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Cycling Association**

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&			
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EDITORIAL

Cycling officials, like shop buyers, have to spend a great deal of time living in the future, and so it is that on October 5th ESCA officers and club delegates will be deliberating on the 1970 road programme, so that dates can be applied for by October 10th, the day of the RTTC's date-fixing conferences. As you will see from your Secretary's remarks on the next page, also from Crow's article 'Food for Thought', a question mark hangs over next year's programme because of the twin troubles of declining interest in the long-distance time-trials and the difficulty in finding sufficient marshals for these events. The falling off in the number of entries is probably inevitable now that a large proportion of most clubs' racing strength consists of youthful riders who would be ill-advised to tackle events over fifty miles. Where the marshalling is concerned, it is tempting to express the view that every club ought to be able to provide at least one marshal on any given race morning; but remembering the recent 50 when every potential marshal in my club was away on holiday, leaving myself (a definite non-starter in cycling matters at Bank Holiday week-ends), perhaps it is not as simple as all that. Even so, solutions to these problems must be sought, so I trust that all member clubs will realise the importance of the meeting on October 5th and will endeavour to be represented there.

D.N.

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"Gen" from the Secretary.

With the racing season now drawing to a close, many of us are beginning to think of the Social Season. Our first social event will be a Party at Netherfield on November 30th, which will be preceded by the Annual General Meeting earlier in the day at the Netherfield Arms, Netherfield. The Prize Presentation will revert to a Luncheon at the Maidens Head Hotel at Uckfield in February 1970. Details of these events will be available from our Social Secretary in due course.

A glance back over the Racing events of the last few months reveals the fact that the Association has not been receiving full support from all the member clubs of the Association. This has been especially noticeable in the long or distance events. For a number of years now the brunt of the work for these events has fallen on 3 or 4 clubs in the Association. With falling membership in clubs, if we are to continue these events, all clubs will have to assist with marshalling and feeding. Personally, I feel that there is still enough support from riders to warrant organising these events.

A Special General Meeting of the Association will be held on Sunday, October 5th 1969, commencing at 2.15 p.m., at the Hellingly Village Hall. This will give everyone an opportunity to discuss fully the future policy of the Association and especially the racing programme for 1970. At this meeting the programme will have to be approved and also arrangements made for promoters or alternatively a new Racing Secretary appointed. Recently I have found it necessary to inform our Chairman that due to work commitments I have found it necessary to give up some of my duties in the cycling game. I have decided not to stand again as Racing Secretary, but as I informed Ken Atkins in my letter of resignation, I would of course clear up all the outstanding awards and also arrange for this year's Presentation. During the past 9 months I have only been able to do the essential work as far as the racing has been concerned, which has meant quite a lot of things have just been put to one side. In these circumstances I felt that in the interests of the Association someone with more time available should take over the job.

The Agenda for the meeting on October 5th will be shortly circulated to clubs, everyone will be welcomed at the Meeting.

R.H.

LEWES WANDERERS C.C.

A nice sunburnt "Hiya, people" from this end of the violet rays. For once, this column has no complaints about what the weather man has dished up in the last couple of months. After his closing remark in the last issue, Crow must have been inundated with mail, and happy types waylaying him to tell him that after ten years of indifferent 'summers' we'd hit the jackpot at last. It's to be hoped that we don't have to suffer for a further ten years before we get another like this.

As usual, our lively lads have been turning up in various places, and the evening 10 series resulted in a win for Kilby, with Symon Myatt deservedly snatching the handicap. The third event went to Hills, whose 26-47 pipped Kilby by six seconds, with Steve Myatt doing 27-21 and Savage 27-40. A sensation occurred at the start, when the rotund figure of Agg manifested itself and eventually convinced the timekeeper that it intended to ride. At the finish Willcocks, who had 'died' doing a '31', approached the log-like object on the grass and inquired: "Wotcher done - fast man?" Came the croaking reply: "30-20 - just missed doing -- evens". However, joy quickly returned when he heard that Cliff Sharp had punctured and crawled in with a '39'. In seconds he was telling the world that he had screwed Cliff Sharp at last! The fourth event resulted in a win for Steve Myatt in 26-48 to Kilby's 27-5, with Savage doing 27-24 and Symon Myatt 27-50. Cliff Sharp missed his own course record by just two seconds on this occasion with 23-21. The fifth event was again won by Steve Myatt in 27-32 from surprise second man Simon Webb, who did 27-56, with Symon Myatt third with 28-19. In the Association 25, Burbery's long '7' walloped Kilby by nearly two minutes, with Savage a further minute back; and then Pete scored again in the Club 30 with 1-22-35 and left Kilby grovelling 45 secs. down, with Savage again third with a '26'. Symon Myatt shook 'em when he did a '27' and hammered big brother Steve by 4½ minutes! After a further joust between Burbery and Kilby had proved abortive (both DNS in the SCA 50), they squared up again in the Sussex 100, and Kilby, although taking a parcel himself with 5-14, trampled all over Burbery and beat him by nearly 14 minutes. This doubtless spurred him to take on the field in the 12 hours, but having got slower as the sun got stronger, and caused one very high ESCA official to declare "I thought he was never coming back from Rushlake Green", he decided to pack while still only seeing two of everything! Steve Myatt won the Club 25 with 1-9-16 to Kilby's 1-9-48,

