



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL

East Sussex Cycling Association



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EDITORIAL

Sunday, November 27th, is a date which one hopes will be underlined in the diaries of all East Sussex clubmen. On this day the Association puts on a new-look Annual Luncheon and Prize Presentation at a fresh venue. (See the Secretary's notes on page 2). This function has been run to the standard formula for some fifteen years, and while it has never been less than pleasant, of late years a feeling of cosy sameness has become apparent.

With sometimes poor support from the younger racing men (whose big day this of course should be), and the decline of the old-time beer-drinking cyclist resulting in a rather restrained atmosphere, it was clearly time for a change. Southborough Wheelers put forward the idea which has been adopted by the Committee, and it now remains to be seen whether it is what East Sussex riders want for their Association's social high-spot.

New thinking also looks like becoming necessary with regard to the long-distance side of the road programme. In common with other parts of the country, interest in the 12 hours has been showing a steady decline in our area; and this year's entry of seventeen (with only two from outside the county), hardly seems to justify all the organisation which goes into a half-day time-trial. There may be a case for keeping the 12 hours because of the opportunity it gives local club-folk of a day's sociability, otherwise we may have to think of something different, perhaps a hilly middle distance event, in order to get a healthy looking start sheet early in August.

"GEN" from the Secretary.

With the end of the racing season in sight, the thoughts of most of us are turning towards the Social Season, the highlight of which will be our own Prize Presentation & Luncheon, to be followed by a Racing Man's Forum. Your Committee and in particular the Social Secretary have put in quite a lot of work to get the Luncheon fixed up at a new venue, and at a much lower cost. The Luncheon will be at the Langney Community Centre, Eastbourne, on Sunday, November 27th, at 12 noon. Tickets, price 13s. Od. will be available shortly from your Club Secretary. A complete change in Menu from the usual run of Dinners in the form of a Mixed Grill has been ordered, the usual ales will be available from the Bar, and an extension has been applied for. With the lower cost it is hoped that all clubs will make sure that they have a bumper attendance of members and more especially it is hoped that all Prize Winners will be there to receive their awards.

1967 sees the coming of age of the Association, and already your Committee have suggested several events to mark the occasion. These will include an Open 25 Miles in September, also a Luncheon or Dinner to celebrate, and also a possible get together for a drink and a chat on a Friday or Saturday evening in November, with any of the older members who have been connected with the Association at some suitable venue.

Suggestions have also been made that we might run a series of Saturday Time Trials for Schoolboys & Juniors. The Committee will welcome any suggestions for events in conjunction with the coming of age. Please let your club secretary have any ideas so that they can be discussed by the Management Committee at their meeting on October 3rd.

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on Sunday, 4th or 11th of December, the venue has yet to be fixed by the Committee. Any items for the Agenda should reach the Secretary by November 1st.

R.H.

The Association Best-All-Rounder competition ended with a clear win for Cliff Sharp of Eastbourne Rovers with times of 58-32, 2-3-13, 4-26-21, and 225 miles.

LEWES WANDERERS C.C.

Time again for another ration of Lewes entertainment, you lucky people; but first a few words about how the lads have been doing on the road. Colburn won the Club 25 with a '5', Kilby was second with a '10', and the rest of the times, like the weather and language, were unprintable! Once again the Agg gremlins mounted an attack, resulting in a puncture, while Burbery (still finding his 'birds' too much of a handful) crept to an '11' in only his second 25 this year. The last of the Club's evening 10's saw a 24-53 from second-claimer Baker, with Colburn scraping inside a '26', and Kilby doing 27-15. The following Sunday was a notable day indeed on G.52 with a tremendous course and event record of 58-43 by the Rovers' Cliff Sharp, and a great 59-58 for second place by Chris May, the first time a Lewes rider has beaten the hour since the halcyon days twelve years ago of Dave Marsh. Colburn's 1-4-8 missed a 'personal' by five seconds, while Agg trundled to a '6' and Kilby did a '7'.

The Club's evening road criterium was a great success, judging by the many compliments paid us by satisfied 'customers', as to the organisation, marshalling, etc. Three keenly contested events, over thirty miles of the Broyle circuit, saw the Central's Howard Burrell emerge as overall winner, with R. Marchant, B. Tidbury and R. Ford in that order. We were blessed with good weather and support from club members, among whom your scribe would particularly like to thank Elizabeth Agg for all the duplicating, and the Sharp family whose assistance was invaluable. We hope to promote a similar series next year.

