



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL

**East Sussex
Cycling Association**

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

PRICE

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EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION

New Series No. 28.

CHRISTMAS 1969

Secretary) Mr. R. Humphrey
& 4 Ebenezer Cottages
Treasurer) FRAMFIELD Uckfield.

Editor (Mr. D. Neeves
(19 East Parade
(HASTINGS Sussex.

EDITORIAL

Well, an era has ended, by which I mean that Roy Humphrey has stepped down after being in charge of the Association's racing ever since it all began in 1946. For some time it seemed that no successor was forthcoming, but suddenly at the eleventh hour someone was found to be both able and willing, and, remembering the sterling work done by Iris Stevens for her club and ESCA during the last ten years, we can be confident that the post is in good hands. Iris will be overseeing a racing season with one brand-new event in the Open Team Time-Trial, and one old favourite missing in the 12 hours, which has been dropped because of marshalling difficulties, after being run continuously since 1951. The dropping of the latter event was a great pity both from the racing and social aspects, and we can only hope that at some time in the future it will be possible to get it going again. I certainly think that the position should be reviewed annually.

One thing that does not help in this sort of situation is the feeling which seems to have gained ground in some quarters that a club should only assist with marshalling if some of its racing men are riding in the event. This surely goes right against the spirit of the Association, which is that of individual clubs pooling their resources for the common good. Taken to its logical conclusion, the former idea would lead to myself stopping work on the next edition of this magazine if the Hastings press secretary fails to contribute some notes, or a timekeeper refusing to turn out if he finds that none of his clubmates is competing. A little food for thought for 1970.

D.N.

"Gen" from the Secretary

First of all let me briefly outline what happened at the Annual General Meeting. Stan Shirley of the Brighton Mitre CC becomes our President for the year, we all extend a very warm welcome to him, and we trust he will follow the tradition of our Presidents of the last few years by appearing in the No. 1 position on the Start Sheet for the Hardriders 12 in February. The only change of Officials that took place was Iris Stevens taking over as Racing Secretary. The qualifying distances for the Men's B A R will be 25, 50 and 100 Miles, and for Ladies, average speed in m.p.h. for two 10 Miles and two 25 Miles Association events. It was also agreed to dispense with awarding miniatures to all winners of Association Trophies, due to the rising cost of these and also the fact that we have a large number of trophies. The usual programme of Social events were agreed to and Brighton Excelsior C.C. offered to organise the Touring Competition on a date to be agreed in October or November.

Following the A G M a very successful Party with over 80 sitting down to tea was held at Netherfield Village Hall, rounded off with a Film Show.

Next year's Time Trials programme will ensure a full programme of events in East Sussex, and it was pleasing to see the way in which clubs offered to undertake the promotion of the events, and so giving member clubs a larger share in the running of the Association's activities. At the A G M it was agreed that the continued use of Hellingly Village Hall as Headquarters was desirable, and it was left to promoters to make their own arrangements for help with the catering on the day. A cup of "char" and a chat after the event certainly has in the past meant much to those who like to enjoy a social chat with riders of a few years ago who turn out on a Sunday morning to watch events.

February 15th will see our Prize Presentation revert to a Luncheon at the Maidens Head, Uckfield, and we hope that all Prize Winners will make an effort to attend to receive their awards from our President's wife, and also to let our Chief Guest the Chief Constable of Sussex and his wife see that we are really a strong and flourishing Association of cyclists.

In conclusion, may I thank you one and all for all the help and assistance you have given me during the past year, and wish you all a very happy and sober Xmas and New Year.

R.H.

SOUTHBOROUGH AND DISTRICT WHEELERS

An easy way to write this report would be to copy out Graham Orchard's monumental article on the club's racing season which occupied 14½ pages of the recent club mag', and included sections on results that ran like a Bradshaw timetable, but more interesting and sometimes a little faster. In the last Christmas issue of BONK I wrote that Don Sutherland's circuit training course was in preparation to crush all the opposition on south-eastern roads. Well, a year later the opposition is far from crushed but treating 'The Southboro' Crowd' with a little more respect after our most successful racing season; though whether that was because of or in spite of the above-mentioned circuit training is hard to say. Anyway, nobody is doing any this winter.

The time-trialing season ran itself out with no great changes. Clive Ashby did 229 miles in the Middlesex 12 hrs. to clinch the club B.A.R. from Ron Hayward with yours truly third. Clive also brought the club 25 record down to a fine 56-36 in the Rapier event to wind up a season of sub-hour 25's. The final Kent 25 saw a Southborough benefit with Royston third with a personal best of 1-1-1, and Orch making the winning team with 1-3-7. All the juniors turned in 'personals', the twins with 1-5s, Richard and Bob Wenham with '6's and Paul Woodman a '7'. From there Paul went on to come second and lead the Southboro' winning team of Greg and Willy in the Catford schoolboys' 10. This seems to have been a vintage year for the hill-climbers, too. Royston rushed back from the Brenwood 25 (where he did 1-3-30) to clamber up Firlle Beacon and win the ESCA climb for the second year. Surprise, surprise, Crow came second 11 seconds down. (The last time he came 2nd in the ESCA climb was in about 1953!). Ronnie came up 8th to give us a team win, and what must be a record for ESCA hill-climbs - a total of 95 years for the winning team! Sunday October 19th saw the big hill-climb double of the South-East, the Catford and Bec week-end. We had three riders in the Catford; Roy starting No. 15 came up in 2-8.4 - a great ride and the fastest ever done by a Southboro' rider on Yorks Hill. This was a short-lived record, however, as a few minutes later up roared Malcolm Withers in 2-8.2! A surprise ride, especially as Roy had beaten him by seven seconds in our club event. Geoff, the other twin, clocked in 2-19.6 to give us the winning team and causing many spectators to ask: "Where is Southborough?" Only Roy and Malcolm rode the Bec, Roy coming 10th with a 2-20 ride and Malcolm clocking a 2-25. Just to round off the season seven of us went to the 'National', held at Llywel near Brecon, where Royston put on a fine ride for 16th position, 19 secs. down on the winner, Granville Sydney.