but the latter grinned through his front teeth when he found he'd returned the two minute beating by Burbery earlier. Symon Myatt separated them with a '10', and young Andrew Myatt hung on for a '13'. Yours truly started full of hope, but a faulty valve put paid to any chances of a 'flyer' from that quarter, and continual pumping to get home caused arm-ache to go with the other varied agonies! Ten days previously residents in the Worthing area had experienced a 'sonic boom' when the combination of a flat course and a perfect evening saw your scribe hurtle through the 29 minute barrier in a Worthing 10 with 28-8. This might well have been a '27' but for having to hang around at the turn. Exit the Editor, blue faced and gasping with disbelief! (Come and have a go on the Hastings club course - that will soon cut you down to size - Ed.).

Bad luck in the shape of two punctures robbed Steve Myatt of a certain win in the Hastings schoolboys 10 as he was third with 28-3 in any case, Hugh Gander being only 3 secs. slower. The evening road race criterium saw the usual spirited racing we've now come to expect in these events, and resulted in an overall win for Worthing's John Lucas with consistent good riding. He took the first event, the second being won by East Grinstead's tame haggis-basher George Clare, while a great lone breakaway attempt by Alan Orman (Worthing) succeeded in leaving the bunch at sixes and sevens and saw him over the line first in the final event. Runner-up was Bob Smith (East Grinstead), while popular Fred Stonham (Brighton Premier) just nudged into third place ahead of George Clare by one point.

So much for the hard stuff. Most of the club have now inspected Junior Agg who has been brought out to one or two events. Elizabeth's statement that he's really a quiet baby quickly leads one to query the correctness of that old saying: "Like father, like son". We were amused to find that she takes after most Escabods by addressing her spouse as "Agg", instead of using his Christian name! Having had both parents in hospital severely cut this year's activities of Ken Savage, and we extend our sympathy and wishes for their better health in the future. Another absentee has been Mick Hills, who is reported to be doing a bit of house extending. Seeing that we haven't clapped eyes on him since mid-May, he must have embarked on a project the size of St. Paul's cathedral! A letter from 'God's Own Country' tells us that the Grovers indeed produced a boy as hoped: so when they come back he'll be on display. Whether or not there'll be an admission charge isn't known. The reason for Copper Burgess's non-appearance is that he's bogged down working

72 hours a week, not, we hasten to add, in Seaford, where they've always been a law-abiding lot. Our advice to him is to recruit more of the Crowborough males to cycling, then they'll be too busy to creep round with felonious intent. (And from my experience round Crowborough, too shattered as well - Ed.).

Good intentions often go awry, and so it proved with the Willcocks 'Bomb III'. After announcing that this would burst upon Escaland in June (see the last issue), half the month had gone by before he'd scraped up the 'necessary', by which time he'd decided that the 'sharks' would have to wait another fortnight. In the meantime he'd joined the ranks of the unemployed and so the charade continued. Finally, August 1st was the champagne and flowers day and was celebrated with a daring trip to Newhaven and back (7 miles as the traffic crawls) "to see that nothing drops off". Thus satisfied, he grew bolder and has ventured as far as Worthing! Peacock duly returned from darkest Africa and seems all keen to get on his bike once the novelty of haring around in a new Capri G.T. has worn off. Upon inquiring as to the quality of the opposition these days, he was staggered to learn of Nick Lelliott's 55-2 at the age of 17, and then modestly declared: "Hum, I don't think I'll be able to do much about him". He was advised by Yours Truly to make his comeback in the schoolboys events - provided his times don't get him thrown out! S.E.N. would seem to be a man after the same mould as former Wanderer Abraham Mac Russell who always boasted that money had to be prised out of him. Having struggled mightily with the 'Tour of the West' crippler in the last BONK and not got even one place name, your scribe says the ten shillings offered could well have been ten pounds for all the chance he had of solving it! On the same lines, we're thinking of offering a prize of a fiver for the first schoolboy wearing a space suit who can clobber Engers by half-an-hour! To the bloke who suggested that your scribe should have a go in Vets events, the reply is: "What, with hardy annuals like Charlie Burrell and Bob Griffith about? You've got to be joking!" After all, there's no disgrace in being beaten by the Sharps, Hooks, Morgans, &c., as one can always plead the age gap, but when your best times are being beaten by gentlemen up to twenty years older, it's time to 'Do an Agg' in reverse!!

Well, that's it again, brethren, so may the sun keep shining away (sorry Cliff) and here's to lots more pleasant miles and all that goes with 'em. Adios Amigos.....

ALSORAN

One thing always finds me behind the times, the deadline for 'Bonk', therefore, late as usual, here is the news and views from the west end of East Sussex.

