

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE  
EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION



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# EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION

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CHRISTMAS 1961.

New Series - No. 36.

### EDITORIAL

"Once more into the breach, dear friends", as with Christmas fast approaching, the time has come for me to make a few editorial comments.

Two of our Association's more important events, the Luncheon and Annual General Meeting, have taken place within the last month (reports of both appear elsewhere in this edition), and it is very encouraging I am sure, from the officials side, to see such a good attendance at both functions. Discussions at the A.G.M. were lively and of current interest, and I can only assume that from the outcome of proceedings that the members of the Association are well satisfied with the service that the officials provide.

And so to this edition's reports, which although fewer in number, are of a most varied nature. I would ask all correspondents to try and get reports to me by the 22nd February, otherwise I have to wait for the few, which in some cases makes the earlier reports out of date, and also holds up production.

And finally, to end on a personal note, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all those who journeyed to Yorks Hill in late October, for the National Championship Hill Climb. I am afraid that I wasn't able to achieve my ambition, but I am sure that it was your support that got me where it did. Also the presentation to me at the Luncheon in recognition of this ride, amplifies the comradeship of this sport of ours - thank you all once again.

D.P.

CLOSING DATE FOR NEXT EDITION: 22nd FEBRUARY, 1962.

"GEN" from the Secretary.

As is usual at this time of the year we are all thinking about the Social Season and perhaps in a few cases the Annual General Meetings of our Clubs and Associations. During the course of the year we all at some time or another have moans or groans about this rule or that rule, in quite a number of justification can be found for the complaint. Annual General Meetings are the time to voice our views and take steps to alter rules. When the time comes round for the meeting, very few members make an effort to attend, usually it is left to the faithful few to carry on as in past years. This year let all of us make a special effort to get to at least our Club's A.G.M., especially the younger members, for now is the time to make a start and take at least a minor part in the running of your Club, new blood on the Committee means new ideas and this is what is wanted to-day in our sport.

By the time you read these notes we shall have held our Prize Presentation and A.G.M., no doubt our Editor will find space to give brief details of these functions. The R.T.T.C. have approved our 1962 Road Time Trials programme, which incidentally is the same as this year, except that a 100 miles ladies event has been added. Entries for events will close on the Saturday fortnight prior to the event, and details giving effect to this will appear in the R.T.T.C. Handbook for 1962. Due to the increase in the levy to 6d. next year, all entry fees for events up to and including 50 miles will be raised to 3s. 6d., subject of course to A.G.M. approval. The additional 2d. on the levy now includes an Insurance cover for all competitors and helpers for the duration of the event.

On behalf of all members of the Association we take this opportunity of offering our congratulations to Dave Patten of the Tunbridge Wells R.C. for his very great ride for 3rd place in the National Hill Climb championship.

In conclusion, I should like to thank you one and all for all the help and co-operation you have given me during the past year, it is really appreciated. Will all Clubs please let me have their 1962 Officials as soon as possible so that the usual list can be circulated.

A Merry Xmas to you all.

CENTRAL SUSSEX C.C.

Greetings once again !! Here is news and views from Central Sussex brought to you by your old and trusted scribe.

This is the time of year when nothing ever seems to happen, I suppose that the racing types are still trying to get over their season, and the socialites have not yet got into the swing of things.

However, a group of members left the safety of Cuckfield and district the other Saturday evening and journeyed into the wilds of Kent for the Tunbridge Wells Road Club dinner. As yet reports have not been coming back very well, but I understand that this opener was well up to the usual standards.

Some Club members, reinforced by the Uckfield and District C.C., went to see a Show in the West End a week or two ago. The show was very much enjoyed, but I understand that for one the evening was rather marred. Roy Amey tapped an irate Gent's motor-car with his one, but luckily things did not proceed beyond the slanging stage. The said group were spotted in the Marble Arch area by more of our Motorist members, who reported that Roy was still travelling in reverse.

By the time that these notes reach you we will have held our MOST IMPORTANT FUNCTION, the Annual Dinner. We hope that this year's will be as much a success as usual. We have been fortunate enough to get Mr. Alan Gordon to come along and make a speech, and knowing his usual standard this should be very good and interesting. The highlight, of course, is the presentation of the prizes for the year, and the principal ones this year are :-

Club B.A.R.	-	Ken Atkins
Junior B.A.R.	-	Malcolm Verey
Ladies B.A.R.	-	Beryl Dalziel
Aggregate Club		
25 Cup	-	David Dalziel
Handicap 25 Cup	-	Roy Amey

There are several other Trophies going, and these are being shared by the above and Mich Wren.

Whilst on the subject of racing, &c., I hope that all readers

will take advantage of the C.S.C.C. Hilly 20 mile event which is being held this year on Sunday the 17th December, and is based on Cuckfield. Entry forms are already out for the event, and we are hoping for a bumper entry, tea and buns are provided at the finish for all riders, and as this event finishes about opening time spectators are well catered for at the White Harte.

We held our Annual Tourist Trial (?) recently. About 7 or 8 hardy members attempted to get round the course in the prescribed 8 hours, but only Mick Wren and our "Ganger" were successful. Perhaps it is because your correspondent had something to do with layout out that particular course that members found it rather difficult. It is on the cards that the event will be run a lot earlier in 1962, sometime in February has been suggested, so that the boys can turn it into a training. Ha Ha.

