

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE  
**EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION**



**6d.**

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

We have Privilage 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**

**48, Monson Road,  
Tunbridge Wells**

Phone 1352

Hill Special ●

Carlton ●

Holdsworth

★ Accessories

★ Clothing

★ Shoes

**GEORGE HILL**

**18, SPRING STREET,  
BRIGHTON, I.**

★ Wheel Building

★ Frame Repairs

★ Gears

EST. 1920

Phone 25430

N.C.U.

C.T.C.

Ephgrave ●

Viking ●

Grubb

**EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION**

Founded  
1946

NEW SERIES - No. 19.

AUTUMN 1957

EDITORIAL

Although the past Summer's weather has been a great improvement on that prevailing last year, the Clerk of the Weather seems to have chosen time-trial week-ends to do his worst, and we do mean the '100' and 12 hour in particular. In view of the conditions we were amazed to find that only three out of twenty-five entrants for the '12' had failed to start: remembering '25s' on similar mornings when the list of marked 'N.S.' has been proportionately much greater. Perhaps the explanation is that 12-hr. riders are the real hard core, ride-in-all-weather men; perhaps the field consisted of optimists who thought the weather would soon improve; or was it simply that riders who had ridden hard at 25, 50 and 100 miles preferred to brave the elements rather than forego the chance of a B.A.R. Certificate?

What is this thing called 'STYLE'? The answer of course is smooth pedalling, and one need look no further for examples than G.52 when John Dutson and Dave Patten are competing. However, there are many riders who are not stylists in the Dutson-Patten sense but, because of factors such as physique, position and pedalling action, have styles that are easily recognisable. When acting as turn marshal for Association events, we can tick off up to a dozen competitors long before they are near enough to gasp or croak their numbers. All this adds interest to the game, but though everyone can't be a stylist, one thing is certain. Even the least stylish rider who joins a club can, with the knowledge he will gain re position, &c., develop a far better and more economical style than he had as an '85' pounding 'tuggo'.

D.N.

# CORRESPONDENCE

Hallo there !

I haven't had anything to say before in this magazine, and I am sorry that the first occasion of my so doing should be in the way of a reply to what I and my club consider an uncalled for comment by the Editor in the last edition the truth of which was rather distorted. He was quite correct and we do not deny that the E.S.C.A. draw tickets were returned unsold. But we would like it to be made known to all clubs that those draw tickets were illegal, and that they were committing a felony by selling them in the form offered by the Association. Many of you may laugh at this and the old childish phrase "Goody-goodies" may be used; but I would point out that the local authority for Small Lotteries in this area, namely East Grinstead U.D.C. have been extremely active and many local clubs and organisations have been warned. For the sake of information the illegality occurred in the fact of the tickets being offered at 6d. each and five for two shillings. There is one other point. I did not write the letter returning the tickets as I was not at that time secretary of this club, but I do not think we refused to sell them. In fact we were trying to point out the aforementioned illegality and save the Association from trouble. I don't want to create any bad feeling, and hope that this matter may be considered closed and not filed but buried. Be seeing you if I survive the '12' or drop out early enough.

DCN.

(This letter shows that E. Grinstead had a valid reason for not selling the draw tickets; but this is the first I'd heard of it, as it was not stated in the letter enclosed with the returned tickets, and I don't recall it being mentioned at the last Committee meeting - Ed.).

-----000000000-----

Dear Fellow Members,

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking those who wrote to me or enquired personally as to Dot's progress during her stay in hospital. I am pleased to say she is making rapid progress; she has just started cycling again, and hopes to see you 'up the road' very soon. Again thanking you all.

Yours in cycling sport,  
Bill Collins.

-2-

## ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS ALBION C.C.

Hello there ! Since last writing the summer has been and very nearly gone, and with it the racing season - or very nearly. We in the 'Albion' have had a most successful season. Not in open competition, mind you, just among ourselves. So far we have had seven time-trials, and we've still a further two to come. Our youngsters have done remarkably well, and the future surely looks bright. Last year Racing Secretary Ron Rogers had nothing to do because we did not have a single event; this year he's been so busy trying to heat the first man out to the turn to marshal that he's almost fit enough to ride a time-trial himself ! You've heard about the chappie we've named Napoleon because of his rear end - well, now we've got another with a nickname. He's known as "Ben der". We in the club, of course, all know him, and so we are able to take the necessary precautions ! Persons who do not know this character, take note. He's young and lean, wears a blue sweater and when seen with a grin (nearly always), it is most advisable to keep clear. At all costs never ride within a hundred yards of his back wheel. Believe me, he's not known as "Ben der" for nought ! Sooner or later we all find out that when on club-runs one follows a back wheel, not overlaps it. As a result of a beautiful 'pile-up' our new young members now know the eleventh commandment: "Thou shalt not overlap thy fellow members rear wheel". At present we have no club-room, but there are high hopes that this failing may soon be put right.

On August bank holiday we went down to the Rye track meeting and many of our young members saw grass-track racing for the first time. Many of them are itching to "have a go", and as soon as they can get a track license I'm sure they will give a good account of themselves. There are tales of nude bathing, with a lady member "lapping it up", but alas, time runs short. We of the 'Albion' would like to close by offering to our fellow townsman Dave Patten our congratulations on his many victories throughout the season. The championship of the Sussex Cycle Racing League sets the seal on his efforts; and we are delighted that through him the name of Tunbridge Wells is once again well to the fore at 'the Park'. Well done, Dave.

BACON BONCE.

-----  
-3-

SOCIAL SEASON DATES

Saturday, November 16th, 1957.

Tunbridge Wells Road Club Annual Dinner & Prize Presentation.

Sunday, November 24th, 1957.

Association Annual Luncheon & Prize Presentation at 12 noon.

Sunday, December 1st, 1957.

Association Annual General Meeting at 11 a.m.