It was cold and misty up on the hill, and I was pleased to see the couples Lade, Strong and Nightingale perpetuating the Tunbridge Wells Road Club tradition of watching this event. Clashing with the 'National' was the other 'Big' event, to wit the Southborough Tourist Competition, which was won by Robin Howard from Don Robb in a field that was rather small due to lack of inter-club support. Spider ran the event round the Maidstone area, which gave him good scope for confusing 'tulips' in the network of lanes south of the town. Robin also won that hotly contested club-run attendance trophy, this time from Danny. With these two wins he's expecting a contract from Mercier BP next season! The club 100 mile reliability run went off in fine weather, so everyone got round easily except for Paul Woodman who developed a 'two-way' block at Hythe and retired.

The Social Season started in fine style with the Wignore dinner on November 15th. Ten of us went up in a minibus just like the old days, and really wopped up the proceedings. Crow and Danny ate up some of a late arrival's meal, causing the person to get upset and walk out. The Wignore apologised to the assembled company for our presence - some things never change. By the way, I'll apologise in advance for so few Southborough faces at the Association Party, but it's a clash with a hostelling week-end that includes a cyclo-cross and get-together at the Wignore; and in any case since that dinner several of the lads seem to have developed certain interests in north Kent. The hostelling side certainly is getting good support now, with the ESCA hill-climb approached via Goudhurst Y.H. Another week-end 'double' saw most of us spend Friday night at Tanner's Hatch, while Geoff Withers had more luxurious accommodation in Redhill Hospital after a slight stack-up at Smallfield. Once again we took a wrecked bike back to Tom Padbury's place (see BONK Spring '69) - he must be getting used to us by now! The rest of the week-end went off a treat with bags of rough-stuff in the Hindhead area and Saturday night at the hostel.

Now for a few news flashes Don Robb has dropped his plans to go to Australia and got engaged instead. Score ... Australia 0 - Joy 1). (Why not compromise by getting a flat in Earls Court? - Ed.). Another member of the Southborough Wheelers bachelors club bites the dust! Congrats to you both and at colossal expense we have got a little something to be presented at the club dinner. Tom Smith has moved to Norwich and regretfully left us, though some don't mind the passing of his radio. Chris Parker is rejoining us after a year in the wilds with the Lewisham R.C. Danny is retiring

as club captain having held the post for seven years. He says it will give him time to have a few week-ends off to study a St. John Ambulance Brigade first-aid course, 'cos if our club-runs get any gaster and more furious his knowledge could come in very useful. There will be no Hilly 31 next year: the club will just promote two road races and an open 25 (your President mentioned an open 10 to me - Ed.). A unique 'club-run' was held recently, a mini-bus tour of London cycle shops. It seems that Jow Whisker is looking forward to the next Southboro' visit.

Those who feel like exercising their mental powers after a season's racing and have preferably passed their A level English or have at least got their D.Litt(Cantab) should pop in to the East Grinstead clubroom any Tuesday evening, where debates seem all the rage. A wide range of topics is often under consideration, although it does seem to drift back to the subject that cyclists expound about at length (You speak for yourself - Ed.), when they are not discussing Eddie Merckx. Finally, do you sometimes feel that the world has gone mad? To convince yourself of this fact, come to Tonbridge Social Centre at 6-15 pm on December 20th and bring 22/6d. to prove it has. Yes, it's our Dinner.

Cheers! Finished in time to watch the Miss World contest with an easy mind.

CROW.

EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

At the Association Luncheon and Prize Presentation on Sunday, February 15th, 1970, at the 'Maidens Head', Uckfield. We have made a great capture for guest of honour in the person of the Chief Constable of Sussex. Tickets price 25/- from the Hon. Social Secretary, J.R. Dutson, 95 Framfield Road, Uckfield.

Well, I must start off my report by boasting. Our boast is that not only do we have the Sussex Champion in our midst, but the Scottish Road Race Champion as well, both these titles being held by GEORGE CLARE. George has had many wins since he joined our club. He joined to gain team support and backing. George Clare's achievements have put Bob and Trevor in the shade somewhat, but nonetheless both have good rides to their credit this year. Dick Marchant's face has been seen out at events this year and down club room, and it is rumoured that he may make a come-back next season. Dick is a rider of great class and one who has gained much respect from both riders and officials and spectators. He has been missed from the racing scene, but should he return now he will make a strong team even stronger.

We have our club dinner coming on January 3rd, but those who have not got tickets are too late - it's a sell-out - and we have only had the tickets a week! Seems the word about our dinners has got around. Also we have such people as Vin Denson, Colin Lewis and Dave Bonner coming this year! It was disclosed at our last committee meeting that CROW had given our treasurer 10/- and asked to be a second claim member. We have decided that if he gives us all 10/- then we might consider accepting him! Ah yes, and talking of Crow, many of you may know that he watches his diet very carefully. Well I have found out why, I think. He has recently been seen with his head in a book called: "Your Diet and Virility", so maybe there's a method in his madness. It has since been disclosed that the aforementioned book came from the Lunn household at 'The Zoo', Three Bridges. This figures. It is a well-known fact that the Lunn rabbits, Guinea pigs, stick insects, terrapins and many others that I cannot remember, all reproduce at a great rate. Ray is sharing his bed with the dog and his bath with a crocodile. He appeared down club the other week with sawdust all over him. He said it was from work, but I think it has been reduced to sleeping in a rabbit hutch! I wonder if the rest of you received the same sort of BONK reminder that I did - a very saucy postcard from Dennis. Thanks, Dennis, we are looking forward to the next BONK reminder now, including the postman who had an extra big grin that morning. It wasn't our Fred Marshall; if it had been we would have had some even saucier remarks added to it. You would be surprised at what I find written on my parcels sometimes. Dennis's card was the source of a very interesting and frank discussion down club that night. I was saying what trouble I had trying to explain Dennis's card to my 4½ year old daughter. This got us on to sex education at schools

and at home, and how much or how little we were taught by our parents. Quite a lot of information came to light during this discussion, including the fact that Crow has been told all about the birds and the bees by his father - last Thursday! I think it was! So all in all a very enlightening evening.