Since we are still in the racing season I suppose it must be racing news first. Notable successes in the Club this year firstly, Howard Burrell with a glimpse of his old form won the 29th Wheelers Road Race on the Ashdown Forest, leaving the bunch on the last climb to win alone. Secondly, consistent riding in road events from Don Awcock has got him his first cat. licence. Up to the last count it was about 9 placings this year, so far. Having got into a faster class, he has, of course, had to get a faster car to keep up with the image. A Lotus Cortina this time, six more placings and it's said he'll swap that one for an Aston Martin.

In the last issue I reported that John Dutson was training hard to go on tour. Well, after being away for two weeks as well he decided not to waste the miles and rode in the Association 100, returning a 4.34.55. Not really racing he said, just fast touring. John has also had a crack at getting a fast 25 in once again, and up to now has a 1.2.6 to his credit plus 2 handicap prizes, one on S.1 and one from Esther. It only goes to show that some officials take pity on old men.

Ron Ewart is still plugging away, and although I fear was not entirely satisfied with his 100 performances, has clinched the Club 50 cup for this year, and looks very much like taking the B.A.R. as well.

All our Club 25's have now been completed, with John Dutson taking the Aggregate Trophy and Lancing Ken Atkins the Handicap Cup. As was mentioned in last quarter's mag., our events have been run in conjunction with the Brighton Mitre this year, and we feel that this has made all the difference in interest, &c. It can only be hoped that we can come to a similar arrangement for next season.

It is very strange but it would appear that some members of the Central Sussex just lay dormant for several years. Noted out at the Association 100 and every week after that was Cedric Pearson, whose reappearance is very welcome. Also back into the land of bicycles is Chris Shafer, who was with us for some time after the Prestonville went out, Geoff Boore, also ex-Prestonville and borrower of the hole-ist pair of track shorts in Sussex, and Geoff Palmer who flashed briefly across the Central Sussex scene about 5 years ago. Geoff is married to Mark Welfare's sister, which may have something

to do with his reappearance. We have also been joined by Dave Rutter, an ex-member of the Rookery C.C., I believe, who has settled in Burgess Hill, and who is allowed out now and again.

On the touring front, a few of the lads have been away on tour. Alan Robinson has been in Ireland, but has not been seen since his return. Rodney Laker has been on week-end tour with "company" - I understand that he got the girl friend to accompany him over Bank Holiday. Howard Burrell and Bill Vaughan decided to have a quick tour to Lands End and back. As I hear it this resulted in two stage wins for Howard, and the complete disappearance of Bill.

Now that the Social Season is nearly with us I suppose it would only be right to tell all and sundry that the venue for the Annual Dinner of the Central Sussex C.C. has been changed (by kind permission of the Lewes Wanderers) to the Elephant & Castle, Lewes, where it appears they can still provide a Club Dinner service for about a £1 a head. Date fixed is 24th January, 1970, a Saturday evening.

That's enough,

More next time,

HONEST GINGE.

BRIGHTON MITRE C.C.

Since the last edition of BONK, the Mitre has been endeavouring to keep it's name in the public eye. Our younger members have been doing well in local events. Peter Churchill in the schoolboy events, and Adrian Morris in the junior events managing to get in the placings in most of the SCA and ESCA events, being well backed up by John Yardley, Bob Bicknell and Alan Hylands in the team section. Among the seniors, Robin Johnson has been keeping his name well to the fore in the longer Sussex and East Sussex events, being second in both 100's and third in the combined 12 hours. Gerry Jackson in his first season has been cleaning up most of the recent club events on both scratch and handicap, with consistent improvements. He seems to have a touch of the Cliff Sharps, in that if no-one tells him it's a hard morning he doesn't seem to notice. A 1-14 for a 30 and a 1-1 for a 25, both done on not very good mornings, bear witness to this. Brian Morris seems to have spent a fair bit of time cornering on one ear. His latest exploit earned him a broken collar bone, but he seems none the worse now. Not to be outdone, John Yardley, while

descending the side of the Devils Dyke, on a club run, impaled his knee on his brake lever. One other slight casualty was Dave Best, who tried to ride Alan Hale of the Crawley into the ground a little too literally in the third Lewes criterium, and promptly retired permanently again. Many of you may have heard that former Association President Fred Stenning's wife Helen has been ill. She is now up and about again and seems in good spirits. I am sure that all Esca-bods will join me in wishing both Helen and Fred the best of health in their retirement. Don't forget the late season Mitre promotions: 2-up 25 on September 28th, and Open 25 on October 26th. Entries for the 2-up will have closed by the time you read this; but entries for the Open to me at 10 Old Shoreham Road, Portslade. Our 75th Club Dinner will be Arnold House Hotel, Brighton, on 13th December. Details from John Carter, 35 Seriton Road, Hove, 3.

K.M.W.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT by CROW (Southborough & District Wheelers).

