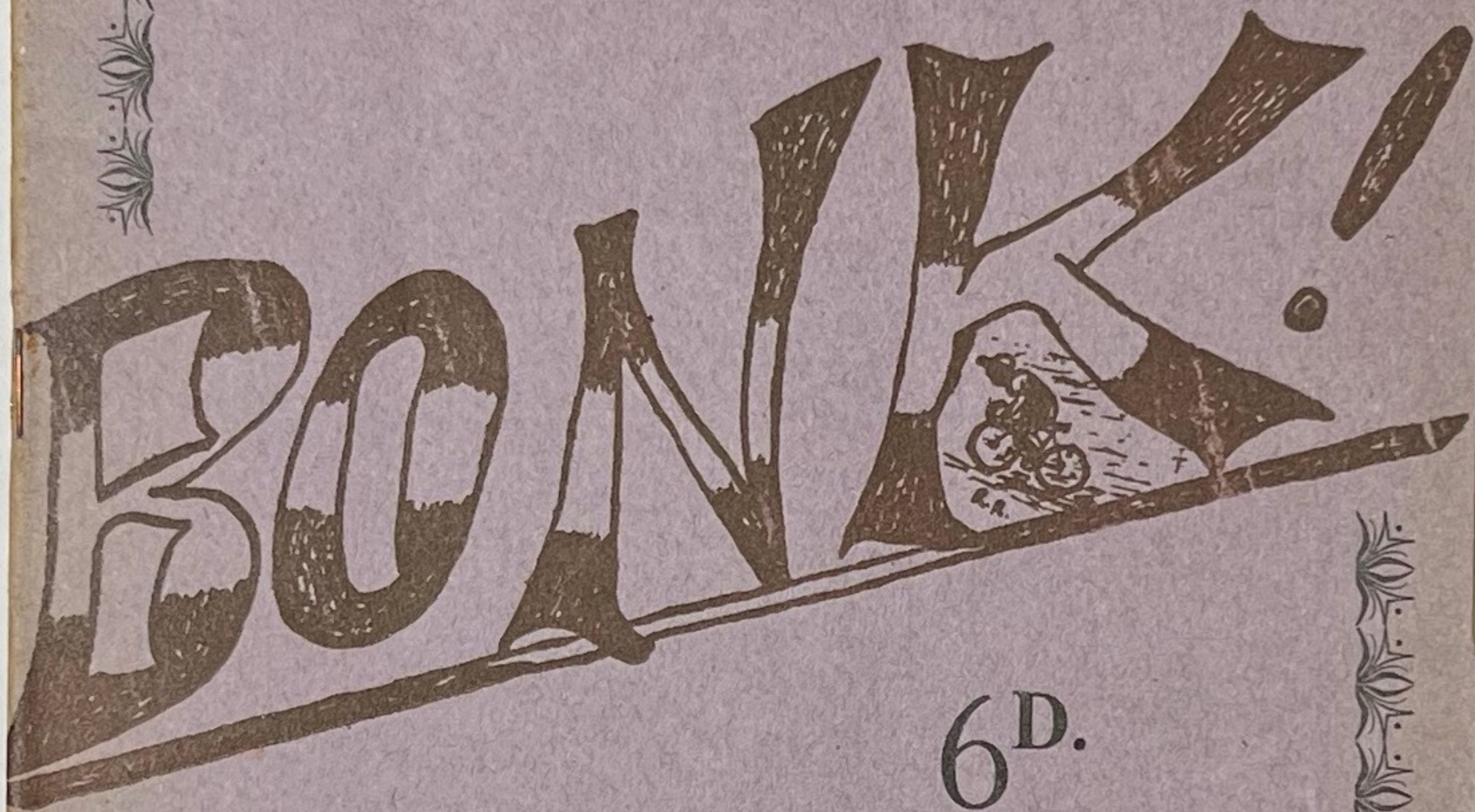


THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION

BONNIE!



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New Series No.12.

Winter 1965

Secretary Mr R Humphrey

Editor Mr D Neeves

Treasurer 4, Ebenezer Cottages,
Framfield, Uckfield.

19, East Parade,
Hastings.

EDITORIAL

The past few days have been eventful ones, too eventful to permit a coherent editorial page. Having (somewhat to my surprise) re-elected me as Magazine Editor, the AGM delegates then voted for the motion that Bonk should be duplicated professionally and sold at one shilling per copy, thus ending an unhappy chapter in the magazine's history in which for a variety of reasons execution usually failed to equal intention. Given a reasonable amount of inspiration on the part of club contributors, we can now look forward to some really worthwhile issues of Bonk in future.

