

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION



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AUTUMN

AUTUMN 1959

EDITORIAL

As usual, the Autumn edition finds your Editor very much out of touch with events in East Sussex. With the stern business of wresting a living from the holiday trade claiming all our attention, records may have been broken, clubs may have been formed and disbanded, and a certain member of Lewes Wanderers may have caused surprise by being seen on a bicycle we know not. However, looking through the club notes which follow, it is obvious that members have made full use of this glorious summer to enjoy every kind of cycling from racing to roughstuff; and the regular arrival of start and result sheets indicates that Messrs. Humphrey and Eldridge have everything under control.

In this issue you will find the swan-song of 'The Prof', who after many years as correspondent for the Uckfield & District C.C. has decided to retire. We have had many a good-humoured joust with Norman in past editions, and 'Bonk' won't seem quite the same without him. However, he has found a bright young successor, and we trust that with the cares of office lifted from him he will (like another eminent contributor from Eastbourne), from time to time find inspiration returning. 'Landrover's' poem on P. 6 (written, we think, with a fair sized twinkle in his eye), will make a suitable conclusion to 'l'affaire C.R.S.'. Both 'pros' and 'antis' have had their say and the general feeling seems to be against C.R.S., though in the field of catching one another riding in motor-cars the result was a draw: Spartans 1 - C.R.S. 1. The air has been cleared, so gentlemen - the subject is now closed.

D.N.

OBITUARY

With deep regret we record the passing of Mrs. Joyce Godden, wife of former Association Chairman Ted Godden, who died suddenly on Sunday, August 31st while cycling near Dallington. Joyce, who was only forty-three years of age, had suffered spells of poor health during the past two years; but in recent months had seemed much better, and her death was completely unexpected. An active cyclist for many years, Joyce was a popular member of Eastbourne C.T.C. Section, with whom she was riding when she died. On behalf of the Association we offer our very sincere sympathy to Ted and his daughter Jane in their tragic loss.

SPARTAN CYCLE RACING CLUB

Thank goodness it's nearly over again for another year. All the rushing to get the entries off, book the 'digs', catch the infernal train to 'The Park' every Wednesday; plus trying to fit in a bit of training, maintain the bikes, &c. It does not leave a lot of time for the normal civilised side of life. Now the last straw is writing the wretched 'Bork' notes. Oh, roll on the dotage when I can just potter out on Sunday morning, to watch the other mugs tearing their insides out, and then potter on to the handiest inn and start tearing the inside out of another sort of mugs.

Now for some of the club news. Our two boys Kewell and Lingham are beginning to get the pedals round. They have both had quite a run of 'sixes' in open '25's'. The evening '10' handicap competition is getting quite exciting. In the last one which was to have been the final event, Bernie and Mick were in the lead with sixteen points apiece. Bernie on scratch recorded 25-44, and Mick 26-17, which with a 33 sec. allowance came out at 25-44. This means that now we have got to run off another event to sort it out. I hope this does not go on and on as my batteries are getting very low and I've promised them to Coleman after I've finished with them. (He boils them in vinegar or something). We did not have quite such a good season on the track this year, but some of our efforts were rewarded with a little success and a lot of fun. It would be good to see a few more Esca-ites down there riding and watching. Perhaps even our old mile-eating friend C.R.S. He could ride over there the same way as he did to the Veteran Cycle Run (wait for it while I allow myself a chuckle) - by CAR. Yes, friends, you did read correctly - by CAR. Hand me the vitriol, Maggie.

NON COMPOS MENTIS

Spartan Scandal

Did you ever hear the like of this? Two cyclists (they'll know who) arranged to meet at the Harrow arch to ride to Rochester together. One arrived and waited forty minutes for the other one. The latter arrived and waited one hour for the first one. (Bit complicated, ain't it?). Anyway, they both rode alone and properly niggled to Rochester, where they met. After they sorted it out it appeared that one had waited on top of the arch, and one underneath !!!!!!!

We would like to congratulate Cedric Pearson on his efforts to get conscripts into the cycling pastime. He was seen late one night in Brighton, complete with bike, trying to drag a young woman

Spartan Scandal (continued).

off a bus - presumably to get her to join the Uckfield & District C.C.

Also congratulations to Arthur Coleman BAR upon retaining his long held 'Pubman of the Year' trophy.

Jim Hollands was seen in Hastings on a noisy, evil-smelling, green contraption with 'L' plates.

Toni Moorhouse has at last decided to bury the hatchet with our most noble editor, Omniferous Benefactor of the Poor and Needy. (which means I owe him tuppence).

JUMBLE SALE

A grand assortment of three iron track horses, (almost due for the knacker's yard); a large selection of clapped-out tubs and various cycling bric-a-brac.

To be held at 41, Cornwall Road, Bexhill.

Can be viewed by appointment.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS ROAD CLUB

In opening these notes I must take the opportunity of thanking our kind Editor for a charming little gesture: a 'Get Well Missile' which was received after I missed the last issue of 'Bonk'. The writers' cramp to which this referred is somewhat better, and medicine and duty is the M.O's. last prescription. Our boys and the lone rider in the ladies' section have been having a successful season. Roy Martin, Ian Jenner and Dave Neal have all shown consistent and much improved riding both on road and track. Dave Patten won the first ESCA event, the Hardriders' '12', in the record time of 31-45, to open a run of individual successes, and the team placing for the club was second to Eastbourne. This was improved to first in the '72' gear '25', when G. Maryan pulled out all the stops with Ian and Dave. All history now, and the pile of result sheets in front of me is no doubt a record with most of the 'Bonk' addicts, so will not repeat, or our kindly Ed. will send a box of knock-out drops instead of wishing me well again.

