

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION



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EDITORIAL

As mid-summer's day approaches, once again the E.S.C.A. magazine comes off the production lines with news and views of the past months' happenings.

Racing, as usual, takes the limelight at this time of year, and whilst Association members have been performing regularly, times have not been as fast as hoped for, due in no uncertain manner to the arctic weather conditions that have prevailed since last Christmas. Nevertheless, we all, I am sure, hope for better weather ahead, and may even get a fine day for the E.S.C.A. 100 if the law of averages is anything to go by !!

With regard to comments in club reports concerning Association riders not competing in open time trials promoted by Association clubs; if I may make a suggestion which may assist this situation, how about a get together of promoters to avoid clashing of events. I realise that it is very difficult to find dates that don't clash at all, especially with clubs in two R.T.T.C. Districts, but if clubs are relying on full support from the Association to boost their entries, then the answer is to keep clear of Association and fellow promoters' events. I am sure this will ease the problem for a rider might decide not to enter for either event for reasons of offending the other.

To end on a light-hearted note, rumours of a Johnny Dutson comeback are guaranteed to be true, even if for one event only, for yours truly in a rash moment issued a personal challenge to John to be settled in the final E.S.C.A. 25 - what chances a new course record !!

D.P.

NOTE: Closing date for items for Autumn Edition - 22nd August, 1962.

"GEN" from the Secretary.

Early in March we admitted to membership the Fortune C.C. of Brighton. We extend to them a very warm welcome and trust that we shall soon have the pleasure of meeting them up the road.

The racing season has got off to a good start with entries slightly up on last year, especially in the Ladies events. Times have been a little slower than has been the case in past years, but this has been due in no small measure to the weather, which has been very unkind to us. Bob French, Hastings & St. Leonards C. & A.C., was a worthy winner of the Hardriders, and the March 25, in each event he led his club to a team victory. In the Team Time Trial excellent riding by the Tunbridge Wells R.C., led by D. Patten, proved the winners from Southborough "B" on a very hard morning. In the 50 miles in April, Ted Boorman of the Southborough Wheelers surprised everybody by returning the fastest time, Eastbourne Rovers with three riders in the first five easily won the team awards. Valerie Baxendine won the March Ladies 10 and Iris Stevens got the decision by 14 seconds from Sheila Patten in the April 10.

April 8th 1962 will go down in the history of the Association as the day when we had the spectacle of three trikes starting and finishing in the Team Time Trial. Their time of 1 hr. 47 mins. 57 secs. was an outstanding ride. Two teams of solos failed to better their time. The sight of "Crow" leading the team in, in true Pursuit formation will be long remembered by those fortunate enough to be at the finish. A reminder that Rye Sports Day will once again be held on August Monday with a full programme of events to suit everyone's taste, including E.S.C.A. Championships. Everyone in the Association should make an effort to support this long established meeting.

As is usual at this time of the year, I appeal to all club members to let their racing secretaries know if they will be available to assist with marshalling or feeding for the longer distance events - prior information makes everyone's job much easier in allocating jobs.

R.H.

BRIGHTON MITRE C.C.

I won't commence by commenting on the weather, as I'm sure my remarks wouldn't get past Arthur (Blue Pencil) Linington, but the continuing cold and wet make the best excuse for slow times that my club mates have had for years. Still, I believe that certain indoor sports haven't been neglected when the rain has prevented these valuable training miles from being assimilated.

However, Mitre riders have ridden in various events with mixed successes, and we seem to have a fair balance of up and coming youngsters to bolster up the old, and I use the word in its kindest sense, stagers.

The first event attended in force was that fiendishly contrived piece of mental and physical agony carelessly referred to as the ESCA Hardriders "12". Seven riders from the club entered, five keen lads and two, Jim Payne and Bill Sladen, who at their age should have known better.

Dick Baldey recorded fastest time 39-16 and Bill Sladen's prayers were answered when his seat-pin snapped off after 9 miles.

March 11th saw the club out in reasonable numbers to ride in the ESCA 25, with Cliff Lichfield fastest in 1-8-23. Fred Stenning started his umpteenth racing season with 1-39-13.

The Tom Boniface 25 attracted an entry of 14 with Cliff again proving his increasing powers to win in 1-8-42. Miss J. Paton clocked 32-27 for a "10" on the same morning.

Gale force winds and pouring rain were a feature of the ESCA team time-trial on April 8th, and we managed to rake up two teams, both of which finished. "B" team members in this event were congratulating themselves that their third man, Jim Payne, was going to be a non-starter, when up the road came Jim attired in racing kit, having left his car $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the start with a puncture. Good old Jim! The Lichfield lad was fastest again in the G. Hill "25", run in with the SCA Individual Championship, clocking 1-9-7, and at the time of writing managed to get into the last 8 in the B.C.F. (Sussex Div.) Individual Pursuit Championship.

Brighton Mitre C.C. (continued).

Roy Humphrey had to do some quick vehicle changing in the "BRICKWOODS" sponsored Mitre promoted road race over the Cowbeech circuit on May 13th. On the first lap the motor-bike on which Roy was pillion perched spluttered to a stop and he was then jack-knifed into Derek Harber's van. The judges had no trouble in picking out the winner as Bill Lievesley finished on his own $\frac{1}{2}$ minute up on the second man. As usual the club turned out in good numbers to support the event, well organised by ever present Charles Turner.

Chris Colyer is making good progress after his severe accident at Xmas when he was involved quite innocently in a two car crash whilst riding home.

Well having no scandal to impart I will conclude this feeble account of the doings of the Mitre and go out for a training ride.....
.....oh dear, it's raining again, back to the indoor sports I suppose,

says D.N.F.

EAST GRINSTEAD C.C.

The easiest way to write an article of this kind seems to be to start more or less where the last one left off, and so doing that we start with the first ESCA 25 and 10 of the season. In the Ladies 10 the first place result was no surprise to anyone, but to me, at least, the second place was. In case anyone is interested in how I finished muddier than anyone else it was not because I fell off in a ditch! Too many late nights, or perhaps the fact that Mickey Robinson is nearly a veteran, must have accounted for the fact that he was fourth, and not in his more usual position on the result sheet.

One of the few notable events on club runs during the winter (which hadn't really finished yet) was when we called in a cafe and decided it would be nice to have some music from the Juke Box. Chris Daniels put his money in when he had chosen his records and waited a few moments and nothing happened. The man behind the counter took the back off, gave it a few gentle bashes with his fist and shook his head. He didn't know what was the matter. His wife had a suggestion to make - did Chris press the selector buttons? No!!

Bitter cold and thick frost was the order of the day in the first Club 10, and the only one who wasn't cold was Ben, more "gen" than usual in this thick-knit sweaters, jeans and balaclava hat. Once again the villain-of-the-piece was Chris, for on the following

East Grinstead C.C. (continued).

club night we discovered that he had told his father that he finished the course --- so he did, but in Richard Wood's van! (By the way has Richard got a bike now?). Having had German Measles, one member at least had a good excuse not to ride.

To the member who before riding the Clarence Wheelers 25 told me I looked like a beatnik (in Mick's donkey jacket) and said "get your hair cut young man", and then went off course, punctured and did a 1-10, I should like to say serves you right!

Running through a list of events in the club life we then come to the day of the Bec CC 25 and for the first time in months that Mr. Robinson gets a chance of being let off his lead to go to an event by himself - he stays in bed. His excuse was that it was raining and he didn't want to puncture, as did Dick, unfortunately, in the ESCA Team Time Trial just when he Phil and Chris were going well.

Once again Crawley CC's film show, to which various neighbouring clubs were invited was a disappointment. After the first attempt, when the Cycling films were not available, this time the projector had some fault, and when Terry Sales had messed around "mending" it, it was ten times worse! The show was postponed to the following week, when apparently it went off well. Of course this time we didn't go! (They discovered later that it was only a slight fault with the switch last time).