TIME TRIAL RESULTS

25 Miles

		H.	M.	S.
D.A. Patten	Tunbridge Wells Road Club	59	40	
Team:	Uckfield & District C.C.	3	1	53

100 Miles

C.A. Pearson	Uckfield & District C.C.	4	35	12
Team:	Uckfield & District C.C.	14	17	33

12 Hours

J. Cox	Lewes Wanderers C.C.	230.263	miles
Team:	Southborough Wheelers	664.626	miles

LADIES

25 Miles

B.E. Atkins	Central Sussex C.C.	1	9	18
-------------	---------------------	---	---	----

15 Miles

B.E. Atkins	Central Sussex C.C.	42	24
-------------	---------------------	----	----

East Sussex Cycling Association

1957 Touring Competition for Challenge Trophy presented by G. Jenkins, Esq., 23rd June.

Result		Points
1	Miss S.R. Adams (Tunbridge Wells R.C.)	38
2	G. Hayman (Southborough & District Wheelers)	37
3	S.E. Nash (Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C.)	36
	J. Cox (Lewes Wanderers C.C.)	36
5	A. Wallace (Southborough & District Wheelers)	35
6	W. Dunford (Southborough & District Wheelers)	34
7	K. Atkins (Central Sussex C.C.)	33
8	N.J. Barnes (Uckfield & District C.C.)	32
9	R. Hedger (Uckfield & District C.C.)	29
10	S. Clipsham (Uckfield & District C.C.)	28
	Mrs. B. Atkins (Central Sussex C.C.)	28
12	K.C. Achard (Uckfield & District C.C.)	26
13	R.F. Adams (Uckfield & District C.C.)	24
14	C.A. Westgate (Uckfield & District C.C.)	23
15	B. Leyland (Southborough & District Wheelers)	21
16	D. Homewood (Central Sussex C.C.)	19
17	R. Roberts (Central Sussex C.C.)	16
	P. Hennessy (Southborough & District Wheelers)	NS
	D. Lambert (Southborough & District Wheelers)	NS
	A. Gale (Uckfield & District C.C.)	NS

TUNBRIDGE WELLS ROAD CLUB

In another part of this issue, readers will, I trust, find a complete answer to the report issued by the Ministry of Manure concerning a certain outbreak in this area (see Summer 1957 issue). After a very rough ride from our Editor, I am recovering a little confidence following three months' convalescence, and my pen is in action once more. (Steady, Pop, take it wasy for a start - Ed.). We are coming to the close of an eventful season. Our Sheila won the Touring Competition, and Dave got "under the hour" in an Association '25'. To mark the latter milestone in no uncertain manner, Southborough & District Wheelers organised a "do" at the "George and Dragon", Five Oak Green. All local club folk were invited, and a fine gathering it was too. Quite a surprise to Pop, who was just recovering from his harrowing experiences. (See "Here and There"). A novel feature was the presentation of a tankard engraved with a stop-watch face and the tell-take little arrows pointing to 59-40. It was subscribed for by many local riders.

Mazzi was flown home from Australia by Comet, and made it in two days. I reckon this makes some of the fast men sit up on the 'tops'! He gives us glowing accounts of life 'down under'; and if you mention girls he just grins and says: "Grrrrr"!! He has a few more weeks to do before he will be seen about. Our other absentees all seem to be O.K. in various overseas and home stations, but none gets much cycling time, mostly cookhouse &c.

Guess most of you know current results on the road, so just a note on track events. Our two new lads, Gerald Maryan and Ian Jenner in their first attack on Preston Park did well in the Italian pursuit, helping Dave to tie with Bognor. Not bad, eh! The Road Club have not had a team on the track for several years - shades of Figgett! Rye saw the boys on grass, but they were 'done' in the heats. Goodwood motor track proved too fast for the lot of them, but I gather Dave Neal was still there at the finish. The Club Captain has recently purchased a 'chariot' without blades or wheels, and on one evening he paced a 'Farmer' from Uckfield who has since improved his times considerably. What does this prove anyway? Answer in next edition if the Editor allows any further abuse of privilege!

The club offers congratulations to Southborough and District Wheelers on their success in the Association 12 hour; and especially to Ron Hayward, a very close second to winner J. Cox of Lewes. This lad, I am told, was riding his first "12", and put in a great finish after a bad day's weather to turn a three minute deficit into a win on his last circuit. We just cannot find or produce a long-distance rider at present. GREAT GRIFF! Pardon me, it just had to come, 40-odd years young in heart. I remember his retirement effort in the 'Bear' one evening a few years ago. Too hard for even Ken! Keep an eye on that Steer bloke. 75 years of age - 100 miles in 5-30 something. Phew!

From your hot and bothered -

POP.

P.S. Right on deadline I learn that Dave has won the Individual Championship of the Sussex Cycle Racing League, and has led the club team to second place in the team competition. Well done, lads.

---

The meteoric rise from deep obscurity in the pedal-pushing world to a position of awesome authority as a pen-pushing Minister of E.S.C.A. Propaganda has seen a startling change in the man now known as 'Dynamite' Dennis Neeves. To all those who remember the former unspoilt and carefree Dennis presiding happily over his display of risqué postcards and multi-coloured rock, and performing with unobtrusive mediocrity on his bike at week-ends; it comes as a matter of regret that he has now adopted a bulldog-like attitude in an unending quest for 'Scoops' among unfortunate Sussex cyclists. This man, to whom the word "scruples" indicates a disease, and "fair play" is something to be indulged in with a blonde on Hastings beach, just lives for NEWS. Nothing is more likely to break up a group of happily chatting cyclists than the dreaded warning: "Look our, here's Neevo." Instantly a deadly hush descends as the cloth-capped prowler passes, ears strained to catch the slightest hint of a red-hot 'BONK' story. Verily, friends, no one on Sussex roads is safe these days once the Neeves molars are firmly clenched on an indiscretion, however trivial. That this has had it's effect on his former well-known generosity is amply illustrated by a story that recently filtered from behind his journalistic 'Iron Curtain'. While waiting in vain for customers one day, Dennis was despondently observing a line of ladies queuing for the purpose of using the toilet facilities provided by the Corporation opposite his more colourful, but less vital, emporium. His reflections were interrupted by the sight of three lady members of his own club joining the queue. In a flurry of movement Dennis crossed the road, offered them the use of his own small room, and shepherded them across the road and through the shop to the appropriate door, where his outstretched hand was accompanied by: "That will be one penny each, please". Remonstrations proved of no avail - in fact Neevo pointed out that he was a public benefactor insofar as they were paying no more yet were spared the trouble of waiting! Whether he intends to set up a service in opposition to the Corporation remains to be seen, but in any case the moral of this story is plain. Readers, in future when in Hastings be on your guard and particularly mind your Ps and Qs !!

(HMMMMMMMM !! - Ed.).

---

Please note change of address: R.N. Tew, Touring and Social Sec.,  
Uckfield & District C.C., to : 360 Franklands Village,  
Haywards Heath.