Our BIG news this time is that the Club have decided to run an Open 50 mile time trial next year. The date was applied for, and granted, being the week-end after the National Championship 50 on course G.43. Entry forms will be out to all E.S.C.A. clubs in good time, and I can promise you that the event will be run as well as we can possibly make it. It is to be hoped that we get a good entry, sufficient that is to make it a reasonable proposition to keep on running it.

That's about all for now, then, except to offer the Club's congratulations to our Editor for getting East Sussex into the Albert Hall. If shouting had got him up the hill any quicker, the Centralites would have had him up in record time.

See you in training time.

HONEST GINGE

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#### HASTINGS & St. LEONARDS C.C.

Once more I look at the calendar and see that the closing date for Bonk material has been and gone.

I will start these notes with the final racing season round-up. Bob, as expected, won the evening events competition. His final ride in this series was an excellent 23.17. A feat which we would have thought impossible when we first started using the course about 6 or 7 years ago. He also had runaway victories in the last club events

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

of the season. He won the Hastings-Rye-Hastings by exactly a minute from Lyn with 1.5.12. to set up another club record. Over half a minute separated them in the last 25. Again Bob emerged the winner recording 1.4.12. He thrashed the opposition in the club hill-climb which he won in 3 mins. 1 sec. - 12 secs. better than Richard Sellens. Although he couldn't manage to keep up his winning ways in the ESCA hill-climb, he managed to finish well up the list. A week or two later he struggled up the Catford Climb. While on the subject of hill-climbs, we would like to congratulate Dave on his 3rd place in the championship.

The rest of the racing members slowed up a little at the end of the season. Martin was the eventual winner of the Junior B.A.R. Unfortunately Dave didn't complete the qualifying distances, so Martin was the only finisher. Perhaps we will have a few more juniors interested in the competition next year.

John Jary finished up his racing season by running into an old lady up Winchelsea Hill in the Hastings-Rye-Hastings event and a week or two later slowed up to 1.12.56 in the last 25.

The Social Season seems to be well under way now. Several members attended the Kent and Sussex Fellowship Lunch at Ashburnham, and had a very good time. On Sunday, Arthur, Cecil and Maurice went to the S.E. Region Trike Lunch, where the only black spot was the absence of "Darkie", but apparently "Marilyn Monroe" opposite amply compensated. Arthur also managed to find himself a stray young lady after the lunch, and forced her to sample his whiskers.

Before concluding these notes, we welcome two prospective future members to the club, a boy for Maurice and Esther, and a girl to add to Arthur and Phylis's collection.

We wish you all a merry Christmas, and hope to see you at our Club Dinner on January 27th at the Castle Hotel, Hastings, tickets price 12s. 6d. With all due modesty, I think I can truly claim that this is the best function in the area.

BACCHUS.

By the way Neevo, did you know that you have got a rival for Mrs. M., and I don't mean Tony.

We used to think that at this time of the year we could forget all about fitness, early mornings and the like, for as long as we could perambulate of overfed carcasses from one club dinner to the next, and with supreme effort attempt to dance at some of them then that was sufficient. But then Lord Daniel was not club captain in the "good old days", and now he is we have certainly felt the wind of change. His Lordship has now instituted such horrors as 8.15 starts, 50 miles before lunch and 'short hops' to such nearby towns at St. Albans, Southend and Aldershot! Someone was heard to remark "Suppose they are for Independents and First cats. only". However, there is great support for these runs so a lot of members should be roaring fit for any distance events next February, and well they might be as if RTTC course measuring keeps its 1961 standards we shall probably be riding the Hardriders 12 as a 12 hour.

Be that as it may, back to Sunny August and the patter of tiny feet (and big ones too), yes the club were out in force doing feeds and other "groundcrew" work in the KCA 12 hr., having had a wet training run in the ESCA event the week previously.

Club runs have followed their usual pattern of linking up with the racing men for tea and thanks to the efforts of Teddy Boorman, we have had some most enjoyable get togethers and interclub teas with the Fairies, and ESCA and the Hastings crew (its too much of a strain to write their full title), and the Rovers.

The "closer run" was a century plus affair to Hythe which has a foretaste of the runs to be, and found some members declaring that they would stick to intermediate or tea runs in future.

Club runs usually make dull reading but when we were joined by such characters as Cedge Pearson and Neevo anything could happen - and it did. Cedge offered to lead us on a track over the Downs from Lewes to Glynde past the martyrs memorial, over the golf course, past a dew pond although at the latter the temptation to play "six day racers" round the concrete perimeter was too grate. It wouldn't have been too bad if everyone had circulated round the same direction, but when Geoff Hayman and Cedge approached one another at a fair rate of knots, both yelling "inside" there was the inevitable crash and Cedge took a header into the wetness. A moment later the duckweed covered countenance of Pearson re-surfaced and clambered onto dry land dragging behind him an even bigger mass of weed that on closer investigation was found to be his bike.

With true neighbourly thoughts for a fellow in distress the Southboro cameramen asked him to stand still in the biting wind while they covered this unique spectacle before putting his front wheel into shape and removing a few pounds of duckweed from victim and bike. As Geoff remarked "Your personal beauty is exceeded only by your entertainment value".

Minor pile-ups have also enlivened things. Clive Ashby contrived to bend his front forks on the way down to the ESCA hill-climb. Honky discovered things about the coefficient of friction when he sat in the middle of a very wet road near Rochester, and Richard Lear - late of the Cheshire D.A. C.T.C. - has joined that exclusive body (mainly members of the Tunbridge Wells R.C.) who have run out of road at the bottom of Argos Hill.