We then held our first club 25 of the season, in which thirteen members took part. The weather of course was cold and windy - that goes without saying. I needn't say who won the event - that goes without saying too. Dick was certainly having a run of bad luck, having another puncture, making three Sundays in a row. That ride must have made Mick reckless - in the afternoon he let me drive his van, and we both nearly landed in a pond in Cowden! (Why they lay a road alongside a pond on a double bend I just don't know).

On Good Friday at Alexandra Park Track Meeting, Portsmouth, Mick punctured a brand new tub before the events even started - so Fred, you can't say it's because he has ropey old tubs. Terry Sales was pleased by the way he "roared Buchan (Norwood Paragon) up". Terry was doing his not-very-tiny nut, and Buchan was touring. When the heat finished, Terry realised he had kept his heavy jumper on over his racing jersey and number! Now I know what it must feel like to ride a motor-cycle on the wall of death, after riding on the banking. What can it feel like when the banking is really steep?

East Grinstead C.C. (continued).

You can't take Terry and Dick anywhere - no "Bird" is safe. Good job they had Uncle Mick to keep an eye on them. (Come to think of it, he's probably worse than the rest of them put together!).

After the Fountain CC 25 the following Sunday "Gen" Ben grabbed hold of Mick's CO₂ pump and wanted to know how it worked. Everyone said he careful, don't touch it, so, he took it off the bike, and then noticed a slight hissing. With a horror-stricken face (more so than usual) he panicked "How do you turn it off?" He was expecting Mick to rush round and thump him. Trust Ben!

Not a very good morning for the second ESCA Ladies 10. With only one rider from our club, who could only manage a third place out of five riders, the less said about that the better. However, the afternoon provided an opportunity for me to laugh and shout rude comments when Mick, Dick and Chris rode in the Apollo CC 60 mile mass-start on the Lingfield Circuit. With four times up Sandhaves Hill, Mick and Dick did well to finish 10th and 17th respectively, and Chris had the misfortune to puncture and retired. Fred Marshall and Phil rode in the Southern Counties 50, their times being a 2-14 and 2-18. I wonder what sort of training Fred has been doing on Wednesday afternoons to make him go like that, and Phil on the nights he doesn't come up to the Club until late. Still, if its by leading the "wild life", more than one member ought to be doing 53's for 25's. (If the cap fits

Phil and Dick have started riding Phil's tandem. I can't imagine which would be worse, Dick on the front, or Dick on the back. What a way to stop Dick and Terry half-wheeling each other on club runs, thought, to put them on a tandem.

Graham Greene did well to finish in the main bunch in the Schoolboys road race at Crawley, in which there were several accidents due to wet, slippery roads. This was first event of this sort, and this and the rain probably accounted for the fact that he, Ben and one or two others didn't turn up to ride in the next Club 10 the following day. They didn't miss much, because the turn marshal overslept and not knowing the course very well, the riders carried on until they came to Gatwick runway. Good job it was a dead-end road, or who knows where we might have ended up - in a hanger, perhaps, or pacing a Boeing 707. (I don't know if they have them at Gatwick, but it's the only plane I know).

In the St. Christophers C.C. 25 Dick did his fastest time so far this year, a 1-4, and the other members riding improved on their 1962

East Grinstead C.C. (continued).

times also. (It was more like a club event anyway, with the number of riders from our Club). The next week we had a third in the Southern Counties Ladies 10. Dick and Phil did a 1-6 and 1-8 respectively in the Southern Wheelers 25, Fred did a 2-12 in the Addiscombe 50, and we also held our Annual Road Race on the Ashdown Circuit.

Owing to excessive entries (said to be over 120), the only to save returning too many entries was to run two separate events. This meant a lot of extra work for the organiser, Richard Wood, including meetings Police formalities, &c., and although as it happened in the first event not quite all the entrants turned up, and our boys who wanted to ride but dropped out to let other clubs compete could have taken part, it was appreciated that they didn't, thereby causing more work and upset. After miserable weather on the hills had sorted the riders out, R. Savery, Islington, was the winner of the main race. Although naturally the marshals would have liked to see the finishes they stuck to their posts (one signpost at least looked like a Christmas tree with Graham and Ben's bonk bags slung over them), Ray Lunn's Red Cross father came out to pick up any dead bodies (there weren't any), his transport being Alan Baxendine's car. There are too many people involved to mention them all, but it was generally agreed that Richard made a good job of it, with his helpers. By the way, what was Terry's bike doing outside "The Swan", Forest Row, from 8-30 in the morning to 4-30 in the afternoon? Marshalling must be thirsty work!

I have been requested to change my name to something more appropriate, and as "Nell Gwynne" died in her first 25 anyway, this rubbish is now written by

"Snoozy" Wong.

SATURDAY NIGHT AND SUNDAY MORNING O R SOME LIKE IT HOT.

Being an epic in one act, a stirring tale of the Far North -
(Words and music by E. Boorman and A.J. Brindley).

Let us us away, dear reader, to the wild woodlands to the South of Sevenoaks. In a secluded woodland glade we find our two heroes disporting themselves in a 14'0" x 14'0" tent. It is a dirty night and our gallant pair struggle to snatch a moment's sleep, aided by the gentle sound of driving rain and a near gale-force wind. Sleep becoming impossible, they decide that their moving saga should be put on paper and told to the world. Therefore imagine, if you can, the pitiful scene: it is 3.15 a.m. and our two friends, shivering in the intense cold, record their tale, illuminated by the light of a dodgy rear light property of one P. Wells, a respected member of the S.F.A.C.C. and second claim member to the Club; dark hair, attractive features, age 19 (?) ... but I digress.

Let us start at the beginning. A brand new second-hand tent recently acquired by the Club had to be tested for windability, waterability and inhabitability (Ted's words). Only two men were equal to this gruelling task, one Edward Boorman (an intrepid adventurer and playboy, of Cuckmere fame), and his squire, one Alan Brindley (ruffian of ill-repute, frequenter of common ale-houses, user of braces, peanuts and tricycles). The afternoon of Saturday 14th May (a fateful day) saw the aforementioned bidding their friends a last farewell as they (the friends) left the summit and returned to base.

The preparation of the evening meal was an epic in its own right, and those with weak stomachs and of a nervous disposition should read no further. Briefly, the frugal meal consisted of sausages, bacon, eggs, leaves, twigs, lumps of solder and sundry other rubbish, all impeccably prepared by that master of the culinary arts, E. Boorman, Esq. (Fanfare off stage). Coffee was made and taken in the Brindley manner and had unusual, though not apparently injurious properties. The repast over the more important tasks that lay ahead of our happy couple were discussed at some length. Thus 8-30 p.m. saw the gathering dusk fall on the unusual sight of two idiots crouching in a tent in the woods attempting to butter ten sliced loaves in almost complete darkness. Fortunately, we have

Saturday Night & Sunday Morning (continued).

before us two people of more than average intelligence, and such a trivial problem was quickly surmounted, using the principle that near-liquid butter can easily be painted onto bread and allowed to solidify. It was during this delicate operation that a fair damsel answering to the name of Sue Fry (a spinster resident in Five Oak Green) came upon the scene. She attempted to corrupt us with tales of electric blankets, but was unsuccessful. Alan saw her off the estate, while Ted made certain that the car was settled for the night. Alan reported that nothing untoward occurred at the departure and Ted saw nothing, even when the headlights of the car caught them..... Now came the task of sleep; Ted came well prepared with three blankets (sheer luxury) and a pair of tropical pyjamas. Alan, however, caring naught for personal comfort, had nothing save six sweaters and an anorac (?) plus a sleeping bag (designed to contain a certain 14'0" x 14'0" tent). Thus in varying degrees of discomfort the pair settled down to await the dawn. Incidents worth recording during the next three hours were as follows :-

- 12.00 Alan removes trousers to pull socks up over frozen knees.
- 12.10 Alan removes anorac (?) because it is too warm.
- 12.13 Alan replaces anorac because it is too cold.
- 12.20 Ted remakes bed to cover feet.