The Rovers' Open 25 saw a great third place by May, who galloped to a 1-0-19, despite the continuous rain, while Colburn did another '4' and Agg paddled to a '7'. May broke the twelve-year-old club record when he knocked 48 seconds off Marsh's figure in the Elite 25, and on the same day Colburn did a private trial in the Mitre 30 and clocked a 1-18. Next Maurice tackled the BCF Sussex Division Championship on the Cowbeech circuit and finished 8th after some hard racing. The Association 100 wasn't a howling success for us as both our entrants, Agg and Kilby, were outside five hours, but a week later the 'Tourist' had recovered sufficiently to rattle round the Maidenhead 50 in 2.11! A shock in the Elite Middlemarkers was dished out by Mick Hills who, riding his first road event this year, did 1-1-35! Agg did a '5' and Kilby a personal best 1-6-43. Colburn won the Club 30 with 1-19 to Agg's 1-21, while Savage came out of hibernation and did a '26'! Ex Tottenham Phoenix rider Roger

Woolley, now having joined us, clocked 1-29 in his first event for years.

Came the ESCA 12 hours and more suffering for Agg and companion-in-distress Kilby, both of whom had to be put back on their bikes and bullied into finishing. It's kinder to omit further details, so next we have the Club 25 when Colburn triumphed although sliding back to a '6', with Agg nearly 1 1/2 mins, slower and the rest well back. Colburn battled to a fine third place in the Norwood Paragon road race over 50 miles of Ashdown hardship, while Agg wound it up to another 2-11, this time in the North London 50. This latter event featured a superb 1-58-54 by John Dutson who has conclusively proved that the boxing adage: "They never come back" doesn't apply to a rider of his class.

One name absent from the above chronicle of activity is that of the well-known Copper Burgess, who was expected to be steaming fit after flogging himself silly on duty by bike in the Rotherfield area. Whether he's gone down with foot-and-mouth after falling into the sheep-dip isn't known, but soon we'll have to send a missionary to see if he's turned into a mangel-wurzel! Reports that all village 'fuehrers' are going to get motor-bikes have filled us with dismay, and we hope that Rotherfield is forgotten when they're issued. Adrian Palmer has heaped insult upon injury by not only becoming a copper, but also getting married without club permission. In a letter to your scribe he assured us that he hadn't forsaken bike-riding, "but there are one or two more pressing matters at the moment". A Club-mate commented: "Well, he always was an in-and-out performer anyway".

Reports that Buxted Health Hydro is to have a new owner are as yet unconfirmed, but a visitor to the Savage residence nearby tells of seeing bottles of spring water and a cupboard full of vitamin pills and assorted health foods. If their effect can be judged by Ken's times to date, when he starts eating normal 'stodge' he should be under the hour!

Willcocks, 'ticking like the clappers' about a missing marshal in the Club 30, was told by an unsympathetic Chancellor: "With the times you do, mate, it doesn't really matter".

After the fine rides mentioned above, Chris May complained of a strained knee - not surprising as we have yet to hear of anyone who could approach his performances with virtually no training. He said: "I like touring and I like racing, but raining bores me stiff". He's now got the travel bug again and is once more abroad, so when

we'll see him around again no one knows. 'Tourist' Agg, seen training hard north of Uckfield, told an enquirer: "Well, now the other blokes are doing something I've got to get my @@@ finger out". An observer at the later stages of the 12 hrs. remarked: "Agg's language is very moderate to-day". When it was mentioned that Elizabeth was round the course he said: "Ah, that explains things - I thought he couldn't have reformed that quickly".

Your scribe blushingly thanks Crow for his nice words in the last issue (Neevo please digest). However, with such 'scandalmongers gifts' as the notorious Grover and Russell, the difficulty was often what to leave out! Recently when the latter went to tea with another former Wanderer, Peacock, he sat there with an open mouth while his young daughter shovelled in the food!!

Well once again it's adios and bags of good mornings, sunshine, fast miles and all that jazz from the Wanderers. Unfortunately your scribe's sparse command of Spanish doesn't yet permit of his writing "Roll on the Social Season", although the thought's there just the same. It has been necessary to concentrate on the more important part of the language, such as "amor", "bonito", &c.

See you up the road ALSORAN.

A WORD TO ALL CLUBS ... From Geoff Willcocks

With all those who took part loud in their praise for the Lewes Wanderers Evening Criterium, obviously there is a demand for this type of event in the Association.

I would like to appeal to all member clubs to discuss the possibility of promoting an event in 1967, with a view to ensuring enough rides for all those wishing to take part. If each member club promoted only one single evening event we would be sure of a dozen which would be sufficient, at the rate of one a week, to last from, say, mid-June to mid-August. Discuss this with your members at the clubroom and at meetings. Organised properly, there is no need to incur a loss, as so many people think, and I will be glad to supply details of how we did it.

THE HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS CYCLING CLUB.

