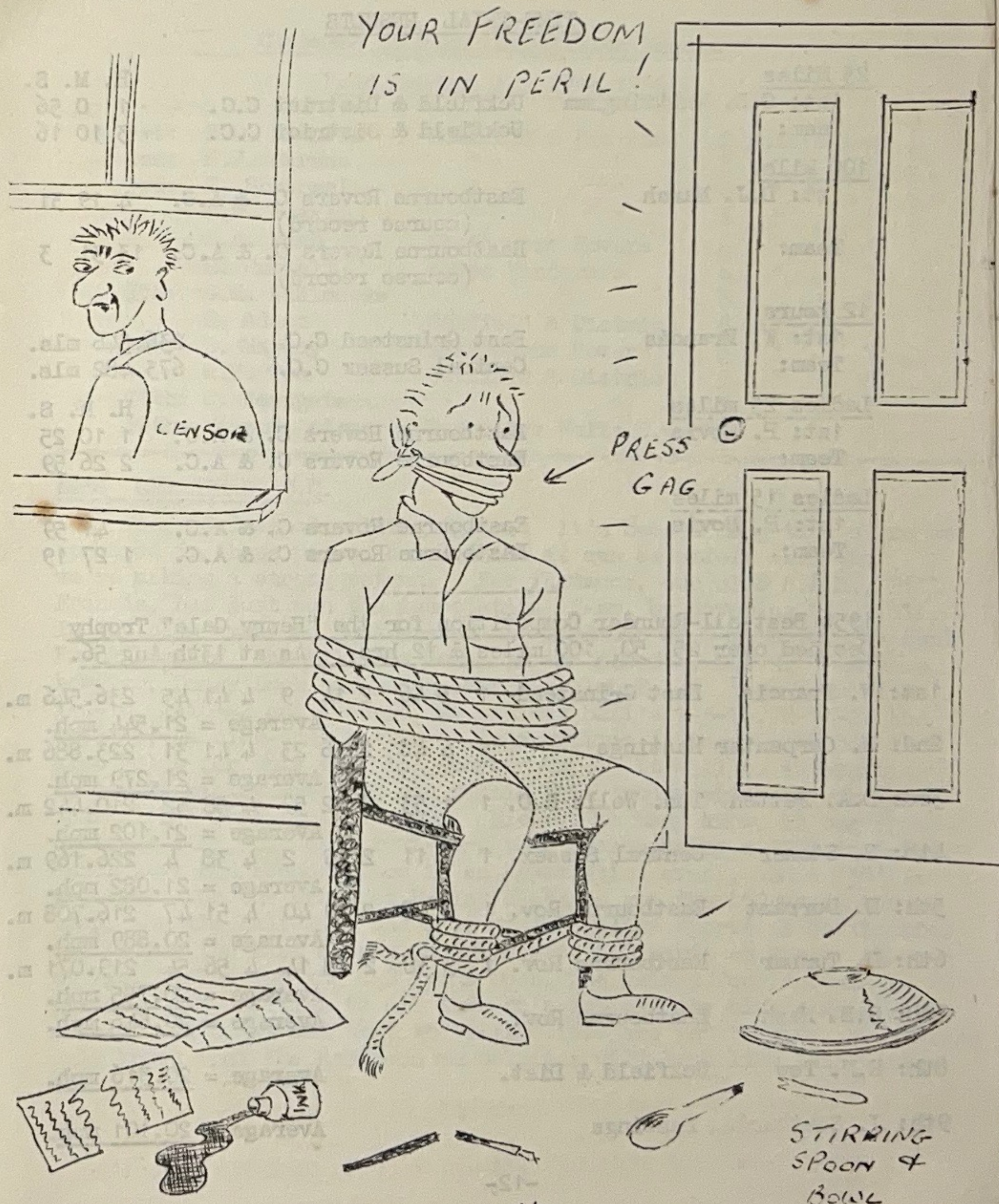
Well, unfortunately, I haven't much to say (send for a doctor, he's ill - Ed.) as I'm writing this at short notice. However, I hope to have more next time. All the best - 12 hrs. again on Sunday - won't be long before my famous war-cry "KNEES UP MOTHER BROWN" comes over the air again.