A period of International Luxembourg.

- 1.30 Alan "Oates" Brindley stumbles outside to brave the elements and improve their chances of survival.
- 1.45 Sleeping hours over, Ted awakes to greet the new day. Alan reports no sleep; Ted reports 1 complete hour.
- 2.00 Alan prepared "elevenses" by toasting bread over gas ring, and Ted enjoys coffee in bed.
- 2.15 Due to heavy rain, it is found necessary to dig holes in which to lower the tent poles to loosen guy ropes. Alan digs, Ted supervises from bed.

On the whole it was a good night, weather being: wind light to gale force, rain light to driving. Considering all aspects of this little escapade, ignoring the numerous trivial unfortunate incidents, by and large all things being equal, allowing for unusual weather conditions, our two adventurers were unanimous

on one point "IT WAS A GREAT WEEK-END".

(Editor's note: This account was smudged by spots of rain, which I sincerely hope does not mean the club's new tent leaks already).

EASTBOURNE ROVERS C. & A.C.

"Help" time is closing in again and I'm getting hints from the Editor's secretary. So it's with much finger nail chewing and creaking ball point I endeavour to write this report from the deep South.

As you can see, our boys are really taking this 'ere racing game serious, with several place and team awards to their credit already this season.

I will begin the racing news with our Club 10 on March 1st. Bitterly cold and snow everywhere, there were many non-starters, including yours truly. We also run a novices 10 on this morning for the new members and anyone who resides within 12 miles of Eastbourne who have never raced before. As I gingerly picked my way through the snow and slush I didn't expect to see anyone out on the Pevensey Marsh, but lo and behold all 8 novices entered were there and roring to go. It must have been the sprints put up for first place by Horace Heath. The racing Mens event was not so well supported, with Chris and Tony being among those who stopped in bed, only two started, a junior member Keith Llanigan and that "nut" Ken Stevens who won it with a "26".

The following week Chris Snelling with 2nd in the ESCA 25 and the clubrun got as far as 3 Lansdowne Crescent where 8 or 9 bods ate their sandwiches in the Stevens residence, washed down with cups of tea. It has been rumoured that the residents of Lansdowne Crescent have applied to the Hailsham R.D.C. for a reduction in rates owing to the inconvenience of having to clambour over the many bikes stacked against No. 3 front wall.

The next week-end the boys went down to Shoreham for the SCA 25, we did quite well Tony doing a "5". Chris and Ken doing 6's, and we had the team by less than a minute to Worthing. The night before at the digs Tony could not understand why he hadn't any sheets on the bed or pillows until he was enlightened by Ken that he was supposed to sleep with him, not on the bed used for storing the spare bedspreads. Tony said he preferred to sleep where he was.

The 1st Club 25 was run on a morning white with frost. Ken Stevens stormed round to beat Chris and Tony by 3 mins. in a 1.4.55. "Wilson" Watson one of the novices split his trousers with his

Eastbourne Rovers (continued).

"straining muscles" but decided he'd had enough at Isfield Corner. Another novice, Pete Walker, stopped at Park Corner Garage and got into a parked car to thaw out a bit. He said he was frozen in the place where most racing men get frozen during the cold early season events.

The SCA Individual Championship saw Chris Snelling on fine form to take 2nd place on a tough morning. Iris won the Ladies 10 on the same morning.

Back to racing after an Easter Tour saw our "terrible trio" in fine form in the ESCA 50, taking 2nd, 3rd and 5th places, and winning the team award by 11 mins. Iris also showed the miles had done her good by winning the ladies event.

Our first evening 10 was run on the following Thursday with Tony reversing the placings of Sunday by winning it in 24.49, with Ken 2nd and Chris 3rd.

Then came the SCA Team Championship, with our 4th man Johnny Mayes arriving too late to start. We had given up hope of winning any more awards, but much to our surprise we won the Henty Bowl for the 2nd Team. This with a 4, two 6's and a 12 !! We were saved by Novices winner Geoff Cobb who did a personal best with a 12, and with this we just managed to beat Tunbridge Wells by a few seconds. Iris slogged her way round on this hard morning to another SCA win in the 15.

Just two more racing results, I hope you aren't too bored. The 2nd Club 25 which was again a win for Ken with a 4.49, beating Chris by $\frac{1}{2}$ min. Tony rode in the Brighton Mitre Road Race later that day but had the misfortune to crash into a fallen rider on the 2nd lap on that notorious corner at Warbleton. Any one want a road iron with a track head, very original, going cheap.

At Easter six of us went over to the Isle of Wight for a real touring week-end. We avoided the road race on the Island like the plague. After paddling down to Pompey on Saturday we actually got sunburnt on Sunday ! The digs at Brading were very good, there were 26 cyclists staying there, mostly racing bods and they wouldn't look at us "tourists" with our big saddle bags. Still, even at the Isle of Wight we weren't safe from the Escaites. We ran into Tony Palmer of Lewes as we were getting off the ferry at Ryde. Its a small world. After Sunday's potter around the Island we really "got the miles in" on Monday, coming home from Cowes via Petersfield and Midhurst, getting mixed up with the horse trials

Eastbourne Rovers (continued).

at Cowdray Park.

Tony won't be so keen on recruiting new members in future as a new recruit, one Daniel Chadwick, from Tony's office, has been delighting the members at club teas of tales of how Tony painted a lady's torso during office hours. It seems the lady did not object and I hear its costing Tony a fortune to buy Danny's silence.

Yakky decided to have a break from his "24 hour" training programme and join the clubrun after an S.C.A. event, believing the boys would be tired. He changed his mind after Ken took the run up into the mist and rain of the Devils Dyke, and he and Chris Sullivan got "shot off" in the descent. We met them three hours later at Chailey. Yakky said he didn't know which lane we'd disappeared down because of the mist.

A stir left over from the club dinner in February. Mick did not turn up although he'd bought a ticket. We learned later he'd turned up a week too soon because he had two dates mixed up.

Are well it was still the social season.

Scrubber.

In reply to Terry Chambers

If you want to see last season's ESCA results in the RTTC Handbook you will find them easily enough - just look at or near the bottom of the list - for ESCA is one of the slowest C.A.'s. along with North Gwent and some others, that is another way of expressing what Terry said in his letter from Trinidad.

Should we go all out to show that ESCA is no slower than the rest? It could be done, but our loss would be infinitely greater than our gain. I see it like this: if one is going all out for fast times then everything else must become submissive to that end and in nine cases out of ten where the speed specialist enters, the clubman (or woman) disappears. Take the Nottingham area as a fair example, there we have all the Blands, Ians, and fast times as Terry wants, but I wonder if he has ever come across the "scrubbers" as I have, who told me that once the Midlands were a happy cycling area until the speed mania developed, and then it was all races, times, every man for himself or his team, one's social standing stood or

fell purely on one's performances, and social life during the racing season went by the board. When things reached that point these scrubbers decided that they had had enough and henceforth kept to Y.H.A. groups. Do we want the same situation to develop down here - I sincerely hope not.

By the foregoing I am not decrying the racing man, by all means put your very best into racing, that is what it's for, and racing is the backbone of most associations; all I'm saying is that we must not make racing the be all and end all of our cycling but keep it balanced with the touring, social and club life, and thereby be "complete" cyclists.

The East Sussex is a happy association, esprit de corps abounds, fast man, tourist, slow man, helper - we are all equal, let's keep it that way. The British club way of cycling is the envy of many continentals, believe it or not, and our association is the envy of a lot of British clubmen, I know for a fact.