The aforementioned word of change came about when Bryan Leyland announced his resignation from official duties due to increasing studying. At short notice Lord D. took over captaincy and Crow became press sec. - since when Dave Patten has sent the editor of the Tonbridge Free Press a letter of sympathy and a copy of "Codebreaking for Beginners".

Our new captain also did an excellent job in organising our open tourist competition on October 15th. Nobody from ESCA entered, perhaps they were frightened off by the "Tour of East Sussex" earlier this year, a pity really as this was run on much easier lines and practically everyone finished well within the time limit. Most spectacular was the innovation of TWO emergency halts in close succession, the iron-nerved marshal at the latter reported in at great entertainment value including the competitor who made a rapid exit through a hedge.

Following the competition was tea at the clubroom while the results were being circulated, the final score being Bryan Leyland winning with a 6 point lead over Geoff Hayman. 108 to 102 out of a possible 140. From Geoff down to 14th place it was a bunch finish with competitors being separated by single points, the best outsiders by D. Lucas of the San Fairy Ann 6th (97), and the best lady Sandra Hodges of Medway R.C. 8th.

The evening's marathon slide show produced highlights of summer tours, racing, unexpurgated club life, and some frightful resurrections from the last social season, along with witty and unprintable

comments. Among those of the more breath-taking variety were a collection of and by Phil Hennessy during his mountaineering holiday in North Wales, however, his climbing prowess wasn't appreciated by the person who commented "He couldn't have climbed that, he must have been stuck there with Sellotape and photographed" !

The Committee are considering changing the Club's name to the Fecundity C.C., following the news released in last quarter's Uckfield notes that Geoff and Jenny Boxall were expecting an addition to the family in the New Year. Not to be outdone by this move, Spider and Joyce Dunford, Les and Diane Hayman, Don and Pat Brooks, and Pete and Babs Cook (2nd time round), have all hopped aboard the maternal band-waggon, so there will not be a spare gooseberry bush for miles next year. Beating them all by a good lead was the Hayward heavyweight prodigy which clocked into a late start on September 21st at 10 lbs.

As these notes seem to be following no particular chronological order, mention can be made of a few late holidays. Les and Diane Hayman have moved down to Chessington from Scotland and covered some of the way south via the Southern Lowlands and Pennines, "doing" Once Brewed and Dirt Pot Youth Hostels and Hadrians Wall en route.

Crow, following Arthur's advice, went on a lone hack round Eire in indifferent weather, but managed Shannon to London in "under the hour" by a Pan American DC-8. He now leads the President by 2 air-lines in the club's air-line BAR.

Geoff and Amary spent a week in October pottering round the Wiltshire area and finding CTC digs somewhat expensive after YHA ones.

The Club dance and social held on September 30th was an overwhelming success. Between 110 and 120 people turned up to dance, smooch, rush around at games and generally get back into the swing of things. In some ways it resembled a cycle show with most people showing off their new models, i.e., "acquisitions" for the social season. Ted brought along a scooterist-cum-campagnologist, while Crow had a colleen supposedly snuggled home from his Irish tour but hardly got a look in when the news reached the Marsh-Parks combine. The junior set seem to have had a great time after the

social by dashing around Tunbridge Wells in a taxi with some girls in the back seat.

Among the gathering were a large group from Uckfield & Central Sussex including those two well-known "talent scouts" Malcolm Verey and "Goat" Amey, who had their eyes on a very exclusive bit of property in pink, which they were unable to take a pass at. I believe the journey home was not without incident.

The dinner season knicked off with seven of us bombing up to the Wigmore C.C. do at Gillingham as a warm up to Tunbridge Wells dinner on the following night. The small and intimate atmosphere of "Phils" is always conducive to a really enjoyable evening and this year was no exception. We were able to give our "Ed" all praise for his wonderful ride in the National - well done, Dave, if our hopes could have pushed you then you would have won by miles.

Several of the club went to the BAR Concert and spent all available spare moments essaying cafe menus, finishing up with fish and chips at some unearthly hour.

Crow inflicted one of his speeches on the Redhill C.C. at their dinner and then visited the S.E. Trike Association do at Cranbrook, with Lou and Phil which brings us just about up to date, except to remind you that IT is on December 16th at the Railway Hall, Tonbridge, price 14s. 6d. And to wish all and sundry Yuletide Greetings and the best of the social season whatever that may be.

CROW.

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SOUTHBOROUGH RACING NEWS.

At last, we've reached that time of the year, which it is said, many look forward to. Gone are the summer mornings with the enthusiast groping around at 3.30 a.m. to fry his one helping of bacon rind, before nipping out to the Association 25. Instead, we have the winter mornings with the enthusiast groping around at 3.30 a.m. to try the restoring effects of black coffee, before falling into bed - so much better, don't you think ?!!! Ah well, back to the open road, and the end of August, Clive Ashby riding in the Aylesbury 25 for the first time, returned a 1.2.59 and a fortnight later, riding the Bec on E.3 (and having to ride the first four

miles with lights!!!), he returned a 1.1.48, with Clive and Roy backing him up at 3.11 and 4.8 respectively.

Meantime, Ron was striving to pull himself up, from 2nd position in the ESCALAND BAR. All he needed was a short 13 for his 50 time, to land it. Did he manage a ride over 1 m.p.h. slower than his best on September 3rd - No, it was one of those days, and he crossed the line with a 2.14.56. Never mind, the following week was the 25. All he would need to do? - 1.4.24. Warwick, who was timekeeping, finally saw Ron turn into the finishing straight with 4 seconds to cover the last 300 yards. What a disappointment (and you should have heard the language - Ed!) so near, and yet so far. Still with Crow, Brian and Roy backing up, the club made sure of the BAR team awards again.

