

BANK!

The Official Journal of the

**East Sussex
Cycling Association**

Published Quarterly

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"GEN" FROM THE SECRETARY

I would like to express appreciation to Dennis Neeves, who has edited our Magazine for a period of 11 years. Dennis has done a great job and sincerely we hope that he will contribute to our pages as a writer of his own Club notes. At the Annual General Meeting Jack Goldstein undertook to produce this edition, subject to a meeting of a Sub-Committee, which was duly held and he accepted the task of editing 'Bonk'. Please let Jack have any articles, dates of functions or events which your Club may be organizing, any local scandal and your Club notes which he will publish, subject to space being available.

Unfortunately some delay has taken place in the publication of this edition so by the time you read these notes our Supper and Prize Presentation will have taken place and entries will have closed for the Hard-riders on March 3rd. This event will again have No. 1 on the Start Sheet our 1974 President, Trevor Budgen, upholding the tradition started some years ago and, who knows, he could break the sequence of wins in recent years by Cliff Sharp.

At the AGM a list of Place to Place Records was approved, conditions for these being basically on the same lines as for Southern RRA Record attempts. Any intending record-breaker can obtain details from our Racing Secretary, Mrs. I Stevens.

Once again we shall be running a draw on the Grand National and tickets will shortly be circulated. Let's have a special effort to make it better than last year.

A date to enter in your diary for 1974: the Clubmans Touring competition on Sunday 10th November and again organised by John Dutson.

We cannot tell what the 1974 season has in store for us, what with a 2 or 3-day working week and rising costs and shortages of equipment I feel certain that at least we shall see our sport putting on a full programme. With the whole-hearted co-operation of all members and officials I see no reason why our Association should not have a season even better than 1973.

In conclusion I would like to remind all Time Trialists of a new competition for 1974; it is an extension of the Points League for Individual Riders on same lines as for the National Campag Comp. Stan Shirley will act as Recorder and has kindly donated a trophy to be held for 1 year by the winner of the season-long competition.

Happy Wheeling to all members for 1974.

R.H.

BRIGHTON MITRE C.C.

Owing to serious attacks of sloth and amnesia, Mitre notes have been absent from the last two issues, so I will have to make this a review of the season. Overall it has been a very successful one for the Mitre, although our representation in ESCA events has not been as strong as we would have liked owing, as mentioned before the season started, to our juniors and schoolboys being more interested in bunch racing, and our Vets preferring VTT events on some occasions.

High spot of the season was, of course, Richard Smith's 1st in the Pursuit and 2nd in the Sprint at the National Championships at Leicester. We actually had three representatives there, Richard, Alan Goodson and 'Jumbo' Oxborrow, none of whom had ever ridden a 'real' track before. They travelled up over the previous weekend, got to the track on the Monday and spent the day falling down the bankings. By the opening events on the Tuesday they had got the hang of things. Alan and Jumbo did not get beyond the 2nd round of the sprint, but were certainly not disgraced. Richard in his first attempt at sprinting reached the final, being beaten by Peter Malyon, who had been training at Herne Hill with the London sprinters.

The Pursuit saw Richard fastest timetrialist, with Alan just failing to qualify with ninth fastest time, in spite of not being given the bell with a lap to go, but he made some amends by cleaning up a Consolation Points race, winning most of the laps.

Seeing in Cycling that Richard had qualified for the semi-final, we quickly loaded up the car and set off for Leicester, arriving at the Track almost half an hour before the meeting. The first person we met as we turned into the Track was Tony Yorke, who had somehow found his way to Leicester from a holiday in the New Forest. When Richard got up to ride the final we martialled our supporters along the front of the stand and by much bellowing managed to get everyone shouting. I think Richard got more support from the crowd than any other of the five finals that night, except the tandem, which was a classic in itself.

Back now to the local scene; The return of the Sussex CA Championships to the traditional course saw a better entry than of late. In the events, an absent Adrian Morris and Alan Limbrey suffering from a pile up left your scribe as 4th Counter, and suffering from flu to boot, just managed to finish inside evens,

Brighton Mitre C.C. continued

and lost the event to Central Sussex; good luck to them, we will try and get it back next year.