For some considerable time we have been unable to record a really successful ride by one of our members; so it is with undisguised pleasure that we salute Johnny Cox's win in the Association 12-hour, in which he just managed to pip Ron Hayward of Southborough by some 300 yards, despite overshooting the Boreham Street turn. His 230 $\frac{1}{4}$  miles set up a new club record, beating the 228 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles amassed by 'Tourist' Agg four years ago, and was achieved in very wet and windy conditions. Second only to this, Willcocks proceeded to record a personal best in the Lancing Longmarkers '25' in the (for him) extraordinary time of 1-9-31 after messing about with 11's and 13's and even worse (e.g., 1-20 Ed.). Recently he maintained a most unenviable record of never having finished a '50' when he 'sold out' at 25 miles in the club event. Much derisive mirth was caused by his comment: "It just wasn't my day". We are pleased to say that the epidemic of 'Groveritis' has been overcome with such effect that the 'Iron Man' is once again dominating club-runs, and has actually turned in 2-24-38 in his second '50' - the Norwood Paragon event. His first, in the club tussle, deserved to be bracketed with a Marx Brothers comedy because he lay on the grass and practised a Yogi exercise at 44 miles, yet finished with a 2-36-29, which was good enough to take the first handicap prize! Having triumphed over this adversity, we are now faced with an outbreak of 'Hodgkin's Disease'. This first manifests itself in the middle of an event when the rider (in this case Gordon) begins to ask such irrelevant questions as: "Why am I doing this?" The secondary symptoms include a pointed refusal to fill in any kind of entry form, allied with such mutterings as: "I'm through with racing", and "I'm unfit". The final and worst stage reveals itself in a leech-like adherence to any back wheel available on club-runs, and a marked reluctance to go to the front at anytime. What would you do, chums?

Enter now an action by this character and, of all people, Russell, which is unparalleled in the history of the Wanderers (or, surely, in any other club). They announced their intention of taking to the road on foot!! Soon such items as tents, mountain boots, machetes and iron rations were procured, and amid the gibes of their clubmates, the two stumblebums set off, Russell having come by train. Taking to the hills like cats to water, they succeeded in hacking a tremulous path to Fulking through pig farms, disused tips, bogs and other insanitary establishments. (Now we're back to Saltwood Road again - Ed.). A stop was duly made for lunch, and readers will

hardly be surprised to learn that Russell polished off two days' rations in less than half-an-hour, Gordon being not far behind in this respect. Shortly afterwards the rain began, so maps were consulted and a beeline made for the indicated shelter. Alas this proved to be a derelict hut with no sides and hardly any roof; and their second choice was also found to be uninhabitable. By this time, soaked and weary, they decided to abandon any further attempt at the joys of hiking and were glad to return from Shoreham by bus. Thus ended yet another attempt to find a substitute for cycling! To all inquirers after the health (or otherwise) of our erstwhile fast man 'Tourist' Agg, we can only say that he was D.N.S. in the club '25' due to quinsy, and developed cramp at 30 miles in the club '50', and retired. Otherwise his time seems to have been mainly taken up with that pursuit taken up by cyclists preferably in the Social Season when the 'dragons' are able to command a little more attention.

And that's it till the Xmas edition, folks. We hope to see you all at the luncheon, and in the meantime here's to some good racing for the remainder of the season.

ALSORAN



GROVER WINNING THE CLUB '50' HANDICAP.

Hullo, East Sussex !! My Dad has asked me in his absence to take over the scribing of this esteemed journal; and having been warned about the laws of libel, slander and the like, here goes. Since the last issue of 'BONK' many miles have passed under our wheels, bundles have been carried and dropped etc. and the so-called "RACING SEASON" is almost at an end (thank goodness). I suppose I had better begin then with a brief résumé of the time-trial results. Excellent 25-mile rides have been recorded recently by David Dalziel with 1-3-19; Sid Stoner with 1-3-38; and Keith Bolas with 1-5-33. (This was only Keith's third '25'!). David leads the '50' field with 2-11-55; Sid is once again hot on his tail with 2-12-21. This year's '100's' have proved to be much slower than previously with 4-42-15 by Ken Atkins the best so far. The weather for both the local 12-hour events was most unkind. Frank Leppard, the Association past President, won our club '12' which is run in conjunction with the Association event. Ken and Sid disgraced themselves by being two out of the only three non-starters. Both say they feel much better for it though. In the S.C.A. event Frank completed approx. 206 miles; a magnificent ride when force 8 gales were raging all along the South Coast. Barbara Atkins (Ah - yes, Ed.), the Central's racing (?) female has improved at every distance this year. Her best rides this year are 1-7-14 in the Hounslow & District Wh. '25', and 2-19-42 in the Rodley Wh. '50'. The Dragon R.C. Ladies '100' proved to be quite a different kettle of fish though, and I am sad to report a very saggy 5-10-42. However, the average is just enough for a Ladies B.B.A.R. Certificate, and the rides at 50 and 100 miles are new club records.

Our club runs have been well supported all this year, with mileages and attendances well up to the usual level. As the season draws to a close I am tempted to remind all the more hardy E.S.C.A. types of the Central Sussex Cyclo-Cross. Held at Balcombe Estate early in November, and organised by Steve Hobden; it is proposed to run two events this year, a NOVICE & JUNIOR event and the usual Senior one. The prize list is very good for all who may intend to ride, and the greater part of the events can be seen from the road. An attractive illustrative programme is being prepared and will be on sale on the day, so please roll up in your thousands, if only to laugh at the poor unfortunates. NOTE: With this event being classified for the Southern Cyclo-Cross Association points, it is hoped that the 'cracks' from South London will be tempted to ride. Service news is that two of our members, Pete Leppard and John

Stoner have been called to the Army and R.A.F. respectively. Both have been trained as cooks, so heaven help the troops. John has just been posted to Christmas Island, and has promised Sid to bring him back a grass skirt, with the fabulous blonde Margaret's permission, that is, and on the understanding that there is nothing inside it.

The Central's own bearded wonder, Don Cook, is now clean shaven and sports a very racy Scooter, thus increasing our motorised section by one. Several members competed in the Association Touring Competition, but found that Norman's wiles were just a little too much for them. Bill Collins missed a couple in Hailsham, they found a way round without going past the Police Station or the Halt sign. Ken Atkins's knowledge of East Sussex was so bad that the Captain has decided to have a club-run to see Toad Rock and the mysterious windmill at Mayfield. By the way ..... seen after Bill Collins' quiz: seven E.S.C.A. members gazing profoundly at a herd of cows trying to discover just where they keep their ears.

That just about finishes the news from the Western end of East Sussex. See you at the dinners, if I can see that is, still I'll bring my guide dog.

