



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL

East Sussex Cycling Association



PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

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EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION

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New series No.9.

Spring 1965

Secretary Mr R.Humphrey
Treasurer 1, Culverwood Cottages,
Cross in Hand

Editor Mr D.Neeves
19, East Parade,
Hastings.

EDITORIAL

Hello again. After five years as just a reader, it's D.N. in the editorial chair once more; the first time that an ex-editor has come back for another go at the job. At such a time one naturally looks round and takes stock of the East Sussex scene, to find that although there have been some changes since 1959, a reassuring number of familiar landmarks are still in evidence. The "Great White Chief" of Culverwood still acts as the mainspring of the Association, with this year the added and richly deserved honour of the presidency. Looking further south we find Willcocks of Scaford still a regular non-starter at his second favourite sport of cycle-racing; while being by all accounts a keen performer at his first love - dragon hunting. Changes, of course, there have been. The regrettable demise of the Uckfield C.C. has been counterbalanced by the admission of clubs from the Brighton area. T.T. courses have been much altered to suit changing road and traffic conditions; so much so that in the unlikely event of the Editor racing again, a thorough study of course details would be necessary. Many of the great 'characters' of 56-59 are now staid (at least, fairly staid) family men, but there seems to be plenty of fresh talent to keep followers of 'Here and There' satisfied. Finally, it is cheering to note that there is no change in the ESCA spirit, that happy, 'no side' feeling which invariably makes an East Sussex gathering a pleasure to attend.

'GEN' FROM THE SECRETARY

At the start of another racing season, I feel that mention should be made of marshalling for our time-trials. This was discussed at length at our last management Committee meeting, it being generally agreed that it was the duty of every member club to assist in this task. In the past the bulk of the marshalling for the shorter distance events has been undertaken by two or three clubs; in the case of the longer distance events the majority of the member clubs have assisted. It has been agreed that in future all member clubs will be called on to assist with the marshalling, and so ensure that all member clubs share in the running of our time-trials programme. In particular I have in mind our Open Ladies and Gents 12 hours on August 1st, which will require a host of marshals and helpers if this proposition is to maintain the high standard that we as an Association have set in the past. The cooperation of club secretaries in this most important matter is requested. Offers of help for any of our events during the coming season will be much appreciated by Ken Stevens and myself.

During the coming season it is hoped to use a new course, starting as now and using the Laughton road and turning on the Uckfield leg of the course between Halland and Peartree Corner. Application has been made to the RTTC for approval of the new course; subject to approval and no objection by the Police it will be used for the June 25. (STOP PRESS. The proposed course has been turned down by the Police. Ed.)

During the past two months we have lost one of the clubs who joined the Association shortly after it was formed in 1946; once again lack of active members to run the club caused the Uckfield and District C.C. to disband. This surely is a challenge to us all to do all that we can to ensure that our clubs and associations do not disappear through lack of persons to run them. Surely it is up to those who in their youth take much out of a club to make an effort and try to put a little back in. Since the last issue of Bonk appeared our social programme has been completed for the winter with a very successful Touring Competition ably organised by Phil Hennessey and Southborough wheelers, to whom we owe a vote of thanks.

The Party which followed the

Gen From The Secretary (cont.)

Touring Competition saw one hundred and fourteen people sit down to tea, after which a film show was enjoyed. To Iris Stevens and her able band of helpers we extend our thanks.

In conclusion, I feel that it is the wish of all of you, that I take this opportunity of most sincerely thanking Ken Atkins our President of last year, for the very able way in which he carried out his duties, and the support and assistance he gave us throughout the year. As your President for 1965 may I wish you all a bumper year of cycling, be it racing, touring or social.

R.H.

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Very, very late, but just in time to be compressed and squeezed in, come the following notes from the FORTUNE C.C.

Once again the inevitable Bonk deadline draws near, and with no racing on, it is difficult to find news. However the social season, if not very eventful, had one or two highlights. Our club AG, held at the Kilby residence, was a somewhat hilarious, urbusinesslike affair, with the outgoing chairman having difficulty in keeping things to the point. Making the journey specially from his present Leatherhead abode, a much-bruised Mick Tully found that icy roads and scooters don't mix, having come off four times en route. Officers elected were: - Anderson (chairman), M. Hills (secretary) and M. Kilby (treasurer) with 'Slowcoach' again Bonk scribe. Our members were apparently unconvinced by Alan Gayford's views on the amalgamation of clubs; as we decided after discussion, to keep the Fortune going despite our small numbers. Mick Tully assured us that he would be racing this season, and intends to camp, prior to events on the Lancing courses, in his girl friend's garden. We shall watch his times with interest! The club was well represented at the ESCA and SCA lunches, though Mick Hills was absent from the latter, despite having a 12hr. certificate to collect. Other functions attended by the club were the Central Sx. dinner and the Prestonville social. Reports indicate that a good time was had by all. Rose slipped up at the latter do by asking Mick K. in front of Margaret why he didn't take her home, telling at Blackboys prior to the ESCA Tourist Trial. He had to make some hasty explanations as he hadn't told her anything about it.