Fastest 25 miler of the year was again Robin, who managed to beat the hour on a couple of occasions. Next was Vet Maurice Wyatt, with a personal best of 1-2-11, then Richard Smith in one of his rare appearances in a time trial. Next was Alan Limbrey, then Alan Goodson. I think probably the best time trial performance in the club was that of Alan Limbrey in the SCCU 12, with 236 miles, which was a personal best, after not having ridden a 12 for something like 20 years. This also won him the SCA and club 12.

On the road race front we have had to rely mainly on the schoolboys, with an occasional excursion from the juniors. Pride of place again goes to Richard, with seven firsts, two seconds and one DNF from 10 starts. Alan Goodson also was placed in several events, in fact being placed second in the one event Richard did not finish. The Leigh brothers completed our representation, Colin and Owen, in his 3rd season at 14, both producing several good rides. Our senior representation being limited to myself holding up the finishing list in the Lewes events, and DNF in the SCCU event.

It occurs to me that if the petrol situation continues other commissaires will have to follow my example and commissaire from the back of the bunch on a bike.

Richard and Alan represented the Division in the National Schoolboys Road Race at Hull. Richard, unfortunately, was involved in a stack up in the Club track championships just before and did not compete. The event was somewhat of a shambles, the circuit being like a cart track and with a dog bringing down half the bunch a good time was had by all. Alan finished eighth after leading with about 400 yards to go.

Track racing, apart from Leicester, our efforts have been concentrated at Preston Park, Colin Wood being our most successful rider, narrowly being beaten by George Mathews for the SCRL championships, newcomer John Oakes, with Alan Limbrey and Alan Packett also being prominent. Alan Packett's consistent riding in handicap events after a 21-year lay-off being somewhat of a surprise to us all.

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Brighton Mitre C.C.-continued

The final event of the track season was the Wembley 'Six', with Colin Wood, Richard Smith and Alan Goodson selected for the amateur events, thanks again to Tony Yorke's coaching. Richard had three 1sts and two 2nds from four rides, Alan managed a 2nd in a points race, Colin having to be content with Prime wins. It was good to see Sussex riders attacking at the front of a bunch of the best Juniors in the country.

That brings us to the commencement of the Cyclo-cross season. First event was the Old Ports at Shirley Hills, with the Leigh trio in the placings: Colin 3rd and Owen 6th in the Schoolboys' and Martin 3rd in the Junior events. Next came the East Surrey v. Harriers and out of the 112 starters, Martin and Colin Wood were 16th and 17th, Alan Goodson, Colin and Owen Leigh with Alan Limbrey among the finishers. The De Laune event on 4th October saw Richard Smith get his long legs mixed up in his bike and Colin Wood descending the steepest hill on his right ear. Martin was 3rd in the Junior event and Colin 3rd in the Schoolboys. The Tooting saw Colin again 3rd and the last one to date being the Festival event with Martin 1st in the Junior and Colin 2nd with Owen 4th in the Schoolboys.

I would like to stress the good Tony Yorke has done for our boys, so if you want your lads to be as fast send them along to the gym at Lancing on Thursday evenings.

Much hard work by Robin achieved a full start card in our '25'. A sterling ride by Mick Ballard on a cold hard morning proved that its the competition not the course that makes the event. With increasing traffic and further restrictions such as traffic lights, it may be that a return to more rural courses all over the country will be the order of things. It will be interesting to see how many 52 minute rides there are in genuinely unpaced events.

Our club runs tend to die out during the summer owing to the limited number of members not engaged in one form of racing or another. The end of the racing season saw a return to regular runs, the average turnout being about a dozen.

The reduction in Sunday traffic has brought a little more pleasure to riding and even moderate safety on main roads, and it was nice to see at least two other ESCA clubs out and about in the lanes. The 'white' Sunday saw a few adventures in the snow, one of them resulting in Colin Leigh riding home very gently on a cracked front rim.

That's all for now: How many weeks to the Hardrider's, Roy?

K.M.W.

RELIABILITY TRIAL - On Sunday 24th February, 1974

Central Sussex C.C. - Entries to Ron Ewart

50 miles - 3 categories - 4 hours, 3½ hours, 3 hours

Entry fee 15p, or 20p on the line. 1 - 2pm start at

White Hart, Cuckfield (Club room) Course Ditchling

Beacon, Mill Hill, Devils Dyke. Tea in Club room and

certificates.

ANNUAL HARDRIDERS 25 - 9th March, 1974

THE CYCLISTS TOURING CLUB - East Sussex D.A.

