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The Official Journal of the

East Sussex Cycling Association

Published Quarterly

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EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION

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No. 45 Summer 1974

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Although we are missing a few familiar faces, new ones have come along and we bid them welcome to ESCA and to cycling.

To a certain degree I can sympathise with Mo Colburn's views on motoring but without cars and motorcycles how could our officials fulfil their voluntary duties in so many different places almost every day of the week in mid-season, not forgetting the great distance most riders who support ESCA events have to travel; in order to be there on time they have to place a great reliance on motor transportation.

Thanks and congratulations are due to Stan Shirley on the compilation of the points table which is reproduced on page 10. He will be revising it after each of the events and circulating the latest details to all ESCA clubs, from which you will be able to keep your own personal record up to date.

Club Notes for next issue mid-September please- that includes Hastings and Crawley Wheelersthis time!

Here's hoping that you all do personals'.

J.J.G.

'GEN' FROM THE SECRETARY

Since the last issue one of our Vice-Presidents has passed on, I refer to George Page. To many of you he is perhaps only a name, but some of the older members of the Association will remember him as president of the now defunct Rye Wheelers and also in connection with the Rye Bank Holiday Sports Meeting, at which we used to run some of our Track Championships. The Pewter Pot presented to the winner of Hard-Riders was given to the Association by George some years ago. He was a past-President of the Fellowship of Kent & Sussex Cyclists. In the early days of the Association George was an ardent supporter and was to be seen out at all the events, especially when we used to take over the Rosemary Tea Gardens on the morning of events. To his widow we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

The general reaction to the new format of the Magazine has been very favourable, it certainly makes for easier and speedier publication. Our thanks are due to Jack Goldstein for so ably stepping into the breach when it seemed that once again the magazine would have to lapse with no-one coming forward to take on the job. Jack's wife was press-ganged (by Jack) into cutting the stencils and I hasten to add that a very good job she made of them.

The racing season has got off to a good start, with entries up to the average for the first three events of the season. Cliff Sharp repeated his win in the Hard Riders with a time only a few seconds away from the event record and again won the Team Time Trial with Mo Colbourn. I would be most grateful if member clubs could let me know if they have any persons acting as Club Timekeepers who would be willing to assist the Association, at the moment we are none too flush with persons qualified to act as Timekeepers. I should point out that to act at Association level they must be on Road Time Trials Council panel of Timekeepers or Assistant Timekeepers.

I would like to thank **everyone** who supported the Grand National Draw which showed a profit of £16. Another source of income was the 30-mile sponsored walk over the Ashdown Forest organised by Crowborough Scouts. Our Vice-President John Dutson covered the distance and part of his sponsors' money will be donated to the Association. The Southborough had several taking part in aid of their funds, what about more of our members or an organised Association team taking part next year? I accompanied John and Geoff Boxall on the last four miles (by cycle). They covered the 30 miles in just over 7 hours.

R.H.

Club-runs have formed the bulk of our activities through the Winter with new runs leader John Oakes achieving a good turn-out each week, average attendance being 15.

A number of us have been involved in brushes with the motorized fraternity; so far John Oakes, Colin Wood and Alan Goodson were brought down by a carelessly opened car door. I was knocked off by a car over-running a 'Give Way' sign and, most recently, Clive Oxborrow was knocked down by a car which was being pursued by the police. If other clubs have a similar record the British Cycling Bureau must have plenty of statistics. As an individual who unfortunately motors more often than cycles I cannot explain why motorists apparently have a complete blind spot for cyclists.

The Cyclo-cross season ended with a very respectable series of placings for the Leigh brothers, further placing being gained at Shirley Hills and Dorking.

The social scene saw our dinner at the Black Lion attended by over 120, the total in the previous two years having been limited by the size of the room. Various members of the club have shown the flag at other dinners, Central Sussex, Lewes and, of course, ESCA and SCA being among those attended. Club social events took a slightly higher than usual tone with a wine and cheese party organised by Phil Payne, who succeeded in packing over 30 members into her bungalow and still had room for the wine.