(Continued on page 13)

Membership Problem-- With a Difference--

Just three months after it's formation the Brighton Premier has run into membership difficulties; but it isn't the usual tale of members drifting away from the sport. The club had fourteen active members when it was first formed, and at first club nights were held each week at members homes; but the club soon doubled it's membership so a solution had to be found - and fast! The outcome was the opening of a new clubroom at the rear of the Baptist Church Hall in Moulscumb Way (opposite Allen West's factory). The clubroom is open Friday evenings from 8pm. and any prospective members with an interest in racing will be welcome. By the time these notes appear in print the club should have reached the thirty mark, and it already boasts of fourteen racing members on it's books.

The senior riders' first assignments were in the Croydon Road Race on Feb. 28th and the London Coureurs event the following week. The younger riders will be initiated into time-trials in East Sussex very shortly.

The first Premier open promotion will be the 63 mile Southern Criterium on March 14th. The start is from Newick Green at noon, so there will be plenty of time for riders in the early morning ESCA T.T. to come and see the stars in action. Heading the field is Terry West, together with fellow internationals John Clarey and John Froud. Other big names include Jean Meeten (a rider with several wins last season in Belgium), D. Sheehy, B. Dacey, A. Barnett, A. Burgess, B. O'Leary, J. Lawrence, B. Bulmer etc. Local riders include Joe James (Central Sussex), Barry Carpenter (Premier) and Dick Marchant (East Grinstead). T.V. are showing interest in this event; so here is a chance to appear on the small silver screen. Time-trial wise, the club are glad to have signed an ex-Lewes rider Larry Baker, who should have a good season before him now that regular hard training runs are bringing him out.

Brian Hutton.

What is there to report from Southborough during the past quarter? A lot. This in itself is pleasing news as last winter (63-64) the club went through an unusually quiet period when, in spite of a mild winter, we were reduced to having all-day clubruns every other week-end. Since then the resurgence of interest has been maintained, and throughout the past winter we have had a good turnout both for runs and social activity. Monthly Youth-hostelling week-ends have been well supported, and YHA membership is higher than for many years - higher in fact than the Tun. Wells and Tonbridge YHA group! Of course, our runs aren't like the orgies perpetrated by that frightful Central Sx. club. About time we had another inter-club YHA week-end with you - we like to see how the other half lives. Tanners Hatch youth hostel in December was a very social place (It wasn't the only one! Ed.) it's so small it can't be anything else. Next was Deddington on the North Downs - a luxury hostel. In keeping with the luxurious surroundings we cooked up a Chinese meal in the members kitchen; but despite being careful it's final appearance differed radically from the picture on the packet! We washed it down with bottles of fizzy lemonade while reclining on the common-room sofas and watching colour-slides of Germany. (I'm telling you, we lived it up that night). Don Robb is now trying to see how we can spend every other week-end there. We shall be staying at Blackboys Y.H. before the Hardriders 12; and remembering the previous disastrous results of mixing hostelling self-cooking with competitive cycling, all I can say is - don't expect wonders. Back in January members were saying that we must try the new hostel at Piddinghoe when it opens in March. We must move quickly though, as once the summer comes Lewes Wanderers will be taking it over for an evening 10 H.Q. and Geiff (Seaford Flyer) Willcocks may intend to convert it into a harem for all his 'dragons' to save undue travelling exertion after the events.

Regarding dinners, we don't seem to have got along to so many this season. Those wheelers who braved rain and wind to cycle to the Association Luncheon found their journey well worth while; the venue at the Hassocks Hotel, has really brought a new spirit into the affair, with cross-toasting and fun enough to shame most dinners. Geoff Hayman

(Touring Corp), Tony Neale (100 Handicap) and Crow (B and O and 12 hrs) collected their silverware, the latter making his unconventional speech of thanks. Perhaps the Hassocks Hotel has an aura of magic about it as the Central Sussex 'do' was a howling success as well. It would be nice though, if it could start earlier or repeal the local laws so that it could finish at three a.m. for the evening was so good that it was time for the last snog-sorry waltz, a few dances after the fun started. Congrats to Barbara J. for running such a grand event. Anyone who wasn't at the dinner post-mortem at B and O's may be interested to know that we sat up to 02-3, hours listening to methods of castrating pigs.

Lou and Crow attended the Hastings dinner - such a lot of 'grown-ups' there; but fortunately, like the Central, this was well compensated for by the amount of talent. It would have been nice to have mentioned the Lewes dinner, but unfortunately the club went to horticulturists convention instead - actually we later discovered that it was supposed to be the dinner of a cycling club. No, it wasn't in East Sussex.

Naturally everyone thinks that their own dinner is the best; and even trying to look at it impartially we think ours was the best of the 64-65 season - that is if you like a function with some go in it. Yet success was not come by easily. Our social sec. Ted Boorman, resigned over something in the spring, and his successor Dawn resigned in dramatic circumstances in October leaving us with two months to go and no social sec. Anny Hayman was "asked" to help, and with everyone rallying round came up with one of the best (many thought THE best) ever Southboro' dinner. Over one hundred and thirty members and guests turned up at the Social Centre, Tonbridge on a night when the atmosphere, or whatever it was, was just right. The cross-toasting got off to a fast start and seldom abated, with surprising revelations on the club's Easter tour in the Towey Valley; and Seaboard meter readers who visit the Haymans when Geoff is at work. Speeches were short and to the point, with references to "Old Gayfers Bird" for Mrs "Cycling" and "The Stormy Petrel of N.W. Kent Cycling" for Brian Kent. Crow ended his speech to the ladies with a recitation of the words of a pop song that made it sound even more suggestive than when sung, and Lou and Spide had on-form replies to Alan Gayfer and Sheila Patten.

after which dancing, games and the beer-drinking contest (won again by the club), plus not a little necking, ran the dinner out to a glorious conclusion.