SLIDE SHOW by the Super Tourist NEVILL CHANNIN

at Hellingly Village Hall 7p.m. Sat 9th March, 1974

Admission 20p including light refreshments

Further information from Iris Stevens

BRIGHTON MITRE CYCLING CLUB - Officials 1974

President : W. G. Sladen

Chairman : J. Payne, 71 North Lane, Portslade

Gen. Sec: Mrs. I. Sladen, 320 Ditchling Road, Brighton

Treasurer: R. Johnson, 41 Seafield Road, Hove

T.T. Sec: J. Oakes, 81a Preston Drive, Brighton

Track and R.R. Sec: K. Wells, 10 Old Shoreham Rd, Ports

Cyclo Cross Sec: C. Leigh, 26 Osmond Gardens, Hove

Social Sec: Mrs. P. Payne, 71 North Lane, Portslade

HERE AND THERE

A certain Eastbourne Rover's freewheel packed up near Rinmer recently and he was pushed to the Moor's residence for repairs by John Dutson. Dead silence was maintained passing 'Tourist' Agg's residence in case he should unleash a flood of sarcasm about 'gremlins' finding a new home!

At the Touring Competition it was noticed that Iris was sporting a pair of sexy red slacks. Presumably these are the Social Season equivalent to the sexy pink shorts she wears for clubroom training!

Bawled out for walking the tandem up a hill, Ken most unpresidentially told a certain gent, "I hope it withers and drops off." The said gent is wondering if Ken was referring to his gear or handlebar tape.

CENTRAL SUSSEX CYCLING CLUB

"What's happened to the Central's Bonk' notes?" they asked. "Who's going to write now that Wilkey has left for the dark North?" I said, "I wouldn't mind if you can't find anyone else." Why don't I keep my mouth shut.

Well, here goes. Looking back on the past year quite a few of our riders have been very successful. Paul Lipscombe, after his spill on the track, roared back to fitness to finish 8th on the Bath Road with a 58-29 and on the following day won the BSC 25 and so clinched the BAR, closely followed by Ron Rogers.

Ron rode the Vets Road Race at the Crystal Palace and finished well up behind the winner Roy Hopkins.

John Dutson has not been hanging about either; he created a new club record for the 100 with a time of 4-20-10, beating the time set by Alan Robinson in 1965.

Suddenly the cry went out, "We've got to ride the fast course-025/5. If Chris can do 1-10-19, we should do a "2" or "3". They were Ewart and Boore and they had their chance. Unfortunately, the conditions weren't what they expected and Ron certainly doesn't want his time broadcast for fear of ridicule by his rivals.

We never did hear what Geoff did, but rumour has it that he's entering for the Redmon Ladies' event this year!

Don Awcock is still producing good rides and was just 5 seconds off the 25 club record, with a 57-32.

Geoff and Martin rode the Dulwich Paragon 25 last weekend and Martin produced a very good time considering the conditions - 1-5-50, with Geoff producing a 1-11-19.

Club runs seem to bring a few riders out, about 12 - 15 most weekends, and trips have been arranged to Crowborough, Pulborough and Box Hill.

Now I've seen it all. I don't believe it, Ron Ewart's name in print in Cycling. What's he done to deserve that, I asked myself - 'Early celebration for Ewart'. On closer inspection I see that it is not about our Ron after all, never mind Ron. Perhaps one day!

Well, must close now. I've got to get my social gear out and give it an airing. Happy New Year one and all.

C.A.L.

EAST GRINSTEAD CYCLING CLUB

We are sorry to hear that our Ed. is retiring, Bonk will not be the same without him and his little Ed. notes. Our thanks go to him for all the hard work he has put into the job. He has been Ed. for as long as I can remember.

Your President for 1974 is Trevor Budgen by unanimous vote from our members. Sorry folks but your meetings are just not going to be the same again, not with Budgies stamp on them. Bonk will be well supplied with 'notes' though.

Sorry, Eastbourne Rovers, but we have done it again - re our Dinner and Dance. We seemed to be doomed with this. Having changed venue and date at the last minute last year because of a change of management at the Red Barn and too many restrictions. The same thing has happened this year with the Ashdown Golf Hotel. Having waited for months for them to send a menu instead, with just one month to go we get a letter demanding a deposit, plus we had to finish by 11.45 and the sound had to be kept down, just how much we were not sure. We got the feeling we were not wanted. So, having heard the new management of the Red Barn had since been got rid of, as like us most people went elsewhere and they lost money. So it is back to the Red Barn for what is the only free Saturday in the social season - 2nd Feb. Crow thinks it is a conspiracy as he will be missing our Dinner for the second year (he will be at the Rovers) but we are lucky to get a Saturday at all at such short notice. So, once again Rovers, we are sorry and hope it does not effect you or us too much. One advantage was that Tony Yorke and his wife Greta could now accept our invitation as guests.