My club has done me the honour (and it is an honour) of nominating me as 1966 Association President. The roll of past presidents is a list of hard-riding cyclists and enthusiastic workers for their chosen sport; I will do my best to keep up the standard they have set. The coming year will be something of a Jekyll and Hyde affair for me, with a certain amount of deference as president mixed with the give-and-take of the committee table as magazine editor. However, others have done it before, so I shall no doubt get used to the idea. Naturally I am hopeful that my year of office will be a successful one for the association, and with a management committee which I am confident can stand comparison with any in the country, the rest is largely in the hands of individual club members. The thing to remember is that the Association can only be strong if it's member clubs are strong, so it is up to everyone who has enjoyed ESCA events and functions in the past and wants to enjoy more in the future, to support his club in every possible way. Finally I would like to wish all readers a Happy Christmas and the very best of luck through the coming year.

D.N.

'Gen' from the Secretary

At this time of the year most of us are thinking about the Social Season and perhaps in a few cases the Annual General Meetings of our clubs and associations. Many clubs are finding it difficult to find people to take on jobs; the time has now surely come when some of the younger members of our clubs should take over some of the official posts. New blood on the committees means new ideas, and this is what is needed in our Sport today. Two years from now will see the "coming of age" of our Association. Many changes have taken place in our sport since that first meeting held at Ashburnham in December 1946: one thing that has not changed over the years is the social spirit that prevails within our member clubs. Several founder clubs have fallen by the wayside, but others have taken their place. Today we have ten member clubs, of whom three were founder members. During the coming year your committee will be discussing special events to celebrate our "coming of age"; any suggestions that any of our members may have will be very much appreciated. Several of the older members of clubs connected with the Association have asked to be kept informed of any special events that may be arranged.

By the time you read these notes our AGM will have taken place: our Editor will no doubt find space to print any changes in officials that may have taken place. Next year's road programme will be the same as for 1965, and includes once again the Open 12 hours on the first Sunday in August. Let all of us give as much publicity as possible for this event and make every effort to increase the entry.

On the whole the past year has proved successful on the financial side, but it is up to all of us to make every effort to give our whole-hearted support to social events, especially the Draw. A glance at the balance sheet will show that receipts and expenditure have been about the same during the past year but with rising costs and no increase in income we might have to dip into our reserves at the end of next year or consider other means of increasing income.

In conclusion to all our members all the best for the Festive Season, and may 1966 see us all enjoying many more pleasant hours "up the road".

R.H.

CENTRAL SUBSEX C.C.

No it just can't be possible, another Bonk deadline rapidly approaching. But yes it is; the great Seaboard lady has been to see how much coffee brewing and midnight oil burning has taken place these last three months. Until the last few weeks the Central members have still been engaged in racing, but at last the cold weather and social season atmosphere have made their presence felt enough to cause them to hang up their sprints for a few short months.

I'm sure that nobody will disagree with the statement that it has been the best season we have ever had. Alan finished by being County P.A.R. as well as the ESCA champion, a performance only once previously achieved by Dennis Hamilton-Webb of the then strong Uckfield and District C.C. - and of which we are very proud. Club records tumbled at 25, 50 and 100 miles and 12 hours, the first named distance to Michael Wren and all the others to Alan Robinson. Alan and David 'Golfr' Dalziel lowered the tandem 30 mile record twice; and then at the end of the season along came John and Ken and took another minute off their best effort, in their first event in competition. John and Ken also lowered the County 50ml record by a narrow margin. The reason for this - already having appeared in 'Cycling', I don't feel like repeating it for fear of suspension through infringement of their copyright. We are also proud of our 100% team win record in ESCA events this season, and of having the fastest junior, Michael 'Min' Morgan, for the second year running.

We have to add to these team wins a further nine first places in open and association events, and one second place. As stated earlier in the narrative, the racing season was very prolonged, closing with Alan and Rodney riding in the National Championship Hill-climb. This was held on a miserable and damp Halloween Day, but not on the appropriate Nick o' Pandle, on Dovers Hill at Weston sub Edge in the heart of the Cotswolds. They were supported by several Central members and - we hope - by the TwaC and EHCAC party who were prowling around. The hill was long and fluctuated in steepness too much for

Central Sussex C.C. (Cont.)

our pair, who finished over half a minute down on the New Champion, but by no means at the tail of the field. Joe James also entered, but had his entry returned, an occurrence to which by then he had become used. But his disgust at being 'thrown out' of the fast Brentwood 25 had to be seen to be believed. John and Michael were our only two acceptances for that controversial mid-day event. Michael made a good end of season come-back after his foot operation to return a long '2' while John did a '4'. This then saw the end of serious racing for 1965, although the Hilly 20 on December 19th will draw a few stalwarts away from the fireside.