Judging by Hennessey, (that should read hear-say-what a scrawl! Ed.) it seems that everyone started training in January, and has been stacking up the miles in order to roar round the Hardriders 12. In contrast to this, we in the SDW are loth to start before the advent of milder weather i.e. September. Racing strength will be down too, as John Hearn has moved to Luton and Crow is studying full-time in London. The latter piece of news will no doubt come as a relief to those who thought that he would be racing at Preston Park! Because of this prolonged competitive hibernation it is difficult to make any forecasts for '65; although Geoff Boxall says he's going to have a dabble, and we all know what a master of understatement he is. John Potter is also a name to watch. His forte is that of "descendeur", and as one who has tried to follow him and ended up in the hedgerow at the bottom of the hill I can say he's quite hot. One hears mutterings about Sussex Criteriums and Preston Park so we shall have to wait and see.

Phil Hennessey came down from the mountains and put on a well-conceived touring competition for the Association. It would have been a better reward for Phil and his band of helpers to have had more entries, for it was a good days fun despite the cold north wind, and was certainly no "killer". Irony stepped in on the speed-judging section when Geoff Hayman's usually unerring judgement gave him an 8 min. error, and Crow chose the highest speed so that he could ride fast and keep warm - and was only 28 sec. out! Graham Lade had the same amount of error, and from then on these two fought it out for the lead with Crow having a one point lead at lunch-time and the event closing quite fittingly with a tie; the same placing these two achieved in the '63 Roller Contest. Persistence rewarded the Fortune who pulled off the team award three points up on Southborough. This year Iris and her helpers weren't plagued with late entries for the Party, and everyone had enough tea before the film show. What about seeing a few members' slides next year, it gives a personal touch to the proceedings.

Looking ahead, plans for the club's Easter tour are being aimed at last year's formula of cars to carry bikes and camping gear to the Gower Peninsula in S. Wales. And don't forget all you people who like to take part in a REALLY well-organised event, our Hilly 42 is on April 11th. Don't eat all the food before I finish.

See you up the road.

CROW

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PEN PORTRAITS.....New Series No.1.

We begin the new series with a new name, one that is not yet widely known but is surely destined to be in the near future. Sturdy, shock-haired, sometimes near bearded eighteen year old John Norris is known to his Hastings clubmates as 'Johnny Noggins'; and frequently enlivens their runs with his repertoire of amusing tricks such as changing from top gear to bottom while in the middle of the bunch half way up a steep hill. Such is his keenness for cycling that he has neglected to develop his dress sense - so that in personal appearance he is something less than immaculate; and he has been known to ride a time-trial with such concentration that he has forgotten the whereabouts of his lodgings, thereby causing promoting officials an anxious search of the district. However, in the matter of cycle repairs and maintenance it is a different story. Thanks to tremendous application, coupled with much useful experience (e.g. his lightning gear adjustment on the line at the Hardriders 12), he is now not far behind the well-known 'Tourist' Agg in this important field. John has recently begun building a pair of 'sprints'; and when a cycle shop has altered their shape from oval to circular he should (given enough marshals round the Boship) "show 'em" all the way round G52. With his colourful riding and flair for doing the unexpected, it is safe to say that to many of next winter's cross-toasts the respondent will be a smiling young man, Sidley's own cyclist extraordinary - Johnny Norris.

Here we go again; almost through February and the racing season looking ahead like the sword of Damocles. By the time you read this the Hardriders will have been contested and aching legs and gasping lungs will be just a painful memory. (Only until the March 25 Ea.) Our new club officials have been sorted out, and you will notice that this worthy is once again 'Bonk' contributor for the Road Club - it's the only way I can keep my name from being dragged through the mud too much. I'd better start dragging the other villains through it I suppose.

The arch-villains of the club are without doubt 'Nits' and Gordon. Nits has been a shadow of his former self since the statuesque Marian got her hooka on him. He's so worried, he has to be dragged to club dinners for fear of the cross-toasting. Not to worry Nits, there's always 'Bonk' to wash the dirty linen in. Gordon hasn't been doing so bad either: what with his many visits to Eastbourne, he declares he hasn't the energy to go out training. By the way, did you know that Nits and Gordon tossed a coin to decide who should have Marian and who should have Barbara? I don't know who is the luckier of the two.

I think it's fair to say that the club had a fair old social season, attending most if not all of the dinners in the area. Ann, Wack Neal's bird, showed everybody how to drink gin at the Central Sussex do. I wasn't there myself, but next day at the ESCA A.G.M. I heard everything about it. Talk about "Annie Get Your Gin" - I'll get killed for that. I gather that Ian has been somewhat quieter this social season. Maybe it's the double liability of a new baby daughter and a new 'Mini'. I expect the neighbours are breathing a sigh of relief anyway! On the home front, the Road Club once again seems to be gaining strength after the setbacks of last year. Two keen new members, Dave Ball and Richard Blackwell have recently joined us. Did I say keen? The rest of us are scared to go out training with them. Watch out ESCA this year. Seriously though, after a spell in the doldrums it seems as if the future looks a bit brighter. That's a smack in the eye for the pessimists of the Association who said that the club was finished after the famous resignations of 1964.