Apart from that lot, there is no more news other than that Dick and Barbara will be parents before the next Bonk is out, with Bob and Eileen soon after. Suggestion was we had a midwife as guest of honour for our Dinner, just to put our minds at rest.

All the best for 1974, for what looks like being a tough one. We all at least have a head start on most, not being quite as soft and reliant on petrol as Mr. Average.

V.A.L

Since I am suffering from what seems to be a regular post-Christmas visitation of 'flu, I have taken the opportunity to write these notes for your edification and delight-and I hope it's catching!

I'm still grieving over missing George Melly at the Dome-now there's a name for certain superannuated jazz fan-contributors to this magazine-and over the 90p ticket.

The big event affecting the cycling world lately has been the petrol shortage. This has been bemoaned by those cyclists who go hurtling all over the country and the average motorist as very nearly the end of civilisation but I can give no support to such views. In cycling perhaps more "athletes on bikes" will become cyclists and the quest for 71st place with a '59' rather than 3rd with a '1-3' will cease.

Back in the far-off days of September Cliff produced a superb '58-12' in the SCA Championship '25', an Association record, after predicting slow times. Paul Lipscombe was second with an '0' to add to his similar time done in March on this course. Congratulations to Paul on his ESCA BAR win. I hope the Rovers will be fighting in '74 to get both this title and the points trophy back from the Central-perhaps even Cliff will be riding the '100' this year instead of T254! John Blackman finished his season well with a '4' and left promising great things for '74; trouble is we haven't seen him since!

Cliff as usual raced on through October, and eventually finished 6th in the Campagnolo '25' series. A pair of hubs seems scant reward for some excellent rides around the country, but at least being Campag they can be stored as a long-term investment bearing in mind the ridiculous price rises. Cliff is much given to storing many items of equipment anyway, as evidenced recently when he ventured out to offer for sale a six-year-old tracksuit worn precisely once. His usual tracksuit-cum-dinner dress being sports jacket and cords, both oil-stained of course!

As mentioned in last issue's Here and There my 1-5 in the SCA '25' caused me to retire hurt for the season. Racing did seem a bit superfluous at the time anyway, since the months of September and October involved three weeks touring, a week on a training course (work, not cycling) and a change of office from Eastbourne to Brighton. Still the touring was more

than enough to keep me happy cycling-wise, a fortnight in East Anglia in September with the finest weather ever enjoyed on tour, my cape not being used once in that time. I'm convinced from this fortnight and two previous weekends that East Anglia is the place for really hot weather and can recommend it for cycle touring. As a convinced mountain lover I had my doubts about spending a fortnight there but the time flew by once the peace and atmosphere of this place were absorbed. I did get my ration of mountains in North Wales and it was quite a shock to see snow just four weeks after Anglia's heat.

In November we combined with the East Sussex CTC section on a stand at an Exhibition of Sport in Eastbourne and thanks to the efforts of Graham Lade and Bruce Allchorn, a well displayed selection of racing and touring irons caught the eye. The sole result of our participation so far is that I have joined a table-tennis club! One remark overheard was by mother to son regarding a 1900-or-so Dursley-Pederson; "It's one of those new folding bikes."

Our club AGM in December heard Cliff report a very satisfactory year financially, so the mystery of where the money came from for the purchase of 'Yellow Bird' and Sharpmobile IV both in the same year deepens!

The only Rovers with New Year fitness seem to be the schoolboys, although Gareth has been slowed by a broken collar-bone; Peter has acquired a frame from Graham and Steve followed up his 1-1 in the Cambrian 25 in October with a training weekend at Crystal Palace-watch out Cliff in the Hardriders! Cliff's training seems to consist of cutting up Sharpmobile II into pieces at weekends and chasing Heather round the clubroom on Wednesday evenings while Ken's training involves close study of the one-eyed monster now glowering in the corner of the lounge; the less said about my state of fitness the better! Most of us emerged for the Touring Competition, and Cliff's versatility gave him the 1st place with Maurice 'Miss Eastbourne' Colburn 2nd after a recount!