Consolation 25 day for our club, turned out, a very wet and windy one. Clive took the scratch event with a 1.4.8., whilst twin Graham collected yet another to his long line of first handicap awards, when he improved yet again, to a 1.7.11. Newcomer (and for the moment, second claim) Allan Brindley, took things easy for him and pottered round in a 1.3.27.

Hill climb time brought Mick Armitage to the fore. He came fifth in the KCA on Boxley Hill with a 2.27 1/5, broke the club record on Carters Hill with a 1.29 2/5, and staggered up Yorks Hill in the National with a 2.22. But what happened in ESCALAND, when he recorded only a 2.49 3/5?

The BAR this year has gone to Ron with 22 188 m.p.h., against Crow with 21.997 m.p.h. Third came Bryan Leyland with 21.384 m.p.h. Mike Hammond has taken the Junior BAR with 23.021 m.p.h.

Next year the club is promoting a mass start on the Tunbridge Wells circuit - a new venture for us, keenly supported by our enthusiastic youngsters. More of this, and our next years prospects in the next edition when your scribe will be "Racing Regular". Due to other commitments, this will be the last edition penned by :-

TUG-O-THE-NORTH.

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## A SHORT VISIT TO NORTHERN FRANCE

by Stan Russell

I have read with great interest the adventures of various cyclists on overseas holidays, particularly Corsica. We had a wonderful fortnight camping there in 1939 and have always longed to make a return visit.

However, second choice can frequently be a good one. Living only a short distance from Lydd, and junior booked for a school hostelling trip in Scotland, we decided to have a quick look at Normandy. Adding my remaining few days holiday to a week-end, we set off early one September morning for Lydd Airport. We presented our tickets at the appointed time 45 minutes before flight, and settled down to coffee. Our names were called before we had time to drink it in comfort and within a few minutes we were occupying spare seats. Half an hour after booking in we landed at Le Touquet. Formalities were slight at both ends. A long straight macadam road leads from the Airport, which helps you to get used to being on the wrong side of the road.

Terrific heat, 90° most of the time, and strong N.E. winds, kept the miles down, so I will just give an account of things as we found them.

Being brought up on 1/2" Barts and 1" Ordnance we looked at our 2/6 Michelin paper backs with suspicion. After the first day we found them easy to follow and full of useful information. The province of Picardy was flat, sandy and easy going. It consists mainly of orchards and farmland. Our first stop was at Abbeville, where we enjoyed a first class evening meal and comfortable accommodation for the night. There is little to say about Abbeville as it was heavily bombed during the war and has been completely re-built.

Going westwards from Abbeville the country became hillier and more picturesque. Vast farmlands dotted with woods and the remains of former forests. Similar to the Chilterns on a vast scale. Our next night at Neufchatel will also be remembered for its comfort.

Rouen was badly damaged during the war, but is still well worth a visit. The most interesting parts are in the neighbourhood of the Cathedral, with its tall graceful spires. The old bell tower of Joan of Arc fame is still intact and the 500 year old clock still works.

Our ride from Rouen towards Le Havre was undoubtedly the best

A Short Visit to Northern France (continued).

of our short tour. It was Sunday and we joined in the charge towards the wide open spaces. At the end of the town the traffic thinned out and we took the North Bank of the Seine. After climbing for about 5 miles we had a grand swoop down and about 30 miles of easy going through the forest and river scenery.

Fecamp and its fishing harbour are also worth a visit. This town is the home of the Benedictine order. The monastery is a fine piece of architecture and houses a unique collection of locks and the world renowned Dem distillery. There are no free samples but you can purchase the permissible half bottle at one third of the U.K. price.

Everywhere building and clearing up is going on energetically, but we always fared well for our evening meal.

We have heard a lot about high post-war costs in France, but found things averaged out fairly well. Perhaps a few notes on orthodox touring costs would help. A double room for the night was usually 10/- plus 2/6 each for continental breakfast. Service charge 10%. Our usual practice was to make for a small town about the size of Battle or Heathfield for the night. About 8/- to 10/- needs to be put aside for the evening meal, which if chosen well goes a long way. Hostels are not as plentiful as at home, but lightweight camping should not be difficult in this vast countryside. We have heard of Foyers d'Etape, a sort of cheap hotel for cycle tourists, but never came across one.

Long alternative stretches can be covered peacefully on the yellow second class roads without constant map reading. As we were a little out of season we used the main roads more than usual, but apart from noise cannot complain about French motorists.

Lunch usually consisted of Camembert cheese, fruit (cheap and plentiful) and red wine. I am no connoisseur of wine. It did not take long, however, to discover the cheapest red wine from a grocer (vin ordinaire) at about 1/- half litre was refreshing and not heady.

If you cannot find £25 for fares for a Continental holiday try Northern France. The fare Lydd to Le Touquet is £6 return plus 5/- per cycle, weight immaterial and no unpacking required. On our return journey we loaded up with wine, cheeses and canteloup melons until the bikes refused to leave the ground, but no one raised an eyebrow.

For those who want an easy start there is a modest train service to Lydd via Appledore or you can cycle 12 miles from Rye.

The C.T.C. hold blank tickets for Silver City Airways, Michelin Maps 51, 52 and 54 also from stock. If you want to get up in advance "Lands Across the Sea" from any railway bookstall is a good buy. Hope you have the same enjoyment as we did.