Roll on the Social Season.

Amen.

THE VICAR.

ADVANCE NOTICE. Uckfield and District Cycling Club Silver Jubilee Dinner - Ye Maiden's Head Hotel, Uckfield, Saturday, 12th January, 1957. Secretaries of affiliated clubs will be sent full details at a later date.



TIME-TRIAL RESULTS

25 Miles
 1st: C.D. Whittingham Uckfield & District C.C. H. M. S.
 1 0 56
 Team: Uckfield & District C.C. 3 10 16

100 Miles
 1st: D.J. Marsh Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. 4 19 31
 (course record)
 Team: Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. 13 31 3
 (course record)

12 hours
 1st: W. Francis East Grinstead C.C. 236.546 mls.
 Team: Central Sussex C.C. 673.482 mls.

Ladies 25 miles
 1st: P. Novis Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. H. M. S.
 1 10 25
 Team: Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. 2 26 59

Ladies 15 miles
 1st: P. Novis Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. 41 59
 Team: Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. 1 27 19

1956 Best-all-Rounder Competition for the "Henry Gale" Trophy
 Decided over 25, 50, 100 miles & 12 hrs. As at 13th Aug 56.

1st: W. Francis	East Grinstead	1 5 46	2 14 9	4 41 45	236.546 m.
					Average = <u>21.544 mph.</u>
2nd: M. Carpenter	Hastings	1 4 48	2 16 23	4 41 31	223.886 m.
					Average = <u>21.279 mph.</u>
3rd: D.A. Patten	Tun. Wells R.C.	1 1 53	2 12 59	4 58 52	210.442 m.
					Average = <u>21.102 mph.</u>
4th: S. Stoner	Central Sussex	1 7 11	2 19 2	4 38 4	226.169 m.
					Average = <u>21.082 mph.</u>
5th: E. Durrant	Eastbourne Rov.	1 6 48	2 19 40	4 51 47	216.708 m.
					Average = <u>20.889 mph.</u>
6th: D. Turner	Eastbourne Rov.	1 5 38	2 18 14	4 56 54	219.071 m.
					Average = <u>20.755 mph.</u>
7th: S.E. Nash	Eastbourne Rov.				Average = <u>20.646 mph.</u>
8th: R.N. Tew	Uckfield & Dist.				Average = <u>20.316 mph.</u>
9th: J. Southerden	Hastings				Average = <u>20.101 mph.</u>

Clubmans Touring Competition Result

Held Sunday, May 27th 1956

1st: N.D. Edwards Uckfield & District 2 points lost
 2nd: N.J. Barnes " " 3 " "
 3rd: T. Shrapnel " " 6 " "
 G.F. Boxall " " 6 " "
 S.E. Nash Eastbourne Rovers 6 " "
 R. Russell Lewes Wanderers 6 " "
 7th: G.M. Willcocks " " 8 " "
 R. Adams Uckfield & District 8 " "
 9th: B. Mayley Eastbourne Rovers 9 " "
 R.N. Tew Uckfield & District 9 " "
 11th: C. Westgate " " 11 " "
 12th: Miss S. Adams Tunbridge Wells R.C. 19 " "

EAST GRINSTEAD C.C.

Yes, 'Grinstead calling again. It's been a long time since we appeared in these pages, but I think it can be safely said that we're making a strong return. For instance, our club B.A.R., Bill Francis, has just won the Association 12-hr. by covering 236.5 mls. In the same event he just missed the handicap by $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile to president Frank Leppard, and Bill now leads in the E.S.C.A. B.A.R. At home, however, Danny Lock has taken over the club B.A.R. this year with 1-4-16, 2-10-42 and 4-36-58, as against Bill's 1-5-16, 2-11-22 and 4-36-35; a ding-dong battle is in operation! Danny with his 2-10 also holds for this year the Courier Cup. It will be interesting to see if Mickey Robinson can retain this trophy which he won last year with a 2hrs. 5mins. ride. Mickey, as many know, is our short-distance star, his best road-work this season being a '25' in 1-1-8, which gave him second place in an Association event, and a '30' in 1-14-26. On the grass at Bexley Heath he won the 440 yards handicap, won the half-mile and mile at the Police Sports at Eastbourne, and became the East Sussex champion over 440 yards at Rye. Also at Rye, Mickey won the 440 yards Open, and gained four second-places. In addition to all this he's won all the club's 25 mile medals. I might add that the hill-climbs are yet to come, so heavens only knows what the Robinson mantelpiece will look like this winter.