Exactly one month after our Dinner and one day before the Hardriders is our Road Race, on a new course and only 36 miles-3 laps of the old Hardriders course in reverse.

See you at these events and a Happy New Year awheel.

THE MOOR

HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS C.C.

Once the Hill-climb was over, the club got down to its winter riding routine; with separate Sunday runs for the faster riders and the potterers. The hardriders section is basically Jack and Robin, who notched up some good long runs on those fine autumn Sundays, including a trip up to the Catford hill-climb. (Shades of the old days when virtually the whole club used to bash up to Yorks Hill to join the 'gallery' at this event!) By the end of October, Dennis had totted up his season's profits and was again getting the miles in, his first serious effort being a run with John Coleman to join the social gathering at the lunch stop in the Association Touring Competition. The following week he thrashed over the Downs to Seaford, where he had his feet under Aloran's table for a while before joining other visitors at the CTC slide show at Alfriston youth hostel. This weekend saw the last of the pleasant weather; and the members who were on the road the following Sunday were none too happy when they experienced the first snow of the winter, Dennis in particular, having to plough through a near blizzard between Tunbridge Wells and Frant.

Around this time our members had to do some hospital visiting, as Arthur Coleman, who has had a long spell of painful trouble, had to have a leg amputated above the knee. Fortunately there were no complications, and our chairman is now at home getting accustomed to the use of an artificial leg. Audrey, too, had a spell under the weather, but is now considerably better and we are hoping that the tandem will be back on the road before too long. While Arthur was recovering, his hospital ward was temporarily turned into a bicycle repair shop when son John, who had a pedal come to pieces, took all the bits down to his Dad and they put the greasy parts together on a tray resting across the bed! Now, as Christmas draws near, the Social Season is getting into its stride. We were, as always, represented at the Catfor C.C. dinner; while, more recently, Dennis enjoyed himself at a 'firm's do' in his own locality and, partnered by the brunette who serves him with groceries, he won a prize in, of all things, an elimination Booms-a-Daisy. (Well, he's got plenty to 'boomp' with, hasn't he?) After delays owing to a missing committee meeting and the possibility of petrol rationing, our own dinner was held on Jan 26th. A well-known Esca personality (and car mechanic-Ed!) was chief speaker. All the best for '74..... HASTINGER

FEN PORTRAITS (No. 5)

ADRIAN JONES (Central Sussex C.C.)

Adrian is now in his 3rd season with Central. A back injury in 1973 may have curtailed some high placings in ESCA events.

Despite considerable apprehension, I was able to solicit the following from him which I feel indicates a far better performer than he is given credit for.

To give the reader a more personal view, Adrian's cycling career to date is in the first person.

I started cycling in 1956, joining Crawley C.C. in 1959. Mounted on a second-hand Rotrax my first race was a 25 on G16 (Horsham-Washington) returning a 1-12-21.

In 1960 I rode a 50 in 2-23-0, and my first 100 in 5-25-24 in a gale and pouring rain. Going abroad for the first time to Austria with Ron Ford, Graham Seymour and Pete Vickery.

The SCCU 12 in 1961 (213m.) put me off 12's for another 7 years. Following that dreaded 12 I went to Norway with Ron Ford and John Webb.

Improved somewhat in 1962: 25 in 1-4 and a 2-10 50; also 4-43 100. Toured in France with Ron Ford, Colin Scott and Bern Wright. Returned there and to Spain in 1963 with Ron Ford. In 1964 improved my 100 to 4-29-14 and 25 in 1-2-28, winning 1st Handicap again.

1st Eastbourne Spring Handicap in 1965, also won the Basildon R.R., making me 2nd cat., but was soon 3rd cat. again. In May 1966 broke collar bone but 2 months later improved 50 to 2-5-55.

In 1968 I was persuaded to ride a 12 again with 7 other Crawley Wheelers and did 239 miles. Martin Roach did 277 miles. 1969 saw improvements of 23-59, 1-0-23, 2-3-43, 4-22-54 and 244 miles, B.R. cert of 22.470 mph. Improved R.R. in 1970 with 4th in Redmon R.R. and 6th in the Division Championship.

Gained 2nd cat. with a win in the Lewes Criterium and 3rd in SCCU 3/J R.R. in 1971. Beat the hour, 59-45. Third place in SCCU B.R., my 12 of 236 miles won me the Sussex CA Championship. I gained 1st cat. licence in 1972 with three 2nds, 3rd in Div. Champs. Rode Tour of Ireland with Paul Lipscombe and George Matthews.