LEWES WANDERERS C.C.

To all lovers of the funny side of life, greetings once more. In view of the amount of rain lately we nearly said "Ahoy". The rest of the season's racing news commences with Burbery's 224½ miles in the S.C.A. 12 - an improvement on his ESCA figure - followed up by his 2.14.2. in the Association 50. Agg was 8 mins. slower here while Colborn managed 2.23.30, and Burgess was DNF with what he described as a "very welcome puncture". Yes, that morning was anything but a flyer! Wind was again troublesome in the SCA 50 won by D. Hardman with 2.10.32., but Burbery really got his finger out in this one and tied with B. Vincent for second place, with 2.13.30., annexing the handicap award in the process. Riding in the Association 25 on the same day, Agg ambled round in 1.8.40., clearly not the man he was, while Colborn and Palmer did a 9 and 11 respectively. Once again the fast Bognor course paid off to the tune of a couple of personal bests, "Dick" Barton jubilantly pipping Burbery by just 4 seconds with 1.2.48. Burgess and May both did 7's. The final SCA 25 saw Barton and Burbery tying with 1.4.4., while Burgess did another 7 and Colborn and Palmer a couple of 8's, the "Copper" duly attacked the Lewes-Godstone and back, approx. 58 miles, and finally emerged through the wind and rain in 3.8.3., a good consistent ride in the conditions.

Burbery had two nibbles at the Brighton-Chichester and back cherry for which Arthur Linington holds the record in 2.48.30. The weather on the first trip was atrocious with a gale force wind and rain, in addition to which Pete was narrowly missed by a tree which had decided to part company with Mother Earth near Arundel. Even so, he was only 3.47 down at the finish! The second attempt took place on another very windy day, and with three sets of traffic lights further putting him "in the red" he was disappointed with a greater loss of time, in 2.54.20. Still, he's club BAR winner this year over the usual four distances, while we are pleased to see one of the younger riders, Dave Barton, taking the 25 handicap cup. It should have been stated last time that the 10 figures given referred to handicap times, not actual, while "Copper" Burgess maintains



Lewes Wanderers C.C. (continued).

that he did finish in the SCA 100 - but is curiously reticent about his time !!

We hear that a certain gentleman is driving unaccompanied and minus "L" plates while holding a provisional licence. As this sort of thing is sometimes reviewed with a certain degree of disfavour by the Constabulary we can only conclude that he's either dead lucky, or that some palms have been "well-greased" in the right places ! Which leads us to that telling crack at the time of a certain notorious case involving the police. A northerner on holiday said: "Well you've certainly got some wonderful coppers down here", to which came the reply: "Of course we have - they're the best that money can buy".

"Chancellor" Eldridge, indignant at being described as parsimonious, says he's "just careful" (spelt t-i-g-h-t ?). Well that's as maybe, but recently he was paying out money (with the usual pained expression on his chops) when a penny was seen on the floor. This was retrieved by Burbery and it seemed there would be a protracted argument as to ownership when Reg. said: "The one I gave you was dated 1913". Sure enough this was correct ! Talk about watching the pence, &c !

At the opposite end of the scale we have opulent spendthrift Peter Sharp who journeyed to London to join the sit-down strikers - and was fined £1 for his trouble. He could have hired a deckchair in far pleasanter surroundings and for much longer for that amount, and also retained a dry rear into the bargain !

"Tourist" Agg is reported to be house hunting so it would seem as if his matrimonial future has gone from serious to grave ! Already it's been suggested that we provide an archway of ruined blocks, stripped chainwheels and shattered "tubs" on the great day!! At a club meeting he revealed that he'd been to a meeting of the Lewes Road Safety Committee. Much mirth followed one wag's observation that his presence at such a function was about as acceptable as finding a hand grenade on a church plate !!

"Tinlegs" Grover may possibly be seen on a bike again shortly. While carting up the M1 his TR3 suddenly developed an unhealthy affection for the rear of a lorry travelling in front, with the result that the TR3 is a "write-off" and Grover a sadder and wiser ex-motocyclist!! He recently took home a dragon for the week-end - then left her with Mum while he went boozing with the boys. When Mum bawled him out over this he said: "Well, I don't suppose she

Lewes Wanderers C.C. (continued).

wanted to go on a drinking spree anyway !". Dr. Kinsey evidently missed some original material here !

Russell, seemingly determined to keep his private life out of "Bonk", has been out of orbit for some time now. We hear that he was seen in London a while back and among other things was asked: "What do you think of the short courses scandal ?" This former arch-gannet replied: "Serves 'em right. I've got no time for cafes where they don't give value for money!!"

Of vital interest to certain people, in Haywards Heath and Horam, for example, is that Maggie is now back in Newhaven, not Hove. Offers of baby-sitters will be filed in strict order of acceptance and no queue jumping will be allowed !

Willcocks apologises to all those who waited expectantly on Wellingford Heights to see him trounce Robinson and Patten - and then found he was DNS. He intends to start strict training shortly for the 1962 hill-climb and hopes eventually to become fit enough to be next year's shover-off !

With that heartening piece of "Grapevine" we'll say all the best to all ESCAbods for Xmas and the New Year, not forgetting the sobering thought that its only a matter of some dozen or so weeks to the Hardriders 12. In the words of the song, then, "Enjoy yourself - it's later than you think !"

ALSORAN.