That's all for now. I have not got much printable rubbish about what the lads are up to, but am relying on getting up to date on all the scandal during the cross-toasting at our dinner.

Bye for now

VAL

THE 1969 PARTY

Organised of course by Mr. J.D., this event was held once again at Netherfield Village Hall with catering in the capable hands of Mr. and Mrs. Nash of the 'Netherfield Arms'. After the Siberian weather of the previous day there were fears that the attendance might be much reduced; but fortunately this was not the case, and 84 persons enjoyed sausage rolls, sandwiches, jelly and cream and rich Christmas cake. Afterwards, Derek Harber of the Mitre showed colour films of the 1962 and 1968 Tours of Britain, also a humorous documentary on the dairy industry featuring comedian Jimmy Edwards. Among those present was a well-known face from the old days, Eric 'Basher' Kent of the Uckfield, also just-elected President Stan Shirley and retiring President Roger Sturt. Roger's Excelsior clubmates again featured bottles of Merrydown in their table decor. This must be an old Brighton custom!

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO PRESS SECRETARIES, from the Editor.

Well, times are getting hard, boys and girls, and with a bicycle and record collection to keep up, I've got to make stringent economies. Therefore, in order to save myself a few shillings in bleak February, this is what I want you all to do.... When you undo your stocking on Christmas morning you will be sure to find a new diary amongst the gifts. Open it at February 28th and there write in blood red letters "DEADLINE For Contributions To The Spring Issue of BONK".

1969 BEST ALL-ROUNDER COMPETITIONS

MEM. Uckfield & District C.C. Memorial Trophy
(Holder: M. Morgan, Central Sussex C.C.).

1st: R. Johnson, Brighton Mitre C.C. 21.500 mph
25 Miles 1.4.21. 50 Miles 2.12.58.
100 Miles 4.33.2. 12 Hours 217.874 Miles

2nd: P.J. Crowsley, Southborough & District Wheelers. 21.030 mph
25 Miles 1.4.37. 50 Miles 2.22.27.
100 Miles 4.43.29. 12 Hours 224.018 Miles.

3rd: A. Leaney, Brighton Excelsior C.C. 19.339 mph
25 Miles 1.8.53. 50 Miles 2.25.34.
100 Miles 5.10.1. 12 Hours 187.420 Miles.

LADIES. F. Rix Trophy.
(Holder: J. Lade, Eastbourne Rovers).

1969. Not Awarded.

JUNIOR BEST ALL ROUNDER COMPETITION 1969

Trophy presented in 1968 by Mr. & Mrs. E. Carpenter.
(Holder: A. Leaney, Brighton Excelsior C.C.).

Claims are requested from Junior Riders for the above Trophy.
Conditions: Best two 25 Miles times in ESCA events. Best two
Junior Open 10 Miles times, in events approved by either the London
South of South East District Councils of the RTTC.

Fastest Junior 25 Miles Time Trophy.
(Holder: A.G. Morris, Brighton Mitre C.C.).

Claims are requested for the above award from Junior Riders with
25 miles times in Association (East Sussex C.A.) events only. Claim-
ants must not have been over 18 years of age on the day of the event.

Claims for the last two awards must be received by the Racing
Secretary not later than 15th November, 1969.

LEWES WANDERERS C.C.

Well, me hearties, it's here - I mean Winter, in case you haven't noticed. As I write there's a nice blanket of snow everywhere and the mercury is threatening to knock the bottom out of the thermometer, so step forward all the hard cases who like riding bikes in Arctic conditions - you're welcome to 'em! But back to happier memories of a season when it was a pleasure to be on a bike for most of the time. The Association 50 saw Kilby's '24' beating Savage's ride by three minutes, then came the September 25 in which Savage did yet another '9' (he's got a record total of them throughout his career!), while schoolboy Hugh Gander got down to an '11'. The Bognor attracted four of our lads, Steve Myatt getting on top with 1-6-58, beating brother Symon by only 30 seconds (a close shave here), with Kilby's 1-9-37 beating Savage by 20 seconds. The S.C.A. 25 saw a tie between Kilby and Savage, both doing 10-49s, while Burbery entertained the puncture bug and crawled in with a '14'. Things went a bit better in the Mitre 2-up when the Kilby-Burbery duo managed 1-7-41 and Gander-Symon Myatt did 1-10-15. In a final fling we had five riders in the Worthing 25, the fastest being Savage, who, probably fed up with the '9' rut, managed 1-8-28 (must be a drag strip course - Ed.), Burbery's 1-9-20 got him third handicap, Steve Myatt did 1-9-24, Kilby was over a minute slower and Gander slowed to a '14'. In the piece of torture officially described as the Association Hill-Climb, Willcocks avoided last position by a precious fifth of a second, but more of this epic later.

A little bird tells us that our old pal Tourist Agg undertook a journey of a different sort some weeks ago: he was carted off to hospital after complaining that he ached in every limb! The malady, like the cause, is still rather obscure, but readers can be sure of one thing - it wasn't brought on by too much undercover preparation for a grand slam season in 1970, as he seems to have forsaken his bike in an all-out attempt to gain top honours at table-tennis in the local association. With rabies seemingly the 'in' disease at the moment, we can only watch and wait; but happily he's out and about again, and has a very good excuse for leaving the garden alone next year! At a recent committee meeting some members said they hadn't received their Autumn numbers of BONK. When Jack Goldstein said that he had some for sale to callers at his shop, Andrew Myatt got a guffaw by exclaiming: "Blimey, that means they'll be 1/6d. at the very least". Later, Jack got another giggle when he said: "Now I reckon that's a good idea, but people can blame Judy, as she usually deals with the pricing of stuff". How ungallant can you get?