While this note doesn't necessarily reflect the official views of my club, I think it's interesting to note two facts about the current season:- Finishers in the 12 hours - 10; finishers in the B.A.R. - 3. The weather as usual can take the blame for some of it but certainly the interest in distance events seems to be ebbing, and with it the competition for the Association's premier award, the B.A.R. Trophy. Personally I love the 12 hours for atmosphere that only distance racing has, and my club has always given it good support. But then I don't have to organise it and suffer the increasing headaches of finding marshals and helpers. The season of date fixings and AGMs is nearly with us, and I do urge all member clubs, whether supporting the 12 hours or not, to give serious consideration to the future of the 12 hours and the B.A.R. Don't just pass the buck and hope that Roy will run it again because he always has. Views on this subject will be of interest in planning the 1970 ESCA season.

A reference to micro skirts at the Southboro' dinner reminds us of the most 'outstanding' personality at their function two years ago; the Wignore lady sporting a low-cut dress and a micro bra'. Never had the taller blokes had it so good, and even the Editor was moved to make the cryptic remark: "I wouldn't mind a couple of extra inches myself, just now".

Reading of Heather Stevens dicing with death, or at least a permanently upset digestive tract, prompts the query as to whether Hastings Rock, as sold at a certain emporium, shouldn't bear the well-known warning: "To be kept out of the reach of children"!

Judy Goldstein revealed that their pet Jag' does about 15 to the gallon "when running well". When she added that at the moment it's off the road for repair, an ashen-faced Willcocks growled: "Blimey, at that rate that's where it ought to stay".

Great Minds Think Alike? Funny that Willcocks should mention having done a bit with the old rod and line on occasion. Recently, CYCLING revealed that this is another pastime of a certain A. Engers

Spot this week's deliberate mistake An ESCA club's evening 10, starting half an hour late, run by an unofficial timekeeper using a cheap wrist-watch and writing the times on a paper bag resting on a school satchel. No marshal, as "everyone knows where to turn", and having a prominent RTTC official's wife as spectator.

Sight of the ESCA 50 Dawn Hayward riding her bike again.

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SOLUTION

Our tour last year started with an argument. Ron, who always RECORDS THE mileages we cover, insisted we cycle all the way. At this, Pam turned PALE, PORED over the map, and demanded train assistance to Bournemouth. There was NO DIRECT service available, but IN HOPE of a compromise, I suggested Southampton and she grudgingly agreed: Miles DON'T PROVE a thing", she said.

Later, when Pam wanted to pay a visit TO AN UNCLE'S farm near BUDE, RON LET A SLIGHT cold serve as an excuse for NOT CALLING. He made us promise not to LET ON - VERY shy chap, Ron, but cheerfulness ATONES for this failing.

At the farm Pam's Uncle Claude welcomed us, but not Aunt Maude - she had gone to market. Our host, after introductions had been MADE, WENT ON IN to prepare a meal, and we had a look at our rooms. Mine faced inland, but PAM'S ROOM AT THE END had a marvellous view out to sea. We wondered how far one could see on a clear day, but visibility was poor, so unfortunately there's no telling now.

RECORDS THE	- DORCHESTER
PALE PORED	- APPLEDORRE (Devon)
NO DIRECT	- CREDITON
IN HOPE	- PINHOE
DON'T PROVE	- DEVONPORT
TO AN UNCLES	- LAUNCESTON
BUDE RON LET A SLIGHT	- BUDLEIGH SALTERTON
NOT CALLING	- CALLINGTON
LET ON VERY	- YELVERTON
ATONES	- SEATON
MADE WENT ON IN	- MAIDEN NEWTON
PAMS ROOM AT THE END	- MOREPONHAMPSTEAD

My congratulations to the winner. Sorry about Pinhoe, but those who have travelled by the old S.R. route to Exeter should know it. For anyone who unearthed Taunton and Wellington, sorry, but these are in Somerset !

Editor's Note. Far from receiving any correct colutions to S.E.N's. Brain-tease, I have not even had any attempts sent in, though it seems possible that some people may have had a try (vide Alsoran's notes). I suggested to S.E.N. that if nobody won the ten shillings prize, the Editor be allowed to spend the money on alcoholic refreshment; but the former's reaction to this to my mind excellent idea was very frigid, so I suppose I shall have to return the money to Harding Av.

SOUTHBOROUGH AND DISTRICT WHEELERS.

One thing these hot weeks of summer have brought forth is a host of new club records, Clive Ashby being the moving spirit behind these, aided and abetted by the Orchard brothers. At the time of writing we have new figures for 25, 50, 100 and 30 miles and new team records for the three shorter distances. 'Ashers' brought the 25 down to 59-10 in the North Bucks event though it needed the ESCA June 25 to see our team record go with Clive's 59-31 for second position, followed by Clive O. third and Graham O. fifth on a far more pleasant morning than the first 25. The Roamer 30 saw the time reduced to 1-9-24 and a new club team record as well, while the 50 team has gone three times and settled, for the time being, with 6-21-39 in the Southend and County on the E.1, although Clive's 1-57-53 in the Wren Wheelers event stands as the 'individual'. By winning the University 100 in 4-17 at his first try at the distance, Ashers reduced Ron Hayward's old record by 9 mins. Not that Ron can complain, as he has been having his best season for ages, setting up club vets records at the main distances, with 1-3, 2-12, 4-46 and 223 miles, and leads the club's B.A.R. table. Tim Chacksfield has taken command of the junior section since Chris Parker left us, and his 25-42 and 1-5-49 show useful times for the future. Tim with Richard Cave and Robin Howard have been regularly riding local road races as our junior team, and if nothing spectacular has been achieved, they generally finish in 10th - 15th position. In the schoolboy division Paul Woodman seems to have benefited from Graham's coaching as his 25-28 seems to show. Royston Harrison, down to a 1-2 on our twisty club course, has been keeping the club colours to the fore at Danson Park grass track now that 'Chav' Armitage has retired.