We have something very precious in the East Sussex C.A., and we must not let a one-sided approach to our cycling wreck it.

P.J. Crowsley.

CENTRAL SUSSEX C.C.

In spite of everything, knots in handkerchiefs, and all other sorts of reminders, here, late once again, is the news from the C.S.C.C.

It would appear that this year has started much the same as last year ended, with a round of "Bottle Parties". Personally, I have not been to the latest ones, but as most of our members wax enthusiastic, and Ganger is reduced to near speechlessness over the whole show, they must be good. It seems, after each event the limited number of females are squired by different beaus. In fact, Beau Pearson holds the current Paddock Wood and return record.

The club went on its usual Easter Tour this year. Cerne Abbas was the unfortunate visiting place. I think that all who went had a good time, although the food was described by one member as "sufficient but indestructible". After the week-end, Ganger and Alan Robinson (Southern Whrs) toured onwards towards Lands End, only to find that the aforementioned had attracted spots from Veronica, and had to be pushed to the nearest Railway

Station and packed off on a train for home. That girl is very generous, at one time approximately 6 members of the Club were suffering from the same German Measles.

It is most pleasing to note that in the very near future David Dalziel will be released from H.M. Wheelers and will return to the fold. He must have had some of the Southborough Ronnie's Ribena a while back (How about that then, Ken? - Ed.), for spouse Beryl has recently given birth to the club's newest member (subscription as yet still unpaid). Rather minute it was at first, but getting bigger and louder, this young lady revels in a name by courtesy of the "Sunday Pic". Please ask Mum.

On the racing front things are getting away after a very quiet start. We have held 2 club events up to now, the first proved to be a runaway win for Mick Wren in 1-7 odd, with the rest of the boys way off the back. The highlight of this event was the riding of Tourist or is it Wedding Bells Agg. In his first essay on to our local course he recorded 1-15-2 with a sprint finish. The second event for the Club Championship was won by Ken Atkins in 1-8-50, much to the disgust of Ganger who did 1-8-16 the same morning in another event. In passing, I must comment on the riding of our Junior members, these lads, about 5 of them, with only 7 or 8 months riding experience, have taken to the racing side like ducks to water and are now starting to clock quite reasonable times. Under the knowledgeable tutorship of the Vicar they are all coming along quite nicely.

Bad luck story of the year comes from Mick Wren. He opened the year with a 3rd place in the ESCA 25, a win in our 1st club event, a win in his class in the Bec 25, and then a fall over a chair, a bruised spine and time off his bike. I am happy to report that this ailment seems to have righted itself now, and racing and training are going on as before.

The less said about our attempt in the Sussex Team Championship 25 the better. The A team finished only 3 riders, and although the B team finished enough to qualify I regret to say that they were well out of the hunt.

Up to the moment there seems very little more to report in this field. The Vicar seems to have made up his mind that after several seasons in the doldrums he is going to have a good go this year, and recently clocked a 1-12 on G.46. Both Pat King and Bill Lovell have

been burning up the roads around here, and both of them have recorded a couple of personal bests, screwing one another into the bargain. It appears that its Pat's week-end this week-end.

Malcolm Verey is the latest recruit to the C.S.C.C. Car Club, with a de luxe Morris 8 Series E. This beast is used for 4 days after pay day only, and the rest of the time it's back to the bike. Derek Homewood was seen on a bike again last week after HIS car had suffered from a savage attack of the 10 year test.

That's about the lot for this time, then. Please do not forget to enter our Open 50, we can do with the money, and you will get a well-organised ride if nothing else.

See you round the course,

HONEST GINGE.

Letter to the Editor.

Dear Mr. Editor, 19 East Parade,
Hastings.

I was very interested in Terry Chambers's letter printed in the last edition. On the whole, I agree with his opinions; but I think that on the subject of the comparative slowness of times in Sussex he is a little less than fair to local racing men, including himself. Terry has forgotten one big obstacle to fast times in this district, and that is the Sussex air, which (discounting freak periods like the late Arctic spring) is generally balmy and is often absolutely soporific. It's common to see holiday-makers walking about yawning their heads off, half asleep on their feet by tea-time. This relaxing atmosphere is perfect for beneficial holidays, but it is a serious handicap to flat-out athletic effort, even for natives in the area who are used to it, and for that reason I don't think that ultra-fast times will ever be common in Sussex. If it were possible for the best Sussex riders to live, train and race for a year in, say, the Midlands, some considerable improvements would probably result. Anyway, good luck Terry - keep up the good work.

Dennis Neeves.

Having bid a reluctant farewell to the Social Season most Wanderers are now enjoying the annual business of getting fit. Efforts in this direction range from Grover's endless draining of tankards to Willcocks' occasional wrestling session with his notoriously stubborn "dragon", but one member has lately instituted an entirely new formula for producing those rippling muscles. Yes, chums, "Tourist" Agg has been offering himself for hire! To prevent any hastily formed, but wrong, impressions we'd better add that he has been talking on such larks as car-washing and gardening, with probably a bit of baby-sitting (really! - Ed.), and window-cleaning as well! Any benefit derived from these seems questionable, as judging by his appearance to date, his plans for a slim figure and bulging muscles seem to have worked, but in reverse! It's worth a laugh to record that when he passed former clubmate Peacock, another prize example of Social Season rotundity, in a recent event he bawled: "Come on Fatso, get your finger out".

As most ESCA bods are aware, either by painful experience, or equally painful language of those who were there, the Hardriders "12" was more a test of Arctic endurance than a semi-serious pipe-opener. Willcocks must have ridden solely to convince normal people how easily hallucinations can come on. Told afterwards that he'd actually beaten a couple of riders, he said: "Yeah? Where did they come off?" Both our other riders got round, Tony Palmer in 41-9 and new boy John Edwards (what a racing baptism!) in 47-23.

Next came the Association 25 and a 9 from Burbery on a shocking morning. Palmer's 1-10-10 here was good enough for the handicap award, a feat he repeated in the SCA Longmarkers' with a 1-9-10, which was also second fastest. The weather man laid on another freezer for the club Lewes-Newhaven and Return, won in 37-4 by Pete Burbery, who thus became the first to chalk up a hat-trick of wins in this event. Tony was second in 37-28 (also second hcp.), and Colborn third with 38-58. The "Copper" did a 39, and Adrian Palmer's 40 won the 1st handicap. Willcocks was DNS here and thus "got off the mark for 1962". Near the "changing rooms" at Southeast bus shelter someone found an old vacuum flask, and some tins, one of which bore a "Chappie" label. Seeing this one wag quipped: "Blimey, I bet Crow camped here last week!"

Tony had second handicap in the Apollo M/M 25 with a 10, then

took 3rd handicap in the SCA Individual Championship with 1-9-16, 28 secs. too good for Burbery. Back to 2nd hcp. in the Vectis Roads 25 at Easter with a 1-7-53, he then tried the Association 50 - his first - and did 2-22-26. In the SCA Team Championship he again walloped Burbery both doing 9's, then in the club 25 came a personal best of 1-6-43, Burbery and Burgess took 1st and 2nd hcp. respectively. In the Southern Wheelers 25 Tony again was our fastest rider in 1-8-6, Burbery being 10 secs. slower and Agg a further 20 secs. back, but an improvement to date. In view of Tony's feats as already detailed, he'll probably be known as Andy Capp !!

So far two evening 10's have been run, the third having been rained off, and these have been dominated by Tony, who did 25-44 and 25-59, the latter despite having to stop and re-rail his chain when a sprocket stripped. Adrian did 28-36 and a 29 with mechanical trouble, while Agg and the "Copper" have trampled round in 26's.

Summing up, the slow times reflect the very poor start to 1962 through weather more fitted to mid-winter than spring and early summer!