Preston Park saw Roy Martin ride so well in the B.C.F. 1,000 metres Sussex Championship that he gained third place in a fast and

Tunbridge Wells Road Club (continued).

close finishing race, won by the favourite, Mick Hasler. On the same evening Dave Patten regained the 4,000 metres Sussex Individual Pursuit Championship when he outpaced R.S. Bardouveau of Worthing Excelsior in the final. In the team pursuit over the same distance we were narrowly beaten by Uckfield in 5-29.4 to our 5-31. I. Jenner, D. Neal, R. Martin and G. Maryan rode a well judged race, finishing in a compact bunch, and the crowd enjoyed a tough ride by both teams. Dave stood down to give these boys a chance to grab the championship - and they only just missed it! Sheila has four 'first scalps' at ten and twenty-five miles this season, and has improved with the weather.

The team for the ESCA 12 hours was cut to three riders, D. Neal, R. Martin and Dave Patten, and to the club's disappointment Dave retired after nine hours with stomach trouble. This put us out of the team B.A.R. scrap. These things happen, and Dave stuck it out for several hours in some distress hoping for the turn of the tide. This was his first retirement in any event in ten years' racing. It cost him the chance of the individual B.A.R. too.

Before that dreaded cramp assails me again, let me report that our mad lot spent last week-end in Wales! Monday found 'em all fit for work. Some just went for a walk or nodded over desks. An Uckfield farmer found one under a hedge. Who asked if they went on bikes? Surely you know the 'Road Club'. More social news next time - that's a promise.

STOP PRESS NEWS.

The cooking for Road Club riders in the '12' was ably carried out by a lady, with disastrous results for at least one rider!!!

(Dedicated to "C.R.S." and "Drum Beater" in their fight against Massed Start).

Oh, hark to my tale, before adjectives fail -
A tale, not of ancient mythology,
But a tale of the Spartans - some modern massed-start 'uns -
A crying disgrace to fair Cycling's face,
A perpetual rub to a dignified club -
Of cyclists a feeble apology.

Their clothes, it is true, are of gaudiest hue,
(A sad change from the garb of a previous day),
Their cycles are flashy, repulsively trashy,
(I shudder to think what old Bidlake would say!)

Their racing takes place in the height of the day,
(Why not at first light, in the morning?)
They earn the reproaches of motors and coaches
Ignoring constabulary warning.

'Tis said they were seen, on a fine Summer's e'en
Returning to town with the aid of a car.
No doubt it is fun in PKT 811
But how can they sink so revoltingly far?

This organisation gives grave perturbation
To decent, respectable, cycling folk -
(On the Conqueror's Coast it has been our proud boast
To conceal our activities under a cloak !)

We run our time trials with anonymous wiles,
Well screened from publicity's lights,
And nostalgically long for those days which are gone
Of jackets, (alpaca), and tights.

So rise up the men of the C. & A.C.,
And drink to the toast of 1903 !
Let's cherish the things that we hold the most dear -
The beards and the trikes and the good Kentish beer,
The twiddling of fixed on a b----- low gear
And rising at four in the morning !

"LAND-ROVER"

LEWES WANDERERS BEACH LOUNGING AND CYCLING CLUB

With so much grand weather about, your scribes were naturally expecting (for a change !) some worthwhile performances by Wanderers in the cycling field. However, apart from one or two efforts by Carder, Agg, Burbury and Burgess, certain of the Seaford clique, headed by a now washed-up Grover, seem to prefer boozing and card playing until the early hours, so that by the time Sunday comes round they're fit only for lying, like derelict hulks, on Seaford beach. On the few occasions when they have been enticed out, usually to watch other people getting on with it, any suggestion of a club-run afterwards has been met with blank looks, yawns and the inevitable: "We're going on the beach - it's too hot for cycling". Sad to say that this attitude has now infected Tony Peacock, a lad of promise until he got into the clutches of the above set. He's now enamoured with a mademoiselle and can be heard muttering sugary French phrases to himself while queuing for Candy Kisses at the local sweet shop. He recently caused a stir by proposing to this popsy while under the influence of two quarts of cider, but fortunately she didn't take him seriously !

A boating spree at Amberley in June was enjoyed by five of us, despite the poor oarsmanship and Mike's swimming capers almost flooding the boat. On returning, the proprietor pointedly remarked: "People don't usually bring the boats back in this state".

Prior to the great demise we ran a series of six '10's which attracted Escabods from several clubs and resulted in some fast times being put up on the Piddinghoe course. Mike came out best on aggregate, his 24-38 being a club record, while Agg got down to 25-24 and Brian Reed to 25-49. Russell got scared when he heard that Beryl Mortimore of the Central had done a '27' and beaten some of the boys, but he finally rode in one event and managed a face-saving '26'. The fastest time in the series was by Dave Dunbar of Eastbourne Rovers, who turned in a 24-35. The handicap winner was A. Peacock who improved with every ride, finishing up with 27-46. Actually this award would have gone to Willcocks but for a late start in the final event. As Willcocks is noted for this sort of thing much merriment was caused by the beaming face of the Chancellor when he announced that fact, then added: "Serves you right, mate, that'll teach you to be on time in future". Willcocks' reply nearly blistered the enamel ! In the Mitre '25' Agg did a '4', Burbury a '6' and Burgess an '8', the latter remarking: "All our riders finish when the Seaford shower don't enter". The Association

'12' saw Agg and Burbery battling it out with 219.9 and 216 miles respectively, and the same two took further punishment a fortnight later in the S.C.A. '12'. The 'Tourist' also managed fourth place in the Sussex '100'. Elsewhere will be found a cartoon referring to what happened when 'Sheepdog' Carder rode in the Uckfield '25'. His personal best of 1-2-51 was much too good for the Farmers, whom he 'rounded up' by catching all but one. This was sweet revenge for a former occasion when Boxall rode in our Club '50' and caught the field!