Perhaps his best performance has been in the 'fives', where he has twice been top lap points scorer. Our evening series has again received fine support from the club ranks, as well as from outside. A record number of 2-ups have been held though the suitability of our 25 course for this is questionable; certainly I'll never try another trike 2-up on it again, having a fine collection of bruises after a series of exciting 'moments' with a partner who was new to this phase of the game. It's been suggested that we drop our Hilly 31 next year and promote a 100 kms 4-up team T.T. - all very 'with it' you see. Someone with a somewhat macabre imagination suggested that such an event should be held over 2 and a bit laps of our 25 course, which would certainly make it a 'sporting' event.

There are some things in Escaland which one just knows to be true; like the fact that nobody but nobody is as old as Ken Stevens. One of these 'facts' is that it always rains for the 100; so after preparing my snorkel and waterproof sandwiches we got a scorcher for this event. Ron and I had quite a ding-dong in the early stages, which elicited several rude remarks from Honest Ginge. Robin packed after being seized with such back trouble that it took him 15 minutes to change a tub! Clive O. led our team with a '39' and our 4th, 5th and 6th positions saw us with yet another ESCA team win and it looked like yet another BAR battle with the Central. But of course, things didn't quite work out like that and the amazing weather of the 12 hours day saw yet more changes of fortune. I haven't raced in such heat since the '61 Catford 24 hours, and can only ascribe my survival to my bush hat and a multitude of kind helpers. We took our fifth consecutive team win this time over the 'Excel' lads, but our BAR team evaporated when Ronnie retired with the effects of the heat and Clive had stomach trouble, and it was left to yours truly who was very chuffed with his 224 miles for second place, and the Withers twins who were making their debut at the distance. Had Malcolm just been able to retain his pace for the final hour he would have been second; as it was 'M' clocked up 207 to Geoff's 201. A fortnight later the Kent CA 12 hours saw Ronnie's revenge with a fine 223 on a windy day, while Crow had 'knees' and crept in with 213. Nice to see Roger Sturt and his day-old wife (not that I'm implying that they have child marriages, even in Brighton), who were out cheering the Excelsior team.

We sometimes think it would be a good idea to include the 'phone number of the Kent & Sussex hospital in the club magazine

as they receive a regular flow of clients from the Southboro'. Latest victim was Geoff Boxall who got six fractured ribs in a pile-up. He made a rapid recovery as befits a BCF coach, and has now moved to Crowborough. He now lives at 1, Woodbine Villas, and our Hon. Sec. says it's a bit of a drag to get there! We suggested that he should give the place a classier air by re-naming it 1, Benson & Hedges. (Surely after Geoff's years in the game it ought to be Clubman - Ed.).

Holidays are news at this time of year and it's pleasing to note that cycles are still widely used for this purpose. The club's gastronomic Tour de France had five participants: Tom, Robin, Stu and the Withers twins. As well as seeing le Tour, the majority of the time seems to have been divided between contesting mountain primes and eating. For greater detail you are invited to read Geoff's comprehensive article on the subject in the September issue of our club mag'. Up to 36 pages now and only 1/- (end of commercial). Ian Bainbridge spent several weeks touring Germany, Crow returned to Suffolk to break his handlebars, and Ashers and G. Orch. are still at Torquay with bikes, surf-board and Mini (and 'birds?'). Jack Daniel has emigrated to Australia for nuclear physics down under, and it's rumoured that Don Robb intends to head that way as well. As Tony Boynton (ex Rovers) is now there it would appear that the authorities have lowered their standards of entry a bit. Nearer home, readers will be sorry to know that Robbins Cycles of Tunbridge Wells has closed. Seems that business was great but the lease ran out. Now a warning. Stu Moore had his bike stolen at a grass track meeting, but Lou went one better and had hit 'lifted' off his roof rack while stopping at a pub after a club evening '10'. Stu has had his returned by the police, but Lou's, while having been seen around, is still 'outstanding'.

The club has just enrolled it's 500th member, Malcolm Bradburn of Maidstone. Pity not all the members have kept up with their membership, though we would need a rather large club-room if they had!

Seen down at the club room recently were two familiar people in Reg 'The Vicar' Tew and Graham Seymour. That and the sparse sheets bear out Young Thropp's notes that '69 is Crawley's sabbatical year. Which reminds me that Young Thropp accused me of racial discrimination against Clyde Rimple by taking the ESCA Team T.T. through Blackboys last April. Thought he might like to know that

Southborough Wheelers (continued).

the place gets it's name from the lads who used to get rather grubby attending the charcoal fires when the area was largely forest.