The Signpost Quest and Freewheeling Contest was a success. John had worked hard (in his employer's time) finding the signposts in a tight circle round Framfield and a hill which, though fairly short, appeared to provide all that was needed. The weather was kind, especially when one realises that twenty-four hours before the event Sussex was flooded, and twenty-four hours later it was snowbound. Two sections were organised, cyclists and motor-ists (yes motorists, to give the more restricted members an opportunity of having a day with 'the boys'). The best cyclist was secretary Ken Atkins, with Michael Wren second. The Ewart family succeeded in winning the motor section from President Maurice Smith, whose large car was far and away the best for freewheeling. The Humphrey family also joined us and appeared to have an enjoyable time.

Michael and Min supported the Worthing dinner and seem to have learnt a lot about the other visitors and how to play ten-pin bowling at 3 a.m. John proposed he toast to the Club at Bognor, but any remaining ideas of him being a gentleman (I'm amazed that there were any remaining ideas! Ed.) were dispelled during the cross-toasting, when he proceeded to drag up the past of a young lady.

The dark nights are helpful to misdoers, but not for those who want to discover the misdeeds; so as I've nothing else on anyone, I had better get this to Hastings, hoping that I'm not more than a couple of days after the deadline.

B.E.A.

Many people must be longing for relief from the controversy about the use of certain four-letter words; so here are a few reminiscences and thoughts about a once popular eight-letter word.

SCRANSON

New readers will no doubt wonder whether "Scranson" is a new dog food, a political movement or the waste product of some obscure engineering process. Old hands, however, will recognise it as a word which in '56 was an integral, one might almost say indispensable part of conversation between members of Eastbourne Rovers. The great thing about "scranson" was that as ~~one~~ knew what it meant, it could and did mean almost anything. It was variously used as an adjective, as a synonym for "rubbish", as an indication that a message had been received and understood, as an expression of assent, or even as a vague ejaculation meaning nothing in particular. It was also very useful if one forgot another person's christian name or surname, so that he could be referred to as (for example) Ken Scranson or Scranson Griffiths. At its peak the word played so large a part in the Rovers' conversational exchanges that one wondered how on earth they had managed to express themselves before its mysterious arrival; and the rest of East Sussex found itself face to face with the word when 'Landrover' began his notes with the immortal phrase "Scranson is as scranson does". Meanwhile the identity of the word's inventor has always remained a mystery. Was he, one wonders, a member's foreman; or someone's great-uncle? Was this his only inspiration; or did he produce other words which, failing to capture the imagination of Eastbourne cyclists, were relegated to limbo? Perhaps even now he is working on something which will be on every rover's lips from Harding Avenue to Hellingly. If not maybe the club will experience a surge of nostalgia for the 'good old days' of 'Gran and Don' and Wash's Winter Runs; and, like ageing pop fans chanting "Rock Around The Clock", will greet the dawn, a personal best, a pile-up or any other eventuality with the cry of "Scranson".

'BON MOT'

LEWES WANDERERS C.C.

In case anyone hasn't yet realised, it's here - the Social Season we mean; so a good old boozy "Bottoms up" from the Lewes revellers. Taking a brief look back at what already seems the dim and distant past, we's better complete the racing report for 1965. The Tourist's 2-13-27 in the Assn. 50 was 1 1/2 mins. too good for Colburn, with Savage doing a 26. Then came the 25 when Agg crawled round with a 6 while Savage did a 10. Once again a certain notorious gentleman was DNS which surprised no-one except possibly himself. On the same day Colburn took on the field in the Eastbourne road race, but the foul weather saw him waterlogged and DNF after five laps. The following week Agg and Colburn were prepared for supersonic times on the fast Bognor course, but something went awry somewhere and a 6 and a 7 tell their own tale of woe. Next the 25 saw Agg deeper in the 'six' rut, with Savage doing a 9 and Burbery emerging from oblivion to scrape inside an 11 by five whole seconds!