One of our younger members, 17-yr.-old Brian Whittles has done two good '25s', 1-5-43 which won him a club handicap, and 1-4-53 in an Association event when he lost the handicap by 5 secs. His is a name we may possibly see a lot more. That once-fast postman now-gone-slow Fred Marshall has been active with 1-4-59, 2-11-59, and 4-45-30, a pretty good effort for a veteran. Finally, Bill Payne deceived 'Humph' by picking up the '100' handicap in flogging himself to a 4-45-40. Well, that's our racing prowess this season and there's still a little time, so watch out Eastbourne, Uckfield &

I should mention that Hon. Sec. Charlie Day has changed his address to 8, Blackwell Road, East Grinstead, and in favourable weather can be seen riding a bicycle to work. Curly Bolton (goodness only knows the origin of his nickname) has been twiddling round Austria and Jugoslavia on a 30" gear - I suppose it's all right if you like that sort of thing. It's said that Hon. Treasurer Joe Meadmore has bought a T.V. set. Where'd he get the money I'd like to know! I reckon the boys are entitled to free pictures Joe, what about it? A short while back the club held a treasure hunt, but unfortunately everyone got left behind in the rush, or was it the bad weather? I can't remember. Doesn't matter, anyway - we've got to fill up "BONK" somehow. Pete Crowsley (Crow to you) the normal writer of these notes, is still in the R.A.F. He says he's been training on a 90" gear - snag is that he's stationed in Lincolnshire and he's in for a surprise when he returns to not so flat Sussex next year. Another old clubman due for release is Mac Brooker who, glowing with enthusiasm has sworn to do his nut for the club next year. Lou Roberts, now almost classed as an 'excyclist' (everybody please persuade him to start pedalling again) wishes it to be known that some uncouth youths from Uckfield IGNORED him. This will not happen again or there will be a barrier of tin-tacks on every road leading out of this village.

To end on a friendly note, however, we thank Uckfield for the grand support they gave to our last dinner, and may we hope to see you with a few more clubs this winter? Our thanks also go to Mrs. Funnell for overnight accommodation on race week-ends. Without her help some members would find it impossible to compete in Association events; to our President Mr. Lock for his unfailing help; to Mr. Bolton for timing us, and to all the backroom boys whose names escape me.

'GEARS'.

List, my friends, and ye shall hear
Not of the ride of Paul Revere*
Nor yet the War of Jenkins' Ear,
For these small verses will refer
To the Eye of Dilapidated^o Sir.

On Sunday morn at half-past eight
Our Sir sat down to contemplate
The Sunday news beside his plate -
For scandal-stories always stir
The Eye of Dilapidated Sir.

See little daughter playing near.
Right beside her Daddy's chair -
Nearly driving Mummy spare -
She was the apple (and the pear)
Of the Eye of Dilapidated Sir.

Young Linda burred with childish glee
As Daddy sat her on his knee.
The scene was set so peacefully
With nothing there that could deter
The Eye of Dilapidated Sir.

As D.S. dandied the little scamp
She jabbed the paper in his lamp
Which made him hurriedly decamp
To find somebody to doctor
The Dilapidated Eye of Sir.

And now we see our Sir again
He's obviously suffered pain
From small Linda's legerdemain -
Alas! she really did injure
The Eye of Dilapidated Sir.

Before ophthalmia gets much worse
(At least he will not need a hearse)
I'll write an end to this small verse
Before the wrath I do incur
Of Dilapidated One-Eyed Sir.