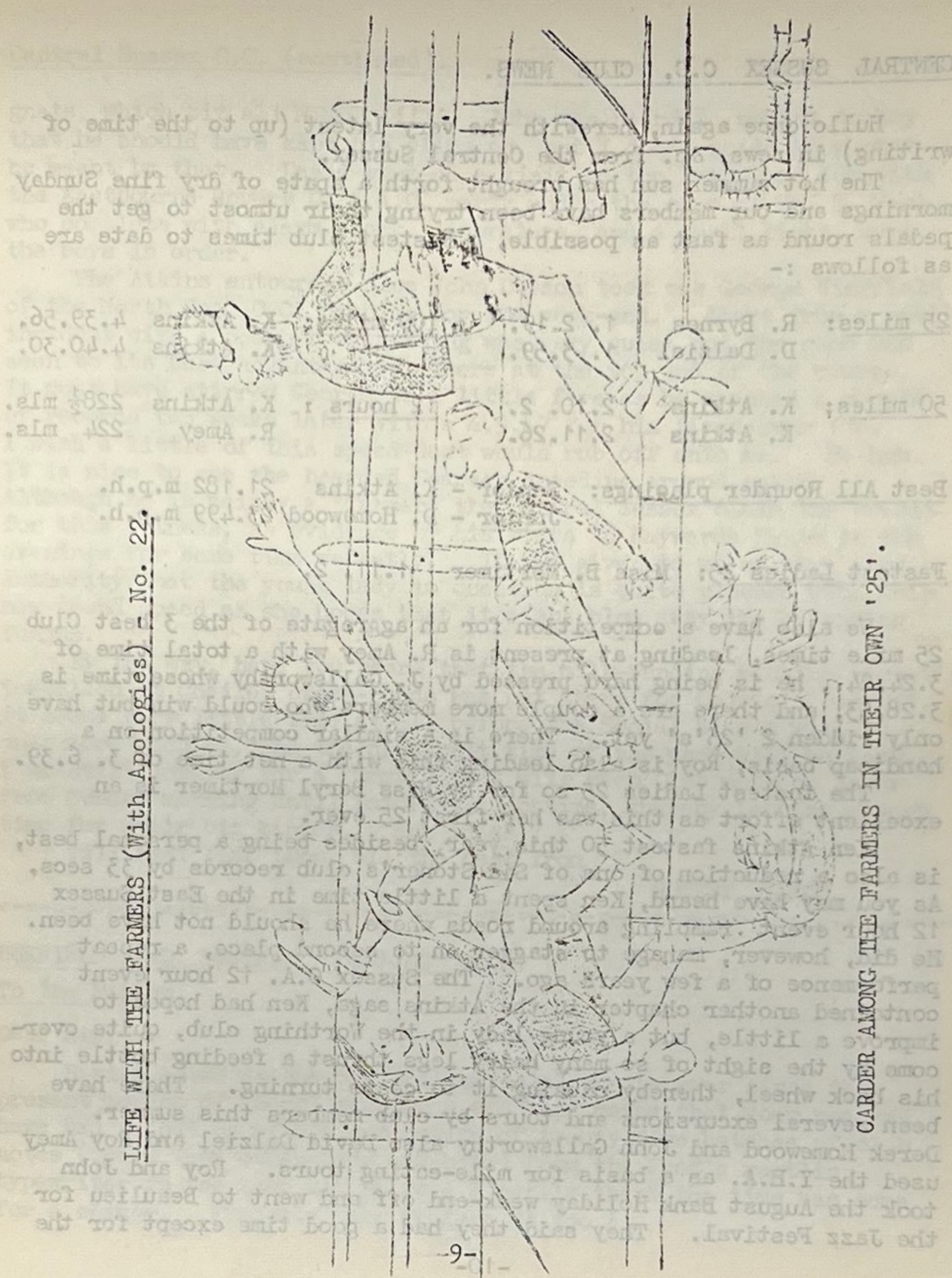
The Agg-Carder 'School of Confidence' now, alas, has another recruit. Peacock got a friend with a camera to accompany him to the top of Windover Hill. He then changed into racing kit, went a little way down and then sprinted to the top for a series of pseudo-action shots which now adorn his mantelpiece at home! The first-named pair nearly hit each other when passing in a recent SCA event. Although the 'Tourist' was well on the wrong side of the white line he bawled to Mike: "Why don't you get over?" Grover was once again the centre of much mirth and ribald remarks when he had no fewer than nine punctures while marshalling the 12 hours. Once he said he couldn't find the trouble, but when the tube was immersed in water there was a row like a milkshake being mixed in the 'Polar Bear' at Lewes! His tubes had succumbed to the long period of disuse, for the hole was nearly the size of a shirt button, but all Grover could mumble was: "I must have been looking in the wrong place".

There's still no news of the Sharp baby, although further misgivings are reported among the Kingston Villagers at the rumour that there's a possibility of twins!! Lastly, Mike is at present on holiday in France and has been involved in one or two road races to date. He is copying 'Abraham MacRussell' by offering to get cheap equipment for the Lewes boys - at a substantial commission.

Well readers, there it is for this time. All the usual wishes for good mornings, 'flyers', oodles of grub and amenable popies till the next edition.

ALSORAN.

LIFE WITH THE FARMERS (With Apologies) No. 22.



CARDER AMONG THE FARMERS IN THEIR OWN '25'.

Hullo once again, herewith the very latest (up to the time of writing) in news, &c. from the Central Sussex.

The hot summer sun has brought forth a spate of dry fine Sunday mornings and our members have been trying their utmost to get the pedals round as fast as possible. Fastest club times to date are as follows :-

<u>25 miles:</u>	R. Byrnes	1. 2.19.	<u>100 miles:</u>	K. Atkins	4.39.56.
	D. Dalziel	1. 3.59.		K. Atkins	4.40.30.
<u>50 miles:</u>	K. Atkins	2.10. 2.	<u>12 hours :</u>	K. Atkins	228 $\frac{1}{2}$ mls.
	K. Atkins	2.11.26.		R. Amey	224 mls.

Best All Rounder placings: Senior - K. Atkins 21.182 m.p.h.
Junior - D. Homewood 23.499 m.p.h.

Fastest Ladies 25: Miss B. Mortimer 1.11. 2.