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SOUTHBOROUGH & DISTRICT WHEELERS are holding another DANCE AND SOCIAL at the RAILWAY HALL, Preston Road, Tonbridge, on the 24th FEBRUARY, 1962. Entry Fee is 3s. 6d. each to the Event Sec.: Social Sec. Mr. E. Boorman, 72 Lodge Oak Lane, Tonbridge, Kent, or pay at the door.

A buffet will be open from 8.30 p.m. and a licensed bar with extension to 11.30 p.m. The doors open at 7.00 but you are welcome at any time. Loads of prizes and a lucky ticket prize. You are guaranteed a good evening.

## TUNBRIDGE WELLS ROAD CLUB.

With the social season now in full swing all that is left of the '61' racing season is a pile of result sheets and a number of unanswerable questions such as "If only I tried harder", or "If I had a bigger gear", what would the result have been. Coming to actual results, the last few events of the season were the best for the Road Club. In the Mephisto CC 25 in late August Dave Patten did a 1.1.22., just keeping in front of Graham, who returned a personal best with a 1.1.25. A week later Dave won the ESCA 50 in 2.9.47, with Graham 2nd in 2.10.51. In the same event Dave Nightingale recorded a 2.18.18. for his first attempt at this distance, an excellent ride. Sheila, riding her first ESCA event for 2 years, did a 2.38.46, and beat Gordon who retired (or was it got tired) at about 50. In the ESCA 25 a week later Dave was 2nd with a 1.2.39., Graham 1.5.3., Gordon 1.6.7., Dave Nightingale 1.8.24, Sheila 1.14.36 and latest member of the Road Club Mick Ongley 1.15.55.

A pile-up in the British Cycling Fed. Junior Road Race reduced the small field to only 5 after one lap. In this event the result was decided in the final sprint where Gordon came from the back to win. A week later Dave and Graham rode the Hounslow & District 25, where Dave returned a time of 1.2.7. and Graham 1.4.9. after losing about 1 min. 30 sec. due to meeting a herd of cows about 1 mile from the finish and having to dismount and negotiate cows, and what gardeners call "a right nice drop of stuff for the garden".

Next came the first of the anti-gravity events namely the ESCA Hill-Climb, where Dave came 2nd with a 1.40-8 sec. climb and Graham 5th with 1.56-6. Gordon doing a 2.15-4. Another 2nd a week later for Dave in the Prestonville H/C with 4.20-2, Graham 17th with 5.7-6. Dave found top form in the Bec H/C which he won easily by 3 secs. in 2.3-0. Graham occupying 30th place with 2.33-0. Yorks Hill, the National Hill Climb, by now the result is well known, and that Dave with a 2.3-2 rode himself into a well deserved 3rd place, and a place on the stage at the Albert Hall, after being so close for several years. He is now treated like Royalty in the local shops etc. after the showing of the National on ITV London. Graham filled 77th place with a 2.31-0 after entering just for fun, ha ha. I have heard from Sheila that Dave will be making another attempt upon the Hill Climb title next year and get revenge upon a couple of Northerners.

The Club Dinner followed almost immediately and although not so many people attended as have in other years, a good atmosphere was obtained and everybody had a good time. This was helped by the

## Tunbridge Wells Road Club (continued).

excellent speeches delivered by Roy Humphrey and Fred Marshall, and the presence of members from the Southborough & District Wheelers, East Grinstead, Central Sussex, Eastbourne and Uckfield clubs. After the Club Dinner Ian "Gentleman" Jenner spent the night at his fiancée's: he forgot his pyjamas !!

On Saturday, the 18th November, a party from the Club went to the Albert Hall to see those sober, clean living cyclists, the Champions.

Rumour has it that Dave Nightingale has an "interest" in Hadlow and Pembury, so much so that they warrant a visit before an evening potter out to the pub. Gordon has been having trouble with a young lady at a local dance who was fighting to stay in her corsets, presumably he was fighting to get her out of them. Obviously he has something on his mind as he was heard to say: "I keep having nightmares about being a dad !!" By the next edition the information might be more prominent, so until then.

Angelically yours,

ANGEL.

### 1961 Annual Luncheon and Prize Presentation.

Sunday, the 26th November, proved to be a fine although foggy day, but very pleasant indeed for a nice ride down to Eastbourne for the Annual Luncheon.

How pleasant and relaxing it is to stand and natter over a pint of beer. Far different than in the racing season when one arrives at the event and then studies the opposition to see how fit they are.

At 1 p.m. we were called into the dining room and had an excellent meal which was greatly enlivened by the humorous cross-toasting. It ceases to amaze me how people such as Roy have time to eat their dinner !

The speeches were opened by our chief guest, Mr. Reg. Porter. He gave an interesting speech and remarked on how friendly our Association was. I wish the friendly atmosphere we have could be extended to more Associations, where it seems you have to be "in", or are just ignored. This was followed by a resume of past

Annual Luncheon (continued).

activities by Ted Boorman, Geoff Willcocks in proposing the Ladies, Visitors and Press was in his usual humorous and witty manner. Sheila Patten replying on behalf of the ladies gave an excellent resume of past, present future. "Spider" Dunford rounded off the speeches by giving a brief outlook on the Association from the Visitors angle.

The presentation of the awards and trophies was ably made by Mrs. Patten. The chief award winners being: Ladies B.A.R. - Iris Stevens. Gents B.A.R. - Ken Atkins. A surprise award, in the form of a framed photo, was presented to Dave Patten in recognition of his third place in the National Hill Climb.

The Luncheon was concluded at approximately 3 p.m. and we all left to wend out various ways home in the falling dusk. An excellent function to conclude the year's activities.