Well, that's about all for now; see you all

Tunbridge Wells Road Club (cont.)

up the road, and may 1965 be a good season for you-it's my last, by the way.

WACK

P.S. If any scandal appears in "Here and There" about yours truly, I state here and now that it is quite untrue.

(If the readers believe that they'll believe anything. Ed.)

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EASTBOURNE ROVERS C&A.C.

The deadline is dangerously near as with much nailbiting I endeavour to think of at least one incident in which a clubmate has disgraced his (or her) self. They seem to have been a virtuous lot this winter, even at the club dinner. Though on this occasion we shared the evening with our athletes, so everyone had to be on their best behaviour.

Since the last issue things have been fairly quiet in the 'Suntrap', though Marian has managed to create a few bright periods, as the weather men say. I dare not print some of the things I've heard for fear of repercussions. Furtive whispers have reached my ears of goings on at Alfriston Youth Hostel over Christmas at which certain young lady member was seen snogging (a lovely occupation) with a different partner every night; while another lady (the President's wife at that), is said to have left a pair of yellow unmentionables behind at the hostel. It all comes out in the cross-toasting. Marion has been forming her own 'League of Nations' among the cycling clubs of southern England. There has been a regular traffic between Tunbridge Wells and Eastbourne during the winter months; and a certain red-headed member of the Road Club has been regularly arriving home with the milkman. At the Hastings dinner the said lady was seen doing nicely with a notorious member of Southborough wheelers; while a member of the Mephisto, (also a suitor??) was seen to be glaring fiercely! Intermingled with these young racing men, a member of the East Surrey R.C. kept popping up regularly. We are all eagerly awaiting the next instalment of the "Mary Anne Saga". While Marian has been brightening up the Suntrap another figure has been seen around the Eastbourne area a lot in the form of the long hair of Worthing. He actually rode over to the clubroom one night - sixty miles return trip. He said it was good for

Eastbourne Rovers (Cont.)

training. Is that why Jane rode to Lewes to meet him? Jane is having to ride her bike everywhere these days, otherwise Dave tells her off. Iris is getting rather worried about all these extra miles, and is reported to be neglecting her housework to get a few odd afternoons training so as not to be roared off by Jane when they go out on Wednesday nights.

Spring is definitely in the air, especially among the older males. Harry Heather has recently got himself hitched after a lighting romance; and Iris is threatening Ken with divorce proceedings if he doesn't behave himself when Jane is around. Jane will soon be snapped up by our Athletic Section as a sprinter after the way she has to run round the billiard table on Thursday nights to keep away from "Little Hairy Kenny". Ken, not to be outdone, is making counter threats about a certain rock pedlar from Hastings who keeps appearing at the clubroom under guise of attending to association business and wooing his (Ken's) wife with soft rock. (There is no romance - we are just good fellow officials Ed.) If you are beginning to think that this is an immoral house, let me hasten to dispel your fears. A few are keeping the club's good name intact; one even managing to get right round our cyclo-cross at Christmas, and even his mother disowned him at the finish - both he and his bike were unrecognisable. Still he finished while the others flunked on the muddy section. Did I say nud; it was a quagmire. The only other member whose doings have reached my ears are the twins, who have both bought scooters and now creep into the club with cries of "Sold your bike yet?" and "There will soon be some cheap equipment going". All of which they hotly deny.

I had better not finish without a mention of our dinner which as I said earlier, was a joint affair with our athletes. I have had good reports from both sections; the two sides appeared to mix well and entered into the spirit of the thing, with cross-toasting a new and bewildering thing to some of the athletes. What made the evening notable was the fact that Willcocks arrived before the meal started - he usually arrives after the soup.

Now as my nails are practically bitten to the quick, I will leave you with the thought that it's only eight months to the social season.

SCRUBBER

FORTUNE

MARCH..Thunderstorms and flooding - riders washed away in Brighton road race.G52 course changed event fees raised - Humphrey says finances are dodgy.

APRIL..Force 12 gales,rain and hail.Marshals lash themselves to telegraph poles;company riding allowed for safety reasons;roll-call after events.Subs raised a temporary measure until next increase.Humphrey states finances are deplorably low.

MAY..Freezing fog,sleet and black ice.Agg disqualified for taking pace from a farm labourer.Balaclavas make identification of riders impossible.G52 course altered twice.Event fees doubled.Wash wins East-bourne to Pevensey and back two-day road race.Humphrey warns finances are in serious straits.

JUNE..worst weather in living memory.Braziers all round 50 course.90% DNF with frostbite.Crow puts up new course record by taking to the fields.G52 used as ski-run.Subs raised. Humphrey says financial position desperate.

JULY..Sub-zero temperatures.Rum ration issued at finish of events.to survivors.Copper Burgess drunk and incapable.Skating contest instead of ,won by the Vicar.Humphrey speaks of grave finance trouble.