ANCI!

* An under-the-hour man.

o Falling into decay or ruin (Q.E.D.).

THE FINAL TEST

A committee meeting of the Hastings & St. Leonards C. & A.C. was held on Monday, August 20th. For a while the proceedings followed their normal course. A prayer of thanksgiving was offered for the safe return of the President and hon. secretary, Percy Bliss, Esq., from a Kent & East Sussex Fellowship luncheon.

The President vigorously opposed a suggestion that the club should affiliate to the Sahara League of Racing Camelhandlers; and the Chairman (Mr. J. Southerden) promptly ruled 'out of order' a member who used the word "Water". Then bearded tricyclist Arthur Coleman dropped a bombshell. "Mr. Chairman", he said, "something has been worrying me for a long time. We all know that 'C' stands for Cricket as well as for Cycling, and we know that the early history of our club is lost in the mists of antiquity. "What", he cried, "if C. & A.C. was meant to stand for Cricket and Athletic Club? Through some mistake far back in the past we may be supporting the wrong sport".

A shocked murmur ran round the table; this was something outside the members' experience. They were grappling with the unknown. Only the President remained calm, though even he was visibly shaken. "There is only one thing for it", he said, "we must put the matter to the test. I propose that a match be arranged between a club eleven and the strongest available opposition". This motion was carried unanimously, and so it was that as part of the Hastings Festival Week a Hastings & St. Leonards C. & A.C. team, captained by Percy Bliss met the Australian tourists.

The match was a little one-sided, mainly because of the inability of the C. & A.C. bowlers to get the Australians out, and the failure of it's batsmen to keep the ball away from their wickets. However, Arthur Coleman kept wicket in sparkling fashion; the only blemish on a great display was his tendency to let the ball through for four byes. The Hastings side were also a match for the Aussies by Maurice Chauncy's enthusiastic appeals for L.B.W. from deep square leg. A section of the crowd booed Tony Moorhouse when he came out to face Lindwall and Miller wearing a suit of armour, and Ian Johnson appealed to the umpires; but they could not find an M.C.C. rule forbidding the use of armour, so he was allowed to stay. This was the only unpleasant incident in a cleanly-fought game.

M. Kenward	b. Lindwall	2		C.C. McDonald	c. Bliss	b. King	212
A. Coleman	b. Lindwall	0		J. Burke	c. King	b. Baker	196
M. Chauncy	lbw. b. Miller	1		R.W. Harvey	not out		261
A. Moorhouse	not out	4		K.R. Miller	not out		150
R. Longley	b. Lindwall	0		Extras (w. 23, b. 74, nb. 8)			105
C. Sinden	c. & b. Benaud	2		Total (for 2 dec.)			924
P. Bliss	b. Miller	1					
J. Southerden	b. Archer	3					
M. Carpenter	b. Lindwall	0					
W. Baker	b. Miller	0					
G. King	lbw. b. Benaud	0					
	Total	13		Hastings C & AC (2nd Innings)			16

Australia won by an innings and 895 runs.

At the next meeting of the Hastings & St. Leonards C. & A.C. Committee, the members were at one in declaring that whole the cricket team had surprised the Australians with it's play, it was apparent that it's members' ability at cricket fell some way short of their cycling prowess. Mr. Coleman's motion "that it be permanently recorded that 'C' in the club's title stands for 'Cycling'" was carried unanimously, wild cheering broke out and bicycle clips and deerstalker hats were thrown in the air. And so the following Sunday Percy and his clubmates took to the road, all doubts cast from their minds, happy to be members of the Hastings & St. Leonards CYCLING and Athletic Club.

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 +FOOD for THOUGHT+
 +++++
 by Dr. R. Russell, P.I.G. (Professor of the Institute of Gastrodynamics)

Napoleon said: "An army marches on it's stomach", and my research into this subject shows that the same may also be said of sportsmen in general and cyclists in particular.