At the first 10 Chancellor Eldridge turned up to hold the watch, despite a cut head, black eye and broken collar-bone! This "devotion to duty" deserves the highest praise as knowing that Peter Sharp wasn't available, Reg decided not to disappoint the lads. His front brake came adrift, lodged in his front wheel and pitched him "over the top" on to some very unsympathetic tarmac. It's now been suggested there should be a "whip-round" to buy him a current copy of Cycling's Book of Maintenance !!

Coinciding with the present spate of wage snatches, mail robberies and other crimes for gain, we find Runs Captain Bert Redwood in possession of a £400+ A55 car! This gentleman, cagey as they come, has revealed no details of purchase, etc., but is being closely watched by "Copper" Burgess who growled: "The first time he leads the club with that I'm taking up bingo"!

Adrian Palmer went to a housing exhibition and put his name and address on some advertising literature. Some days later a thunderous tattoo on the front door heralded the arrival of a bad-tempered and descriptive postman with a parcel containing four house-bricks!! So if any ESCA bod wants four house-bricks

Some members attended the superb Count Basie concert in Brighton recently. Grover, enraptured, was listening with his eyes closed, when an attendant shook his shoulder and whispered: "Sorry, sir, sleeping during the performance isn't allowed" !!!

Lewes Wanderers C.C. (continued).

A recent smuggling case at Newhaven reminds the Chancellor that the Customs still owe him a shilling from 1946 (an amount which has probably affected every budget since then!) We also hear that in view of the old £1 notes ceasing to be valid after this month (May) the Bank of England had to send a special armoured bullion van with police escort, to remove the board at a certain Peacehaven residence !!

Our tame boffin, Maurice Colburn, has a prodigious memory for other people's times in bygone events. One hitherto unforeseen advantage of this is that when he's around Willcocks now keeps very quiet indeed!

Well, "tugs", that's it for this time, so here's hoping for a heat-wave to make us literally "browned-off", even if it does come just in time for the hill-climb!

Unfit as ever,

ALSORAN.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS ROAD CLUB

Can anybody tell me where the sun goes on Sunday mornings?

The first ESCA event, the "Hardriders", run in very cold and windy conditions, gave rise to slow rides. Of the club riders Graham was fastest in 37 min. 37 secs., next came Gordon in 38-21, and Dave Nightingale in 38-52. A week later Graham rode the Brighton Velo Road Race but retired after 40 miles when the snow started to make things a bit too sporting. On the way home from this event Sheila remarked that the snow made the trees look pretty, what other person than a cyclist would say this when they were covered with 2 inches of snow, and three parts blinded by it, struggling uphill into a gale, freezing cold and with soaking wet shoes and socks.

Like the first, the second ESCA event was run off in cold windy conditions, this time Gordon was fastest out of the club riders with a time of 1-8-9, Graham 1-8-35, Dave Nightingale 1-10-54 and Mick 1-22-0. Sheila riding the Ladies 10 came 4th with a time of 32-2. Next event was the SCA 25 and again more wind and cold. Gordon retired at 5 miles with "cold feet", Dave Nightingale returned a time of 1-10-11 and Graham 1-8-37. The first team win for the Road Club came in the next event, the ESCA Team Time Trial, here we did

Tunbridge Wells R.C. (continued).

a 1-34-5, which considering the conditions and time lost when Gordon's chain came off was not too bad. In the Southborough Hilly 42 Dave was very unlucky to puncture, which certainly cost him a place, he did however still do a 2-4-19 and on the way collected the Ide Hill prime. Other times were, Gordon 2-13-45, Graham 2-16-40 and Dave Nightingale 2-29-38.

A fortnight later the Road Club had 2 handicap wins. The first being by Sheila in the ESCA 10, here she recorded a time of 28-55, which gave her 2nd place and 1st handicap. An hour or so later Gordon's 2-17-16 in the 50 gave him 1st handicap. Dave rode a "76" gear by mistake and did 2-15-38, Graham recording his slowest time ever did 2-25-49 with Roy just behind with 2-28-18. Next week Dave was fastest in the SCA Team 25 with a time of 1-3-34. In this event we took third team.

In a club event a week later Dave won with a time of 1-6-10, second Graham 1-6-14 and 3rd Roy 1-9-?. This event was followed by our interclub events against the Southborough Wheelers. The ladies event was won by Dawn Hayward with 29-17, second was Sheila in 30-16 and 3rd Sue Fry in 30-56. The men's event was won by Dave with 1-3-34, 2nd Dave Gillett (Southborough) 1-6-26 and 3rd Graham 1-6-27.

In the BCF Sussex Division Pursuit only Graham got further than the time-trial stage, being 6th with a time of 6-0.

The names of I. Jenner and D. Neal might be seen again, as they are considering a comeback to racing. With club runs getting the miles in with rides to Hythe, Canterbury and Dover, the boys will be fit around November. I would not say that our club runs are hard, but Dave Nightingale always comes out "stripped down". Perhaps this is because of the priming that starts after about 80 miles. The last club run went to Barcombe Mills, where in the company of the Wheelers crew, an afternoon was spent on the river. During the course of events a bright shining object was seen floating in the water. We thought that Lou had fallen overboard, but the object was just a vegetable.

Gordon has been making enquiries as to the age of a certain young lady in the Southborough Wheelers, whose initials are P.W., but then Gordon is always making enquiries about the other ----- sex. And talking about the other sex, what was Graham doing taking his dog for a walk down Dunorlan Park late at night on two consecutive evenings?

As I started with a question, I will not finish with one. It

Tunbridge Wells R.C. (continued).

is said that in spring a young man's fancy turns to love, what happens when we come straight from winter to summer? Perhaps Sue Fry or Cedric have some views on this !!

Yours to a halo,

ANGEL.

HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS C. & A.C.

In our Spring notes I mentioned that our racing men would be giving other ESCAites a run for their money; and the boys lost no time in doing that - and more. Rob Frency, Lyn Chambers and brother Martin opened the racing season in grand style by taking first, fourth and seventh positions in the Hardriders 12 and clinching the team award into the bargain. Three weeks later in the Association 25 they did it again - Rob taking the premier award with a 1-5. They couldn't quite pull it off in the KCA event, in which the French chain came unshipped, losing him twenty seconds, and the team went down by a narrow margin to the Kirby-led Medway Wheelers.

In between these bouts of athletic endeavour, the club had a pleasant social function, namely the President's annual Opener Run. At the start conditions were more suitable for the opening of the winter sports season than the cycling season, but led by the President, the club gallantly sallied forth, and was eventually rewarded when the snow turned to rain, and finally bright sunshine gave the members a cold but pleasant ride out to Magham Down for elevenses, thence via Rushlake Green to the Ash Tree Inn for lunch. The weather brought out one or two departures from normal cycling dress, notably Maurice Carpenter as the South Coast's answer to Ron Hayward in rubber boots, and Dennis Neeves, who covered up a disreputable old pair of trousers with an equally disreputable old raincoat.

After this it was back to racing again, with the aforementioned Association 25 and rides in then KCA and ESCA Team T.T's. The "A" Team took first place in the Kent event, but did not repeat their last year's win in the latter, chiefly because Rob, like Willcocks in his classis 1-20 long course 25, was apparently fit for twenty five miles and no more, and took a sizeable packet over the last few miles. At Easter Maurice, Rob, Lyn, Martin and newcomer John Davies travelled to Paris with a mixed party of local sportsmen, and had their "baptism of fire" in continental circuit racing. Schoolmaster John has just

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

come back to the game after a four year lay-off and has quickly got back into his stride, being less than a minute down on winner Lyn Chambers in the forty-two mile Rye-Hythe-Rye trial. (Martin kept the Junior 15 in the family with an easy win on the same morning). John was also the moving spirit behind a proposal that the club should promote an open road race, but after some discussion the committee, by a close vote, decided that this was not a good time to start planning a race, so John will have to wait till the AGM to have another try. Packets were taken all round in the cold, tough, Association 50. At seventeen miles, Lyn, Martin and John looked likely contenders for team honours, but they all "sold out" long before the finish, leaving Jack Southerden (now well into his umpteenth racing season) to salvage the club's honour with a sterling 2-20 for ninth place.