AUGUST Rain,gales and floods.Fred Stenning summonsed on a charge of furious riding.Neeves aqua-planes to victory in 12 hrs.G52 altered.Humphrey talks of financial debacle.

SEPTEMBER ..Willcocks starts training for 1968 rainbow jersey.BSC trophies pawned - Stevenses leave for South of France.Burbery and Burgess camp out in Shetlands,Humph.warns financial crash imminent.

HORRORSCOPE

OCTOBER..Unbearable heat.Hill-climb riders stick in molten tar.The Vicar burns gullet knocking back hot beer - says he'll be glad when he's had enough.Subs and event fees raised.Road Club vote to sack committee on bloc.Humphrey says finances are now catastrophic.

NOVEMBER..Sirocco hits East Sussex causing overheating of gears etc.Ditson's bottom bracket smokes on way to luncheon.Jenner in bathing trunks convulses public.Humphrey states finances are in perilous state.

DECEMBER..No rain for months.Central Sussex clubroom choked with dust.Fortune wear respirators in Hilly 20 - only finishers.Humphrey traced to Las Vegas.new treasurer has whip-round to pay off overdraft.Vicar sober.Horace Richard signs pledge.Central instal snogometer at club dinner burst by Crow after last waltz.

and the best of British Luck to all readers.
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Fortune C.C.(cont.)

A 9-30am start to the Tourist Trial meant an unusually early reveille for the Fortune members staying at Blackboys(or at least for the six who competed).A frenzied window-cleaning session for hostel duties,then a brisk ride to the start at Burwash,to find that we made up almost half the entry - a factor which no doubt helped in our team win. During the event an emergency halt tested John Duyck's reactions and his brake cable - the latter being found wanting.Machine Examiner Roy Humphrey was somewhat horrified by the muddy,rusty cycle handed to him by Derek Hanson;and in the afternoon,some of the boys had some trouble with a 3ml.run from Horan Station to an unsteecified inn getting extra miles in in the process.The hills that Phil H. had laid on for us had their effect,

(Continued on P.24)

An open letter to members of East Sussex C.C. clubs.

36, Priory Road,
Burgess Hill,
Sussex.

Feb. 5th 1965.

Dear Friends,

As my term of office as President of the Association has now finished I would like to say thank-you to all of you for the courtesy and consideration that has been shown to Barbara and I during the past year. As you can imagine, I am very proud of the honour which was bestowed on me, as I am also very proud of the Association.

It would be wrong of me indeed if, whilst writing this letter, I did not commend to you my successor for 1965. In ROY HUMPHREY I am sure that we will all find a President worthy of our respect and esteem. Far too much has already been said about the forthcoming "death" of cycling owing to lack of officials etc. but I am sure that Roy is the one man who, if all else failed, would find the answer and the cure to the aforementioned disaster. You all know of his work for the Association, and the amount of time that he must give to it. Without Roy the East Sussex C.C., would not function in the most efficient manner that it does. This year then let us have a bumper year for the new President.

Thank you once again,

Yours sincerely,

KEN ATKINS

Central Sussex C.C.

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EAST GRINSTEAD C.C.

Now with winter releasing it's grip on us and the nights drueing out, the boys are coming out of winter storage again along with those dirty bikes all covered with cobwebs and such. One of the first things I must

East Grinstead C.C.

mention is that the club no longer resides at the Toc H hall in Lingfield road, but has moved down town to St. Johns hall, Felbridge which is slightly bigger and better equipped for a cycling club. Club-nights are Tuesdays from 8pm to 10pm. With the new larger hall table-tennis is now very popular, and the not-so-young members are really liking the extra elbow room and showing the youngsters the way to play, honours being one of the most energetic with some acrobatic type shots.

Dick Marchant is now back on the bike, and after a rather disappointing season last year which included an involuntary trip under a heavily laden milk lorry which, as well as completely demolishing his bike, also badly damaged his legs, Dick is making a remarkable recovery, and will be back this year with vengeance. In the last month of last year the club promoted an event for the school boys of the Grinstead district to try to attract younger members. The event, which was a speed-judging contest, was won by D. Brown who covered the circuit based on Weir Wood with a difference of about 12 seconds, which was 18 seconds better than young club member Chris Powell.

Last year's prize winners were:-
Phil Hitchcock... Senior B.A.H.
Tom Paubury... Novice Award (Jay Cup)
Mick Robinson... "25" championship and hill-climb.

To put the speed up a bit this year the club is holding an evening '10's every Tuesday from June to September, while riding home from the C.C. Party and Film Show the forest was well lit and lights weren't really needed. The flames were jumping high and the smoke was billowing in the cool, crisp air. Latest press reports say that the fire was started by six youths.

A very informal party which was held at the Hon. S.C.'s house was great fun, with a slide show of club members holiday shots and everything else chucked in. A big laugh was had from a hidden tape-recorder which took everything down while the junior members had their food and drinks.

That's all till the next issue, when I hope to have more news.

WARNING

The following contribution is not suitable for impressionable young people, persons of a nervous disposition, or anyone with a highly developed sense of public decency. Ed.

NOT SO MUCH A WRITE-UP.....MORE A LOAD OF.....