Lewes Wanderers C.C. (continued).

With a rush of brains to the feet, Peacock came all over ambitious once again and bet Willcocks the sum of 5s. Od. (or 25 New Pence) that he would rocket up Waterworks Hill faster in the ESCA Hill-Climb. Never one to refuse to humour a dubious case, Willcocks accepted (the said dollar was a powerful incentive), and had one or two trial runs to give the hill the once-over. He was accompanied on one of these by the said Peacock, who only got a third of the way up before collapsing on to the verge, a gibbering wreck, gasping: "Blimey, I can't ride a bike up there". However, in the event (literally) Willcocks felt obliged to honour his part of the bargain, and duly oozed up the incline to find a leering Peacock sheltering behind the coward's end of a camera. So ended the ambitions of a man who'd previously told the world "I'll be the only East African Safari Rally driver who has ever ridden in the East Sussex Hill-climb". In fact he was the only DNS !

A surprise visit to Hastings found the proprietor of The Shop filling in his spare moments by reading a particularly lurid Sunday newspaper (Colburn please note). As this gentleman has recently taken to sending selected victims coloured postcards of an extremely dubious nature (it's the only way to make Press Secs. remember BONK deadlines - Ed.), we're wondering if he has decided on a policy of modernisation and is determined to 'get with it' these days. Also noted on the beach opposite the Neeves emporium was a miniature railway with trains hauled by a scaled-down 'Royal Scot' and a G.W. 'Saint'. Should any reader have visions of a diminutive military highlander and a haloed figure performing Herculean feats, and accordingly wonder at your scribe's sanity, a word in the 'lug-'ole' of such as Crow and 'Landrover' will soon solve the mystery. Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, as readers will have noticed with the Central's dinner venue for this year. That, of course, is the lead-in to the annual announcement of our own high-class function, which once again will be at the 'Elephant & Castle', Lewes, at 7-30 pm for 8 on Saturday, February 28th. We couldn't get an earlier date, alas, but that will give folks a chance to have got over the effects of other 'stodge-ups', so come along with empty stomachs and good appetites and we'll guarantee you won't go away dissatisfied. How time flies - it's only a year ago since we had the last one (!), but the 'damage' is still 12s. 6d., and this is one promotion where you won't get done by undercover observers for 'tucking in'. So roll up and don't forget the female element who are always welcome, while we can reassure the timorous that the

Lewes Wanderers C.C. (continued).

first six in the raffle won't be dope tested this time ! All ticket applications to G. Willcocks, 6a, Broad Street, Seaford, Sussex, by February 21st 1970 at the latest.

Having heard of Young Thropp's change of clubs, we trust that his penmanship won't be entirely absent from future issues of BONK or do we detect already a certain trembling in the Central Sussex ranks ? Our members seem to keep their scandal under the carpet a bit better these days, but possibly the Social Season will provide more material for next time.

All the best for Christmas from all Wanderers, with lots of what you fancy (they're still the same under those 'maxis' !), and plenty of everything that makes for a good social season.

See you around

ALSORAN.

P.S. The sympathy of all Wanderers is extended to Ken Savage, whose mother passed away recently after a period of illness.

The Editor is very fond of flitting over to Eastbourne when the weather is reasonable, but he hung his head in shame when a story in the EVENING ARGUS told of a 74 year old Hastings woman who cycled to the Bourne on that appalling snowy Saturday, saw the show at the Congress theatre, then cycled home again !

Unusual sight seen by the Editor while riding past Little Common church. A greyhound loping up the road at a steady 15 m.p.h., bang on the centre white line, followed by a procession of cars. The last car in the queue was a police vehicle, so perhaps the Law eventually managed to 'apprehend' the fugitive.

Don't be surprised if when you next meet Stan Nash he looks about 20 years older, because Stanley has been as it were Out Nashed. On a recent chilly evening, with frost forecast for later, Stan, the high priest of minimal clothing, was at the Rovers clubroom wearing long trousers, when in walked Chris Maharry clad in shorts and ankle socks !

HERE AND THERE

Cliff Sharp is now twiddling about on a 36T chainwheel. What such people as Engers, Tooby and Taylor would have to say about this doesn't bear thinking about.

The Daily Mirror has recently published one or two items of interest to cyclists. There was the picture of the black dog at Eastbourne whose owner had strapped one of the new Ever Ready rear lamps to his back because, being black, he was virtually invisible at night. Then a few days later we were startled to see a headline which read: "THE ABOMINABLE CROW MAN". Thinking that the Mirror had done a 'Lid off Edenbridge' article, we eagerly read on, only to find that it was a review of BBC TV's 'Canterbury Tales', in which a character dressed up as a cockerel strutted about crowing.

We used to laugh at Reg Eldridge and his last war army pullover. Now we have Guy Little of the Hastings club with an old gas-mask case tied to his bike in place of a saddlebag.

Willcocks, seeing Young Thropp at the Party, was heard to say: "I'll have to see if I can meet Old Thropp one of these days - then I might be able to tell the difference."

No prizes for guessing the name of the Southboro' rider who was answering nature's call after one event, when the Great White Chief shouted: "Oy, you're not allowed to do that here". Came the reply: "Yes I am - I'm a member of the Permissive Society".

Girls of East Sussex !!! You are now safe from the lecherous advances of a certain soft rook peddler. Having backed a 'dead cert' by the name of Stolen Kiss (which is still running), he has decided that clandestine love is a financial loss and has vowed "never again".