We also have a competition for an aggregate of the 3 best Club 25 mile times, leading at present is R. Amey with a total time of 3.24.24., he is being hard pressed by J. Gallsworthy whose time is 3.28.53, and there are a couple more members who could win but have only ridden 2 '25's' yet. There is a similar competition on a handicap basis, Roy is also leading this with a net time of 3. 6.39.

The fastest Ladies 25 so far by Miss Beryl Mortimer is an excellent effort as this was her first 25 ever.

Ken Atkins fastest 50 this year, besides being a personal best, is also a reduction of one of Sid Stoner's club records by 33 secs. As you may have heard, Ken spent a little time in the East Sussex 12 hour event rambling around roads where he should not have been. He did, however, manage to stagger on to second place, a repeat performance of a few years ago. The Sussex C.A. 12 hour event contained another chapter in the Atkins saga, Ken had hoped to improve a little, but a young lady in the Worthing club, quite overcome by the sight of so many hairy legs thrust a feeding bottle into his back wheel, thereby causing it to cease turning. There have been several excursions and tours by club members this summer. Derek Homewood and John Gallsworthy also David Dalziel and Roy Amey used the Y.H.A. as a basis for mile-eating tours. Roy and John took the August Bank Holiday week-end off and went to Beaulieu for the Jazz Festival. They said they had a good time except for the

gnats, which bit all NIGHT !!!!! John was heard to remark to Roy that he should have kept his clips on, but I don't quite know what he meant by that. David went on a visit to the Bath Road 100 with the Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. party under the care of Mr. S. Nash, who complete with alarm clock, literature, and a small light, kept the boys in order.

The Atkins entourage plus John Dutson took one George Wingfield of the North Road C.C. camping for the week-end. Apart from a small incident with a poacher everything was very quiet and the race was seen to its best advantage somewhere at the top end of the course. It must have stirred George to a little fire as he smashed a couple of records two weeks later with a 4.9.47 for his first-ever 100. I wish a little of this speed-dust would rub off onto me. Ho-hum. It is nice to see the bearded Pearson speeding around again. Although he is mainly a "farmer" the Central Sussex claim the credit for this fitness, as evidence by his rides to Haywards Heath in the evenings for some time recently. It was given to me on very good authority that the young lady in question is quite pleased with this new-found speed as she hopes that it might blow away the offending fungus.

By the way, have you heard that the milk-vending machine recently installed at Chailey cross-roads was put there for Cedric's benefit. It seems very little time at all before the Social Season will be once more upon us, and the difficult time of the year will be back. I am still looking for a formula that will keep Club members sober from Sunday morning until Saturday lunchtime, thereby leaving enough time for their big binges. Any ideas?

Till next time then, all the best from

HONEST GINGE.

 UCKFIELD AND DISTRICT CYCLING CLUB.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,

Having acted as the Farmers' official scribe ever since the present series of "Bonk" started - and this means that your readers have had to put up with a succession of twenty-five batches of club notes (apart from other odds and bits) from the Prof's rattling typewriter in the last six years - I really think the time has come for a change. Probably your readers do too!

However, subscribers to "Bonk" are not to be spared the quarterly recital of the misdeeds of those who dwell in the Land of the Cuckoo. We have been most fortunate in securing the services of a distinguished man of letters to carry on the Saga of the Scragly Erbs and their successors - none other than the author of that famous trilogy: "Up the Kerb with Achard", "On a Trike with Achard", and (you've guessed it) "In the Trough with Achard". Woppit is, of course, already known to your readers as the possessor of an observing eye and a ready pen, as witness certain notes which have already appeared in your pages over his name (one which I am sure he would not have adopted had he known that Donald Campbell was going to blow the gaff about his green ears and red "weskit") and was awarded the "Farmers' Beetle" this year for his prowess in cross-toasting. So beware!

Before I sign off as a regular contributor, Mr. Editor, may I make one comment in more serious vein. In all the twenty-six issues of this magazine we have enjoyed news and views on aspects of the cycling game, couched in all styles from the ponderous to the flippant, and ranging from the approving to the censorious. Contributors have freely aired their views, and on things that matter, punches have not been pulled. This is as it should be, of course, and only by encouraging frank comment and good-natured discussion of differences can the Association hope to continue a virile organisation. But I fear that of late an element of bitterness has crept into contributions from a certain quarter - and this we can well do without. Surely it is a poor thing if we cannot voice our opinions without implying that the other fellow's standards are lower than our own. I have disagreed with many things done in the name of our sport, but I do most sincerely hope that I have never been guilty of allowing this to influence personal relationships or cause me to dip my pen in acid. May I suggest to "C.R.S." that an excess of vitriol will not conduce to a reasoned consideration of his strictures, and assure him that I have met as good club-men in the road racing game as in any branch of the sport.

And so, to all those patient readers who have waded through my efforts, and to you, O equally patient Editor, my grateful thanks. My subscription to "Bonk" will be forthcoming as long as the Drum Beats and "J.N." continues his libellous pen-portraits. I commend to you my brother scribe, and hope you will deal with him as leniently as you have with me.

Best of British,

THE PROF.

Well, well! so Woppit has got control of the 'Bonk' notes from Uckfield - you lucky people! Ye noble Prof tells me that he is torn to shreds by one Neeves if he doesn't supply the necessary on time; so after twenty issues and some fifty pages of waffle he has retired from this labour.