To bring you up to date, the Bank Holiday 50 saw us lose the team prize for the first time this year, by 28 seconds to the Excelsior. Ronnis was DNS, Royston blew up, and retired, and it was left to the twins to lead the team with a '17' and a '19'. Crow pottered round for a '22' and Jacko, making a rare T.T. ride, with a '24'. That just about wraps it up for this issue.

Roll on the Social Season.

CROW.

BEWARE BIG BROTHER

With the latest RTTC move to have unknown investigators watching for rulebreakers comes the story of two 'testers' camping overnight near the start of a time-trial. One of them said: "Oh well, I reckon it's time we got our heads down". Suddenly, an 'official' voice from out of the gloom replied: "That's enough of that talk lads, or you'll both be out on yer ears before you get to the line to-morrow morning".

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO ... YOUNG THROPP ?

Regular readers will have noticed the absence of the usual three pages by this prolific writer and will no doubt be wondering what has happened to him and his club. In an interview with the Editor, Young Thropp stated that "a magic spell has been put on him by a wicked old witch, and he no longer feels like writing". He also alleged that his club is in disarray; so we shall obviously have to get an investigator up to the Crawley area to find out just what is happening, in time for the Christmas issue. D.N.

THE EDITOR REGRETS ... that the covers for this edition will be of various colours. Mr. B. Simpson of St. Leonards, who has been printing the covers for BONK for several years now, was taken ill with

serious eye trouble just before he would have been starting work on the next consignment of covers. I have not had time to look round for an alternative printer, so I am forced to use some spare covers left over from previous issues for the Autumn number. I hope that things will be back to normal for the Christmas BONK.

HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CYCLING CLUB.

A three hundred mile journey from Cornwall, a cup of tea, one hour's rest and the 'phone rings. The one and only Dennis, our Editor, and his first words - "Deadline for BONK to-day". I plead for just one more day, and he very graciously grants me two. What can I report? First, our open 25 was as usual a great success, the ninety-seven competitors enjoying a beautiful morning. The event was won by R. Mellor of the Cycling Club Bexley with the good time of 58-8, with S. Toole of the Folkestone & Dist. second with 58-20, and J. Clements of the Nomads (Hitchin) third in 59-10. The handicap was won by C. Crampton of the Folkestone with A. Smith of the Bexley second and J. Maxted of the East Kent C.C. third. Folkestone & Dist. won the team with 2-59-56. Only two ladies rode, both winning an award. Wilma Webb (Gravesend) took first prize with 1-7-0, while the evergreen Gladys Mills of the Mercury won the handicap. The Junior section was won by J. Plaine of the Ashford Wheelers with a time of 1-2-37, followed by J. Longbottom of the San Fairy Ann with 1-3-24. The award for the most improved rider was won by D. Gritty of the East Kent club. Frank Ford of the Medway Velo kept up his record by winning the Fastest Veteran on Standard award, with Charlie Danyon of the Woolwich second. Esther Carpenter, our Secretary, has promoted two very successful open Junior and Schoolboys ten mile events. On May 3rd the Junior event was won by J. Plaine (Ashford Wheelers) with a time of 24-25, followed by D.J. Lummes also of the Ashford Wheelers, with 24-51 and A.D. Saunders (East Kent C.C.) with 25-32. Tim Eadon of the Eastbourne Rovers won the Schoolboy section in 26-29 with P. Woodman (Southborough) second in 26-41 and Steve Hollands, our club's coming champion, third in 27-18. The second event on August 16th was won by D.J. Lummes (Ashford) with 24-23, with T. Eadon second in 24-36, and J. Longbottom third in 25-28. Steve Hollands (Hastings) won the Ron Powell Shield which he now holds for one year, with a time of 26-14. T. Leach of Bexhill Grammar School was second with 26-47 and S. Myatt of Lewes Wand. third with 28-3. The evening ten mile events were also a great success. Steve Hollands in one event did a personal best of 25-35. Mick Ashdown also did some grand rides, getting down to 24-25. After a whole season not racing owing to eye

trouble, Jack Southerden has returned some good times - 27-45 in one evening 1-, and 1-8-21 in the VTTA 25 in June.