How few of the velocipedic fraternity realise this is shown by the relatively poor showing of all but a handful of our riders when compared to their Continental counterparts. Bluntly, friends, we do not eat enough! Spot checks conducted just before several events last season convinced me that our men are throwing away a golden opportunity of Strength through Food. I was horrified to learn from one rider that he had had nothing to eat immediately prior to facing

Food for Thought (continued).

the timekeeper. The fact that he proceeded to beat the 'hour' left me with the feeling that had he partaken of a good four-course meal washed down with a quart of tea we might well have had a new competition record-holder at 25 miles. The same story could be duplicated ad lib; a very sorry state of affairs indeed.

The absence of feeding points in 10s, 25s and 30s again shows the negative outlook on the important subject of food. There would be no need for a large meal in, say, a '25'; perhaps a half-dozen sandwiches, an orange or two and a few bars of chocolate, to cite a typical snack in the saddle, would be certain to put an altogether different complexion on the result sheets. For the longer distances, the amount of food would increase until the '12' and '24' men were regaled with a ten-course repast served by uniformed flunkeys in the classiest joint on the course. Believe me, friends, the result would be staggering!

The study of Gastrodynamics has led me to the conclusion most of the world's dietary troubles could be cured by food. Alas, if all those who indulge in the senseless habit of drinking each other 'under the table' at the 'local' were to patronise a café and heartily eat each other under the table, in no time at all we would have a nation of world-beaters. The preparation of good food naturally begins in the most important room in the house, the kitchen. This should be very large and be right behind the front door, so that the rider returning from an event or a training spin does not have to gallop berserk half-way round the house in order to placate the inner man. One golden rule for cycling gastronomers is that there is no such thing as overeating; that is simply a negative state of mind, though I would caution readers not to try to chew more than one mouthful at a time as this can lead to swallowing of teeth, &c.

I would further recommend the complete disregard of all finesse and etiquette where feeding is concerned, as the meal table should always be the arena for the survival of the fittest.

To end this treatise on an absorbing subject I can do no better than to adapt some excellent advice from the late, great Harry Champion :-

"You can't feed the cycling breed
With stuff they give to parrots;
From morn to night blow out yer kite
On Boiled Beef and Carrots".

CENTRAL SUSSEX C.C.

Once again it is time for the happenings of the Central Sussex C.C. to be recorded for all to see, and I have no doubt, to be remembered for cross-toasting at the forthcoming club dinners. It is an effort to try and forget the Social Season which is so close at the time of writing, and concentrate on other club matters.

We were sorry to lose Reg Tew as a first-claim member earlier in the season. He was our very able Social Secretary, and also did this thankless task of writing club notes for the Mag. As a racing man he is a very useful distance rider, which was a great asset to the club. It is much more convenient for him now that he lives at Ringmer to be with our friends at Uckfield. I am pleased to report that the club's membership is well up to strength, especially in the junior section, a most encouraging point. Our social activities, especially club-runs, have been well supported.

The club's efforts in the field of racing have been most satisfactory to date. Our lady rider, Barbara Atkins, has given a very good account of herself. All her times are nearly up to her personal bests; but the season has not yet finished, and we all wish her luck. This is very good going, for having moved into a new house Ken and Barbara have to fit their cycling into the rest of the routine a house involves.