The gen from this Cinque Port (accent on the cinque - easy on the port) starts towards the end of May, when Maurice and Esther retreated to wherever they do retreat to, and organised our Open 25 and 50 mile time-trials. The 25 incorporated a Ladies event and attracted 22 riders. Brentwood C.C. supplied the worthy winner in Lorna Partington with a time of 1-8-23, 2nd fastest and 1st handicap W. Webb of Folkestone 1-10, 3rd fastest I Stevens of Eastbourne 1-13, 2nd handicap G. Mills (Mercury) and 3rd handicap B. Woodruff (Thanet). It was nice to see 'Our Iris' among the prizewinners. Also from Escaland giving their loyal support were Jane and Marion. After the event Marion cycled to Ringmer to join the Bill and Dot Collins D.A. for tea. Quite a step from Brenzett after an event. Must give due credit to this fair lady for her cycling enthusiasm and leave others to record her less athletic activities. (There's no shortage of eager volunteers for that job! - Ed.). The mens' event, also over the Q.140 course, attracted 86 riders and was won by Cliff Sharp of Eastbourne - time 59-20. Cliff also took 1st handicap. 2nd fastest was F. Warner of Thanet with 1-0-1, 3rd was B. Clark of Canterbury. 2nd handicap was won by A. Merricks of Folkestone and there was a tie for 3rd handicap between R. Carlton and S. Ernshaw. Our 73 years young vet. 'Lord' Edward Coussens knocked out a 1-23-47 and was our only representative. Overworked Dennis Neeves forgot to enter. The following week he found that verbal promises to ride counted for nothing with yet another promoter, so he was DNE for the Esca event. Broken-hearted Dennis expressed the hope that he be allowed to ride in the Rovers Open 25. Warmhearted Iris assured him that he was definitely IN. The day before the event I visited the Rock Emporium to check on the arrangements for the Sunday morning. D.N.'s. harrassed mother shouted "You're not racing Again, are you Dennis?". "What do you mean AGAIN?" replied a wounded Dennis, "This will be the first time this year!" However, on the morning, while riding to the event, a cloudburst caused our ill-fated hero to shelter at Ninfield, and by the time the water had subsided, there was only time for a now dejected Dennis to watch the later starters going off. Dennis once wrote an article for a club magazine entitled: "Everything Happens To Me". Indeed it does. (The worst of it was that a lot of riders did faster times in the pouring rain than they had done the previous year on a lovely sunny morning! - Ed.).

Those of us lucky enough to be marshalling in the club open 50 at the Isle of Hythe, retired to the local cafe for a 'cuppa', &c. We discussed the prospects and probable results of the event. Two

The Hastings & St. Leonards Cycling Club (continued).

East Kent bus drivers joined in the debate. Then phwammm !! an air hostess pulled up outside, and blithely stepping out of her car and almost out of her uniform, she entered the cafe. We promptly changed the subject of our discussion; the two East Kent bus drivers joined in the debate! However, the racing event on the Q.142 attracted 80 riders. The winning time of 2-2-50 was returned by K. Corder of Bexley. A 2-4-17 gave B. Hayes second place and third fastest was Don Hcok with 2-4-22. Don led the Folkestone team to victory, time: 6-17-23, R. Jesset and S. Ernshaw completing the trio. Evergreen Frank Ford won the Fastest Vet. Award with the remarkable time of 2-18-27. What is Frank's secret? R. Hawes, M. Mills and G. Orchard were the respective handicap winners. Once again the holder of the vital watch was Pete Avis with intermediate timing by Brian Kent and Ron Powell. The Folkestone C.C. helped to marshal the event and we extend our grateful thanks to all those who helped to make the events possible.

Mention of marshalling makes me recall a welcome cup of tea enjoyed in the company of Esther, her lads, and Paul, at Newlands (Bugglesden), during a lull in the K.C.A. 12 hours. Along came Jim Sargant of Beckley. He had just left the now traditional reunion at the Smarden 'Bell', always held on the same day and associated with the '12'. As per usual, Jim bought us the annual 'cuppa' which like the 'meet' has become traditional. His more affluent friends motored by on their way to the four corners of the Isle of Oxney. Just one of those incidents that stick in the mind in a nice sort of way. I will feel guilty when I confess to Jim that I didn't quite make the Rye Sports. However, advised and escorted by Esther, I did make the 'Royal Oak', Broadoak, to meet the Eastbourne C.T.C. group for convivial evening. (Wonderful how the thought of conviviality with Eastbourne C.T.C. gets people moving - Ed.). They were patronising Mrs. Willard at Chitcomb for the week-end. Crow of Southborough was in attendance, and gave a demonstration of his unique style of massage, Marion being the 'guinea-pig'. The landlord insisted that his style was much more effective and was anxious to prove it. Leaving them to fight it out, we played darts. Finding myself opposed to Dot and Esther, I was fortunate to have 'on Form' Daphne as a partner.