Overheard at the Association Party Crow commenting on the difficulty of getting baby-sitters ????

The latter gent is the latest interested party to visit Jack Goldstein's shop in Lewes. When asked if he had anything in mind, he replied: "Not half - who's the mini-skirted 'dolly' in there?" Watch out, Judy - he's after yer !!

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS !! It was a foul evening and the Eastbourne crowd were battling up the road from the Fullers Arms to Erightling. Young Gary attacked a steep slope with great vigour but got the sags half way up and subsided with horrible gasps and groans which sounded as if he was about to depart this life. At that very moment, with great dramatic effect, a bell in the nearby church started ringing slowly

Latest sport in East Sussex is four-wheeled tricycling. Anyone wanting to know how to perform this feat should contact Crow.

Pete was at the Association A.G.M. and spent practically the whole day on a bed with a married lady from another club.

You've heard a lot about the Eastbourne Drift. Well, now we have it's successor, the Hastings Drift. First victim is Willcocks, but wait, it's not a luscious piece of femininity he's fallen for, but two beautiful scale model railway engines on the Old Town miniature railway.

This was the first inkling we had that Geoff is a railway enthusiast; the Editor is another, with quite a few railway histories on his bookshelf. A survey of well-known cyclists' other hobbies would make quite a good article for BONK one day. Many of course, are keen on music, and in this connection we wonder how many readers have that LP of Elgar's Enigma Variations with the marvellous sleeve picture showing an Edwardian cyclist standing beside his Dursley-Pedersen in silhouette against the skyline.

-----ooooOoooo-----

TRANSFER TALK

The word from Burgess Hill is that the Central, with prolific Young note-writer Tony Wilkinson now on the books, are willing to part with their old war-horse Honest Ginge. Brighton Excelsior, short of a literary striker to add punch to their team, are likely to be the first club to make an offer.

STILL MORE RUBBISH FROM THE CENTRAL SUSSEX C.C.

Upon receipt of the usual reminder from the 'stock' of the Editor I will attempt to bring you the up to the minute news from this end of Sussex.

Racing, of course, has finished now, with the possible exception of our Hilly '20' mile event which thrashes about in the Handcross - Balcombe area on the Sunday before Christmas and for the first time in a number of years the Club has failed to find a Best All Rounder. No rider completed the 12 hours distance, and consequently both the B.A.R. Shield and the 12 hour cup stay in the Secretary's wardrobe for 12 months. The other trophies have been distributed all round this year. Brian Hone whips the 25 cup with his only ride in the Club's name, the 50 cup is a tie between two old protagonists, Ron Ewart and 'Lancing' Ken Atkins, and the 100 trophy goes to John Dutson for his ride in the ESCA 100. Just in passing and following on from the last report, the Dutson tally on Handicaps is now 4.

Recently we have had a quartet of members join us from the Horsham area, which helps to bring our numbers up to a more reasonable amount. These are Brian Hone (ex Morden CRC), Tony Wilkinson and Eric Bonner (ex Crawley Wheelers), and Clive Cruttenden, whose affiliations I am told go back to Horsham Unity of the pre Tim Mackay days. A few more from over there plus Rod Laker and we will think of starting a sub-section.

The first 'trip' for all our new gatherings was to the Southampton Wheelers 25 on P.1 late in the year, when they, plus Adrian Jones of Crawley and John Dutson and Ken Atkins had a mass assault on Hampshire. This, of course, was doomed to failure from the start. On the way down the rear wheel of the Wilkinson machine came in contact with a pheasant. The result had to be seen to be believed. 1 smashed back wheel, 1 dead pheasant and a vast amount of guts and feathers spread all over Eric Bonner's Mini. Not to be outdone by all this slaughter, Brian and Eric decided to ride to the 'wee room' in the centre of Ringwood. On reaching a Tee junction the outside rider turned left and the inside rider turned right, thereby causing a clutter up in the middle of the road. Result - 1 spoke and 3 grazes to Brian, and another shattered back wheel to Eric. After a small amount of re-arrangement of equipment, all who entered got a ride, and the results were quite creditable, Brian Hone did 1-1-49, and as reported took our 25 cup, Adrian Jones 1-1-57, John Dutson 1-2-38, Eric Bonner 1-4-4, Tony Wilkinson 1-4-25 and Ken Atkins 1-6-44. After this event the motorcade visited a Gentlemen's Grand Prix.

Central Sussex C.C. (continued).

This is a high-class name for a vets 2-up and the only reason for mention is the winning time of 57-14 by Lou Smith, paced by Steve Clinch (both South-Eastern). Ex East Surrey pacer John Fisher said: "They cheated - did bit and bit". Talking of Vets, I think congratulations are in order to Charlie Burrell for his cracking rides this year and for his excellent placing in a French Gents event. Riding in company with the most exalted of the pro's, he found it necessary to give his French pacer a thorough English pasting.

With the advent of the more social season, the Club touring activities have taken a turn for the better. There have been two Youth Hostel week-ends recently. The first to Alfriston and Goudhurst, and the second to Milford and Winchester. Another is planned for January when, I understand the tourists are travelling overseas to the Isle of Wight. Sunday runs are also on the scene once again. On one of the first Rodney Laker decided he was the 'Grand Descendeur', only to find that the corners at the end of Slugwash Lane are sharper than he thought. He was duly escorted to the Atkins establishment for general repairs to body and bike, and then home in the ignominy of a car. By the way, it was 'Old Crocks' day.

General news from the administration front. Next seasons programme is fixed as 2 Road Races, both Saturdays on the Plumpton Circuit. One to be promoted by Howard Burrell and the other by Brian Hone, and the 2-up T.T.T. on the Horsham Road, also on a Saturday afternoon, and promoted by John Dutson.

Just another small thought. After the lack of racing talent last season, we have just had to order another dozen racing vests. I only hope they are all used.

See you at the Hardriders !!!!!