The season in these remote quarters started with a bang when John cracked the old '10' course record with 25-1 and all but yours truly showed some signs of impending fitness. Griff, who has now taken the plunge and become engaged

, pulled out fastest time in the SCA '25' with 1-6-50; whilst Anton with his second effort bagged 1st Handicap as a longmarker. John boasted an 0-44 for his first '25' at Easter, and this was followed by Griff becoming Club Champion again with 1-5-15. In the Sussex VITA event at Shoreham Griff and Hos (our distinguished cavalry gentleman), wiped the board, Griff taking first on standard and overall, and Hos completing an unassailable (Phew - long words) team aggregate. ESCA '50' time showed Webby fastest shortmarker with a '16', and Pete winning the long-markers section hands down. John produced a 2-4-3 in the Bon Amis '50', but only I think because the Prof and I journeyed in the small hours to watch. Unfortunately we lost the SCA Team Championship, but without the aid of John on form (due to polio injections), I think we went down fighting, missing first place by only just over a minute. But watch out next year! The 'B' Team was dogged by punctures, but Arthur (the old dark horse) smashed into brilliant form with a '4' for his first ride of the season. Some fine times were done in the Counties '25' with Griff fourth in 1-2-42 and yours truly beating his P.B. by two minutes. John did a 4-25-2 in the De Laune '100', narrowly missing second place, but making it up in the first evening '10', when he had 23-45 to his credit. Lewis (son of chicken), our youngest member at 14, produced a sizzling 29-24 for tenth place - watch out you fast men for that name! Fresh home from holiday John cracked the club '15' record in an evening event with 36-6, and Woppit carried off the Novices (that's two words - NO VICES !!) Cup with 41-20. SCA '100' time, and Cedric forgot the time of start and rolled up an hour late. However, Hos managed an excellent 5-4 and Ken Savage did 5-10 at his first attempt.

Well, there are the morbid facts which leave me little room for scandal. Mauve Fred and mauve Freda are somewhere near Brixham at time of writing on a tandem, whilst Rosemary (that's the aunt

you know), has been trying to kid me she's married Os, and they too have bought a tandem (for the bottom drawer). Siggs and Jennifer have been misbehaving badly at club teas lately; but I think it's the influence of that scandalous Phyllis woman who's been receiving an alarming quantity of feelthy post-cards (much to the delight of the postman).

Finally I would like to say exactly what I think about C.R.S. and his views on mass-start; but perhaps I'd better not as I must leave some room in the 'mag', and I might be had up for abuse! So until the next gripping episode (I'm not not sure whether it's one 'P' or two Ed.), love from

WOPPIT.

EASTBOURNE ROVERS C. & A.C.

Hello once again fellow cyclists from Eastbourne - we are again getting near the peak of the racing season with the distance events in full swing. First a run over the Rovers' club events. The '50' held on the 6th June was won by Johnny Mayes in 2-11-55, followed closely by Brian Cornwell in 2-12-12, and Whippet Manser with 2-14-8. The latter rider took first handicap and Quintin Rance second with 2-20-0. The '100' held on July 12th resulted in a win for Brian Cornwell with 4-44-29, 1st handicap going to Quintin Rance with 4-55-9. Johnny Mayes retired at the fifty mile mark. Next event was the '30' on July 19th, which drew a record number of entries - fifteen in fact. Johnny Mayes won with 1-15-44, with Brian Cornwell second in 1-17-39, and Whippet third with 1-18-14. Ted Durrant, making a come-back, took first handicap with 1-21-33, and John Gilbert second with 1-25-54.

So much for club events, now for local events. Only July 6th in the SCA '50' championship, Brian Cornwell and Johnny Mayes tied for sixth place with 2-13-19. In the ESCA '100' (incorporated in the Rovers event), Brian, in spite of a closed-up eye due to an infection, managed to take sixth place with 4-44-29. Quintin did a personal best 4-55-9 and took third handicap. In the ESCA '25' on June 28th Johnny Mayes did a very good ride, clocking 1-3-9. Ken Stevens returned 1-4-28 and then announced his retirement from racing due to his forthcoming marriage to Iris Heather. In the Sussex Ladies '15' on July 6th Ann Heather and sister Iris took first and second places with 42-8 and 44-15 respectively.

Then there were shocks all round in the Sussex '100' on July 28th when Johnny Mayes did 4-42-44 for fourth place, followed by Brian Cornwell with 4-46-34. Brian put up an outstanding ride in the National 24 hours Championship promoted by the Catford C.C. on June 21st and 22nd. His 434 mile effort was good enough to get him in the first fifteen men home out of a top-grade entry of eighty riders. He beat the previous club record by twenty miles, and also set up new County figures for the distance. Brian's ride nearly ended in disaster when at the 60 mile point he had a violent attack of back-ache, but he got over it, and apart from a few minor setbacks plodded on steadily, covering 227 miles in the first 12 hours. The club evening '10' competition, the fastest two rides by each man counting, was won by Johnny Mayes with the very fast aggregate of 47-35. John had two rides of 23-47 and 23-48 and was in a class of his own in this event. I know that this victory was one of his ambitions. Dave Dunbar's aggregate of 48-43 gave him second place, with Whippet Manser third with 49-26. In the ESCA 12 hrs. on August 9th Brian kept the club in the picture with his fourth place ride of 226 miles. At the 185 mile point he had worked his way through to second place; then took the worst 'packet' of his racing career, but hung on grimly to finish. Ted Durrant, after only a few weeks back on the racing scene, did a very good ride indeed when he covered 216 miles, and he should be very pleased with himself. Quintin Rance showed his determination to finish by doing 206 miles; he certainly knows how to suffer. Johnny Mayes, riding in the 34th Nomads '25' on G.9 did a personal best ride of 1-1-27. And to end the racing news we find Brian Cornwell getting a few more miles in by successfully attacking the club Worthing and back record and knocking 2 mins. 52 secs. off Stan Nash's 1954 time.

Stan and Bruce Allcorn spent two weeks in July touring on the Continent, and the sun was not the only 'Hot Stuff' they saw there! One new member put his foot in it good and proper by asking Johnny Mayes if he had B.W. hubs in his 28-spoke 'sprints'. Stan, John, Johnny Gilbert and Mick Horner spent the August Bank holiday watching the Bath Road '100', while Ted, Brian Strong and Ann, Bruce, Brian and Vince went on a ride to Bosham harbour on the Monday. There were laughs all round when 'Yaky' had an attack of saddle trouble, and had to eat his dinner and stuff the paper bags up his trousers to ease the situation. Then the look of amazement on people's faces when, riding through Chichester, he put his hand in the seat

of his pants and withdrew six neatly folded paper bags ! At the moment I am trying to find out some very interesting information about an old member of the Rovers, which should prove to be very ??? and perhaps aid my financial position. That's all for now

COUREUR.