By request, the annual club dinner will again be at the Royal Victoria Hotel, on January 28th, 1967. The same high standard will

be maintained, and the only variation is that the turtle has been given priority over grape-fruit, and Queen Charlotte has dethroned Bombe Surprise. However, you will all be in for a duck. Hope to see you there.

Happy Escalating

GANNET.

PEN PORTRAIT (new series No. 4).

At last we spotlight a man who once confidently said: "They can never get enough on me for a pen portrait". In attempting to do justice (and oh, boy, should justice be done!) to Maurice Archibald Colburn, the writer must tread very warily lest he in turn become a victim of our subject's capacious memory for the shortcomings of others. Non smoking, drinking or swearing, he has only one known vice - he is a very zealous officer of that much-revered 'benevolent trust', the Board of Inland Revenue. ("Tax dodgers are worse than train robbers: there are more of them"). Often referred to as 'Mole', this presumably is because of the way he has undermined club morale in the past with his spartan standards and disregard of pain. Occasionally, readers have been entertained by the acid-laden verbal shafts fired between him and ex-clubmate Tony Peacock, two characters who amply prove the truth of the old electrical axiom: "Like poles repel". Bikewise, 'Mole' belies his name by being a prodigious mile-eater, and the scourge of Lewes clubmates, until, as he so contemptuously put it: "They chickened out of my winter clubruns". These tortures, though not approaching the Nash-led marathons of yesteryear, usually included as much suffering and hand-picked weather as he could cram into the time available, and earned him a further black mark as 'Killer' Colburn. So now, with his opinions still unaltered, he's forced to go it alone with a masochistic dedication to miles and more miles. Oddly enough, he hasn't yet been under the hour or smashed the four hour barrier for a 100, lending substance to one wag's remark: "Perhaps he's stale by the end of February!" But never mind, if some of Maurice's enthusiasm rubs off onto certain other Lewes riders, they can be sure of a good season in 1967.

A.R.

Our Club's hard-working and long-suffering magazine editor Geoff Hayman has had no stuff from me for the September edition. I pleaded that I was still writing my 'Bonk' notes (in fact they hadn't been started), but from looking at odd rough notes there seems to be a fair amount of news from this quarter.

For instance, two 'better' people are Mrs. Chambers, who runs our clubroom, has completely recovered from diabetes; and Geoff Hayman, whose broken leg healed some time ago, so that he can now hand up feeding bottles (and choc-ices in the Esca 100) with the best of them. As far as the racing side goes, I will not bore you with result lists. One name has been really outstanding this season, that of racing sec. Graham Orchard. He has won every club event bar the one in which he punctured, and has done personal bests at all distances with 23-52, 1-0-40, 1-13-0, 2-7-34, 4-36-15 and 237.25 mls., the 100 and 12 hrs. being his first attempts at these distances. These times are all 'season's fastest', which gives him an unassailable lead in the Club B.A.R. and points table, and also a chance for someone in the Orchard household to keep in good silverware polishing training. Ron Hayward has been having a most active racing season and has just passed his 15,000th racing mile - how many other Escas can beat that? Together with Orch. and Don Brooks he took 7½ mins. off the club 30 team record in an event on the E.3 Don Brooks hasn't been hanging around either, for despite severe restrictions on his training time he's clocked up a 'personal' of 1-1-59, and has pushed Orch. very close several times.

At the time of writing and with one Esca event to go, the Team B.A.R. is drawing to a thrilling close between Ron, Tony and Crow from Southboro', and Roy, Paul and Ron from the Central. Whoever wins will certainly have worked for their victory. In the June 25 Orch led our team as usual with 1-1-58 for 6th place, with Don doing a '2', Ron a '4' and Tony a '6'. The 100 had most uncharacteristic weather - warm and dry, and saw Tony put in a terrific ride (a personal best by 15 mins.), his 4-37 beating Crow by 59 secs., with a hectic sprint at the finish. Ron backed up with a 4-47. Steve Armitage clocked a personal best '55' and Tony's brother John Neale pottered around to a 5-16.

Has there ever been such a close team battle as in this year's Esca 12 hrs.? The first 100 miles were truly grim (well, it couldn't be fine for the 100 and the 12 hrs.), and praise be to all the marshals and officials who completed their tasks in most unpleasant conditions. We lost Honky and Steve early on, but Tony steamed ahead

Marion Ricks was recently observed training ALONE one evening. Can it be true that the new ESCA theme song is : "Where Have All The Young Men Gone ?"

Overheard at the first Lewes evening road race: "It's a good job Humphrey isn't here - he'd have been bound to find fault with something !"

Willcocks's new name is said to be "La Aquila de Seaford" after Tony Peacock heard his Spanish dragon call him "Federico".