Yours, etc.,

As a change from "X his mark",  
HONEST GINGE.

-----  
SOUTHBOROUGH and DISTRICT WHEELERS ANNUAL TOURING COMPETITION

Each Autumn we promote a Tourists' Competition for the Robbins Trophy, which is held for one year by the winner. He, and the runners-up, also receive an award of Bart's.  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. maps to choice. To compete, you have no need to be a rider of phenomenal capabilities, just an ordinary club type. The competition will include speed judging, map-reading, general riding ability and road behaviour, &c., plus questions on general touring interests and your observations.

If you're free on September 29th, how about entering? We would be very pleased to see you. The event will start near Tonbridge at 9 a.m., and will cost you 2/-. I am circulating some entry forms and guarantee weather better than we've seen in your E.S.C.A. distance events this year.

SPIDER.

Well, the last four months have been pretty hectic, and with at least one, and often enough two or three events each week-end it's been quite a job to keep track of things. Griff gave us a taste of things to come with a second in the "Vets" national championship, then next week came a team win in the Mitre and Colin took first handicap in the Bromley "50". Reg won the Club "25", and next day the Caterham "50", while Ken Achard took handicap in the club event and Colin led a team win in the Bellingham. Griff and Horace jad their first team "crust" in the Bec "Vets" 25, and on the same day Colin crashed the hour barrier to win the Prestonville with a record 59-13, lead the winning team and take second handicap to boot. The June E.S.C.A. "25" brought a record team win, Colin under the hour again, Arthur close on his tail and Griff with two seconds off his best, while Reg got down to a 1-2-4, Spin to a "4" and Bob One did a short "6" on one chainwheel stud. John rode in the Championship 50, didn't get anywhere in the event but did get his picture in the "Coureur". A week later Colin and Cedric took first two places in the "Chi" 50, but true to its reputation as a bogey event for the Farmers the "Chi" put a curse on Reg and so the team eluded us.

Unfortunately the Sussex "50" suffered from a misplaced marshal, so the times weren't all they seemed, but a bit of Professional maths suggests that Webby and Spin would have improved at full distance. Cedric had a comfortable win in the East Sussex "100", with Spin pushing Webby into third team counter at his first attempt at the century, and the following week saw Ced. smashing his own club and county figures to win the Sussex 100 for the third year running, with Webby turning the tables on Spin this time, the team also breaking the club and county record. John was back to his old form with a 2-3 in the Norwood Paragon "50" August week-end, while Colin, Griff and Reg broke Club "30" figures.

Then came the first "wet 12", with only Webby of our four finishing in the E.S.C.A. with a creditable 225, and the same day John broke his 1954 club record with 59-5 in the Planet "25", Colin doing 1-0-53 while Griff stole the limelight with 1-1-13, a 25-second beating of his 1953 time, and bang went team record again. Reg won from a big entry in the "15", with Os just beating Simon for the Novices' Cup, while Griff punched two minutes of Don's 1953 Hailsham record and John was under the hour again in the Farnborough.

The Sussex "12" was another wet 'un, but all our five starters finished, Webby in second place, Reg and Spin with 226 and 216 for

their first efforts, Horace almost equalling his previous best done 24 years before, and the Vicar, despite movingitis and Lambrettaitis proving he could still do a "12" on a bike. And to bring the story up-to-date we have John second in the Eagle "50" with a 2-2, and Griff stealing the show again with a 2-9-11 win in the E.S.C.A. "50", a 7-second improvement on his 1952 time. Webby improved to 2-11, if he'd stayed on his bike all the way round he'd have probably been down to single figures, but Reg had the roughest passage, three punctures and a prang (and still finished).

Arthur and Terry have carried the flag on the track, an expedition to "furrin parts" proving particularly shattering to the opposition. At Preston Park Arthur retained the Coronation Goblet and took the 10-miles championship, while they also kept the S.C.R.L. championship in the club.

In between the distractions of competition, the club runs have had their usual summer ups and downs, and at one time looked pretty thin. However, thanks largely to the sterling support from the younger brigade things are on a firm footing again, and various well-known tea-places will continue to be swept bare just as if a swarm of locusts had been over. Boss's run was certainly a day to remember, and caused quite a lot of head-scratching. The Prof won the signpost quest, but was so shattered by his efforts that he was 15 minutes down in the speed judging in spite of doing his nut all the way round. Brian won the Brooker Cup after running off the tie between him and Simon, but the happiest bloke was John, who won a free tea by sheer brain-power (at least that's what he said it was). Unfortunately my photo of Bob Two in the sag-waggon was a flop or I'd be able to blackmail Bob for free teas for the rest of the year.

We hear from Roy in Aden quite frequently, not a very pleasant spot I should imagine, having only seen it from the deck of a trooper, but that was enough. I believe the tour there is supposed to be limited to six months so that should give some idea, but it doesn't seem to be getting Siggy down. He's keeping fit with lots of Egyptian P.T., which putting two and two together I reckon is the local equivalent of charpoy-bashing. It won't 'arf be 'ard in civvy street in 1959, Roy! Next candidates for call-up are Mike Smallwood and Colin Westgate, both to the R.A.F., though probably Colin will get the rest of the season in.

And one sad story to finish up with - after renovating the Kendrick tandem trike unearthed on an Alfriston farm by Spindle and the Prof, Colin brought it out on the Sussex "12" with Brian as a



front stoker. On the way back the phantasmagorical machine collapsed, shot Brian out of the ejector seat and he landed on his lug'ole. This was one case where the back man on a tandem didn't come off worst, or as the Romans used to say: sic transit gloria Ackermann steering. Best of British!

THE PROF.