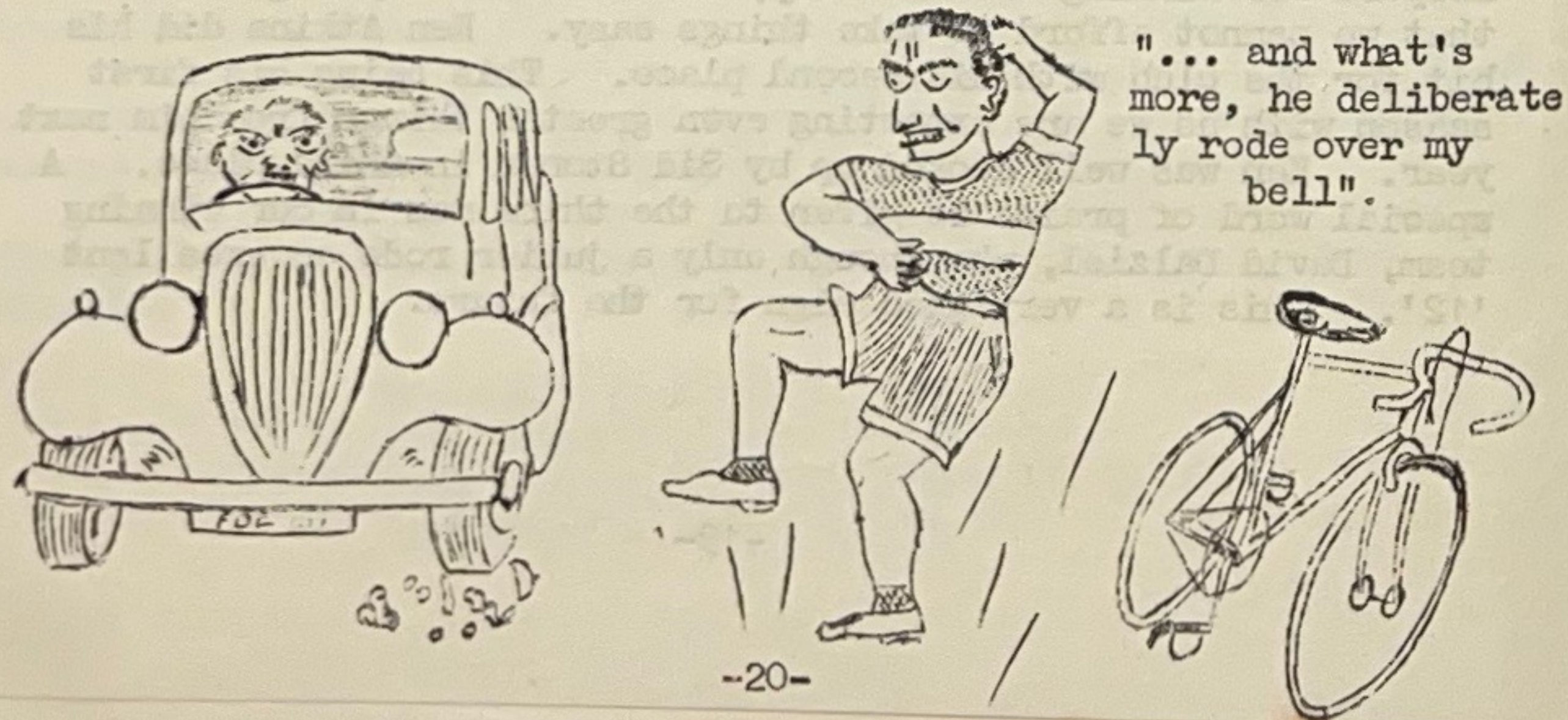
Our best achievement to date was in the Association '12-hr.!' The first credit must be given to Bill Francis of East Grinstead for his very fine win on such a rough day. Next credit to Frank Leppard for winning the handicap, which shows us younger riders that we cannot afford to take things easy. Ken Atkins did his bit for the club with his second place. This being his first season with us we are expecting even greater things from him next year. Ken was well backed up by Sid Stoner in third place. A special word of praise is given to the third man in our winning team, David Dalziel, who though only a junior rode an excellent '12'. This is a very good sign for the future.

Central Sussex C.C. (continued)

Whilst on the subject of juniors, I am pleased to say that all the boys are keen and riding well. Peter Leppard has recorded a very good '30' time, and Roy Amey (I think - Ed.) has ridden a good '50'. The junior '10's' and '15's' have attracted several more riders. Another junior, Norman Burt, made his first appearance at Preston Park recently. So far the promise of our junior track riders has not matured, though they have put in a few appearances, which is all good training for next season. The club records have taken a bit of a bashing this year, although by the time these notes are printed we hope further ones will be broken. To date the '30' has gone twice, first to Ken Atkins and then to our Club Captain Don Cook. The '50' and '100' have both fallen to Sid Stoner. All our other members known to you but who have not been mentioned are still around, but do not find the time or opportunity for much cycling; amongst these being Tony Honess who is still working away, and Brenda Cullip, who is not racing or riding too much on doctor's orders.