Escabods are hereby warned to get off and walk when passing through Uckfield. The road through the town, never very good, is now absolutely appalling for cyclists, and very nearly caused a well-known elderly member of the Lewes club to be "ruined for life". He later remarked: "I wouldn't send my worst enemy that way - unless I didn't like his wife either".

Seen arriving recently at the Commercial Road 'Youth Hostel' - wait for it - Crowsley in a car with a double bed on top. Is this a final bid for the complete monopoly of a certain president's wife ? Applications to ride with or speak to a certain president's wife will be considered, if submitted in triplicate to Crowsley Monopolies, Ltd. Dorm. 3, Eastbourne Y.H.

Overheard at Hellingly: "I could train you up to ride 200 miles without getting off". Who is kidding who - was this the original Major Bumsore ?

Overheard recently: "He keeps me amused, but he is really a bit of an old woman". Who in Edenbridge would she have been talking about ?

Maurice Colburn of Lewes recently completed a 1,000 mile tour, including the Pennines and part of Wales, with only one effective brake. He commented: "The number of times my heart was in my mouth decided me not to recommend it to others".

Seen at Hailsham Horsetrough - unidentified lady with black poodle on her knees cleaning the Catford C.C. badge on the front of a blue Hillman 'Minx'.

Seen in Redoubt Road, Eastbourne - a yellow and chrome Rotrax in touring trim.

What was a certain Catford member's car doing in Bognor on two consecutive week-ends ?

On Bank Holiday Monday Min Morgan competed in a race at Sandhurst, and 'packed' at about half-distance. Two of the Central's girls said: "It's a wonder he got even half-way after what we did to him last night".

While Messrs. Dutson and Galsworthy were touring in Wales, the former made use of a 'phone box to have a shave. He was soon rewarded (or so he thought), by a wide smile from a farm girl, but when the lane they were following petered out into a dead end Galsworthy said that he had known all along that the girl was smirking, not smiling. Dutson was so disgusted that he did not shave for the rest of the holiday.

Crow's father, who some years ago took up ski-ing at the age of 68, has now acquired a Jack Taylor lightweight, with a view to taking up cycling. As he has stated that one of his favourite runs is down to Eastbourne, it looks as if esca-ites will be treated to the spectacle of a father and son 'dust-up' down the Dicker to see who can reach 25 Commercial Road first !

Twice in a recent Esca event Marion Ricks had improper suggestions made to her by male competitors (see SDW notes). It is believed that, keen racing girl that she is, Marion replied: "No, not now, wait till after the event".

in 4th place until Crow put in one of his fast finishes and took 3rd place with 234.5 miles. Tony filled in 5th with a personal of 229, Ron put up a steady 221 and Don Robb 206. At the finish we thought that the Central's trio had got the team by about a mile, but subsequent calculations tipped things in Southborough's favour by a mere 600 yards! In the Bank Holiday 50 it was 'sags' all round from the last turn, and it was Ron's turn to lead our B.A.R. trio, beating Crow by 3 secs. - 3 seconds doubtless lost 'chatting up' Marion at Nightingale Hill (see Here and There), while Tony Neale had an off day with a 22. We thought we might get a team award in the final Esca 25, but Dave Patten and the Orchard brothers were 1 min. 20 secs. short of the flying Central trio. Congrats to 'Min' Morgan on his outright win after so many places in Esca events. Our 'B' team were closely matched, Ron Hayward's 1-5-47, beating Don Brooks by one second and Crow by seven. So that's it for the ESCA 'Flat Season' with result of the struggle for team honours still uncertain, but Cliff Sharp definitely the individual winner after some outstanding rides.

President Lou and his henchmen once again took on the herculean task of running the KCA 12 hours, and were blessed with 68 entries and good weather. Orch's great 237 miles ride took him into 4th place, and Ron improved 3 miles on his East Sussex ride. John Neale covered 212 miles, while at the other end of the scale Crow had an enjoyable social tour round and got in 201 miles for his entry fee. The latter's place in the East Sussex 12 hours was attributed to the fact that his bike now knows it's own way on the Uckfield-Eastbourne parts of the course. When asked if the 'Eastbourne Drift' was responsible for his very meagre racing season, he replied that he had taken up serious sun-bathing this year, and along with swimming all Saturday the edge seemed to have gone from his speed (see K.C.A. 12 hour result).

The idea of a race for marshals and timekeepers with the racing men doing the official duties is not new. Southborough Wheelers, with typical ingenuity, have solved the problem by having a race in which competitors and officials race. This is the Club 50 held east of Tonbridge - the route looks like an explosion in a Swiss roll factory (!) and contains every type of road junction and surface that most people meet with in a lifetime! Marshalling it is a formidable task, and in July the event had to be declared void as the timekeeper, despite great efforts, could not get to the second turn before the riders. However, a second attempt at this caper

will be launched on the afternoon of Saturday, October 1st, so if you want a laugh, come and watch; you can tell which are marshals because they rush around the fastest!