Hello once again - this time I write from a different parish. As most of you will know I have left the parish of Ringmer and rejoined the parish of Haywards Heath; although my friends of the "East Sussex" spread far and wide round all parishes. I have to-day received a message from Dennis asking for any material for 'BONK', or if none a postcard stating so. Well, you know the Vicar, he's never left standing for words, so must keep up the tradition. What the heck went wrong with the weather this year? I reluctantly 'packed' in the E.S.C.A. 12-hour, and then thought I'd have a go in the S.C.A. event - but what happened? That so and so wind waited for us once again. But how can we youngsters 'pack' when blokes like Frank (too keen) Leppard and 'Orice' - sorry - Horace Achard leap around and then complain if they happen to lose a detour? I must indeed congratulate Frank for his effort in the E.S.C.A. event, also the S.C.A. Wish I could visualise myself still plodding around when I'm his age - keep it going, Frank. Plans are now well in hand for the Vicar's coach and theatre trip on Oct. 13th. We go to the Strand Theatre, London, to see "Sailor Beware", via Haywards Heath and Uckfield. At press time we have four seats going (coach and seat inc. 17/-). Dog leads will be worn by C. Pearson and J. Dutson (dog collar by Yours Truly). By the way - Cedge and John have recently returned from a holiday in the West Country. From what I hear the Mountain Goats took a dim view of the bearded monster wolfing their fair sex. I'm still convinced that beard is not being worn for nothing - come on Cedge, come clean - good mornings begin with Gillette (or Phillishave). May I remind clubs that our Annual Dinner is on Jan. 11th 1958, at Ye Maidens Head Hotel, Uckfield. Persons attending will be searched at the door for hidden jars of jam. Special note to Ron Russell - cheese and biscuits will be served. Geoff Willcocks may come escorted (as last year) if he so wishes.

Well, folks, I must get on. I don't know whether I prefer backache via 12-hour riding or by gardening: by next year I may have made up my mind. Good riding and ---- Roll on the Social Season!

Amen.

THE VICAR.

P.S. STILL nothing on Neeves. (Pitiful isn't it, readers? - Ed.).

Since we last met the Wheelers have been enjoying much as usual a full and varied programme. The tourists have been lucky with their weather, having picked the right weeks to go away. Les Hayman and Lou Bathurst spent an enjoyable fortnight in Norway back in June, tracelling each way by airoil. Spider Dunford, our long man of Heverham, and Joe (the big fish fry) Wallace picked the best seventeen days in July for their campo-cycling holiday. They toured Mid and North Wales during the first week, and later by use of the steamoil enjoyed a week in the lakes. Our erstwhile Connemara Roads Club second claim members did not have the spondulix to flash over the water for the fourth time in succession; instead finishing up on Dartmoor minus roads. The annual trip to the Isle of Wight at Whitsun attracted twenty-five members, many of whom camped outside the Ryde city limits. Arriving on Saturday evening, they spent Sunday on excursions to the South Coast and hinterland with the large party conveniently splitting into two. The August tour to Birling Gap has become the regular camping classic. This year, in sunny weather another large party took up residence.

On the racing front the weather has not been so kind, with all too often a story of calm, balmy midweek mornings followed by rough-houses on bombing morning. Ron Hayward started a hot favourite for the club championship '25' run on hot sunny June 30th with a field of twenty-three riders. The local paper reported the result as: "Ron Hayward, quick away, always led and finished strongly in 1-2-15". They did not quote Honkers of Gonk's, the local rookery bookie's starting price - even in units of Draught Bass! More and more Wheelers are riding and enjoying the racing and week-ends in East Sussex. The big climax of course was the 12-hour run on grim August 11th. What a terrific promotion - what organisation! Marshals, drinks, feeders, helpers, sponges, timekeepers every mile, bods in oils everywhere with get-you-round fruit and stodge; plus the great sit-down feeds at the 'Brewers' which at least two of our members kept raving about - it was just great, (Stoppit d'you hear, you're getting me interested - Ed.). A bouquet to the organisers, and all those good folk who made the event the success it was. Let us hope that next year better weather will prevail, and what is more important a better entry reward such an excellently run event. Quotes from our riders :- "After ten hours I was Boship Happy and have seen the Big White Dicker for nights on end".

Southborough Wheelers (continued).

"Hey, Ron, you should have dropped in for ninety-nine milzes and 167 milezes at Ringmer's Ritzy Snack Bar; you don't know what you missed".

For the Social Season ahead we look forward to visiting other E.S.C.A. clubs at their dinners, and hope that they may drop in at our function on Saturday, December 14th. So until the Winter number comes round carry on stirring up those Autumn leaves.

BALLY ALGOL'S PAL.

-----  
A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Thanks to all readers who sent in 'copy' for this issue. I'm sorry that so little of it can be included, but unfortunately you got creative just when every club in the Association sent in news notes, which of course have first claim on space. But fear not, scribes and artists, your contributions are all worth reading, and will if possible be included in the Christmas issue.

Yours in Sport,

D.N.

-----  
RYE AND DISTRICT WHEELERS.

Koom ! And it be known to all men that the days of the past in the years of fatness the People of the Sprocket held the borders of Esca against the tribes of Kent, from Rye on the great river to the city of Bodiam they kept the border. For in those days the men of the Sprocket were great and in numbers as the pints of Coleman's drinking, many, yea many. And it was thus in the year of flap a swift runner came unto them bearing the shield of the Great King who was King of Eng which is the land of the peoples of Esca, crying the King's words: "Lo, the men of the land of Germ have come against me with spears". And straight-away the men of the Sprocket took their war gear and went out to smite the men of Germ, and this was in the year of the Hurricane and Spit. And after certain years they stamped upon the men of Germ and upon the men of Hi'Ti', and also upon the people of the land of Jap who are makers of baskets small and yellow, and there was Peace. But the men of Sprocket were few and the maidens of the tribe were scattered and

E A R L Y C Y C L E S A N D R I D E R S

-----  
(continued)

Do you realize that cycles, motor-vehicles and aeroplanes could not have attained their present state of efficiency without the air-filled tyre, possibly the greatest development in transport since the invention of the wheel? The compressed air tyre was first invented by a Scotsman, R.W. Thompson, but he was before his time. Without knowledge of Thompson's patent, J.B. Dunlop, another Scotsman, living in Belfast, rediscovered the principle in 1888, and applied it to a tricycle and then to a bicycle ridden by his son Johnnie. I wonder how many of you remember the Post Office Centre-Cycle (5 wheeler carrier machine) in use by the G.P.O. in the Horsham area in 1883, about the same time as the introduction of the parcel post. Above the small wheels of the Centre-Cycle were Brackets supporting large baskets for carrying correspondence and parcels. Because of the arrangement of its four small wheels clustered around the centre big wheel, it was familiarly known as the "Hen and Chicken". These Centre-Cycles were not generally successful and their use was soon discontinued. Those who cannot ride a bike normally want to try bicycle polo, which was invented in 1891 in Ireland and followed very closely the rules of pony polo. It was revived in 1930 and soon became under the control of the Bicycle Polo Association. There were 17 leagues in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland, and 160 teams (representing 109 clubs) played the game. The B.P.A. had 1,000 registered players. There were six players in each team but only four were on the field at the same time. A game consisted of six 15-minute chukkers. Bicycle polo called for football team-work, accurate ball hitting and cycle sprinting. The ball,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  ins. in diameter was made of bamboo root.