The evening 10 series commenced on May 9th with Percy Bliss holding the watch. As expected, R. French (Wittersham Coureurs) was the winner, but M. Chambers (Park View Road Club) was only five seconds slower, so Rob looks like having his work cut out to stay on top. Maurice (not yet really fit) managed a long 26, while 16-year-old Geoffrey Skinner did well to clock 29-17 in his first time-trial. The club 100 in 8 had hardly any support - in fact veteran mile-eater Ted Coussens had a solitary ride to Worthing and back, returning slightly shattered, but well inside the eight hours. Recently Ted made the mistake of joining in what purported to be a Tired Tims' run. Ron Longley, deputising for Stan Russell as leader of this run, must have eaten some meat treated with vitalized gravy, and poor Ted found himself miles from his favourite Ninfield road, being roared off in far away places with strange sounding names such as Jarvis Brook and Crowborough. Incidentally, Mr. Longley (the club's crack longmarker of a decade ago) still believes that "you get fitter on fixed" and is threatening to "come back" in an evening 10 to prove it!

Arthur Coleman is still under medical supervision, but has made a welcome return to committee meetings, and with the aid of mechanical transport is managing to keep in touch with cycling circles. Preparations are now well ahead for the Open 50 on July 8th. If any of you fancy fifty miles against the watch on Romney Marsh, we will be pleased to fix you up. And now your correspondent, who rarely fancies any miles against the watch anywhere, once again wishes all readers good luck and good riding.

'STINGER.

SOUTHBOROUGH WHEELERS SOCIAL NEWS.

The writer, being of a somewhat social disposition, is wondering why he has not contracted German Measles yet. In fact, he was so certain of this fate that he left writing this report in the belief that he would do it during a few days spotty absence from work. However, as Bonk dead-line approaches and the Crowsley complexion remains as flawless as ever (?) and despite disturbing medical bulletins on who caught G.M. from who, that are regularly issued from 114D, the writer will proceed with the quarter's news.

It will be interesting to see if the Editor has the nerve to entitle this issue Summer 1962, when Spring 1962 would be a wild exaggeration, in fact, next to measles the weather has been the main conversational topic. Racing types have in fact divided this season's events into two categories - "Hard and Wat", or "Hard and Dry", and despite less snow and more green, the outlook is just as sombre as when writing the last quarter's notes.

With February's weather in mind, it was hardly surprising that nobody rode any reliability events, in fact the main keep fit contingent preferred the twist rather than the miles. Nevertheless, the club-runs have been well supported, especially by the recent emergence of several new members of the 15-17 age group, who we naturally hope will be the clubmen of the future.

To give our members an idea of how the other half lives, we have visited places diverse as Windsor Castle to Neeves rock shop, where one of our more optimistic members bought some sun-glasses. The present week-day attraction is the Tuesday evening ride to Len Chambers cycle shop at Rochester, which is carried out at varying velocities (a fast potter to "you are now approaching the heat barrier"). What some people will do for a free cup of tea.

George Cheesman, Ted Boorman, Eric Crook and Lord Daniel still do yeoman service teaching and testing children in the cycling proficiency classes. From the statistics George gave me the scheme goes from strength to strength, and also gets a lot of children "club cycling conscious".

Our Hilly 42, like so many other events, was not blessed with the best of weather, and if riders complained I hope they gave thought for the marshals and helpers. To Ted Boorman and Alan Brindley fell the task of erecting and sleeping in the club's new tent, which was at the finish on the night previous to the event, their hardships and vicissitudes are described in the epic saga "Saturday Night & Sunday morning. It was at the finish that the Uckfield club run went

Southborough Wheelers Social News - (continued).

off course to Biggin Hill and was then lured by a siren to Five Oak Green.

Southborough's roving social ambassadors, Crow and Sue (new Central Sussex 2nd Claim members) visited Veronica's party at Brighton on April 7th. Fortunately, plans to use a barn on Brighton race course were dropped due to inclement weather and celebrations were held in the Leuty abode. Although not possessing the same amount of laissez-faire as was witnessed at the 114D do (though it wasn't for want of trying - was it Sue?), a good time was had by all, even if the post alcoholic effects on some people produced a "lame leading the blind" picture on the Uckfield team during the team time trial later that morning.

Easter did not produce the same amount of touring - again the weather was to blame. Good Friday and Herne Hill were visited, and most of the club kept to more local ground. Six of us, Lou, Geoff Boxall, Crow, Terry and the Hayman brothers Les and Geoff, had great times in the mid-wales border country. Again the weather marred the wonderful scenery on the Saturday, though Sunday was quite the reverse, and gave us an excellent opportunity to do some tracks in the Glasewm area with great vistas of the Black Mountains and the Brecons thrown in. Let it also be mentioned that with Lou and Terry on tour we ate well, too.

The Uckfield and Central Sussex scribes will doubtless note that a certain farmer's daughter came on their Easter Tour to Dorset. And as if to compensate for the bleakness of their digs and that of the camp commandant - sorry, host - Sue helped to ensure that the occasion was quite a social one. Not for me though to write the tales of this tour, the writer has heard enough inside stories to await the reports with the keenest anticipation.

Latest Southborough social event was the birthday tea celebrations that followed the road race. Lou cut the 30th birthday cake and after tea followed the auction conducted by Lord Daniel in a most uproarious fashion. Amary Hayman was given seven handlebars bought for her by an admirer.

Readers may well have wondered what extraordinary pre-natal preparations were carried out on the recent batch of Southborough babies. The writer confesses his error and asks all to re-read the paragraph, substituting pounds for stones and ounces for pounds! At the time of writing neither the Hayman nor Brooks infants were "in orbit", though the time of the final count down draws nigh.

Southborough Social News - (continued).

Engagement of this quarter is that of Bryan Leyland to Julie Ellis. Bryan's gear iron is now the property of one of the Mitre boys and should still be seen in ESCA events.

Among the status changes within the club is the elevation of Pam Wells from second to first claim member. The reasons for this move seem rather vague and range from the desire to get more miles in to our club-room, or the attraction of the social atmosphere. Already Pam has made quite an impression on club circles by smashing the long-standing Ladies 10 miles record and getting one of our fast men "in Tow".

As Bonk is not a weekly let alone a monthly publication, the writer is hard-pressed to give up-to-the-minute details of Sue Fry's latest attachment, which seem to centre on the Uckfield-Central Sussex combine. At the time of going to press the one and only Cedge seems to have a lead over her other admirers in the "Fried Stakes", which doubtless accounts for the reciprocal higher state of fitness for both parties over the well worn roads from Five Oak Green to Little London, and Arthur Thorpe's remark: "She was only a farmer's daughter, but"

Well at least we have our Whitsun run to the Isle of Wight - I wonder if we will have any swimming runs this year?

CROW.

SOUTHBOROUGH RACING HIGHLIGHTS.

It's been quite a good start to the season for most of the lads. We really have a very strong racing section now, and if we can get teams together we can take some awards in open events.

Alan Brindley, organiser of our road race, has already a 1-1-50 to his credit, and Clive Orchard has a 1-2-49, and Clive Ashby, who has not ridden much this year, is a 59 min. man, so combined, these three would take some beating.