Now after all these words about racing, let's get back to something more sensible - touring. The Neale brothers are tops at this, having covered bits of Wales, Scotland and points south during the summer. Tony did a lightweight tour of Dorset where gentlemen showed him the way and handed him food and drink. He eventually stopped having covered 394 miles, but some Yorkshire farmer did just over 100 miles more in the same time. Wasn't it called the National '24' or something? Just to show that the last 'Bonk' editorial wasn't written in vain, Crow went on a lone tour up to Yorkshire, stopping at Youth Hostels and friends who were unaware of his dropping in habits. After riding himself into the deck each day for a week he flew home from Manchester and spent the final week in an unsuccessful attempt at recuperation at the Eastbourne 'Y.H.' Unsuccessful, as he was immediately appointed chief mechanic to the Collins's velo stud and only allowed out to visit the Rovers' bear-garden - sorry, club room.

On the promotion side, Southborough Wheelers ran the final of the S.E. England Schoolboys 10. Our own hope Nick Whitney was relegated to 10th place by a seat-pin that slipped down into the frame. Nick has got our Junior BAR, but Stuart Moor, Chris Parker and Bob Wenham are some of our fast improving juniors who will be doing battle next season. Despite the rather variable summer weather the club has managed several seaside clubruns. One novelty was beach cricket against the Folkestone C.C. at Camber Sands. The club returned to the beach for the Bank Holiday camp at St. Mary's Bay, where lazing about and midnight swimming were in vogue. Of the extra-cycling club activities, stock car racing seems to be less popular lately; perhaps the reason why Nick Hammond has made a racing come-back! Club runs to cinemas seem to be 'in', also trying out the new electric trains to Liverpool by Messrs. Daniel, Potter and Crowsley.

Coming attractions, and we hope you will join us, include the open reliability trial on October 30th, promoted by John Potter, and our annual dinner, prize-giving and general knees-up at the Riverside Cafe, Tonbridge, on December 3rd. Follow the example of Eastbourne's Marion, and prepare for the Social Season NOW

CROW

The following story is an unchecked report from a well-known Central Sussex personality. Readers can believe or disbelieve this report according to how much faith they have in the truthfulness of well known Central Sussex personalities. Ed.

A BRIGHT SPARK

At the finish of the June Association 25 a certain very high ESCA official was heard to say: "I'm going straight home - I've been up all night". Inevitably, this remark was greeted with the ribald comments of certain bystanders, but, probing deeper, a most interesting reason for this man's lack of sleep was unearthed. Being an electrician by trade, he had been called to do some repairs to the wiring at Sandhills, a stately home near Halland, in preparation for a party that evening. When the work was completed the hostess approached him to ask if he would stay to the end of the festivities and act as a professional 'off-putter'; in other words if he would patrol the grounds armed with a torch in order to discourage any biological activities in the bushes and other likely spots, and also dissuade any would-be bathers from using the swimming pool! Our hero agreed to do this, doubtless hoping for a bit of tax-free 'bunce', and was all for carting a 200 watt lead lamp around, instead of poking about with a torch. When the hostess said she thought this would be unethical he is said to have replied: "As a leading light (joke) in the East Sussex Cycling Association, I'm used to unethical practises". No exact details of the night's haul, such as 'confirmed', 'damaged', or 'probables', are available, but it is reported that while lurking near the swimming pool his watch accidentally fell into the water. Amid joyful thoughts of this particular official having to strip and dive into the pool to the jeers of the guests, readers should bear in mind that later in the morning he was timing the event. Therefore, the important question is - had the timepiece dried out sufficiently to record exact times, or, without it's innards waterlogged, might not the fast rides done that morning have been even faster? We shall never know, but the moral here is plain. Whether 'scrubber' or 'high priest' it is better to live and let live, or else you can be sure that your sins will find you out !!

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE from Tunbridge Wells Road Club. Their Bonk correspondent, Dave Ball, having finished his time as a Police Cadet, has gone to North Africa for a period of voluntary service, before becoming a fully-fledged police constable. Dave got his 'marching orders' pretty quickly - hence the two DNSs against his name in recent Association events, and the absence of Road Club notes in this issue.

PUZZLE CORNER

- Q. Who is the person least likely to be guest of honour at the next Southborough Wheelers dinner?
- A. The notorious Lewes personality who, having been caught for four minutes by G. Orchard of the Wheelers, stayed with him all the way back to the Boship, then, using his 112 inch top gear, roared off the 82 fixed equipped Southboro' man along the wind-assisted finishing stretch. Reminded afterwards that he had been screwed, the Lewes rider puffed out his chest and said: "Ah, yes, but I beat you in the sprint finish".
-

"RACING GIRL AIRBORNE"
RUMOUR.