Getting back to the eighteen hundreds we find that many women took to bicycling in the middle 90s, and the idea of a rational dress for the new pastime came under discussion, but only a few of the lady wheelers dared criticism by venturing forth in "bloomers". In 1898, a well-known pioneer cyclist who furthered the cause of women's emancipation was refused admission to the coffee room at the Hautboy Hotel, Ockham, because of her rational attire, and was directed to the bar parlour. The Cyclists' Touring Club, on her behalf, challenged the hotel proprietor's right to refuse admission to a part of a licensed establishment. The Society boom in

Early Cycles and Riders (continued).

cycling started in 1895 - this was before the motoring era - when among others, the Countess of Warwick and Lady Norwys, two famous beauties of that time, took to cycling. The cycle trade could not cope with the rush of orders, and whereas, a few years before, only one in every five were of feminine variety, by 1896 every third machine ordered was of the open frame type for the lady rider.

C.R.S.

(To be concluded).

-----  
HASTINGS & St. LEONARDS C. & A.C.

Here we are once again with nothing to say exactly, but let's see if we can think something up. First of all before I forget, I have been asked by the racing members to thank all those who kindly marshalled in the 12-hour and 100, in considerable bad conditions, and made the events possible. Talking about those sorts of distances we come to our friend Peter Adams who recently entered for a 24-hour, the first in the club for quite some time. The event sponsored by the Catford Club was Peter's first in which he clocked 392.93 miles, or 392 miles 1,645 yards. Peter had some personal support from Tony, Margaret, Percy, Arthur, Micky, who were lucky to be able to hire a van for getting about and carry the necessary. It was always thought amongst a certain society that P.H. Bliss, M.I.O.D.C., M.I.O.A., was a cycling man, but it was reported by a fellow that the above mentioned was seen looking at and carrying a copy of MOPED. Guinea-pig Coleman can tell you a rare tale about home made wine now if you care to ask him, mind you he was in the dark for a couple of weeks as to knowing what really happened. It was not until he met a certain person that he was able to sort out the problem of Einstein's law of time and relativity, in other words, why it took him from 12-20 a.m. Saturday till 4-5 a.m. Saturday to cover a short distance of about 400 yards. He must be either a time traveller and lost his way or a wine traveller and couldn't find it. Another thing perhaps you puritans will be pleased to hear, our friend A. Coleman, B.E.E.R., actually left the Wool Pack, Yaulding, on a recent Sunday at 1-40 to watch other members swimming. I myself would like to apologise to those concerned about the photos of the Club Dinner. I have received the order back from Weybridge, but they were so unsatisfactory that without second consideration I posted them straight back, hopping for better

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

news soon.

Well the social season is drawing close again when as is the case with our club, we can look forward to larger runs, etc. This is caused by the fact I believe that there is no one racing or touring, for it is quite frequent in the summer time to have our numerous members scattered all over the country. I myself always enjoy winter cycling even in the coldest weather, even more than in the summer time. I think this is due to the fact that in winter we often go to work in the dark and arrive home in the dark, the days are often drear and perhaps the jobs not going well, but when Sunday arrives we can drop our worries and look forward to a full 12 hours of first rate comradeship of the cyclist.

At the old crocks run from Ripley to Battersea Pleasure Gardens, sponsored by the Southern Veteran Cycle Club, Jack Southenden finished within the allotted time on a Dursley Pedersen. Percy Bliss was unfortunately unable to attend the advent due to his mother having a sudden illness, from which I am sure you will be pleased to know she has fully recovered. It seems likely that in the near future we shall have silicone treated tires which will last much longer and will not puncture so readily, and they will not be rotted by water or oil. Also your crome will no longer shine with a brilliant glare but will be tin-silicone plated in a pink colour that will protect the crome or other metal from rust, acid and scratches.

C.R.S.

-----  
Rye (con'd. from p.16). many wed to tribes of Factory Hand and Yank. Moreover a madness came among them and they strove against each other till the Sprocket turned no more. And the old one, the wise one, the Induna, hid his face in his Karass and went apart. But after certain years a young witch doctor Holl'ands of the blood of the Sprocket gathered unto him other young men of the true blood and with these came unto the Kraal of the Old and Spake boldly, saying: "Oh, ancient and feeble one, ours the strength yours the wisdom; let us mate the two like the spear to the shaft and let the Sprocket turn again". And the ancient one became young again and donned his war gear and cried the battle cry of Sprocket which is "Fillemuplandlord", and he beat the drum of council and many of the tribe returned. Thus it be on this day of telling the Sprocket grows strong again and it's Impi of young men goes forth to strive in the battles of Te-Te, and others sit with the old one to learn to be wizards of Track that they may go round in circles and perhaps one day so doing be seen no more. And the Witch doctor Holl'ands is great in honour for is he not next to the first in the battle of the Esca 1000 yards? And let the tribes of Esca beware and guard their maidens and beers well, for the Impi of the Sprocket is loose in the land again.