Now that the Social Season is fast approaching we are all looking forward to being able to let ourselves go and forget about keeping fit for next Sunday's race. May I take the opportunity to give you a date for your diary. Our club dinner will be on Saturday, December 1st at the Hayworthe Hotel, Haywards Heath. We hope to see you all there. Our members would like to meet any other clubs at a darts match. Last year we had several and they were a great success. Please inform our Social Secretary, Sid Stoner, he will try to arrange fixtures. That's all for now, folks, so cheerio and look after yourselves, for there are not many of us left.

X --- his mark.



LEWES WANDERERS C.C.

Having been stirred to action by the Editor's concern for the well-being of the Russell/Willcocks confederacy, those two (un)worthies wish it to be known that they are still with us. Since two BONKS ago the Wanderers have been steadily plodding along in the backwater of unobtrusiveness, but shortly after this appears our whole outlook will undergo a violent upheaval with the return of a man whose name is a byword among E. Sussex Cyclists --- Tourist Agg. Upon being unleashed from a long-suffering Army outfit at Chester, the 'Tourist' will be flat out to show that he intends to recapture his previous form, so we await events with special anticipation. In passing, we solemnly warn all wives, girl-friends, sisters and sundry 'dragons' to be particularly on their guard from this time. Also back in the fold is that swashbuckling camelier and betel-nut spiv 'Iron-Man' Grover, whom we lost no time in helping to regain the joys(?) of hard pounding after two years' absence. We hope to have his muscles back in time for a few end-of-season events, though in his present condition he is more like a little tin god with feet of clay!

Of other Wanderers once active the news is less encouraging; Tony Cornford has been re-decorating a flat in preparation for his marriage to Sheila on September 22nd. Johnny Adams appears to have forsaken two wheels for four (mechanically propelled). "Copper" Burgess alternates between licence checking on Hove stall-holders and barrel-organists, and frequent trips to Newhaven by train. We hear that bells are in the air here, with the added incentive of an income-tax rebate at the opportune moment. Willcocks, having at last got his stock of nuts and bolts to make a (visual) resemblance to an Austin '7', has recently been persuading his creaking and unwilling limbs to push the pedals again. The only visible result so far is an attack of lumbago which put him back where he started. Russell and Johnny Cox have put the club name on the start sheet of several events, so complete obscurity is not yet our lot!

Well, that's the present picture from this corner, so if any club has a few spare riders will they please form the Lewes Wanderers Relief & Rehabilitation Fund? All applicants will have their appetites 'vetted' by R. Russell, so as to avoid his having to go hungry at club teas. All the best to all clubs; see you down the road, and possibly climbing a few signposts as well later on.

HERE & THERE

Nice to see ex-Warrior Doug. Floyd back on the road after an absence of over a year. He reappeared t'other Wednesday, complete with a gleaming new iron (and hollow legs - Ed.).

The following Wednesday an interloper sneaked into the Chestnut Tree in the person of Roy Siggs. What's up, Roy, the Tunbridge Wells road snowed up again?

Insanity seems to be gaining ground in Eastbourne. Only last night the Editor overheard a member of the Rovers asking - repeat ASKING Stan Nash for an entry form.

Turner no longer rides to Hurstmonceux, but he seems to have a successor. It is reported that during a recent Rovers sortie into that area, a well-known feminine voice was heard calling "HELP - but not too quickly" Et tu, Tony?

All those who have any serious interest in cycling should watch for the first edition of a new cycling magazine to be printed shortly. Called 'The East Sussex Times', it's founder and Editor will be U NO HOO, a gentleman apparently of Burmese extraction.

Racing men in search of pleasant ways of obtaining energy should take this advice from the Vicar: "Don't forget that Punch Stout contains glucose", he says, "that's the way to take glucose, not in tablet form (ugh.)".