It is believed that while descending Nightingale Hill at evens, an air current under the flaps of her deer-stalker caused one of our racing girls to leave the ground.

Is YOUR hair receding? Then why not try some of 'Ali's Hair Restorer'. For further details contact Paul Barber, 11 Valebridge Road, Burgess Hill.

An anonymous correspondent from Edenbridge states that Brian Kent moved to Eastbourne for health reasons - they wanted to lynch him at Erith!

THE CYCLIST'S DREAM by Elizabeth Cochrane

To win the race for which I've entered
My thoughts have all night long been centred
On getting to the start on time
And hoping that the weather's fine.

My bike's been checked, the wheels, the frame
I've had good practise at this game
My training's done, my diet strict
Has made me feel I'll do the trick.

And now to bed, an early night
Should help towards the fight for might
When I arise to take my place
With numerous others in the race.

My sheets I've rent, my bed's asunder
What's that I hear? Oh no, not thunder!
I'm pedalling fast, I'm in the lead
And still I am increasing speed.

I've passed the post, I am the winner
Oh, how I will enjoy my dinner
Another victory for the Club
Yes, I do sure feel like some grub.

The morning's come, I rise refreshed
I have a stretch and then get dressed
A light repast and then I'm out
To win the prize I've dreamed about.

If I can only ride as well
As in my would-be sleeping spell!

CENTRAL SUSSEX C.C.

Since the last 'Bonk' report many things have happened. We finished off our winter touring with a memorable visit to the Isle of Wight at Easter. Here the Alan Robinson Matrimonial Agency provided a young lady from Hove as a companion for Mick Wren. The only snag was that Alan had laid a claim on this one himself. Howard, Min and Chris Colyer tasted some beer one evening whilst on a rather rapid pub crawl (about twelve pubs in half an hour - uphill as well). Chris was nearly DNF at about number ten, but Howard swears he hardly got going. Naturally it was left to Min to get them back to the digs. During the actual touring we did, Jane succeeded in roaring us all off, especially on the hills, and Valerie proved that she was pretty fit as well. Paul was disappointed about the distance round the island (56 miles); he said it was boring having to do a couple of circuits a day for training. Rod Laker was the only one to behave himself, but he managed to collect plenty of photographic evidence!

Since then, now that we're nearly all speaking again, the club's activities have been mainly concerned with racing. Don Awcock started the ball rolling with an impressive 58-36 '25' in May, and then a 58-38 in July. Min's been doing a few Os lately, but just can't beat the hour. Howard decided to go berserk in a Club 25 in July and clocked 58-8 along with winning five road races in as many weeks. John and Ken have been flying around together lately, doing some fine rides on their tandem, but when John was let loose on his own in the Assoc. 100 he shocked everyone, including himself I think, when he won with a time of 4-23-30. Needless to say, the Central looked after the first team award again, but we are all glad to see that the Southborough are out to make a fight for things now. Joe James has recently become a father, but he still keeps up his good form despite some very bad luck in recent events. Joe, Alan, Rod and Min have ridden at Preston Park for most of the season. Alan has done well in the sprint events, whilst the other three have done very well in the longer ones. Thanks to Joe's advice on team work we've often pulled off unexpected wins.

It's good to see John Galsworthy back on his bike after such a long absence. He's done some fine racing already, and managed a personal best 100. He spent a week on the rampage with John Dutson when they went camping in Wales in July. It appears that John D. had trouble keeping John G. in the car on passing members of the opposite sex. At one point John G. was so busy making eyes at an attractive female that he failed to notice her boy friend or husband,

Central Sussex C.C. (continued).

who by this time had become deeply concerned. Fortunately, it was two to one, so both retired in one piece! Ganger recently came out of hibernation and was immediately told how fat he had got. Since then he's been sweating off a few cwt. and has now declared his intention of racing again. Mind you, he assures me that he'll only be "larking around". "A couple of 7 oz. tubs for about £8" will do him fine for a start, he says. What with these, and the wheels of the fastest lady in Sussex (any claims?), he should do some fliers in our veterans team, along with Ron Ewart. Ron is now a "new man", he's got so slim that it's beginning to make Reg Tew think of a come-back!

Another little occurrence concerning females was when Alan, Paul and Rod were in Germany recently. It appears that Alan and Paul shared the affections of a married girl from Yorkshire. I don't know what this led to, but Rod tells me that on the second to last day of the tour, this young lady had to push Paul up a long maintain climb. Rod, working under Joe's team tactics, attacked hard at the front, and the girl's husband went in pursuit for the 'prime'. When pressed for further details Paul refused to comment until he had seen his lawyer, but after his ride in the ESCA 12 hours, whatever they were up to must have been good for him.