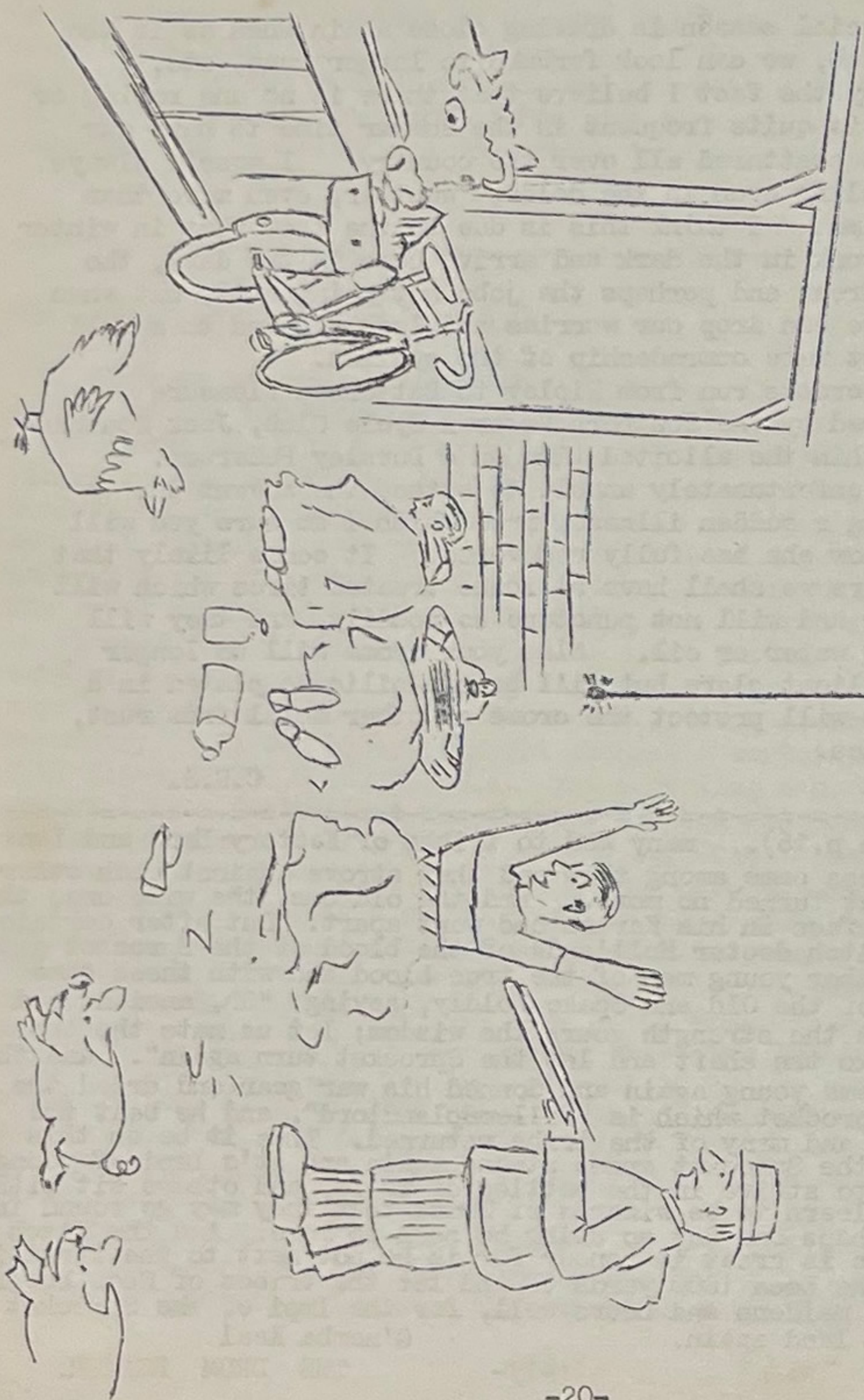
G'namba Kaal

Ye Gods, how this deadline for 'BONK' creeps up and then confronts one about two days before it's due. I'd made a resolution to allow plenty of time for this report, get everyone's racing times (and indiscretions) and make the whole thing about twice as long. But the best laid plans, &c., and so I'm burning the midnight oil (the public utilities aren't very advanced in Edenbridge) with a rather incomplete list of times except my own, which hardly bear repeating.

It would appear that hardly a week-end has passed without someone racing somewhere. Messrs. Lock and Francis have been at it hammer and tongs for the club B.A.R. At the time of writing Don leads by 0.5 m.p.h. due to his fast '50' and '25' times, while Bill has a 4-40 '100' to Don's 4-48. Back in the distant past it seems - well June 23rd anyway, no fewer than seven 'Grinstead riders entered the ESCA '25' in which Micky did best with 1-2-55. The following week Micky did the fastest '25' this year by winning our club event with 1-1-35, with Messrs. Lock, Lunn and Brooker some way back with 1-4s. Now I made a remark after the Association '50' that as the weather was rough for the '50' what was the '100' going to be like? Well, we found out didn't we - twice the distance and about twice as rough. However, despite the gale and accompanying aquatic conditions, Bill kept his head above water and recorded a 4-52; Crow considered a '100' too short and contrived to go off course and do a '105', but still finished with a 5-10 - after taking a large parcel. (Never has a wet grass verge looked so inviting). Don punctured his wired-on and had to retire, which was very rough luck. The club was rather inactive over the bank holiday as most members were on holiday. However, Crow and Bill Payne rode in the Norwood Paragon '50'. Crow did a 2-20-48 and Bill 'blew up'. Incidentally if anyone thinks that was a disgrace I happened to see a certain Lewes Wanderer pottering back from the last turn, and when I asked him what was wrong, he gave me a look that needed no words! Not so 'Iron Man' Grover, who bombed round G.25 in even slower time than yours truly - can I interest YOU in a training programme? The other main activity over the holiday was the Rye grass-track meeting. Micky collected three 'thirds' and Crow enjoyed himself immensely, especially, using his own words: "When the rest of the mob have cleared off ahead and you've got the place to yourself". Meanwhile Don and Bill have been duelling at 100 miles. Bill did a 4-40 in the Kentish Wh. event, while Don 'blew up' at 95 miles of all places - should have crawled to the

LIFE WITH THE FARMERS (No. 14).

"Tony ! Bob ! Wake up and tell him it isn't his chicken we're after, we just couldn't get any digs on G.10 !"



East Grinstead C.C. (continued).

finish !

And now for a never-to-be-forgotten event - the ESCA 12 hour swimming gala (pause here while I shudder). I wish I hadn't made that remark about the weather getting worse as the distance increased. At 4 a.m. the weather was the sort cyclists have nightmares about; but Don, Bill and Crow decided to have their money's worth of suffering. An epic saga could be written about the event, but after much soaking and struggling all three 'Grinstead men finished; a claim I believe no other club could make. Don, riding his first '12', came third with 227 miles - a superb achievement. Bill came sixth with 220 miles, and Crow, at his first attempt, did 201 miles. It wasn't his lucky day. A 'pile-up' going to Mrs. Funnell's the night before ensured a damaged bike, and four punctures in the event didn't help matters. Latest report states: "My Condor is grounded" Thanks to all the officials, to the club folk who gloated over our suffering, and to our personal feeders, Mr. and Mrs. Funnell, Mr. and Mrs. Crowsley, Fred Marshall - not forgetting 'Stirling' Lock, who covered nearly all the course in his Vanwall - I mean Vanguard to see we were O.K. That bloke Lock is really flying. Not content with 3rd in the '12', he did the fastest '50' of the year in the club and a personal best with 2-10-35 in the S.C.C.U. event, then a week later broke the club E. Grinstead - Eastbourne and back record by 8 mins. It must be those dog biscuits he trains on ! From the above it might appear that we do nothing but race. However, we do have club-runs - occasionally ! We had a week-end run to Southend-on-Mud in May, which was a success though the venue left much to be desired. Pete, Don and Bill went on a tour of N. Wales just before the '12'. Pete came back with signs of wear on his nose caused by diving into the 'deep end' only to find too late that it was the 'shallow end'. During the tour 'Fitness' Lock joined in a passing road race which turned out to be the N.C.U. Senior massed-start Championship ! Crow toured Cornwall alone (so he says), and managed to break his front spindle on a wet Sunday four miles from Land's End. Welcome back to Gordon Leaney, now 'demobbed' from the RAF. All our members are now back and have all returned to cycling. I mustn't forget Micky Robinson, who has done quite well at Herne Hill and Preston Park. His latest bag was a 3rd in the Sussex 5-miles grass Champ. and a heap of other booty from the Worthing meeting. And now I'll leave our poor Editor to sort out my writing and spelling mistakes, and end on the cheering note that the Social Season isn't far away.