I am pleased to report about ten new members. The Club room is proving a very good recruiting centre. Our Secretary tells me that Norman Shiel, the B.C.F. coach, will be visiting the club room shortly to give a talk to junior members. Club runs still continue, but with so many of the older members on holiday, the runs are mostly confined to mornings only; the old 'get together' for tea seems to be out of favour these days. Dave and Audrey Morris have been touring the Lake District and one day decided to go out in a boat; but not being as good with a boat as with their tandem, something happened. We have not found out the truth but they both got very wet and lost their picnic lunch. Luckily for them, a Good Samaritan came along and shared his lunch with them, but poor Dave and Audrey were not very happy when it turned out that the friend was a strict vegetarian! Ernie and Pam have been to Spain to try to settle the Gibraltar trouble with General Franco. Ron and Joan Powell have been to Yugoslavia and met quite a lot of trouble at the frontier, but Joan's charm and Ron's tact smoothed out the difficulties. Barbara, Sid and Susan have been touring Wales: I understand they were camping out most of the time. Arthur Coleman is not a Vet, and also a Kent C.A. committee member. He and Joyce are now touring Scotland. Ron Longley is now 'young enough' and is considering joining the Vets Association. Stan Russell decided to have a good look at the Primrose railway line before it closed, so I understand that he walked the whole distance from Robertsbridge to Tenterden pushing his bicycle. Cecil spent his holiday cycling. He was unfortunate in that he had to have it in two periods, so could not make his usual extended tour. Blanche and Fred spent a week in Norfolk with an old friend of the club, Fred Churchill of the Catford C.C. who spends much of his time on the Broads fishing. Whilst in Norfolk Fred and Blanche were invited to the Sandringham Flower Show, of which the Queen Mother is President. Blanche was made a Vice-President of the show and introduced to the Queen Mother, who told Blanche that she was pleased she had come such a long way and hoped to meet her again next year.

The Club's oldest active member, Ted Coussens, is slowly recovering from an illness that kept him in hospital for some weeks. I am told his greatest worry was that he would not manage his yearly number of miles. Guy Little is out riding again; his biggest traffic problem is now SMALL BOYS. In a few weeks time we shall be thinking of AGMs and our various club dinners. How time goes by.

Students of ancient relics would have had a field day at a Hastings Evening 10 at the end of June, when three figures from the past got the urge to compete on the same night. There was Bob French in a rather passé track suit and with mudguards fitted to his bike, Maurice Carpenter in long trousers but riding the Racing Sec's 'gen iron', and Dennis Neeves, who took off his front mudguard to lessen wind resistance. All three were outside evens on the 'sporting' Broad Oak road, with Neevo, believe it or not, coming out on top!

Back in the early fifties, when the Uckfield & Dist. C.C. were riding high, their winning team in Association events often consisted of John Dutson, Ken Griffiths and Cedric Pearson. The trio was back again at the last 25, though not of course together. J.D. still one of the county's best 25 milers, was doing a 1-2 for Central Sussex, 'Griff' now a speedy veteran, was riding for Eastbourne, while Cedric, just back on the bike after a five year lay-off, was watching points at the Boship.

Re the late news flash mentioned at the end of the last BONK. It is reported that the works manager apologised to R.H. for putting him in his own office "away from all the other chaps". Humphrey, cocking an eye at his glamorous buxom blonde secretary, is said to have replied: "It doesn't worry me, from the start of last week I've suddenly begun to hate the sight of 'em"!

A terrible thing happened to Geoff Willcocks at the Rye Sports. Having been given a ticket for free refreshments by R.H. who was officiating there, he strode into the tent to use same, only to find to his horror that the place was sold right out!

Ken Stevens can't understand why Don Hook always writes to Iris and not to him.

Seen on a recent Eastbourne CTC bathing run. Brian Guy with a bucket and spade tied to the rear axle of his trike, Cliff Sharp squeezing into a pair of trunks he bought when he was fourteen, and Bill Collins and Eddie Nealon scotching up the 'birds' with binoculars under the pretence of looking at the shipping.

In the Scriptures there is the dictum "seek and ye shall find". This may be true, but you don't always find what you expect, as the Editor proved when, grubbing about under his shop counter looking for the key of a toy speed-boat, he was unable to find the key but came across a spanner which he thought he had lost on the way to the Association Party last December.

After receiving a 'dubious' postcard from the editor reminding me of the BONK deadline, which has since passed, I started scratching around for some news from the deep south. One up to date item is, whilst riding to work recently, Cliff Sharp became the victim of a lorry with an unsafe load. As the lorry overtook him a scaffolding plank fell off onto Cliff, knocking him off his bike. Fortunately his injuries are not too serious, but he has a badly lacerated back. Ironically, whilst he lay in the road wondering what had hit him, a motorist blasted him on his horn to get out of the road, then proceeded to sweep by without stopping to see whether the figure was dead or alive. On the lighter side, after being carted off to hospital he was being X-rayed for possible spinal injuries and the radiographer found that Cliff was so well developed across the shoulders they had to use two X-ray plates. I wonder how many they would have to use for Agg. Anyway, much against his friends' and parents' advice, Cliff went off to the Lakes for his holiday which started next day, and we can only hope he will be O.K.

On the subject of holidays, the club have gone far and wide, though not many cycling miles have been done. Sun worshipper Stan Nash soaked it up in Yugoslavia, whilst The Lades went hunting for the 'Little people' in Eire. The highlight of the tour seeming to be a visit to the Guinness factory with free samples and all. About the same time the Stevens plus Brian Guy went north to the C.T.C. York rally, where a little cycling was done, then on to the Lake District for some fell walking, and no cycling. Well a little was attempted on one day but after going on a 25 mile run when 15 were walked (it seemed like it anyway), they called it a day and stuck to walking boots and rucksack. Baby Heather causing quite a stir when seen on top of the mountains in her papoose on Ken's back (he is still complaining of backache). Another holiday with very few miles was mile-eater Colburn's. Getting venturesome, he joined a Y.H.A. cycling tour to the Hartz Mountains in Germany, only to find only about two others were hardened cyclists, and the total mileage for the fortnight being about 250. He is now trying to work out how to get some more in as he is aiming to reach his 100,000 this year. Still, it appears they all had a good time after they had disposed of the tour leader, with plenty of time for drinking, and have planned a reunion in Sheffield in November. That should help his miles. Super tourist Bruce Allcorn had a week's pottering in the Forest of Dean and New Forest, while another tourist these days, 'Yakki' Cornwell did an American style tour of Europe, nine countries in 12 days. Not on a

bike, of course !