1973 was a vintage one for crashes, but probably my best ride was with Paul Lipscombe in the Sussex CA 2-up in 1-0-21 on a really foul day.

Thanks Adrian, we all wish you well for 1974.-G.P.B.

SOUTHBOROUGH AND DISTRICT WHEELERS

Have you noticed a decline in the number of people who say "Cycling - you must be mad," and a rise in the enquiry "You don't know where I could get a second-hand bike, do you?" To which I reply, "No, but I can introduce you to a dozen people who have asked me the same question." It seems strange that the capriciousness of oil sheikhs has earned cyclists a new respectability and while I can't go along with that euphoric faction who see this as a chance to put the clock back 20-plus years with multitudinous club-runs and abundant tea places, the energy crisis might lift cycling from its present malaise of circuit potters, drag-strip bashing and precious little else (except down this enlightened part of the world, that is).

The ESCA 25 saw us in with a team for a change, Bob clocked a 4-49 and Arthur Smith was 5 mins slower, but Crow messed things up by fracturing a crank and then puncturing, however he did reap a spin-off benefit by chatting up Jenny Boore when returning to the finish. The event takes one back to '58 when the BAR was decided on the final race. The time which looked like ESCA's first Vet BAR was toppled by one whose mid-season injuries could have put him right out of the BAR. My congratulations to Paul and condolences to Ron.

The anti-gravity season had good support from Southborough. Bob Liddiard got the club championship from Geoff W. and Crow, then in the afternoon the Withers bros. and Phil Boddy took the team in the KCA climb. Bob and Crow got the Association team award with Crow getting 4 secs better than the new champ for 3rd place and Bob 4th. The number of spectators at these events is quite surprising; I supposed that with the abolition of public flogging and that T.V. wrestling is all rigged, hill-climbs are the next best thing. Six Southboroughs in both the Catford and Bec in which Geoff and Malcolm were our best, but not a smell of team placings. Crow's 2-24 was a personal best up the Catford after 21 years. This ran out all the silly racing for '73 and got down to the serious stuff: Tourist Competitions!

The club open was ably run by Pete Baker and produced a surprise win by a new-comer to cycling and the club, Phil Boddy, who put his orienteering knowledge to good use to finish with an 8 point lead over the 4-up scramble for 2nd place.

Southborough and District Wheelers (Cont)

After all the fuss some Southborough officials made about ESCA Tourist Competition entry dates last time, it was a shame that there was only one cycle (Crow) and one car entry (Geoff and Jenny Boxall) from SDW. The day can be counted as a great success aided certainly by the glorious weather that made cycling a sheer joy. What a pity some missed it. Great calculations over our bangers and mash showed that you can't keep that Sharp bloke out of the prize list although the Boxall team scooped up quite a lot of hardware and Crow came 2nd, later to be relegated to 3rd, despite a nil error in the speed judging.

I'm sure you are dying to know how the Southborough BAR finished up, it was Malc Withers again along with most of the Club trophies. Crow kept Ron Hayward out of 2nd place although he took the Vets BAR from Arthur Smith who was 4th overall. Bob only needed a fair 100 for a high placing but could only ride the Norwich CA event with Crow. Icy rain, gales and hail saw Crow as one of the 11 to get inside evens and Bob's many troubles caused him to beat the club slow record with a 5-39 (and nowhere near last) Although 5th in the BAR he took the 12 hour and Hill-clim titles - certainly versatile.

Ian Woodman's 59 on the Q25/3 and a 23 min 10 pushed Bob out of runner-up placing in 10 and 25 champs.

Val Peachey's great season ensured that she mopped up the club 10 and 25 records and would have won all the ladies trophies except that nobody knows where they are.

Ian Woodman is Junior BAR and Dave Austin led 5 contestants in the boys section.

The Club Dinner on Dec 8th was not as funeral as some feared. Cross-toasting was a Pete Wall v. E. Surrey affair. Alf Obbards suggests that Southborough's fund-raising successes were such that for Southborough and District Wheeler's now read 'Trading Co.'

Looking at the points league it might be fairer if the Central Sussex divide into East and West sections. Most of the Southborough points were won by the Touring Club of Edenbridge, who were also in evidence at the CTC slide show to show how the other half lives and to win their free tea as usual.