In the Mitro 50 Agg's 15 dragged Colburn through the dirt by no less than 5 1/2 mins. while Savage again did a 26. In the Worthing 26 it was Colburn's turn for a 6, while Burbery even without training, managed a 10. The 'Tourist' produced his coup d'etat in the club 15 when he hauled his not inconsiderable bulk over the Sheffield Park 'mountains' in 40-42 and hammered Colburn by 20 secs. A second shock came when Bulford beat Savage by 10 secs. and deservedly took the handicap on a very windy morning. Summing up, the final picture is that Colburn snaffled the club BAK, chiefly by his fine ride in the 50A 12 hrs. although Agg obviously had the edge at the shorter distances. One club championship retained without much trouble was that of DNS kingpin Willcocks who boasts that he demoralises the opposition before he starts! The notorious E.3. was visited by some members who watched the Brentwood 25. After seeing blokes weaving through the traffic at the rate of knots Colburn turned pale and croaked "It's suicidal, this course should be banned". Ray's comment "I think it's all good clean fun" provoked a violent argument!

When Agg was asked if he'd be going to any club dinners this year he replied "Not a chance mate, I've no money to throw about like that". If any reader has EVER

Lewes Wanderers (cont.)

seen him throwing his money about will he please contact your scribe right away, as evidence of this would be a contribution to the history of unique events! As Peter Sharp is now governor of Castelmer Fruit Farm it was suggested that he should sponsor Lewes riders next year. Sharp, whose views on the "mass-start shower" are about as modern as the Chancellor's, replied "Over my dead body!"

Willcocks's latest dragon (yes another one since the last edition) is Spanish - and thereby hangs a tale. She saw his bike and asked if he was a "ciclista". He modestly (don't dare alter that word neevo) replied "sometimes", then to keep the chat going, asked if she had heard of Federico Bahamontes. The response was a flood of "sis", followed by "Campeon de Espana", "mucho rapido" etc. Yes folks, once again cycling had done the trick, and from that moment Willcocks was IN! No connection with the foregoing can be guaranteed, but recently he astonished Colburn and staggered Lawrie Baker by outsprinting the pair of 'em up a hill near Burwash.

We had a sad tale from the Copper and Burbery who tried an October tour in the Towey Valley. As Mick put it, "We had more rain fall than in ---Noah's time"; so by all accounts they were glad when they'd had enough. After the above humiliation Colburn suffered further on a hostelling week-end in Kent when he told Cliff Sharp of the Kovers that he looked shattered. Cliff's answer was to rattle off the next five miles at 25s with Maurice spitting blood to hold his back wheel. He also displeased ex clubmate Peacock by referring to a certain Sunday newspaper as "the gutter press". Peacock growled "I read that paper, and what's good enough for a first-class civil engineer is certainly good enough for a fourth class income tax official! The said Peacock rode to San Sebastian and before he went he was asked if he intended to go without 'guards. He replied, and this must be the joke of the year, "Of course, they don't know what rain is where I'm going". The Wanderers, with one notable exception, join most people in congratulating Tom Simpson on this year's terrific riding which twice got him voted Sportsman of the Year. The odd man out is the Chancellor who, true to the diehard, untainted amateur

(cont. overleaf)

Lewes Wanderers (cont.)

tradition, and with a blinding glimpse of the obvious, grunted "These pros are only in it for the money". In reply to Colburn's endless criticism of his road conduct Willcocks said "When I'm on my bike all motorists and pedestrians are----s; and when I'm in my car all cyclists and pedestrians are ----s". Questioned as to what happens when he's on foot he replied "I don't half have to watch out because all the ----s are out to get me". Contrary to the wishes of two certain members the Wanderers are promoting a three race evening road criterium in June on a circuit near Kingmer; so don't say you haven't been warned well in advance. Details will be announced later when finalised.

Now comes the 'plug' that really should be printed in bold type. The club's Annual Dinner will be held (perpetrated is a better word, Ed.) at the usual venue, the 'Elephant and Castle' Lewes, on Sat. Jan. 15th at 7-30pm for 8. Tickets will be 9/6 as last year (wouldn't some of you love to know how we do it?), so no one can complain of not getting their moneysworth in cross-toasts alone! With a raffle and the usual "mystery" presentation to some unsuspecting victim you're assured of a fair old evening's giggle, so let's be 'aving yer and the more the merrier. Names please to the Secretary, G. Willcocks, 1, Pelham Place, Seaford by Jan. 10th at the latest. If anyone's coming by helicopter we'll even lay out a landing strip.

So bueno suerte, amigos mios; may your social and festive seasons be just that, and may someone else be forever filling up your tankards. (Now let me see - what's the Spanish word for "newt"? Ed.) A final word in your lug 'oles - by the time this appears it'll only be about ten weeks to the Hardrds. 12. Reservoir for now.....