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Catford Hill-Climb - 29th October, 1961.  
(an impression by competitor No. 101).

This year being the 75th anniversary of the Catford Cycling Club, their annual hill climb was incorporating the National Championship. Bearing this in mind, an early start was made from Tunbridge Wells, to ensure no delay in getting to the start - but the Catford organisation had everything under control with A.A. road signs and police co-operation to keep the large crowds expected (and present) moving smoothly. Having "set up camp", I got my bike stripped and ready for the climb; having punctured two grass track tubulars in previous climbs I was riding light tyres, but was confident of rear wheel adhesion as I had produced a personal best up Titsey Lane the week before using the same tyres and in very wet conditions. There was now time for a cup of tea and a look at some of the early competitors climbing the final 1 in 4 stretch, before moving down the hill to the first 1 in 4 climb where I had been told that riders were having trouble with wheel spin. I stayed here for the next hour which allowed me time to study the best line to take, and also, with Sheila acting as "runner" I was kept informed of the times to date.

Eventually, the time came to move on down to the start, where I arrived with approximately 10 mins. to the "OFF". I had my number fitted and made one or two minor checks - a little air out of my rear tyre; no grit in either tyre; and clean grooves in my shoe plates - until finally my number is called and I am under starter's orders. I mount quickly which gives me time to adjust my toe straps and get comfortable astride my bike; a warning from the starter's judge about beating the count down, deep breaths, try and relax as much as possible until 5-4-3-2-1-00. It's now or never; riding a 56" gear, the initial lunge lifts the front wheel slightly, but with no slip from the rear; I'm away and soon on peak revs. Up the hump by the farm entrance into the trees and fast approaching the first 1 in 4 climb. I sit as long as possible until the revs begin to drop, then out of the saddle and with my breathing easier after the initial effort, I'm on the part that appears to be giving trouble; so far so good, keeping in the centre of the road I have had no slip yet, then almost to the bend, slight spin, not enough to slow my speed, but a break of concentration and rhythm. More effort required round the corner to hit the 200 yds. to go flat out. I feel I'm not moving as fast as I should be at this point, and so with the deafening chant of "up-up-up" in my ears, it's strain every muscle up the final stretch in an endeavour to cross the finishing line at

Catford Hill-Climb (continued).

top speed. As I finish, a solid wall of people confront me, which opens up at the last minute and allows me through to ride along to Ide Hill and back; I always if possible try and ride through the finish which allows me to "run down" without ill effects. I arrive back at the top of the hill, and Sheila greets me with "fastest by 1/5 second, 2-3.4". I'm disappointed, as never before have I wanted so much to do well in a hill climb; but nevertheless, as everyone knows, my effort managed to give me third fastest time, well beaten by two brilliant performances by Pete Graham and Russell Foster. Will there be a renewal of the battle in 1962? No comment !!!

D.P.

A.G.M. JOTTINGS.

President for 1962: H. Achard (Uckfield & District C.C.).  
Officials: As you were - no major changes.  
Club Affiliation Fee 1962: £1. 1. 0.  
Social Programme 1962: Party - Luncheon - Two Draws.  
Clubmans Touring Competition: 11th February, 1962 (followed by Party).  
Amendments to Rules: Rule 8. After the word "presented", delete remainder of sentence and add: "At this and other General Meetings only three delegates from each affiliated Club shall have the power to vote, subject to the Chairman's casting vote".  
Rule 14. After the words: "Special General Meeting", add "if supported by a two thirds majority of those delegates present and voting".  
New Rule. "That the Road Time Trials Programme, Entry Fees and Closing Date for Entries be fixed by the Management Committee".  
50 Miles Course (G.54). The possibilities are to be explored of alterations being made to enable the start and finish to be made at Hellingly.  
Road Time Trials Programme, 1962.

Table with 4 columns: Date, W/E, Gents, Ladies. Rows include Feb 25 (12 miles Hardriders), Mar 11 (25 miles), Apr 8 (35 3/4 Miles Team T.T.), Apr 29 (50 Miles).

Time Trials Programme (continued).

Table with 4 columns: Date, W/E, Gents, Ladies. Rows include Jun 17 (24, 25 Miles), Jul 15 (28, 100 Miles), Aug 12 (32, 12 Hours), Sep 2 (35, 50 Miles), Sep 9 (36, 25 Miles), Oct 7 (40, Hill Climb).

Track Championships, 1962. 400 yds/1,000 yds./5 Miles open to tender and subject to a minimum of 5 entries.

B.A.R. Qualifying Distances: Gents: 25, 50, 100, 12 Hr. Ladies: 10, 25, 50.

Entry Fees: Up to 50 miles (inclusive) 3s. 6d. 100 Miles 6s. 0d. 12 Hours 10s. 0d.

Awards: Gents 1/2/3 SCR. 1/2 HCP. 1st Team. Ladies: 1st (4 and under). 1st/1st Hcp. (5 and over).

Fastest Veteran on age standard - June "25". Feeding bottles: Due to wear and tear of existing stock, Mr. K.L. Atkins undertook to donate 1 dozen. feeding bottles to the Association for use in distance events.

Individual Event Records as at January 1st, 1962.

Table with 4 columns: Event Name, Name, Club, Time. Rows include 12 Miles Hardriders (D.A. Patten, Tunbridge Wells R.C., 31.45, 1959), 25 Miles 72" Gear (D.A. Patten, Tunbridge Wells R.C., 1. 3.48, 1957), 25 Miles (D. Marsh, Eastbourne Rovers, 58.49, 1955), 50 Miles (D. Marsh, Eastbourne Rovers, 2. 1. 4., 1955).