HONEST GINGE

ASSOCIATION HILL-CLIMB, held on Sunday, 12th October 1969.

1,500 yards of Waterworks Hill, West Firle, near Lewes.

1st:	Royston Harrison (Southborough)	4 mins.	5.2	secs.
2nd:	Peter Crowsley (Southborough)	4 "	16.2	"
3rd:	Robin Johnson (Brighton Mitre)	4 "	43.2	"

1st Team:	Southborough Wheelers (Harrison, Crowsley & R.R. Hayward)	13 mins.	26.2	secs.
2nd "	Eastbourne Rovers C & AC	15 "	11	"
3rd "	Central Sussex CC	16 "	53	"

Number of finishers - 14. Other notable rides: Jack Southerden (Hastings) 4-57.2 for sixth place; Geoff Willcocks second to last.

Timekeepers: D. Stokes and R. Humphrey.

BRIGHTON MITRE C.C.

Well, the social season finally got here. The only snag is that we seem to be doing considerably more miles than we were in the racing season, and I shall be glad when we start racing again, so I can go back to my usual nil mileage. However, enough of that. Congratulations to Robin Johnson on lifting both the Sussex and East Sussex B.A.R. trophies; and to Adrian Morris on gaining a certificate in the National junior competition with an average of 23.6 m.p.h. With some clubs apparently bemoaning their fates, it is nice to be able to report that the Mitre is flourishing on all fronts, except possibly the track, but we hope to have a little more success at that next year. On the time-trial front we have had a good battle between Robin Johnson and Gerry Jackson for the main placings, with Adrian Morris and Keith Chandler close behind. Club events have been well supported, and we have been able to enter eight or nine riders in most of the local 'opens'. Gerry Jackson managed a 1-1-9 in the S.C.A. Individual Championship in September - this was the fastest 25 by a club member for some years. Stan Shirley and Bill Sladen between them put up a £5 prize if anyone in the club got under the hour this year. This caused Robin to get down to a '2', but in the end the money was safe, Gerry finishing up base over apex in our club 'open', the last event of the season.

Brighton Mitre C.C. (continued).

Our 'Egg & Bacon' 25 in October was a great success, with 26 starters recorded, although the Brighton Excel' contenders couldn't face the second lap. I don't think that was because of the breakfast, but I would not dare say even if it was. Some really remarkable times were recorded, from Gerry Jackson with a short '8' for the 27½ miles at one end, to some gentlemen who would probably prefer to remain nameless, among them Geoff Boore, who were a lot nearer two hours! Since the end of the racing season we have been interesting our younger members in the delights of youth-hostelling. Our first trip was to Goudhurst, on October 11th, with nine members out. Bob Bicknell found you can't descend steep hills with bends and loose grit as fast as he thought, and needed some patching; then Adrian Morris fell out of the hay loft where the careful warden had banished us to sleep. The Southborough and one of the Kent CTC D.As. were also there. It was very nice to see a cycle shed packed with bikes, and to see lots of Escabods among the entries.

We have added a third track meeting to our list owing to sterling work by Bill Sladen in obtaining the services of the 'Birds Eye' food group as a sponsor. Our late-season 25 has been transferred to the Horsham Road course, partly because of the difficulty in obtaining enough marshals for all the G.931 roundabouts, and partly because we think the G.935 could be a good course. As mentioned above, we hope to have stronger representation on the track next year. Apart from some of the younger riders having a go, it is possible that Bill (Tiger) Cooper, late of Kentish Wheelers and Brighton Stanley, who was one of the best riders at 'The Park' in the fifties, may be appearing in Mitre colours. Arthur Thorpe was heard to comment that if Cooper rides, he will come back and bring Colin Whittingham as well, which should be good for a laugh at least. We await developments with interest.

That's about all for this time, and I leave with best wishes for the social season and the thought that it's only eleven weeks to the Hardriders 12. (Watch it - you're pinching R.H's. favourite social season pleasanterie - Ed.).

K.M.W.

The Association's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held at the Netherfield Arms, Netherfield, on November 30th, with Ken Atkins (Central Sussex) in the chair. The Secretary/Treasurer reported that the past year had been one of our less successful years, with racing entries down and very poor support for ladies' events (no entries at 50 miles and so no B.A.R. trophy awarded). The bright spot was the junior events which had received increased support. The report showed that with receipts from the Grand National Draw also down, the Association is on a downhill path financially. The Social Secretary told of good support for the Party/Film Show and the first Children's Party, and support for the draw quite good, though down on 1968. The Magazine Editor reported that the usual four editions of BONK had been produced, with a reasonable amount of 'copy', the usual trouble with contributions arriving late, and unfortunately a marked drop in the number of copies sold compared with 1968. There was a lengthy discussion on the financial problem, and it was decided to discontinue the giving of miniatures (except for the BAR) and to see that draw tickets reached every possible person in the East Sussex club world. A move to increase the affiliation fee to £2 was defeated, and it will remain at 30/-. There was also much talk about the Touring Competition, which had only 8 entries this year. It was decided to give it one more try and to accept Brighton Excelsior's offer to organise it. Qualifying distances for the BAR Competitions in 1970 will be :- Gents 25, 50 and 100 miles; Ladies and Juniors 10 and 25 miles. Prize values as in 1969. The Hill Climb to be 'Open', with the same prizes. The social programme will be as for this year. Track Championships as 1969. Hardriders 12 course will be a Hellingly, Magham Down, Rushlake Green, Chapel Cross circuit. Officials elected or re-elected were :- President - Stan Shirley (Brighton Mitre). Chairman - Ken Atkins. Vice-Chairman - Alan Bathurst. Secretary/Treasurer Roy Humphrey. Racing Secretary - Iris Stevens. Social Secretary - John Dutson. Magazine Editor - Dennis Neeves. Press Secretary - Peter Crowsley. Minutes Secretary - Jane Lade. Time-keepers - Messrs. Porter, Humphrey, Baker, Chilcott, Dunford, Bathurst and Stokes. Handicappers - Messrs. Dunford, Humphrey, A. Linington and Mrs. Carpenter. Auditors - Messrs. Collins and Cusdin. Vice-Presidents - en bloc, plus Roger Sturt. No Assistant Racing Secretary elected, because of different promoting arrangements in 1970.