ALSORAN

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Back numbers of 'Bonk' can be obtained from the Editor price 6d plus 3d postage if necessary.

B.S.C.A. NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS.

ROTHY HUMPHREY To keep one front room chair clear of pills and teddy-bears do that visiting officials can rest their poor old bones.

GEOFF WILLCOCKS To turn up on time when he has issued a challenge to mortal combat so that he and his opponent can make a decent fight of it.

JANE GODDEN To stop wearing tight, bright red pants at the clubroom so that the boys can concentrate properly on their table-tennis.

PETE CROWSLEY To send club notes to Bonk written on respectable paper instead of on the back of old B.C.F. notices and scientology calculations.

THE EDITOR To spend a few months in a slave labour camp somewhere. This should stop people making cracks about his bulk.

LEN STEVENS To be out more often.

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FOR SALE Watsonian all alloy sidecar complete with bracket. In good condition except that windscreen needs replacing. What offers?
Humphrey 4, Ebenezer Cottages, Framfield, Uckfield Sx.

TECHNICAL TIP To all users of battery lamps. If you have yet tried the Ever ready H.P.2. battery, don't delay. This is the answer to that old problem of rear lights going on long after-dark runs. The price is 1/6 and for money is the best eighteen pence worth for a long time.

SOUTHBOROUGH AND DISTRICT WHEELERS

well, I would never have believed that it was time to scribe off another saga of Southboro' Insanity, but now we have calendars in this part of the world there it is. (Eye now shifts back to picture of glamorous pin-up above the calendar). The racing season went out in a blaze of...no, it didn't, it slowly deflated, making the rather rude noise emitted by party balloons in their death throes. Come to think of it the racing seldom reached fever pitch during the season, and there was very little fight for any of the racing cups. But when it came to the touring trophies you have never seen anything like it! The attendance trophy saw a year-long battle which Danny won for the fifth successive year, but without his usual large lead. Graham Booth held runner-up position until September when a cracked arm bone put him out of the running and let 'Jeeps' Potter through, to finish nineteen points down on Danny with 146 to Graham's 145. Don Hobb came 4th with 134 and Crow and Geoff Hayman tied with 124 after Crow's early-season lead. Last year only three people made the 100 mark as compared with eight this year (from Nov. 1st to Oct. 31st). This increase in club-ran support has been one of the most striking features of '65, and certainly we in Southboro' are proud of our ability to have regular well supported runs, seldom not reaching their destination. They are growing stronger (along with increasing membership), when a lot of clubs only have sporadic runs and some none at all.

Geoff Hayman ran the Open Touring Comp. this year and made a really fine job of it. Good weather and reasonable entry kept interest high and by lunch-time our two visitors Graham Lade and Jane Godden, shared a commanding lead having scored heavily on the observation section and speed judging. As has happened in the past the afternoon map-reading proved to be a bit of a sort-out, and Crow's flare for rough-stuff and riding touring comps faster than his races took him into the lead. Congrats to Janie, who finished than any other lady in our touring comps, and to Graham on his fourth place. Results (if you're interested) were:----
1. Crow...73pts. 2. J. Godden...66 3. J. Potter...64 4. G. Lade...62

Southborough and District wh. (cont.)

5. J. Hoadley...58 6. Lou Bathurst...53 7. D. Hobb...49 8. Geoff Boxall...48 9 (tie) A. Neale and M. Whitney...47 11. Ann Hayman 46 pts. 12. H. Daniel...41.

Geoff got the usual number of 'howlers' to his quizzes, the best ones being in his nature quiz when two people said that a Blenheim was an aircraft, a boletus (a type of fungi) was a cloud, a plant, a mole - and from Danny, a missile base!

With the results of the attendance and touring comps in and the reliability ride yet to come, the winner of the Tourists Trophy, which is decided over the three events, was the most open for years. Here the windy and later wet weather caused unforeseen results, as only Nick Whitney scored a max. by being within the time limit. Danny and Graham came in five minutes down and rapid calculations showed that Jeeps could do it if he finished 13 mins. outside his limit, but as a shattered Potter-Hoadley 2up finished twenty mins. down the trophy was Danny's - along with the attendance sup and the merit trophy, quite a haul.