Individual Event Records (continued).

100 Miles.

D. Marsh Eastbourne Rovers 4.19.31. 1956.

12 Hours.

D. Stokes Eastbourne Rovers 244.69 miles 1954.

Hill Climb, Wellingford Lane.

D.A. Patten Tunbridge Wells R.C. 1 min. 32.8 secs. 1956.

Team Records as at January 1st, 1962.

12 Miles Hardriders Eastbourne Rovers 1.42.37. 1959.

25 Miles, 72" Gear. Eastbourne Rovers 3.20.33. 1956.

25 Miles. Uckfield & District C.C. 3. 1.53. 1957.

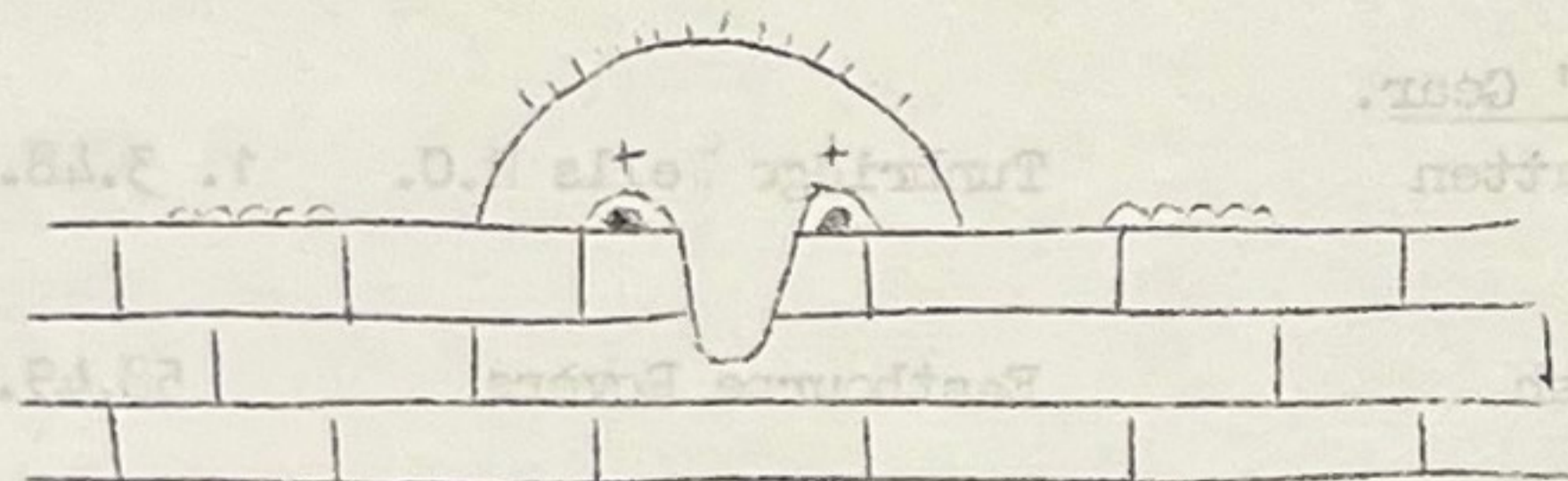
50 Miles. Uckfield & District C.C. 6.24.19. 1955.

100 Miles Eastbourne Rovers 13.31. 3. 1956.

12 Hours East Grinstead C.C. 706.465 miles 1958.

Hill Climb, Wellingford Lane.

East Grinstead C.C. 5 mins. 8 secs. 1959.



What, no East Grinstead, Uckfield and Eastbourne reports ?

HERE AND THERE

+++++

The Lewes boys take a dim view of the bloke who, on being told the location of their Dinner venue, replied : "Blimey, you're taking a chance - it's nearly on top of the Police H.Q."

-oooo0oooo-

Reading of the large number of "Happy Events" in the South-borough, prompts the query as to whether in their Club that age-old symbol of maternity, the stork, is now supplanted by the Crow !!

-oooo0oooo-

Central Sussex Dinner waist competition was a victory for REG TEW (42) over Johnny Dutson (38). It transpired afterwards that they only entered as they thought victory would entitle them to judge a similar ladies competition. Hard luck lads.

-oooo0oooo-

During a discussion on awards and where to put them (in the house, we mean), Burberry let slip the classic: "I know what a job it is - I searched Brighton for a sideboard and couldn't find one big enough to hold all mine".

-oooo0oooo-

Graham Lade, who is taking driving lessons, has chosen the only driving school with lady tutors, and has already had three lessons in eight days !!

-oooo0oooo-

HERE AND THERE (continued)

At the Uckfield Annual General Meeting, Cedric (who is unemployed) was made Treasurer, and then he managed to alter the rules to one signature on the cheques !!!

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Chancellor Eldridge's antics, reported elsewhere, remind Willcocks of the joke about the Scotsman who won £75,000 on the pools. His wife said: "I'm terribly worried about all the begging letters, Jock". He replied: "Dinna worry yourself, lass - just keep sending them oot !!!"

-000000000-

The note as under was seen on a Central Sussex C.C. Menu at their Dinner on 2nd December, 1961:

When "OPERA'S" drunk he shuts up,  
When "GANGER'S" drunk he opens up,  
But when "CEDRIC'S" drunk he tickles  
Veronica.

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-000000000-

The Editor and his Secretary would like to take this opportunity of wishing all ESCA lads and lasses a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

-000000000-

-24-

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