Teddy Boorman gave us all a surprise when he romped home a good winner in the ESCA 50, but he found the KCA 50 a week later a different proposition, dropping back to 2-16-30. Ted also had a bash at the Hastings & Back record but failed by 8 mins. Phil Hennessy was successful in his Hastings and Back attempt, he recorded 2-47-49, beating the standard set at 2-50-00 by just over two mins, which is good going on a trike, as you probably know the Hastings road is far

Southborough Racing Highlights (continued).

from flat.

An older member who is making a very strong comeback is Les Hayman, he's my choice for the club's BAR this year. Starting off this year very slowly, Les has been getting some crafty miles in and is now almost certainly to be hard to beat over the distance events this year.

The ladies are going great guns, especially now that Pam Wells has joined us as 1st claim. Pam has already clocked a 26-30 "10" this year, when she won the W.K.R.C. event. Dawn and Sue were battling it out at the beginning of the season with Dawn being the slower of the two, but now she has reversed the placings and has in the past month gained another four awards, including a surprise win over Sheila Patten, who had always been too good for her (sorry about that, Sheila).

Some lads have ridden in about four 10 mile events, so far, and the times recorded were very good, considering the lousy conditions. Graham Orchard improves at each ride, as does Dave Gillett; Mick Hammond is also going well in fact they are all going great guns, and I'm finding it just too much to keep pace with them, still I have done a 1-7-32 this year and hope to do better, but I find that there are not enough hours in a day to do all my work, so training is a luxury (lucky, aren't I?).

We have at last had our Road Race, and it was very well organised by Alan Brindley with decorations by the Sultan(a) at Edenbridge.

The Hilly 42 was once again a great event marred by the fact that we only had 94 riders, and apart from the Uckfield and Tunbridge Wells riders, not one other ESCA rider competed. This is a great disappointment to the Southborough, who always try and support ESCA club events.

We can assure you of accommodation, a good event with loads of marshals and plenty of tea and food at the finish, so why not give it a try next year.

Who's for the ESCA BAR this year, certainly not me, I've had my share of near misses, so I'm putting my faith in Teddy Boorman as our best bet, backed up by Mick Hammond and Crow, the latter being a very dodgy dark horse.

There are several results I would like to put in, but Dawn has gone out training, and has taken my notebook with her. One result I do remember is that in the KCA 50 we took the team award and Dawn was second in the Ladies 25, recording 1-16-3.

Southborough Racing Highlights (continued).

We were once again beaten by the SFACC in the annual inter-club 25, but this year we could have probably won for the first time for what seems like ages if our fast man had been faster out of bed. The 10 mile handicap event for ladies gave Dawn another win with Sue failing to show herself to the timekeeper.

The Inter-club with the TWRC was another defeat for us, with all the faster riders riding away it was up to Dave Gillett, Mick Hammond and myself to do out best. But it was a good event and once again Dave Patten proved himself unbeatable over the mountain course. In the 10 mile event Dawn went mad and caught Sue a minute and beat Sheila by a minute, things were swinging that day I can assure you.

Hopes of a ladies team in action on the Bath Road at Whitsun were very strong, but latest news has upset that. Pam and Dawn are almost certain to be riding. Alan, Mick and myself are hoping to ride in the Marlborough 50 (I hope it's a good morning for my sake).

On Thursday 24th, an evening 25 showed that John Hearne is a rider of great promise after his 26 min. 10 mile he tried hirst first 25 and recorded 1-8-56, then he followed up with a 1-4-26, and then a 2-22-2 for his first 50 on a foul morning. Clive Orchard has improved to a 1-1-58 in an evening event. On Sunday 27th May, Mick Hammond and myself rode a tandem 30 on the Dartford course, and after a series of mishaps recorded 1-15-4.

Well, time passes quickly and I must get off to bed, too many late nights, "dodgy", come to think of it some of the early nights are dodgy too.

Ronnie the Drip.

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UCKFIELD & DISTRICT C.C.

Once again I find myself putting pen to paper in an effort to give a picture of the Uckfield gossip, the deadline having, as usual, been and gone.

The usual form is to start off by giving some racing news. This I feel is a fallacy, as there really isn't much news to report. The bearded wonder was the only one who got his finger out for the hardriders 12 but even he fought shy the following week when three brave men braved the snow and ice to ride in the Club 10. Woppit, Gerald the Brook and Dennis started in that order and finished in the reverse order, Woppit holding off the other two to the line despite a bit of illegal two up team pursuing. Dennis is the only one who can, it seems, boast anything spectacular this year so far, with a couple of 7's to his credit. Horace seems back in form with a 10 to date and Cedge also boasts a 7. Spanker hopes to prove the worth of concentrated training, plus no smokes, plus no drink, plus no females; but at time of writing his excuses have been "well, it's got to have time to show effect". Young Peter Dyer seems to be settling down to going out racing and producing P.B's. each time, which is a good sign. It seems he may well be number one contender for the Junior BAR this year, now Spanker is a senior. Woppit and Spanker endeavoured to circulate 7 laps of Preston Park for the pursuit heats. Woppit, riding Spanker's bicycle for the first time, had a little trouble (as he explained in a loud voice right where a young lady happened to be standing) with a something something toe-clip. Anyhow, they both enjoyed the experience of falling flat on their faces from Tim's Unicycle.

Putting racing and its early mornings and packets and things behind us for the minute, I will endeavour to give an aspect of the more pleasurable side of club life - SCANDEL.

The bearded gentleman has been spending a lot of time recently in the Five Oak Green area and it is this well known gentleman who has been seen, must unfortunately for him, in some most amusing situations. The classic, of course, was when he was seen entering a wood in the Northlands with a young damsel. His explanations to

Uckfield scandal (continued).

this are that THEY were going to pay a call on nature which to most twisted cyclist type minds leads much to the imagination. This gentleman is also the first I have known to give reasons for having Izal Germicide toilet papers in his pocket as being for writing down telephone numbers.

Talking of this gentleman reminds me of the Easter tour on which several notorious persons from the Farmers and the Central spent the week-end in a workhouse in the West Country. Very little has been said about this week-end unfortunately, as it appears too many people have had too much on everybody else to make it worth while spilling the beans. However, an effort has been made to establish who was with who and anybody requiring further information should contact Ganger or John, preferably when drunk.