CROW

'Twas back in 1969, or '70 maybe,
 That first the Sharpmobile appeared all in its infancy.
 In Escaland they can't forget the day they stood aghast
 And heard the rattles, squeaks and groans as GJK clanked
 past.
 No polish graced its metal trim, no sponge its
 paintwork knew,
 Its 'innards' were a box of tricks known to a valiant few.
 For several years it soldiered on, it's life was one
 long grind;
 Exhausts fell off, the engine froze, it didn't seem to mind.
 It was the butt of Escabods and cyclists far and wide,
 Its ramshackle exterior bulged with the junk inside.
 "To Boro' course it knows its way while Cliff nods off,"
 they joked,
 "Unless it rains - that's when he has to cape up or get
 soaked."
 Till came the day, inevitably, despite its woeful state,
 It changed hands, was snapped up by Fred and became a
 plumber's mate.
 In time things went from bad to worse, it failed the M.O.T.
 And finished up a bunch of spares (the rust was thrown
 in free).
 This news no doubt will cause a stir and bring forth
 mighty cheers
 From cycling spirits everywhere who've hoped for this
 for years;
 But still as faithful servants go the old girl played
 a blinder,
 So, when you think of GJK let it be a 'Sharp' reminder.

ANON

LEWES WANDERERS C.C.

Having, we hope, recovered from the effects of too much
 of what makes Christmas mean so much (according to taste!)
 Escabods are advised to hesitate and consider the golden
 advice usually dished out at this time - it's only a few
 weeks to the Hardriders, so taper off the good living
 otherwise Sharp will have another walkover, i.e. he won't
 need to ride!

The season was seen out by our celebrities with the
 usual activity; The Club 15 had a gale-force wind to go
 with the bumpy Chailey course; Burbery got it with 41-18
 to Honeyball's 41-56, with Andrews third 40 secs back and
 the Copper snatched the handicap with a 45. We were pleased

to see Alison and Ian Burgess and Mick Wilkins finish, while schoolboy Steve Wheeler did 46-8 at his first-ever attempt and deservedly won Pete Burbery's new award for the fastest Junior in this event.

In spite of the Moors condemnation of courses such as Q25/3, or possibly because of it (!), two of us rode the Cambrian Wheelers 25. Burbery did a 3-10, and Wilkins a 4-31, not bad for a couple of old'uns! Later on the same day Honeyball did 4.38 in the Esca Hill Climb, with Mark Wadey managing 5.38. The Mitre 25 ended the season, Honeyball with 8.33 edged it over Burbery by 2 secs. Andrews and Wilkins could only manage 11s while Mick Kilby in his second event since his serious accident, pottered around in 18-12. The news that the Club BAR has again been won by Pete Burbery came from the Kilby computer. His 20.7 average made John Honeyball runner-up with 20.5.

Our entrants in the Esca Touring Competition all agreed that John Dutton has a definitive flair for organising. We had a success in the car freewheeling section where the 'Goldsmobile', carrying pretty well everything and the kitchen sink, hurtled the furthest.

When writing of the KCA 12 last time we omitted to mention that the Copper tarnished the image somewhat by turning up with the riders' start sheets no less than 8 hours after they'd started. Burbery's comments are, alas, unprintable!! (Why not: Publish and be D---d! - Ed.)

Our delegates at the Association AGM were entitled to look smug when the Chairman complimented the Club on its support for Esca events. Although one of the smallest Clubs we had riders in each event throughout the season and if we wish to see the Association maintaining its full programme encourage as many of your Club riders as possible to give their active support. You know it makes sense.

Pete Burbery was knocked off by a hit-and-run motorist recently within sight of his front door, fortunately with nothing worse than a shaking. Re the Aubrey Hill tragedy mentioned last time, the motorist was exonerated after pleading that he couldn't remember what had happened.

The resignation of Neevo came as a jolt: he was Editor for so long that one wonders if all the work involved was being taken for granted. Yours truly knows how much the job entails and this should not be overlooked when paying the tributes due to Dennis.

At the Copper's instigation Club runs have started again. Club Captain, Brian Wilkins, has been wiclding the lash and reckons that he and Burbery are going to be fit for the Hardriders. Don't say you haven't been warned.

By the time you are reading this we hope you'll have enjoyed the Wanderers Dinner at the Elephant, Lewes. 'Yoicks' for now and good wheeling 'til next time.

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