HASTINGS & St. LEONARDS C.C.

A whisper from our worthy Editor - "deadline the 30th". What can I write about? No racing reports except the grand ride of our veteran, Jack Southerden, in the ESCA Hill-climb. Two years ago we thought his racing days were over, but he continued to ride, and in spite of his handicap has this season recorded grand times at all distances, both in East Sussex and Kent events. If awards were presented for courage, Jack would have first claim.

Membership remains about the same; young members come, some stay. The Club Room still proves very popular, but more support from the NON-ACTIVE members would be welcomed. Two separate club runs have overcome the speed difficulty. Those like myself who wish to ride and enjoy the beauty of the countryside, form the Tourist Section. The speed and long-distance riders form the Racing Section, usually deciding on a venue to meet for elevenses or lunch.

The club has now become a member of the Hastings Sports Council. Maurice and Esther, always looking for work, have added to their many club duties by representing the club at the meetings. Also they are now studying Navigation: rumour has it that they intend entering their boat in next year's Round Britain Boat Race!

With the Social Season comes the many club dinners and prize presentations. The President has received splendid support in attending these functions. Dennis and Blanche joined Fred at the San Fairy Ann dinner, where Fred had the honour of replying to the toast to "The Visitors". The San Fairy Ann have for many years been on very friendly terms with our club. For many years one of their members 'Pete' Avis, has been timekeeper for our Open events. Arthur, Joyce, Blanche and Fred attended the VTTA Luncheon, our President is chairman of the Kent group. Blanche had the honour of presenting the prizes; also she drew the winning ticket in the raffle, and caused much amusement when Fred drew first ticket and received a bottle of beer (and he a teetotaller!). Barbara, Sid, Arthur and Joyce and Fred attended the Kent CA Luncheon at Cranbrook when Fred replied to the toast to the Association. Now we look forward to our Christmas Party at Netherfield on December 14th - more hard work for Barbara, who also has the difficult job of arranging the club Dinner and Prize Presentation, which will be as usual at the Royal Victoria Hotel on January 31st.

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

Still with Barbara, she, Syd and Susan have been touching the HIGH SPOTS, a dinner and dance with the Masons at the Dorchester Hotel, London. Barbara's brother was the retiring GRAND MASTER. Susan stayed the night at the hotel and then went seeing the sights of London, including Petticoat Lane. We are now wondering whether to style her 'Princess of Dorchester' or 'Princess of Petticoat Lane'!

Will all club secretaries please note that Mrs. Barbara Powell is our Social Secretary, and her address is : 2 St. Helen's Avenue, Hastings. A good number of members attended the club A.G.M. when many new ideas were discussed. It was good to have so many voicing their opinions. One good rule was passed that five timekeepers be approved for the evening 10's to work to a rota, in that way to prevent responsibility always falling on the same member. Another good rule was passed, that commencing with the 1970 A.G.M., the President be elected yearly with a maximum period of office of three years. The election of officers was as follows :- President - Fred Martin. Chairman - Arthur Coleman. Vice-Chairman - Barbara Powell. Hon. Treasurer - Ernie Spray. Hon. Secretary - Esther Carpenter. Runs and Racing - Graham Wilks. Press Secretary - Fred Martin. Open 25 Promoter - Dennis Neeves. Committee - Cecil Blank, Maurice Carpenter, Ron Longley, Dave Morris, Syd Powell. George Page has been asked to become a Vice-President, of our Club. All other Vice-Presidents were re-elected.

F.M.

CHILDREN'S CORNER With Uncle Dennis

Hello tiny tots, kiddie-winkies and ghastly horrors. Do you like parties with plenty of sausage rolls, jelly, ice-cream and paper hats, and then some Swedish films and madly amusing games? Well, there will be one at Hellingly Village Hall on Sunday, 18th January, at 3-30 p.m. If you would like to come, ask Mummy and Daddy to write to Uncle John Dutson at 95 Framfield Road, Uckfield, enclosing 1s. Od. booking fee, not later than January 12th.

EASTBOURNE ROVERS NOTES.

Things have been pretty quiet here at the premier resort, and I don't think that over the past few weeks we have topped the sunshine league, as back in the summer. A few stalwarts raced right through to the end of October (mad fools), the rewards being a win for Cliff and four 'personals', three of them in the Mitre event. These were our schoolboy 'Pooh' Milne, Peter Davenport and David Short, who along with Cliff who won the event, voted it a very successful morning. October was also the month for Mo Colburn who rounded off his season nicely with a '1' in the Clarence Wheelers Middlemarkers 25. Of course Cliff has taken all our 'pots', except the Junior and Ladies, that is. The Junior B.A.R. was won by Tim Eadon who has joined the junior ranks with a short '5' and a 24 minute 10 to his credit. Bursting with youthful enthusiasm, Tim just cannot understand why his older clubmates like to stagnate up to Christmas. (Good job he's not in the Lewes mob, where certain people like to stagnate all the year round - Ed.). Anyway, we shall be dishing out the silverware on February 7th at the Pier Hotel, Eastbourne. Cost of tickets 24/- each end of commercial. The Sharp/Colburn marathon week-ends have started, both having fitted mountain climbing 'twiddle' gears. Young Tim, who joins them on some week-ends, says his 57" bottom gear is nowhere near low enough for some of the hills over which Mo leads them. While climbing up over the North Downs near Holmbury St. Mary, Mo thought he was having hallucinations when, after being dropped at the start of the ascent to Abinger, he saw a yacht in full sail beside the road. It must have been high tide!