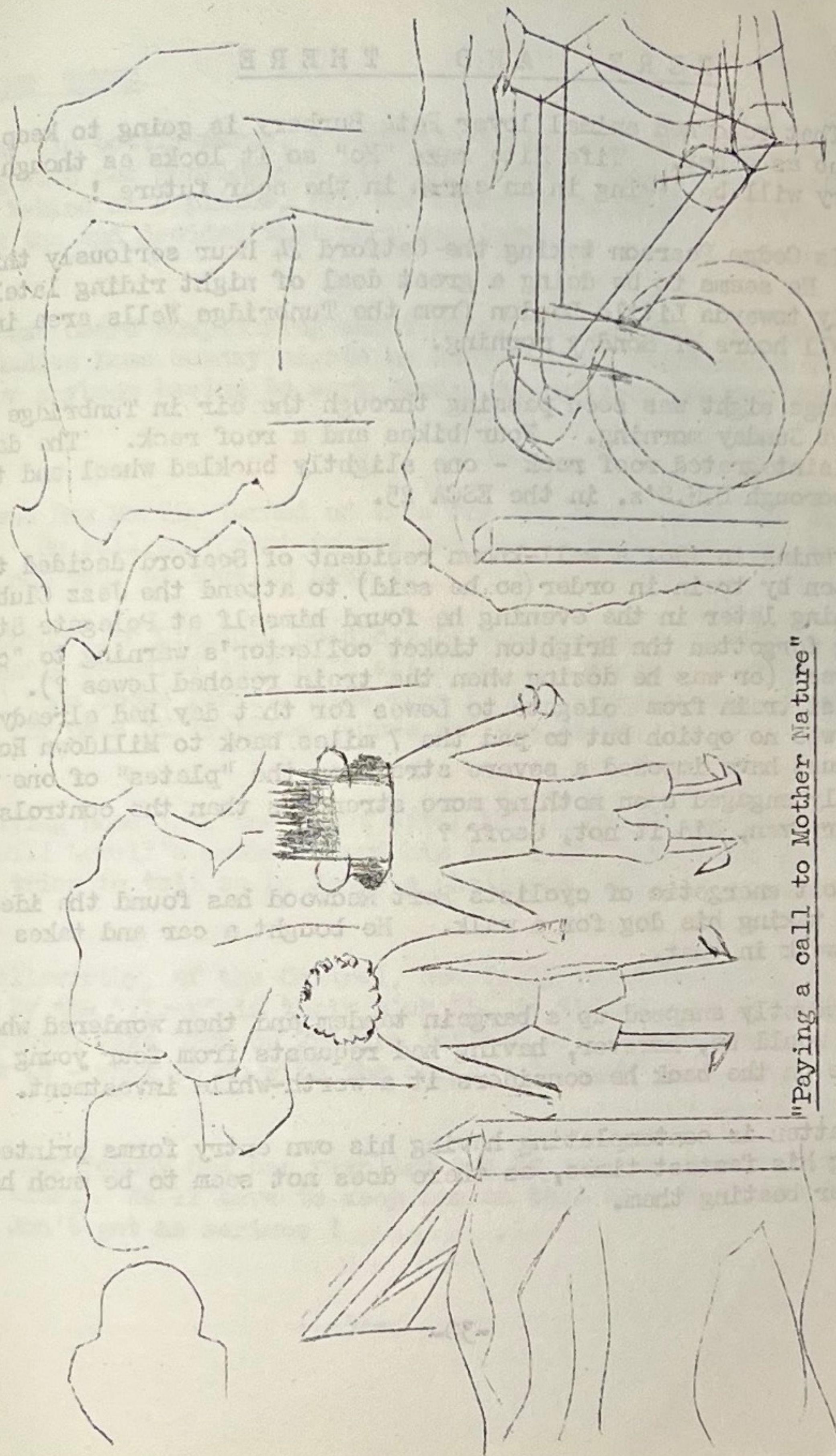
The main source of scandal lately seems to have been caused by the German Measles epidemic. Some interesting observations have been made as to who has caught it from whom and when. A certain pre-team time-trial bottle party seems to have something to do with it, I think. Yes Crow? And talking of Crow, we hear down the grape vine that he is leading in the Southborough "bath" competition, in which members see who can have the most baths in different establishments. Cedric is rumoured as trying to start up a similar contest where the lady of the establishment has to sign that she has scrubbed the back of the competitor. All enquiries should be addressed c/o Mrs. D. Webb, 114D, High Street, Uckfield, who is willing to scrub at a fee.

On the matrimonial side of things, Gerald has become engaged and fit by travelling to Laughton every night behind the bus, and we send our congratulations to Ken and Barbara at 36 Priory Road, on the news of their expectancy.

Rumour has it that Dutson has been seen out on a bicycle, with his mouth open, training! Such news may be allied to the fact that the said gentleman was worried because he had to give his new life jacket to Ken. When he got it home he found that it would not support over 15 stone!

Well, here's signing off to the strains of Bomb the Band, and don't forget to take your music stand down before leaving,

Good as gold WOPPIT.



"Paying a call to Mother Nature"

HERE AND THERE

That renowned animal lover Pete Burbery is going to keep a fox cub as a pet. Wife Rita says "No" so it looks as though Burbery will be living in an earth in the near future !

Is Cedge Pearson taking the Catford 24 hour seriously this year? He seems to be doing a great deal of night riding lately, usually towards Little London from the Tunbridge Wells area in the we small hours of Monday morning.

A strange sight was seen passing through the air in Tunbridge Wells one wet Sunday morning. Four bikes and a roof rack. The damage ? One disintegrated roof rack - one slightly buckled wheel and three Southborough D.N.S's. in the ESCA 25.

One evening in 1961 a well-known resident of Seaford decided to visit Brighton by train in order (so he said) to attend the Jazz Club. Returning later in the evening he found himself at Polegate Station, having forgotten the Brighton ticket collector's warning to "change at Lewes" (or was he dozing when the train reached Lewes ?). As the last train from Polegate to Lewes for that day had already gone, there was no option but to pad the 7 miles back to Milldown Road. This must have imposed a severe strain on the "plates" of one who is normally engaged upon nothing more strenuous than the controls of a delivery van, did it not, Geoff ?

That most energetic of cyclists Bert Redwood has found the ideal way of taking his dog for a walk. He bought a car and takes the dog for a walk in that.

Crow recently snapped up a bargain tandem and then wondered what use it would be, however, having had requests from four young ladies to ride on the back he considers it a worth-while investment.

Dave Patten is contemplating having his own entry forms printed showing his fastest times, as there does not seem to be much hope of him ever beating them.

HERE AND THERE.

At a certain bottle-party, a Central Vicar spent one third of the evening with one gentleman's fiancée, another third using another lady's behind as a pillow, and the other third drinking beer, then at the end decided that beer was best.

Cedric was heard complaining about Crow, because when he, Crow, takes ladies home Sunday nights he stays there, which makes it difficult for anybody having to work Monday to get away in time for work.

Newly wed Roy Martin turned up late for the club run on the 24th March. He said he forgot to put the clocks back, but more likely he did not want to lose an hour !!

Could Chancellor Eldridge possibly be considering a come-back ? He recently revealed that he's still got his sprints (wood of course) from those far-off days when he was a racing man. Watch this column for news of training jaunts and pep pills.

On arriving home late one night after taking one of his firl friends home, Bill Lovell's mother heard him and said "just going out then", and he tries to tell us he leads a sheltered life.

John Gallsworthy, of the Central, now fully recovered after being beaten by the "Vicar" in their club 25, is thinking of cycling to the Brighton Jazz Club on Fridays instead of using his car. Problem is - what to do with the current "dragon"

Lewes rider Johnny Cox has rivalled Agg by getting engaged for a second time. We'll have to keep him on that bike to ensure that things don't get as serious !

HERE AND THERE

Horace Achard was not having hallucinations one evening recently, it really was John Dutson riding his bicycle down Shortbridge Hill. (Very dodgy - Ed.).

Chancellor Eldridge got his own back for what he calls "adverse Bonk reports" by refusing latecomer Willcocks a start in the club Lewes/Newhaven. He added: "It'll teach you to be on time in future - if that's possible !"

A Hastings member, questioning Lyn Chambers about the trip to Paris, said: "I suppose you spent the evenings chasing round the streets with French girls", Lyn, not choosing his words too well, replied: "We didn't chase round the streets - we went to bed".

Quote from the Eastbourne Road Race by Sue: "I'd take my sweater off, but Cedric hasn't any more room in his saddle-bag".

Congratulations to the three East Sussex backwoodsmen who left their backwoods (retirement) to help their clubs in this year's SCA Team Championship 25 on the 6th May. The men concerned were C. Byrnes (Central Sussex) and Arthur Thorpe and Ken Griffiths (Uckfield).

It seems the saying "Love will find a way" is not always true, as Micky Robinson refused to allow his fiancée to ride his bestest track bicycle at Alexandra Park. Shame on you Mick.

Fred Martin and the Hawkhurst Road (cond.).

After a hard 50 and a wet ride home the Chambers brothers went out to tea at Hawkhurst in the family car. Their President saw the motor, succumbed to temptation, and once again went home the easy way with his bike in the boot. Score so far:- Hawkhurst Road ... 2 - Fred Martin ... 0.

Who is the certain young lad in the Mitre who has so much trouble saying goodnight to his girl friend that her veteran Dad presented them with an alarm clock, to remind them of the passing of time ?

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