One reason for our well supported club-runs is the imaginative planning by the runs leaders. Geoff H. seems to have some pact with the weather gods, so that the going was firm dry and sunny for his rough-stuff runs over the Thames side flats and the South Downs. The latter run had a real climax when we forded the Cuckmere right at the sea's edge. Being fast flowing this was quite a sporting feat, and we would like to know if anyone else has successfully tried it. For various reasons Herne Bay was one place we had never reached, despite the best intentions; but Steve Armitage put this right with a superbly navigated run through the lanes of North Kent. Recently the club acted on an old suggestion that disused railway lines should be used as 'roads'; and so we 'did' the Paddock Wood-Hawkhurst branch which is rideable for most of the way.

Just to show that we aren't beyond all hope, I here make brief mention of the Hill-climbs. Tony Neale is our new champ. having qualified in the ESCA, Boc and club events. Nick Armitage was our fastest in the ESCA and also won the club climb at Underiver, while Crow screwed Jeeps in the Boc. Then they tied for second in the club event, one using 63" and the other 54".

There will now be an interval of ten minutes. Have a cup of tea, beat your wife, take the dog for a walk or something. Ed.

Southborough & District Wh. (cont.)

On the romance side Giles has at last sown all his wild oats (we hope with a not over-abundant harvest!) and has become engaged to "Snooks" Harrison who is an active club member, rear half of the tandem and his step-sister. Julie, wife of Brian Leyland who rode in Escalano, has an infant under construction; and Mick Armitage married Jean and rode the ESCA Hill-climb three weeks later to show that it was not so bad after all. Mick also bought a conversion set and hopes to be "trike-ing" this winter. George Cheesman had similar plans until he was seriously injured by a careless motorist. He had a spell in Pembury hospital with a chewed up leg, and will be out of action for some time yet.

Talking of trikes Lou and Crow attended the South East region T.A. luncheon at Cranbrook, which was a riotous affair aided by a gang from the East Surrey R.C. Impromptu speeches (usually on the wrong subject) and non-stop cross-toasting made it a 'do' where one was proud to be a cyclist. Miles better than those best manners and ridiculously overpriced affairs that pass for club dinners in some areas these days.

A large number of us went by car to the final stock-car race meet at Haringay; and Geoff Hayman put on a short car rally on Nov. 21st which attracted a large entry from motoring cyclists. I need only ask those who accuse us of deserting cycling to re-read this quarter's notes. (Editor's comment. It's a fact that the Southboro' crew do far more real bike-riding than the average club does nowadays; even so, many people will be disturbed by the principle of a cycling club promoting a car rally.)

Before mentioning the future, Two enjoyable social functions were the racing mens' meeting (Ron Hayward says we haven't got any) at the 'Red Lion' just outside Tonbridge where a large gathering sorted out next years programme and decided to shorten our Hilly 42 to 30 miles before the

(cont. on next page)

Southborough and District Wh. (cont.)

effects of alcohol caused things to become too confused for serious discussion; and secondly the youth-hostel week end at East Marden with bonfire celebrations, folk dancing till 1 am and Don Robb chatting-up some 'birds' from Portsmouth Art College. Strangely enough we had a 'chuff wind' both there and back. Saddened though we were by the cancellation of the Tun. Wells dinner, it unfortunately clashed with our hostel week-end. We hope that everyone else has successful ones and we hope to look in on a few. Our big day is on Dec. 18th; or if you're really keen try our Christmas Day road race - sorry, training run near Tonbridge at 11-30 am. See you.

CROW

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Result of 1965 Best All Rounder Competition

Gents Decided over 25, 50, 100 miles and 12 hours.
Winner to hold the "Henry Gale" Trophy for one year.

1st	A Robinson	Central Sussex C.C.	22.562 mph
2nd	C Sharp	Eastbourne Rovers	22.351 mph
3rd	R.K. Amey	Central Sussex	21.868 mph
4	R J Laker	Central Sussex	21.473 mph
5	P Crowsley	Southborough Wh.	21.177 mph
6	M Kilby	Fortune C.C.	20.336 mph
7	R Achard	Brighton Nitre C.C.	19.380 mph
Team	Central Sussex (Robinson, Amey, Laker)		21.967 mph

Ladies decided over 10, 25 and 50 miles
winner to hold "F. Rix Trophy" for one year.

1st	I Stevens	Eastbourne Rovers	20.144 mph
2nd	J Godden	Eastbourne Rovers	19.322 mph
3rd	M Kicks	Eastbourne Rovers	17.911 mph

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HERE AND THERE

A young lady of Eastbourne caused much merriment when she said to the Editor, "I don't want that in Bonk, Dennis; what can I do to bribe you not to print it?"