As well as the odd racing week-end, the club enjoyed another bank holiday camp, near home this time at Billingshurst. It made quite a change getting into the West Sussex lanes, and the site was conveniently situated at the rear of the Lime Burners Arms. One day was spent walking on Blackdown, where so many blackberries were picked that they were served up for dessert two days running, and were finished off for breakfast on Monday morning. There were nine of us !

Despite all this travelling, racing has still been going on in the Club. Cliff is down to a '56' and a 4.8 hundred. Scrapping amongst themselves are Mo and Ken who are both down to '2's and pushing hard behind them is young Tim Eadon with a middling 24-min. '10' and a '5' for 25 miles. Maurice has recorded P.Bs. at 10, 25, 50 and 100 miles as someone said recently "he has at last learnt to race" (quote). At the other end, Graham Lade is just managing to hold off Sweeny Todd Roberts, the Griff, and junior Steve Miller, over 25 miles. Though much to Graham's disgust, Doug has the fastest '25', a 5 done on a good morning on E.31. The Guy only takes tandem events seriously, he has to with Ken cracking the whip, and ambles around in other events at touring speed. Of the girls, June lost interest mid season, and Iris is having to cart Heather around with her, which rather kills her enthusiasm, as training on 65 fixed with a baby in the kiddy seat is no joke.

Our 25 went off well, though the entry was little disappointing, still that's the way it goes with a crowded calendar, Cliff winning the event with a '58' and a narrow win by Worthing over us in the team event.

The September road race saw a full field only to have just 23 start. Being basically a time-trial club, we wonder whether it is worthwhile promoting road races, especially with all the officials involved. Weatherwise it was a good day, but out of the 23 starters only about 12 finished. Well, by the time the next edition is out the social season will be here (did I hear the Editor shout 'hooray'?) with poorly attended A.G.Ms. and of course club dinners to which we all hope to have a good crowd. I sure am looking forward to it, when the beer loosens the tongue and we start saying: "do you remember old so and so". Heh look out grandad your age is showing.

TIME-TRIAL ROUND UP

The biggest surprise in the Association 100 was of course the weather, with the traditional SW wind and rain replaced by hot sunshine. The field was small, with Southborough (five riders) and Central Sussex (three) the mainstays. Competitively, there was only one man in it, scratchman Don Hook (Eastbourne) being well ahead at the half way point, and steadily increased his lead to finish in 4-19-46, 13½ minutes up on Robin Johnson of the Mitre, who also took the handicap, and only 15 secs. outside Dave Marsh's 1956 record.

On the same morning there were 24 entries for the Schoolboys Open 10 Miles. ESCA clubs provided second and third fastest riders in Paul Woodman (SDW) and Pete Churchill (Mitre), with E. Miller (Kingston Phoenix) the winner in 26-0. The Mitre lads also took the team. The 12 hours was run off in intense heat, which affected some riders. Cliff Sharp started fast, clocking about 4-20 for the first 100 miles, and though slowing considerably later, ran out an easy winner with 232.5 miles, nearly nine miles ahead of experienced long-distance man Pete Crowsley, who covered 223.8 miles, with Robin Johnson third with 215.7 miles. The Southboro' trio of Crow and the Withers twins were the best team with 641.6 miles.

The 50 on August 31st had a lowish entry, possibly due to the holiday week-end and marshalling difficulties for the same reason. Don Hook's 2-9-16 gave him first place, followed by Robin Johnson, who led the winning Mitre team, with 2-12-58, and G. Withers (Southborough) with 2-17-27. The latter's twin Malcolm took first handicap with a net 2-4-19.

The Open 25 on September 7th was a rather ill-starred affair. The entry was about 20 down on last year's, one of the marshals stood in the wrong place, a herd of cattle wandering in the road delayed many riders, and a stiff easterly breeze had even the fast men gritting their teeth coming off the Dicker. Scratch man D. Clarke of the Vulcan Road Club was fastest with 1-0-39, showing that under-the-hour rides do not come easily on G.831, with John Dutton runner-up in 1-2-5 (third handicap as well), and I. Franklin, Sorian R.C. third in 1-2-39. R. Leppard of East Grinstead won the handicap and Brighton Mitre were team winners. J. Smith (Addiscombe C.C.) won the Ladies event with 1-12-50.

THE LAST WORD !!!! How to do a 1-54 at 50 miles. Have a plank fall off a vehicle onto you two days before the event. For further details apply to Cliff Sharp C/o. Eastbourne Rovers.

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