Sponsored by ... Lewes Wanderers

Written by ... 'alsoran'

Exit the social season, that bleary, weary and expensive memory; but only the faint of heart (or body) would have it otherwise. Those cross-toasts that rolled 'em under the tables, that blonde who made bike-riding belong to another planet, those lovely loaded tankards lined up for quaffing. Terrific while it lasted wasn't it? But confidentially, folks, it'll do yer a power of good to get out again in the open air and live for a change! Back to the days of alarm clocks, miles and stack-ups etc. Soon you'll begin to wonder how you stayed off a bike so long - you hope!

Back to earth then; but before we leave that hallowed subject a word about the club dinner. This took place as threatened and was the usual lively affair that somehow gets by without police intervention. After a very witty and revealing toast to the club by Ron Ewart of the Central, who gave us some hitherto unpublicised scandal about Agg and other victims; the highlight of the evening centred round Colburn. In a touching little address the Copper spoke of Maurice's valiant efforts to prove that Agg's vital statistics (bikewise) had earned him a higher place than the one he'd been given in the Assn. BAR table; so to assist his abstruse calculations the club had decided on a special presentation - a child's bead counter! The look on his face when he opened it plainly said "I've been framed". He'll not be expected to produce 'The Computer' whenever figures (the written kind, of course) are under discussion. Towards the end of the dinner the Chancellor was seen standing close to the bar. Burberry's loud comment "Bliney, is he going to treat somebody?" evoked a glare that embraced all the usual better words and then some. It was later discovered that all he wanted was the account. The club AGM was held at the Copper's precinct - a piece of daring without previous parallel. However, mainly due to a fairly quiet affair, no

Lewes Wanderers (cont.)

arrests were made. Agg figured in one quite unprintable exchange of indecent remarks which will go round in due course, and was also involved in a somewhat heated discussion with Colburn re the fate of the 1965 BAR trophy, which ended with the latter swearing to screw the 'Tourist' thoroughly this year. We shall see. Lawrie Gordon told us that as he wanted to do more road racing this year he has joined Brighton Premier; however he is staying as a second claim member, so we'll still be seeing him around. We're hoping to have Chris May back from Durham, plus Ken Savage and possibly another rider ex Uckfield, so we'll be keeping the club's fair name before the multitude in various events.

Incidentally the Lewes boys are very sorry to hear of Uckfield's demise. The passing of any club is always an unhappy business, and particularly so in this case to those who knew the "Farmers" in their great days not so long ago. Regrettably, with so few people prepared to put anything into the game, the outlook is in general not good. Fortunately we in East Sussex have a band of officials and helpers who set an example to other bodies, which could well be copied to the benefit of all with cycling at heart. Sorry as we are to lose Auntie Sheila we welcome the new/old gauleiter of Bonk affairs, Dennis Neeves. Those who remember his previous term of office, when there was rumoured to be a hidden 'bike' in every clubroom, and paid newshounds disguised as clubfolk, will have cause for alarm at this man's ability to find the worst about the best. Still, as someone once said, "The very appearance of Neevo is good for a laugh" so it's an ill wind.....!!

One gentleman who gets bike-minded earlier than most people is Adrian Palmer. Recently he took a driving test in the course of which the examiner asked, "what action do you take at a Halt sign?" Palmer, doubtless daydreaming of crossing the line victoriously, replied "Sling out the anchors and put one foot on the ground". What the examiner thought of this acrobatic ability is not recorded, but even so, our hero passed. Referring to social events Agg remarked "One dinner a year is enough for me". Wilcocks retorted "Judging by the size of you, you must be getting through a heck of a lot of breakfasts, teas and suppers." Edwards offered to transport two riders to the early season Dulwich 25. Much foul language and gnashing of teeth ensued when his prized

Lewes Wanderers (cont.)

veyance gave up the ghost as early as Lewes bus station. 'Aller' Colburn has tried to revive his notorious clubrun with such little success that he now 'goes it alone'. A sceptic remarked that the only way to keep the pace down is to make sure that Colburn tows the garden roller! Burbery announcing a return to competition this season, said, "What with my wife, baby and sister-in-law living in the place, I'd be glad to go out training to get some peace. You can't do much when you're outnumbered."

Well, to a mounting crescendo of crunching gear, grinding chains and creaking muscles (guess who? Ed.), the Lewes boys bid all their friends bags of successes and good weather in 1965. As we prepare to face fearful odds we comfort ourselves with the thought that it's just as hard for others - until they come past unwrapping purple hearts. Here's to a good season up the road anyway.

Alsorán

ooo --- ooo --- ooo --- ooo --- ooo

FOR SALE AND WANTED

For Sale. Campag 'Gran Sport ensemble, twin D/T levers good condition 55/- . 5 1/2 in. steel stem 12/6

Wanted..gen adjustable seat-pin. Norman size and diameter (whatever that is). 5 pin. not Williams unless LB 77. reasonable price. F. Crowley, Mill Hill, Edenbridge.

For Sale. F.W. Evans touring tandem all Chater-Lea. Drum brake, hib three-speed gear. 26 by 1 1/2 westwoods (no tyres) Size 21-20 1/2 £12. Wren, 13, Albion Road, Eastbourne.

For sale..several one inch pitch Chater Lea chainrings, old but serviceable back G/D sprint wheel. Pair Cinelli deep drop steel bars (7/6). Reeves, East Parade, Hastings.