Roy Amey has shown many of the Club's riders how to ride distances recently. In the S.C.A. 100 Roy went so well that when he finished the timekeeper wasn't even there. Fortunately, the people at the finish were able to work out his time within a minute or two, and he was credited with 4-31 for second place. Then in the ESCA 12 hours he rode really well to take second place with a personal best of 239 miles.

Now most of us are speculating what Roy, John Dutson, Paul Barber and Alan Robinson will do in the Bath Road 100. Their team time should be most interesting. After the fine success of the Club Road Race we now hope for the same results in the team time-trial in September. The circuit which is of approximately 28 miles should provide some very interesting racing, provided there is a good field. By the time you read this (if you do read this), the event will be over. However, we hope that many of you will have ridden in it, and that you had an enjoyable race.

MIN.

Central Sussex C.C. (continued).

P.S. I must just add that John Dutson has shocked us all with an amazing 50 of 1-58-54 at his age. Just to rub it in, he broke the club record by almost 5 minutes, as well as knocking 5 seconds off his 1958 personal best.

EASTBOURNE ROVERS C. & A.C.

So the Editor said: "You miserable wretch! Where are your notes for the Summer issue?"..... but that's another story, and here we are with the Autumn upon us.

We have had a good year so far, with improvements in membership and times. Our schoolboys have done very well. Doug's boy Chris has improved steadily, and our own 'Peter and Gordon' made a very good showing in the London South Schoolboys 10, going on later to finish third and eighth respectively in the Schoolboys Road Race. The trio of ladies, Iris, Jane and Marion, have carried the flag for us into far off places. Indeed, on one such occasion 'Our Man from the Road Club' had the pleasure of sleeping with Jane and Marion, (This I believe will be more fully reported elsewhere in this issue), and sad to relate, slowed afterwards while the girls improved. There's a moral there somewhere!

Now to our fast man. Cliff has really gone from strength to strength this season, and also from record to record, taking the club 25, 30 and 50 and the Delauney Gold Medal for 25 miles. His under-the-hour rides total three to date, the first being in the Hastings 'Open', the next in the June Association 25, and then a fine 57-36 in the Rapier 25 on E.3. Coming down to more recent events, 'Jim' Freeman finished second in the Lancing Longmarkers 25, and with Doug and Chris Sullivan, took the team award.

Holidays have of course taken up a big part of the past three months. Stan Nash visited Yugoslavia, returning with a terrific tan to regale us with rather doubtful language, and even more doubtful local cigarettes. 'Speedy' Sharp was spotted by an eagle-eyed party of the C.T.C. bods who were on a walking tour of the Lakes, while in July Graham and Jane, complete with bikes, set off to tour the Rhine Valley, Luxembourg and Belgium, where eventually bad weather forced them to return. As this intrepid pair were pedalling (or should it be paddling) home, Ken, Iris, Anne and Brian left England, Home and Beauty and were soon charging about France in the trusty 'Stevens-mobile'. Here again, mixed weather was the order of the day. Still,

Eastbourne Rovers C. & A.C. (continued).

after three days of rain in the area of the Puy-de-Dome, things improved and the sun was seen for long periods, unfortunately mostly when travelling from place to place.

Alas all too soon it's time to come home, home to the 12 hours and the job of marshalling at Langney Roundabout (Trust him to get a spot only about a mile from home - Ed.) where a very pleasant conversation was had with a local 'cop'. The display of textbook driving caused by his presence was worth seeing. Jim Freeman must surely take the prize for keenness. He roared off for a few days, came back to ride the Portsmouth 30 and then set off for Wales to finish his holiday. Attendance at club night has been very good of late, with some very distinguished (?) guests in the shape of Brian Kent and Maurice Colburn, not to mention Crow, who dropped in one evening while staying at the Commercial Road 'Youth Hostel'. Sad to relate, though, scandal has been almost non-existent here, with Marion behaving very well apart from a minor indiscretion or two with Fisher and Ludlow - sorry, Channing of the East Surrey Institute of S..... Technology. (You didn't know that the "Road Club" bit was a blind, did you?). Jane keeps very quiet you know. We did approach Ted with a request to 'bug' the baronial 'all, but drew a blank owing to the mess it would have made. Still, we'll soldier on; be patient, and who knows

On that note I will now bid you farewell, possibly to see you up the road, on the ice, under the table or wherever else you may be in the months ahead.

STEAMING NIT.

DEADLINE for the Winter edition of 'Bonk' will be December 1st. Any correspondent whose notes are late will receive a Hardriders 12 entry form stamped: "Merry Christmas".

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