On the other hand, those who wish to preserve what little energy they do possess, should hasten to buy "100 excuses for not Going Out Training" by George Henty (Rover Press - 5s. Od.) If a time should come when even these will not serve, a 2s. 6d. Postal Order will bring a sealed packet containing six terrific excuses - guarant. infallible.

Department of 'Is Your Face Red?' Which two members of an Association club wrote independently of one another advancing different excuses for the non-attendance of their club's team in the same Open event?.....

Change of Address -
Uckfield & District Hon. General Secretary -
N.D. Edwards, to "Avalon", 24, Harcourt Road, Uckfield.

Here and There (continued).

After last year's 12-hour event two Association officials apparently misconstrued a remark by Mrs. Leicester of the 'Brewers Arms', Ringmer. This has resulted in most clubs being under the impression that she is no longer keen on catering for cyclists. In a recent conversation with Bill Collins, Mrs. Leicester said that this is not so, and would like it to be known that she will always be pleased to cater for clubs, either for lunch or tea.

Norman Edwards wonders whether Association clubs know that the 'Lamb' at Ripe is a very nice place for tea (he says it's one of the Farmers' favourite ports of call). Mr. and Mrs. Walter Evans are in charge, and they can now provide suppers for parties of 12 - 50 (hot suppers in the winter) any evening of the week at about 5/- per head. They would require about a week's notice for a party booking.

Thanks, Norman.

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Forthcoming Events

Sunday, November 25th, 1956.

Annual Luncheon & Prize Presentation,
Regent Hotel, St. Leonards.

Sunday, December 2nd, 1956.

Annual General Meeting.

Any items for the Agenda should reach the Secretary
not later than November 1st next.

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Change of Officials.

Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C.

General Secretary - Mr. J. Clark, 24 Beltring Road, Eastbourne.

Mass-Start Secretary - J. Gausden, 36 Meads Village, Eastbourne.

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Readers must not be surprised if they find this portrait different from its predecessors, because in dealing with George Henty we leave the world of flesh-and-blood cyclists, and enter realms of fantasy. You may ask what is known about Henty to account for this statement; and that is the point - nothing is known about him. He is never featured in 'Here and There'; at club dinners even the Great White Chief has never been known to cross-toast him. Members of Eastbourne Rovers will tell you vaguely of a tall, well-built young man who is thought to be an electrician, and who (so they say) raced on road and track up to last season. If, however, you try to actually see Henty you will find yourself clutching at a shadow. You will hear: "George was out the week before last", or: "I think he will be out next Sunday", but he never seems to be actually out to-day. On the other hand, many time-triallists have reported seeing George at the Boship or Polegate Junction, and the same people have been heard talking to him on the after-race 'potter'. Therefore, knowing the effect that racing has on the human mind, I have come to this conclusion: The reason that nothing is known about him is that there is nothing to know - because he does not exist. 'George Henty' is an imaginary figure born in the tortured mind of a time-triallist, which by a process of thought transference not uncommon among close friends or clubmates has become fixed in the minds of all the Rovers. So firmly is it fixed 'he' now has a name, and, incredible as it may seem, holds the office of Track Secretary.

This then ends the most fantastic Pen Portrait ever: that of George Henty ----- THE MAN WHO NEVER WAS.

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EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

For Sale - 23" and 19" Holdsworth Zephyrs (complete machines).

23"/21" D.G. Higgins tandem complete. Numerous extras, all in good condition. - Tony and Jill Hayward, 89, Married Quarters, Worthydown, Winchester, Hants.

For sale - 23-in. gent's. Carlton (ex The Vicar's), all chrome, complete. 27" x 1 1/4" alloy H.P.s., Chater-Lea bracket & chainset, one G.B. brake, fixed wheel.

Apply - The Bays, Broyle Lane, Ringmer.

For sale - Pair Conloy sprints on W.F. non-drilled Hardens, £2. B.S.A. 5-pin 46T chainset, 6 1/2" - £1. Brooks sprinter, 15/-. Pedals 2/6d. Hayward, c/o N.D. Edwards, 24, Harcourt Road, Uckfield.

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