The club itself has not had clubruns as such, but as most people are C.T.C. members the few 'old faithfuls' go out regularly with the Eastbourne section. A choice of two runs is available every week, all meeting for tea followed by a sedate ride home. On one recent run Brian Guy added to the light entertainment when he took to the rough, so to speak, ending flat on his back with his trike on top of him. We laughed of course. All our tea places are situated on top of a 'mountain', or so it seems, and a very bonked-up Editor can vouch for this, having had to bash up to Hadlow Down from Uckfield into the teeth of a strong wind a few Sundays ago. While trying to revive himself with tea and wads he was assaulted by a young Heather Stevens and nearly lost his braces. Later, Brian Guy was found under the table with this very forward young lady. The numbers out to tea have been noticeably fewer since the wet weather arrived; even Bill Collins is talking of buying a telly and retiring till the

summer. At the moment he is trying to fiddle the D.A. books to raise the money. The social functions are now getting under way with two theatre visits already gone, one to a film by the Wildlife Fund and another to a local production of Showboat. The usual round of dinners and lunches has of course commenced, with the T.A. function already passed and a visit to the Hants Road Club dinner on the agenda. After the Charlotteville dinner Cliff looked rather the worse for wear but claims it was not due to drink. Women, maybe ??? Jane and Graham Lade started their social season early with a trip to Wales for the National Hill-climb and have since disappeared, decorating, they say. Oh the trials of a married racing man; a year's work has to be crammed into three short months before Christmas, as Ken Stevens is finding out. The clubroom is populated by the same old few faces each week, though a recent new face has been Chris (the Beard) Maharry, now without beard, whose career in the R.A.F. came to a quick end when he injured a leg while 'square-bashing' and after an operation they discharged him unfit. A notable absentee on November 5th was Stan Nash. Some people thought that he had stayed at home to let off his fireworks, while a rather unkind person from a rival resort said that he was probably being burnt as the guy. Stan will of course deny all this.

Well, as the Editor has given me all sorts of dire threats if I do not get this in the post immediately, I will bid you all farewell from the land of the Roastbourne Heavers (Neevo's name for us - one of many).

SCRUBBER.

The latest introduction by the well-known firm of Campagnolo is a small but to many people important piece of equipment in the shape of a pair of bicycle clips. The Editor has been using a pair of these clips for the past month both for business riding and Sunday club outings, and it can be stated emphatically that they are of the same high quality as the firm's widely used chainsets, gears and brakes. All the clips are hand cut from top grade specially treated spring steel and are perfectly oval in form, straightening slightly towards the opening and finishing with a graceful twirl at each end. Typical of the Campagnolo attention to detail is the provision of two small spikes inside the back of the clip which engage with the trouser material and completely eliminate that annoying slipping which so often occurs when using cheap bicycle clips. The finish is of the usual high Campagnolo standard, a lustrous satin chrome sheen which needs only an occasional polish with a soft cloth to keep in perfect condition; with the words "Campagnolo" and "Campione" engraved in elegant lettering on each clip. A final touch is that the clips are supplied in three sizes, 6 cm, 7 cm and 8 cm across the clip, so that almost any combination of ankle thickness and trouser width can be fitted comfortably. Naturally, superior bicycle clips such as these are not to be had cheaply, and some people may say that at 18/11d. per pair they are 'pricey'; but the many clubfolk who want the best possible accessories and are prepared to pay for them will no doubt soon be using a pair of these fine clips which are in every way worthy of the famous name they bear.

Pete Crowsley had a narrow escape on December 7th when a car knocked him over at a junction on Ashdown Forest. His 'Frederick' was a write-off, but Pete got away with a few cuts and was able to carry on to Ringmer where he was showing some slides at the CTC slide show.

January saw the first ever ESCA Children's Party, which was a great success with 'uncles' J. Dutson, D. Neeves and K. Stevens as front men and catering by the ladies. FEBRUARY had that amazing 'summer' morning for the Hardriders 25 and Crow's huge mud-flap and 1-35. MARCH encrusted the shivering racing men with freezing fog. In APRIL the Editor shook off the slows and was under the hour again - from East Parade to the Rovers' club-room! MAY was Clive Ashby's month, the tall Southborough Wheeler setting the seal on a great come-back by winning the 50. Summer came at last in JUNE and Messrs. Sharp and Ashby celebrated with sub-hour rides on the Dicker course. Highlight of JULY was the unusual 100 - not a cape in sight, and poor Don Hook only 15 seconds off event record. Mid-summer Madness hit Eastbourne with a serious outbreak of paper aeroplane throwing at the Rovers clubroom. The holiday month of AUGUST brought marshalling problems for the 12 hours and 50 and a poor entry for the latter event as well. SEPTEMBER had a rather disappointing field for the Open 25 and a decidedly non-float morning. The Editor celebrated his birthday by marshalling at this event, and a fortnight later Heather S. enjoyed her first birthday cake. In OCTOBER the committee reluctantly decided to drop the 12 hours; and the Hill-Climb winner Royston Harrison took 16th place in the 'National', the best effort by an ESCA rider since the palmy days of Dave Patten. Through NOVEMBER East Sussex clubland digested the news that Roy Humphrey was standing down from the post of Racing Secretary after 22 years, and tried to think of a successor. By the first day of DECEMBER the problem was solved when Iris Stevens was found to be willing to take on the job. An so, with the clubs engaged in the usual orgy of Christmas lunches, Christmas teas and slide shows, we say farewell to 1969.

D.N.

The Editor would like to wish a Happy Christmas and good luck in the New Year to all readers, and in fact everyone else except motorists who turn left in front of cyclists and twits who stand on street corners and wolf-whistle at cyclists in shorts. All we can wish them in 1970 is acute brace-rot and attacks of the screaming nadders.

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