SOUTHBOROUGH AND DISTRICT WHEELERS.

Racing News :- Mid-season began with the annual inter-club '25' on our Queen Street course with San Fairy Ann, in which the 'Fairies' were again prominent in taking the individual (M. Barnes 1-0-53) and six-man team awards. In the KCA '100' we fielded ten riders and ran this as a club '100', the unpredictable Crow riding clear in 4-47-38. Teddy Boorman was our sole representative in the Catford '24', establishing club record with 408 miles 375 yards. June 28th saw an improvement by George Cheesman, the first of many, in the Chichester '50', when he crossed the line in 2-22-29. Brian Leyland took second handicap in the Kent BCF '100' with 4-52-50. South Ruislip '100' morning saw Ron Hayward take the lead in the club three-distance B.A.R. table with a 4-30-15 ride, and the following week the same rider won the ESCA '100' in 4-37-53. Crow in this event finished next to last outside evens, but the following week sorewed down Ron in the Club Championship '25' with 1-3-50 to Ron's 1-4-2. A saliva test was ordered, but the swabs proved negative, the 'vet' saying that this in and out riding was in his opinion a Crowsley characteristic ! However, a 'chuffed' Crow enjoyed a Continental tour after this win to return and within a matter of hours take the ESCA '12', handicap and all for good measure with 238 miles. He also led a team win with Rambling Teddy third with 227 miles and Mick Armitage as third man with 216 miles. Club events at ten and twenty-five miles have seen the rise of young Clive Ashby, whose two '25's' have yielded 1-7-25 and 1-5-6 (fourth in the Championship). At ten miles he has been third to Ron (24-17) and Brian Crouch (24-53) with 24-54, and in his latest outing he was the winner in 24-24 with Brian Leyland and Rambling Teddy dead-heating in 25-17. The club '50' resulted in a win for Arthur Parks by 50 seconds from Brian Leyland in 2-17-4. In the meantime George Cheesman has acquired a liking for Wessex courses, for after several years riding he vastly improved his '100' time in the Southampton event to the tune of 4-48-30, a near half-hour improvement for third handicap award, his time being a mere four

minutes behind Les Hayman, who rode in with 4-44-15. George's latest improvements are in the New Forest '50', when he screwed Brian Leyland with a 2-19-49 ride, and club '25's where he has chipped down to 1-8-30. His '50' and '100' times now appear to hold out the chance of a 1-6 '25'. In the KCA 12 hrs. on a powerfully hot August day, Les Hayman, after the traditional slow start, rode out a sterling 232 miles for second place behind A. Goodall of Ashford, a surprise winner with 236 miles. Phil Hennessey on his trike established club record with a ride exceeding 203 miles. Ten Southboros started and seven finished, Crow being among the early retirements with knee trouble at forty miles. Brenda Chenery and Dawn still battle it out at ten and twenty-five miles, with Dawn still holding on narrowly. Both have done personal bests this year, Dawn with 28-31 and 1-12-17 and Brenda with 28-55 and 1-13-39. Other awards taken have been a second handicap won by Geoff Hayman in the Medway Wh. '50', and second handicap by Mick Armitage in the Lancing M.M. '25'. Ron still needs a 12 hr. ride to take the club B.A.R. title again. A ride of 230 miles should clear the obstacles. The event he will probably go for will be the Middlesex. Crow could go close if he rides a good '50', and Les iw well to the fore with 232 mls., 4-44-15, 2-11-42 and 1-4-2. Final club events are a '30' and a '25' run as a scratch and consolation. All the best for the run-in from

BALLYALGOL'S PAL.

SOUTHBOROUGH TOURING NOTES.

So once again the 'Bonk' deadline comes round finding your scribe amid the usual SDW activities and hard-pressed to get any notes on paper. With the excess of grand weather we certainly keep making the most of it; our activities have been having their best support for years. Most significant since the last edition has been the phenomenal increase in membership - mostly juniors, and I'm glad to say they seem to be the types who are prepared to put something in the game as well as receive. The roughstuff week-end in the Devil's Punchbowl area, mentioned as a coming attraction in the last issue, came to pass and was voted one of the greatest week-ends at that phase of the sport. We traversed the wooded areas round Haslemere and descended into the Punchbowl from the west, having ridden for several hours without meeting

another person, which is quite something for a summer Sunday in southern England. A more recent run was to Ewhurst Green hostel, which sixteen of us attended - a record for recent years. True to the traditions of being self-cookers a communal salad was prepared for the evening meal of such proportions that only the largest washing-up bowl would contain it. Next day we were rough-stuffing through the Pitch Hill area when we ended up in someone's back garden. He wasn't very pleased! Still on 'The' subject, our Tuesday evening rough-stuff runs have been most successful at seeking out local footpaths, although with two members of the Roughstuff Fellowship trying to outdo each other, some of the sections come in the 'severe' category.

The Catford '24' is our excuse for an all-night run, and this year was the first time that we helped one of our own riders, our effervescent rider (so he is described) Teddy Boorman who had a go and turned in a very creditable 409 miles at his first attempt, despite some of the feeding arrangements going wrong in the early stages. It would appear that from the way 'Lady Bostic' (alias Ann Barnes) was thrashing about down the Horsham road at about 3.30 a.m. and dropping the 'sleeping section' of the club-run, that we have an ideal rider for such an event. This ride of Ted's has stirred up quite a bit of interest amongst the racing types, and it seems that Red will have some team support next year. It also seems that the same idea has germinated in the Eastbourne Rovers, inspired no doubt by Yaki's ride. If this sort of thing gets a hold there will have to be an ESCA '24' - how about it, Roy? One Southboro' who was going to attempt the '24' was our stalwart member Les Hayman, but Les is now working at Southampton with the Ordnance Survey people. His loss in club activities (although he is able to get along some week-ends) is deeply felt, although partly offset in some quarters by the prospect of getting some maps at cut prices!