VIVE L'ETIQUETTE

At the Hastings dinner, a well-known club president was seen to slap a large piece of rare beef onto the plate of an association president sitting opposite. The latter gentleman, not to be outdone, ate part of his meal with his fingers.

CENTRAL SUSSEX C.C.

Not only is it already the second month of the new year, but the deadline for Bonk is once again upon us. Hey ho. Firstly, I would like to express a sorrow which must have been felt by all association members when they learned of the recent disbanding of the Uckfield and District C.C. a club which a few short years ago, was the 'lion' of the association. What have the Central's members been doing recently? You can't really be blamed for not knowing, because in a lot of cases neither do I. However, the following notes fill in some of the gaps.

Mick Morgan argued with the road while descending Brasted hill after the Catford Hill-climb. He was taken to Farnborough Hospital, but although at first suspected of having serious injuries, he was soon discharged. The few days that he was a patient gave the authorities sad misgivings for the safety of their nurses. A few weeks later saw Opera and Barbara Jones join the Tun. Wells R.C. for the annual trip to the National Hill-Climb Championship, held in the Peak District of Derbyshire. While John, Michael and Dave Funnell decided it was just the week-end for a camping expedition - the Hill-Climb being incidental; and the photos released by the trio makes one wonder if they have gypsy blood in their veins, or if they have secret longings for the open-air life. A hostelling week-end to Marlborough was the next diversion. A sedate Saturday's riding, from all corners reaching Sussex, until the party reached the A.4. Bath Road, when the racing fever was aroused in them - and a burn-up to the hostel followed. The Sunday, it seems, was spent in fords and ploughed fields across the Vale of Pewsey. But they did not appear to have found either the local young ladies or Toddy Boys, as on the previous week-end in the New Forest.

The Central then launched itself into the social season. We were represented at the Tun. Wells, Worthing Excel. Eagle R.C. (John, Michael and Ken having won 1st team in the open 50); Viking R.C. (Alan and David being winners of their Tandem 30 also the team with Bill and Ganger), Southborough and Dist. Norwood Paragon (Ron and Ken getting John to tell Pat and Barbara that it was a 'stag' do which it wasn't); and the Leicestershire R.C. dinners. Also of course the East Sussex and Sussex C.A. luncheons, where we had large parties in both cases, supporting each other, and the President, at

Central Sussex C.C. (cont.)

the former; and John, who was Bak Champion, at the latter. Our own dinner was a great success, thanks to all the work put into it by Barbara Jones. The main speakers were Lou Bathurst (Southborough) and Stan Butler (Norwood Paragon); the two stalwarts for the club were Ken Atkins and John Dutson. The evening was enjoyed by ninety-seven members and friends among whom were some old face who we hadn't seen for years.

The Hilly 20 again proved a successful event. Alan Robinson returned the fastest time overall, and fastest club time, with Paul Barber winning the event, which is decided on handicap times. The only serious non-finisher was Dave F. who went to Turners Hill - the road to Eastbourne!! A two-up team of Joe and John could only manage 1-13-32, and at the finish all questions as to where they had been were ignored.

Christmas eve's happenings are being kept very quiet by those who gathered at the White Harte, although several people had to walk round Cuckfield until 1 am after leaving the White Harte, on finding that the people attending midnight service had blocked their cars in. (Serves the right for not riding their bikes. Ed.) The New Year seems to have renewed the determination of the racing members to repeat last year's bumper success. Rumour has it that most of them have now completed several hundred training miles, and with the first event looming menacingly on the horizon, we can but wait and hope. The A.G.M. the liveliest for several years, was held at the end of last month, and resulted in some new officials. The names and addresses of those who you may wish to contact in the coming months are:-

General Sec. K.L. Atkins, 36, Priory Road, Burgess Hill.

Phone Burgess Hill 2930

Social Secretary. Michael Wren 127, London Rd. Burgess Hill.
Racing Secretaries.

R.T.T.C. P. Barber 11, Valebridge Road, Burgess Hill.

B.C.F. J.R. Dutson 95, Franfield Road, Uckfield.

Ah, finished--well, until next time.... B.A.

STOP PRESS The Central are once again entering the field of promotion; this time with an open road race. The date.. Sat. 22nd May Open to 1st 2nd 3rd and Junior Cat. licence holders. Full details later from organiser J. Dutson

HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS C.C.

Hibernation and general scattering makes news a little hard to find. The club's correspondent has not been around quite as much as usual, but here goes.

Sunday runs still take place regularly with a fluctuating attendance. The weather has been good on the whole, but with the annual sleep of some of the hunters and aspirants things thin out. Many senior members have also been engaged in attending the various Sunday A.G.M.s and committee meetings. The social season ticks away with the usual vigour. I particularly enjoyed the East Sussex Lunch at Hassocks. A great many rode to the function on a very damp and uninspiring morning. The lunch was delightfully informal, and it was taken as natural for damped-off dryers to walk around in their stockinged feet as of old. For club social events we have had to abandon an old haunt. On our last visit the food was sadly lacking in quantity by previous standards. We have since learned that the landlord was fined for a licencing offence just before our last call. We must have represented the first repayment! Our additional Christmas Party was held at 'Whitegates', Westfield. This turned out to be an excellent choice of venue. Very cosy and what a fine knife and fork tea. The manageress was most co-operative, and many games both quiet and boisterous were played. For once, I think, a satisfactory compromise was reached over the music. We have two strongly contrasting teams; it is not so much the style as the volume. Some like it in the background while others like it to dominate and drown all conversation. The evening ended well with the manageress and staff joining in a Knees-up, Vive le Sport!