Seeing Crow at the A.C.A. dinner wearing a shirt of sober blue, people began to think that he was entering staid middle age - until they looked down and saw his book-makers trousers.

Jimmy Hollands of Rye Wheelers has devised and produced the first edition of "Rye's Own", which is to be a monthly magazine containing news, features and pictures about Rye and district.

A mysterious sighing noise heard at Framfield proved on investigation to have emanated from Roy Humphrey. He was sighing with relief because, with his year as ESCA President over, he was able to pack away his lounge suit and go back to being the 'Rag Bag of East Sussex'.

For the benefit of people who only buy Bonk to read 'Here and There', the Tunbridge Wells Road Club dinner, which had to be held over in November, will now take place on January 15th at the Riverside Cafe, Tonbridge.

Have you heard about the new club junior who, when the social season came round, thought that Lewes Wanderers were real drunkards. He'd heard a chap say they're the tightest lot he'd ever come across!

A certain Central notability was accidentally half-swamped at the Luncheon when a waitress tipped a glass over. Willcocks was heard to comment that it was the first time he'd known the drinks to be on Ken Atkins.

And then there's the so-called wit who upon receiving his ESCA balance sheet said that the assets should include all the ladies, and the liabilities Humphrey and Willcocks.

HERE AND THERE

The Hastings C.C. members were locking up their clubroom. The last light had been put out, and in the pitch blackness nobody could see a thing - except the Editor, whose x-ray eyes detected E--- r C-----r really making a meal of it with G-----n K--g.

Our Lewes area correspondant reports that Willcocks has purchased a Spanish-English dictionary at the great cost of 4/6. It is believed that he told his Spanish Lady that he is half-cousin to Federico Bahamontes.

Querulous query from the Editor. Why is it that the majority of dinners and luncheons start anything up to half an hour late; but if one arrives a few minutes late the function has started dead on time?

At the Luncheon, Arthur Coleman, perhaps remembering the 'good old days' at the Regent, remarked wistfully that cyclists don't drink beer like they used to. However, Arthur did his best to keep up the old tradition with numerous pints of the old stout and mild.

Annie Hayman complained to Crow about the vast amount of toilet paper used by the club-mates who use no. 22 as a lodging-house. Well, that shows that even if the Southboro' lads aren't very fast - at least they're regular!!

An American scientist has claimed that kissing is a major cause of dental decay. If this is true one or two people we know will soon be wearing full sets of false teeth.

The 'Daily Mirror' recently printed the following quote from a Surrey Union Hunt report. "There were very many foot followers, mostly in cars". And we thought this sort of thing only happened in cycling clubs!

TUNBRIDGE WELLS ROAD CLUB

As new club press sec. I haven't really a clue as to what to write, but Ken says he will edit it for me.

A club outing to the National Hill-Climb at Mickleton near Stratford-on-Avon was a great success. Some of the club went up on Friday and the rest of us went up on the Saturday. After much confusion deciding whether Mickleton house was Mickleton Guest House we cautiously entered and saw several old ladies about. One was going very steadily up the stairs when Dave muttered "Hope we don't get stuck behind that." As the rest of the club wasn't in the house we drove into Stratford hoping to see Roy's red Mini, Brian's M.G. or Graham's grey van among the other 60,000 cars. On coming out of the car park we saw Graham's van. Dave jumped into the air, whistling, shouting and pointing; then whack and I realised it was not Graham's van after all. We walked on leaving Dave vanishing down a crack in the pavement. On joining up with the rest of the club at the guest house, we congregated in Roy and Sue's room complete with four-poster. For a moment Roy and Sue went out of the room and someone suggested that their bed be 'apple-pie'd'. All went well until, with a roar of anger, Roy bounded into whack's room to find out which room Dave occupied. On being given a false number he rushed down the corridor but failed to locate this number. Perhaps it was just as well as a ninety year old lady occupied that room.

On a level with the National is our own club Hill-Climb on a notorious hill near Langton. This climb was won by Dick in a very good time; he also went on to win the Eastbourne hill-climb. Whack was very disturbed when rounding a sharp bend in our hill-climb, he nearly rode up the backside of a cart-horse.

It was very disappointing when our club dinner had to be cancelled due to lack of support; but the dinner will now be held on January 15th at the Riverside Club, Tonbridge.

Some very enjoyable Sunday morning runs are regularly organised by Stan, our club Director sportif. These usually start at 10 o'clock at St. Stephens church, Tonbridge. Club members please note.