On returning from tour I was shown a photo that resembled the food department of a supermarket laid out on grass. It was, in actual fact, a picture of the club's provisions for the annual Bank Holiday camp at Cuckmere, from which I conclude that they must have spent most of the time eating, although I hear that "we've got the Trig Point record up to 6", i.e., they managed to get six people on top of a trigonometric pedestal. In the next 'Bonk' there will no doubt be the result of the projected telephone box

attempt. With the aforementioned summer the Camera Section of the club have really been hard at it on the 'Big Takes', and it seems that several more members have been bitten by the photo bug, from the humblest Brownies to the bod who, having got hold of a Leica, took forty shots before he realised the film hadn't wound on. Reports of summer tours have come in thick and fast, the club-room notice board being covered with post-cards. Roy and Margaret Cavey returned from Spain with gory stories of seeing bulls killed. Arthur Parks and Pat Marsh did their annual Irish trip and brought back an amusing story. It seems they were alone in this house in Letterkenny on a Sunday morning - everyone else having gone to church, when a tramp-like type barged in demanding "I want the girl". As they didn't know who he was Arthur and Pat led him back to the door and closed it behind them, but he still persisted in coming in, and being obviously drunk as well they decided to forcibly eject him - Arthur neatly placing his foot in front of the tramp's as he went through the door. That evening in the pub all the locals were buying Arthur and Pat rounds and being generally genial. On asking about this generosity they were told that they had caused the greatest laugh round those parts for ages by throwing out Rory O' - the richest man in Donegal!

Of course, not all went by bike. Pete and Barbara 'oiled' round Scotland, Brian Crouch 'relaxed' at Butlin's, and Pam Jones went pony trekking with the YHA on Dartmoor - rumour has it that the pony was specially saddled with a BIT. Lou and the writer returned from our Switzerland - Italy - Austria tour with stories of the secondary roads (grim), the food (great), and the girls (brrrrrr!). Two highlights were Lou fighting a losing battle with a plate of Italian spaghetti, and Yours Truly jumping thigh deep into Italian mud in an attempt to get through a landslide in the Bremer Pass. The club tourist trial for the Robbins bowl will be on October 25th this year. Entries close a week beforehand to Warwick Dunford, The Forge, Heverham, near Sevenoaks, Kent. You've never tried one before? Well, come along, you will have a good laugh as there are no experts, and if nothing else, there's a great tea at Speldhurst afterwards. Our sporting contests with other organisations have met with a similar fate to the tiddlywinks match against the Farmers; having been beaten at rounders by the San Fairy Ann C.C. (Maidstone), we have had two defeats at stoolball by the Tun. Wells G.P.O. Telephones. As someone said: "We would challenge them to a cycle race except for the fact that we could never live down a defeat".

At the time of writing the club has attended the first of its outings to the Proms, although four members were D.N.F., having wilted before the prospect of a Vaughan Williams symphony, another going straight from there to a jazz club, pointing to a somewhat variegated musical outlook. And with that we speed ahead with the ever-shortening days to the cry of "Roll on the Social Season". (I've been saying that since March 1st - Ed.). Only a few more races - "races" did someone say? Ugh! Well that's Ballyalgal's Pal's column. I hope he's not still sulking after being nearly burnt off by one of our non-racing lady members.

Cheers for this time

CROW.

EAST GRINSTEAD C.C.

It's a pity the printing strike didn't affect the publication of this issue of 'Bonk'. The headaches this week are unmentionable, but not half as bad as the heartaches in the club at the present time. You may remember from the last number that our road boys were about to compete in the Sussex Championship, and that the team had been promised a dose of 'jankers' if they didn't make good. Well, the boys really excelled themselves, with third, fifth, seventh and ninth places. The club provided the only team to finish over the very tough and hilly Ashdown Forest circuit. As it was, the heat plus the hills claimed Ray Lunn, and at the beginning of the last lap Jerry Butler found a nice bed of bracken when he fell off his bike during a severe bout of cramp. Members of clubs such as the Southboro', who enjoy a rather pleasant social life during the summer, may well ask if the Grinstead boys do anything else but flog their eyeballs out all over the country. The answer is fast becoming "Yes", although this, it seems, is how the club would rather have it. If anyone should see more than three members together who aren't going to or coming from an event, he would do well to make a careful note of the date, for shortly it may be an occasion to remember. Just like the one Micky, Bill, Gordon, Doughy, Ray and Jerry experienced during the Isle of Man Cycling Week. One particular Sunday, the above mentioned were walking casually along the promenade at Douglas, admiring the scenery (No, not the women, Aggy), when something caught the eye of the Robinson. Is it? - Was it? - no it can't be; but sure

enough, trousers rolled up and playing in the sand was none other than R.H. himself. This was too good to miss, so after taking photographs with the stealth of Andre and Micheala Denis snapping a cobra, the boys made themselves known. Of course, Humph swore he was in the employ of the Min. of Ag and Fish to check on land erosion on that piece of beach. Must have been awful hard work with that wooden spade, though. But getting away from the lighter topics for the time being, I would like to thank Roy on behalf of the club, and I am sure many other clubs too, for the part he played in making the races during Festival Week a complete success. Our team of Richard Wood, Ray Lunn, Jerry Butler and Gordon Leney who took part in the Clypse Handicap road race, continued the good work in the bunched racing sphere by taking second team honours from over thirty other teams. Jerry was beaten in the sprint finish by a matter of inches, and was placed fourth. Ray, Gordon and Doughy, starting over 2½ mins. behind the first group, found the pace something like a world pursuit championship. Gordon and Ray finished 31st and 52nd respectively from a field of 120 riders, although Gordon had to make up a deficit of a minute on Ray. Poor Richard, finding the widening gap far too big, gave up the chase, as did many others in the last two groups. Meanwhile Bill and Micky were in the stands organising the Grinstead cheer section. Later in the week Mick rode on the track at Onchan. Unfortunately there was a strong wind blowing in from the sea and Mick found himself considerably overgeared for the handicap sprint events. Although he rode very well, both gear and wind were too high and he failed to qualify for the finals.