At the end of January we held our 39th annual dinner. A combination of good fortune and sufficient planning time resulted in a much bigger attendance than the previous year. In fact we were only a few seats short of the hotel's capacity. Thanks to Dennis and the large number of ladies present the entertainment went with a real swing. Going back a bit, everyone noticed that our most lively cross-toasters were silent this year. We even sold out of raffle tickets; our young ladies really did well. (They gave a kiss to any man who bought 2s worth. Ed.)

(Continued on P.24)

HERE AND THERE

A certain fair-haired and peripatetic member of Southboro' Wheelers has decided to give Hastings a wide berth since Jessie Jarvie told him at that club's dinner that her baby looked just like him - and husband John agreed. Now he won't be able to fulfil his promised visit to Margaret Moorhouse.

Who was the well-known Prestonville Nomad who went to a fancy-dress ball as Tarzan, accompanied by his hitherto blonde wife dressed as a Spanish maid?

Crow has warned several people that in order to exist as a full-time student for any length of time, he will have to resort to sending out begging letters. That master of parsimony Royancy replied that while he wouldn't give even a penny, he might condescend to advise on how to make a little cash go a long way. He should know!

Although the new dances are numerous, members of the Tun. Wells R.C. could only draw one conclusion when Gerald Morgan came home without his braces. Also Gerald and his girl friend have been comparing scores; if this has any connection with the above is not known.

According to a newspaper report Barbary of Lewes has started training with a new frame, a clubmate queries if these body-building courses are any good to cyclists.

Is it true that the Vicar told someone that he'd drunk sixteen pints and never staggered? When the other fellow said he found this hard to believe Reg replied, "It's true, I couldn't move."

At the Lewes dinner it was at first thought that one of the Rolling Stones had gatecrashed the function. Closer inspection revealed Peter Sharp under the hirsute mass. His excuse, "No time to go to the barber".

John Fisher overheard peffering to Marian "She ain't half a snaking snogger".

HERE AND THERE

Who are the two members of the Road Club who have been fined for speeding in the Eastbourne area on different occasions, both involving visits to or from Marian?

Are the Rovers building one of those pedal-powered air-craft? Their notes for this issue were delivered in a blue blue air-mail envelope by a lady cyclist.

Bernard Riley of the Rovers was among the non-starters in the Harfriders. When he told his family on the Friday that he had decided not to race, they got him organised, so that he spent the Sunday morning washing-up and laying grates while Mum and Dad watched the event.

It's sad to see the decline of a once great man. We refer in this case to A.A. Nash (formerly known as S.E. Nash), who on a recent Sunday, talked of "Going home to tea", flinched when a Hastings rider suggested getting the miles in, and when asked why he had not been seen in shorts lately replied "Because it's too cold".

A possibly hopeful gentleman at the Hastings dinner, finding that two ladies were giving a kiss with two shillings worth of raffle tickets, bought ten bob's worth. The two ladies got so carried away that eventually they weren't even bothering about raffle tickets.

STOP PRESS! Dot Collins has found her lost panties (see Eastbourne notes). Not at Alfriston youth hostel, but right at the bottom of her sleeping bag. This seems to prove one or two things!

Do YOU feel neglected - ignored by people? Then you need Here and There. All you have to do to change your life is to kiss someone's wife or girl friend, fall off your bicycle or board a railway train; and Here and There's representatives will rush to help you absolutely free of charge. Don't be a nobody all the time - get into the limelight through....

HERE AND THERE

Hastings and St Leonards C.C. (Cont.)

Discussions are already being held on the subject of next year's function, which, being our ninetyeth, will have to be something extra special, albeit at an above average price also on the agenda is the club's open 50 on July 4th. Don't forget, you time-trialists, that the course is one of the best in the South; and the week-end is a good 'banker' for fine weather.

Best wishes, everyone - I hope my next report will be more sporty.

S.R.

Fortune C.C. (cont.)

and it was a shattered looking bunch that presented itself for tea at Stonecross. Results showed that Derek and Mick K each with 71 points, were our top scorers, with John close enough to give us the team award. Rose was disappointed to find that the shield hadn't yet been engraved with our club name; but it was gently pointed out to her that engravers don't work on Sundays. We gave the shield to Mick K. to take home as a peace-offering! Derek attended the B.C.F. National Council under the guise of YHA representative, and had the distinction of being the only person to go by bike. Finding somewhere to leave the bike at the plush London hotel presented it's problems (what no cycle shed), but caused some amusement to the reception staff, all except the porter who didn't realise that a packed touring saddlebag makes a bike inclined to tip when handled by the unwary.

See you up the road.....SLOWCOACH

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This brings us to the end of the Spring edition of Bonk. Any criticisms or complaints about same should be sent to the Editor in writing, and not shouted at him in the street or chalked on walls.

Deadline for contributions to the Summer edition will be MAY 22nd.

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