Hastings & St. Leonards C.C. (continued from p.14)

I travelled by car with Arthur 'Smell-it-a-mile-off' Coleman. Naturally we arrived spot on opening time, and were the first of the 'lower deck' on parade, being greeted by the Shah of Escaland, Roy H. Jessie, feeling cold, had two quick whisky mugs and then we 'lost' her for the rest of the afternoon. We considered Jane Godden's maiden speech one of the brightest of the event. Blundering down the hotel corridor, I thought for a moment the Hardriders event had been brought forward, for there was Crow stripped to some string effort (not G) towelling down with great gusto. He explained all this by muttering something about a special change of clothing. At the dining table it looked more like an inter-change with Marion Ricks.

At our recent AGM we were sorry to accept the retirement of Stan Russell as our Social Sec. The club is indebted to him for his valuable efforts. This was the only exceptions to the usual re-elections. Racing news at the moment is nil, and young Johnnie Norris has had to curtail his cyclo-cross training due to a serious accident to his father. We were pleased to see Johnnie at the AGM, and wish his father a speedy and complete recovery.

The Y.H.A. group has been quite active, visiting Kemsang for the Catford hill-climb and a get-together with Vic Hayes and the Catford lads after the event. The following week-end Esther organised a week-end at Alfri-ston for our new juniors. The terrific energy of these lads is very exhausting and Esther uses them as a means of slimming. However, the lads enjoy themselves.

Fred our Prez has started his usual marathon round of dinners, re-unions, luncheons and inner-circle VIP meets etc. In five years of this social whirl, Fred has tarnished three cars, four dozen shirts, three dozen sets of underwear, two hundred handkerchiefs, twenty suits and thirty pairs of shoes. To his everlasting credit, his reputation remains untarnished. On New Years Day we are holding a supper-social with the Rye lads at 'Whitegates' Westfield, coming under starter's orders at 7-30pm. Plenty of 'nosh' and entertainment has been laid on, so we hope this 'do' will be well supported. All for six shillings. And now away.....yours till the spring tides. GANNET

BRIGHTON MITRE C.C.

Those who could not attend our annual dinner, prize presentation and dance on Sat. Dec. 4th missed a treat! Mr P Crossley, being the knowledgeable man that he is, rode to Brighton for the event on his trike, and I am sure he thought the ride worth while. He arrived at his 'digs' at 1-30 a.m. a happy but weary man! Starting at the beginning (a good place to start) at the bar of the 'Old Ship'. Typical Crow remark on us being introduced, "I think you have rather a vague connection with Mike Hayler-is that right?" We in SCA country do not see many of the ESCA types, and it was as nice to see Crow as I think it was for him to see us! Anyhow, a ding through an excellent six course dinner; soup, fish entree, Gateau Pesselrode (any idea who Nessel was?) petit fours, coffee and numerous glasses of wine, we got down to the real business, toasts. Cliff Litchfield A.L.I. B.M. B.A.R. proposed the toast to the President, Vice-presidents and Prize Donors (where would we be without them) in bed on a Sunday Morning), thanking all those who came out during the Season to see him enjoy the punishment, and mentioned that WORD, not the four-letter one, AMALGAMATION. Fred Stenning, our worthy President, replied in his usual eloquent and gentlemanly manner. Then came Crow, our star import from Escaland, well on form after his ride dinner and a few noggins. This wonderful orator left me almost speechless, as those present will witness although he did compliment me after dinner-of course, my effort made his look stupendous.

Unfortunately our Chairman, Mr Charles Turner, promoter of our Open Road Race etc. who should have toasted the guests, could not be with us because of illness. In his absence Mike, who you may know is never lost for words, filled the gap admirably. Mr Rawdon, Youth and Community Officer, replied in a witty and humorous manner, which put the guests in a good mood for the sometimes caustic but nevertheless well earned praise for trophy winners announced by Mike and presented by Helen. Just prior to this Cliff had presented Robin Johnson, our racing Sec. with a pair of shorts he left behind after an early club event. Tip-top music for dinner and dancing was provided by Ken Lyon, and we all went home looking forward to next year, bookings taken any time now!

JEAN

STOP PRESS AGM JOTTINGS. All chief officials re-elected. Ken Stevens now Press Sec. as well as Asst. Racing Sec. Esther Carpenter Minutes Sec. 1966 President. Dennis Neeves (Hastings and St Leonards). Road and Social programmes as for 1965. Touring Comp. to be organised by members of Southboro' Wh. Suggestion to offer vouchers as alternative to medals shelved till next year. Book to be duplicated professionally and to cost 1/-.

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