EASTBOURNE ROVERS CYCLING AND ATHLETIC CLUB

Greetings, pedallers, and take a good long look at the above title, for it may be the last time you'll see it. The way things are going it will soon be changed to "MOTOR-CYCLING CLUB". Brian Moore has again got the oil-urge and only a timely cycle-rail excursion can now prevent him from becoming the owner of a 500 c.c. machine. There is talk of a trio of Moore, Durrant and de Grey going on tour on motor-bikes, and with Len Novis and Les Springett they make a strong section. Praise be that Dennis refuses to be corrupted - he just keeps drooling over Armstrong 'Sapphires' and muttering about football pools ! Meanwhile a number of members persist in riding bicycles; some go so far as to compete in time-trials. There are no spectacular victories to report (though Denzil, Ken and Opera did bag 2nd team in the June '25'), but all the new riders have improved, in some cases by leaps and bounds. For instance Ken Jones, who did a 2-7 in the short course Sussex C.A. '50', then shook everyone with his 4-42 for second place and first handicap in the Assn. '100'. He put in a late challenge in the club '10' series, and rode 210 mls. in 11¼ hrs. of the '12' before backache forced him to retire. Oft times Ken rides to Cuckfield, where there is a girl who he "Can't stand the sight of" ! Well, at least it's a change from the tired old "Just good friends" formula. Old hand Ken Stevens, who was king of the early season events, was eventually toppled from his throne, but held off spirited challenges by John Mayes and Opera to win the evening '10' series. He has since relaxed (if that's the word) by touring in the Alps with Keith Scott and John Gilbert. Roly Wickham came home on holiday and won the '30' in 1-19-56, with Ken 17 secs. slower, and Opera out of the running with a puncture. Denzil has done some fast rides 'away' in Army C.U. events, but when 'home' is generally either N.S. or N.F. His erstwhile team leader Dave Marsh has sunk without trace.

Every year the club dinner claims a victim - who will it be at the next one ? Much of the recent club riding has been done under the aegis of the C.T.C. (of which many Rovers, from the President down, are members); while the Rovers run proper seems to consist of a twosome called Kenandiris. One run was reported to have explored Crawley New Town - what the heck is there to explore there ?

Welcome back to Dot, popular wife of our President, who is back on the road with the Clapped-out C.C. several weeks ahead of schedule after a swift recovery from an operation in July. (I could recover on Burgundy - Ed.). And finally a "cheering" word to all who are looking forward to the Social Season. The annual run to the 'Catford' will soon be here. On the miles, the hills, the sags !! Hope it keeps fine for you !

SUNTRAPPER

P.S. I hear that Len Price offered to pay for the drinks in the Assn. 12 hr. Is he training for "drinks all round" at the club dinner?

# HERE & THERE

Don Lock's song while returning from the E.S.C.A. 12-hr., in his Dad's car: "I've Got my Love to Keep me Warm". (Editor of 'SPY' please note).

It is believed that several riders were disqualified from the Assn. '100' and 12 hr. events for turning independent and riding for Aqua-lung equipment. The riders' 12-hour distances will be measured in nautical miles and the winner's speed given in Knots.

And then there was Mr. H.O.G. Crowsley, who wanted thirteen feeds in twelve hours.

In future events all females on the course will be plainly labelled "LADY", in case a certain E. Grinstead fast man gets a certain kind of 'Knock' again.

Can't keep the 'Grinstead out of this page. Their Chairman, Eddy Bolton, was peacefully trundling home from an event when the world dissolved round his ears, and he found himself in the middle of a pile of 'irons' and coureurs. The leaders of a road race hadn't been looking where they were going!

There's some uncertainty about what a certain lady said in the Rovers' sleeping quarters at the Bath Road '100'. Was it "Now Denzil" or "No Denzil"?

Memo from Tun. Wells R.C.: "The report from the Min. of Manure in the last edition 'STINKS'. The true facts have now been ascertained and we trust will serve as a warning to all "anti-cannibalizers". 'Pop' was taken for a ride following publication of the Spring issue, in which 'cannibals' were attacked for bad habits, in short, "cannibalization". At the time the last edition was published, Mr. Editor, your unlucky contributor was BOILING. (Shortage of space prevents inclusion of a beautiful illustration of 'Pop' in a dirty great cauldron - Ed.).

STOP PRESS

=====  
Congratulations to 1954 Association  
Best-All-Rounder Dennis Stokes (now  
riding for Middlesex R.C.) on a great  
ride in the National Championship 12-hour.

For all your

Racing and Touring Equipment

WRITE OR CALL

# Strudwick's

Oxford - Street, Brighton

Tel Brighton 21461

=====  
Carlton

=====  
Rotrax

=====  
Claud Butler

## F. R. LEPPARD

British and  
Continental  
Lightweight  
Accessories

Clock Cycle Stores  
Cuckfield  
Sussex.

Wheel Building  
A  
Speciality

=====  
Hill Special

=====  
Holdsworth

=====  
Ellis-Briggs

# THE HOUSE OF RIX

*Members of the National Association of Goldsmiths*

*Established in Hastings in 1865*



- ★ **Sports Trophies**
- ★ **Shields**
- ★ **Watches & Clocks**
- ★ **Silverware**
- ★ **Jewellery**
- ★ **Glass & China etc.**

**5 & 6 Albert Road  
Hastings**

**Telephone 3455**

*Specialists  
in  
Waterproof  
Watches*

*Old Gold etc.  
bought for  
Cash - highest  
prices paid*

# G. BENNETT

**Sports Printer**

19, Cliftonville Road,  
St. Leonards-on-Sea

printer of this Cover