Bank Holiday Monday saw the same team ride in the Highgate Criterium at Welwyn. This time all the boys collected something for their trouble. Gordon, Doughy and Ray comprised the first team, finishing fourth, sixth and seventh respectively, and Jerry, having won two of the three primes, took the prime points award. Unfortunately he had another severe bout of cramp only a mile from the finish, and managed to arrive at the line some ten minutes later covered in stinging nettle bites this time. The grass track racing and time-trialling too have been equally good. On many occasions Micky has come back from Bexley Heath with his ole Ford loaded down on the axles with loot. At Rye Don gave Mick a run for his money when he won the ESCA 1,000 yards and the Mile. I wonder if they would have had things all their own way if the San Fairy Ann boys had been there?

The way everyone flips about these days makes it possible for our '25' record to be broken nearly every week. Since the start of the season competition has been very keen, especially among the Juniors. Alan Hirst rode well in the races at Preston Park promoted for schoolboys, and Richard Marchant, in his first year of racing, has recorded some useful 1-6 rides. Yet one in particular, yes one Richard Wood, has been chasing so hard that in the recent 34th Nomads '25' he did a personal best of 1-0-40. This time along with Mick's 59-34 and Gordon's 1-1-55, formed a new club team record for the distance. Beware the Rosemary Shield! R. Lunn, riding his first T.T. for many moons, also did a P.B. with 1-2-52. Many other rides this summer have resulted in the same story. During a club '25' on G.9 Micky lowered the club record to 59-27, and Gordon, Doughty and Richard Marchant got down to 1-1-34, 1-2-50 and 1-6-30. This year, unfortunately, Don Lock hasn't been finding so much time for training, owing to his change of work. However, after making several trips to Eastbourne he decided to tackle the Grinstead - Eastbourne and back record which he already holds at 2-54-8. Gordon decided to make the marshal's visit to the seaside worth while and left half an hour later. By the time Don got back to Uckfield, he found that his schedule was more suited to Ray Booty, consequently, by the time Maresfield loomed up he had had enough. Gordon, a little fitter, maybe, found himself being passed in the opposite direction by some Eastbourne Rovers, apparently riding some sort of time-trial. The next minute, a chappy riding towards the finish decided that he hadn't turned all the riders, did a smart about-turn in the middle of the road and 'did his nut' back to the turn, with Gordon rapidly overhauling him. He flung himself from his bicycle gesticulating wildly, and you should have seen the look on his face when Gordon rode straight by saying: "I'm not in this race, mate". Even this spot of comedy was not enough to offset the last two climbs out of Nutley and Forest Row, which are real 'leg sagger's'. Gordon's time was 2-57-57. On the same morning, Micky successfully attacked his own Grinstead - Godstone and back record.

On August 16th Don, Jerry, Mick and Gordon rode in the Southern Coureurs Criterium on the Cowfold circuit, but like many other riders, soon ran into trouble. Mick pulled his wheel over and failed to get back into the field; Don and Jerry punctured, and finally Gordon called it a day because of back trouble. Meanwhile, Phil Hitchcock has spent most of August racing in Belgium with several other riders from the South. Hope he manages to bring his bike back in one piece,

'cause I know someone who didn't last year.
Now roll on Christmas and let's have some nuts

MARITIME.

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H E R E a n d T H E R E

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Although unable to advertise any further because of RTTC Regulations, the proprietor of a well-known cycle emporium in the Seaford area now boasts the slogan: "Buy my Second-hand Frames and Win ESCA Events".

NOTICE. Stoolball, Marbles or any other games - Southborough will challenge any other ESCA club. We haven't won a thing yet, but will guarantee a good time will be had by all.

Alex McNitt should be informed that the smuggling of tubulars isn't confined to the Hastings area. Lou and Crow of Southboro' brought back several from Switzerland disguised as "Genuine Austrian black sausage," or so it is rumoured.

What was Chancellor Eldridge, a life-long antagonist of mass-start, doing lurking under a tree on the circuit of the Southern Coureurs Criterium near Cowfold? His gabbled excuse that he was only waiting to see Roy Humphrey simply doesn't hold water. More than likely he has been bitten by the road-racing bug. Rumour now has it that Percy Bliss has consented to be a prime judge in the Butlin's 100 miles Road Race on August 30th!

After a holiday involving a 1,000 mile trip by 'Bomb', Willcocks had a message relayed to Dutson to the effect that it's about time he "got the miles in".

The fact that Eric Crook finished the 12 hours surprised many people, but not Eric. So many clubmates bet him he wouldn't finish that he stood to make a small fortune, as well as being 'made' for the social season by it.

HERE and THERE (continued).

Lavatory wall writing continues, the latest being "Helft, Sud Tyrol sprechen Deutch". This shows an influence of wall writing seen in northern Italy during Lou's tour.

Our Mid-Sussex correspondent reports that after a club tea recently a certain well-known married lady told a well-known bachelor not to forget that they were to have an early night ?????

We regret to report that the President of Eastbourne Rovers was fouled by a blackbird while riding out to the Association '100'.

The Editor has been pretty busy selling Rock lately, but not too busy to notice Bernard Dean riding past on his bicycle, and later coming back minus bicycle but plus a member of the opposite sex.

The night before the Bath Road '100' Dick Spanton of the Brentwood R.C. was sleeping in a barn. He heard a noise at the door, and thinking it was Cedric Pearson, called out "Come in here". Next morning Dick woke to find a tramp lying beside him.

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FOR SALE: Victim of Trikeitis (or Collins's Disease) wishes to dispose of his 23" Young's mass-start iron which was purchased new earlier this season and has all mod. cons., including Cyclo Mk.12 and D/C., G.Bs., Campag Q/R sprints and/or wired-ons. Enamelled a delightful pink and was seen proceeding slowly in the Association '100'. All this is offered in exchange for a 23" or 24" Higgins trike with cash adjustment if necessary, or would sell for £22 (approx. cost new £42).

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