Plans for the racing season are, as usual, at this time of the year grandiose in the extreme, but even with a slightly pessimistic eye prospects look fairly good. We are pleased to be informed that Mrs Whitbread is continuing his sponsorship of our track meeting. On the schoolboy front, Richard Smith who does not become a junior until after the National Championships, so hopes are high there; in addition we have Owen Leigh, in his third season, has now begun to increase in size. Two more promising youngsters Dave Barnard and Martin Butcher also have BCF licences. We have 6 good juniors in Martin and Colin Leigh, Alan Goodson, John Pears, Colin Wood and Clive Oxborrow, all of whom should be in action on road and track, plus usual stalwarts, Robin Johnson, Adrian Morris, John Oakes, Alan Limbrey, Morris Wyatt and Alan Packett. Our first two club events of the season produced an entry of 16 which is the best for several years.

The first outing in the ESCA 16 produced a few surprises with Martin Leigh appearing in 5th place only 2 mins down on Sharp. At that time his best 25 was a long '12'. That should be reduced somewhat this season.

Adrian and Alan Limbrey managed to keep Robin out of the team although we were someway down on the Eastbourne: note also Colin Leigh's 46-12 on 78 fixed, including a stop to pick up his pump.

The first club event proper with 3 juniors absent at a road race saw a win for Alan Limbrey in our hilly 22½ in 1-2-42, John Oakes second in 1-3-18, Colin Leigh just squeezing Robin out of 3rd place with 1-5-07.

Our first open event, the 2-up TTT on 24th March was a success. Our other opens this season are at Preston Park 17th July and an open 25 in October, no doubt sponsored, as usual, by Uncle Tom Cobleigh.

Accompanied by other Sussex Officials I attended a Senior Commissaires Course in London in February and suffered ignominious failure, but was pleased to note that such stalwarts as Charlie Messenger, Eddie Wingrave and Eileen Gray seemed equally baffled. To add insult to injury, as Sussex Division Treasurer, I managed to get the one question on Race Levies wrong, as did the GWC (who shall be nameless!) All for now.

K.M.W.
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DI(AD)VERTISSEMENTS ? ?

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-o-o-o-

HERE AND THERE

The 'Playboy' decorations surrounding a recent Time Trial result board were the cause of much favourable comment, although several riders forgot to note their times and had to wait for the result sheet.

Lack of tea places has started a spate of 'bring-your-own-stove' picnic teas in the CTC. Vic Eldridge brews tea in a jam tin, while Crow fries up Sausages, bananas, onions and apples. Fortes was never like this!

BRIGHTON EXCELSIOR C.C.

Spring has a strange way of taking people - just fancy, the Club talks of "miles" and "fitness" with a reverence usually only associated with drinking, rave-ups and assorted unmentionables.

The Season began with the Hardriders 16, where Andrew surprised us by screwing Frank by 2 minutes. We won't mention Roger's time - he prefers it that way. The S.C.A. individual "25" did not produce any startling form from any of our riders but there was a much better showing in the 2-up on 30th March, where we sported two teams. Frank and Roger attained 5th place overall with a 1-3-50 while Rick and Val Stringer did a surprising 1-6-49 (I confirm Val sat on the back all the way so as not to slow the progress, so don't know if this can really be classed as her first 2-up). The event was won with a 1-0-38 by Silk and Rushmer of the Bognor on what proved to be a really warm and sunny afternoon.

To continue with "racing" notes the Club run the following day left the Red Lion at Shoreham and the "bunch" of twelve arrived at elevenes one hour and five minutes later, having travelled via Findon, Storrington, Parham Park - a New Course Record. The pace didn't lessen despite the hills and with breaks going off all morning, particularly up the dreaded Bexley Hill (which we now discover could have been avoided!) a few weary bodies fell to the grass when we stopped for dinner at Elstead. Whilst some downed pints and food the mechanics carried out hasty adjustments and tried replacing spokes - broken during the morning's strenuous efforts. At closing time the Managers called the team together and the afternoon stage began. We in the Excel KNOW who was setting the pace but for outsiders

It was a glorious day and the Club took some favourite lanes around the Cocking area, travelling beneath the South Downs, which look so splendid here, through Charlton, Eartham, Slindon and so to Arundel for an early tea (due to the pace, not shortage of miles). As it turned out, the town was celebrating its last day as an independant borough and the pubs were open till 5 p.m. Forcing our way through the layers of rowdy people we reached the bar to discover they had plenty of drink but had run out of glasses! Just as well, and the Captain negotiated with the Managers of the Cafe to let us have tea half an hour early. The afternoon section joined us as did a group from the Portsmouth C.T.C. causing gasps of "all those cyclists" and "you don't often see them about these days" from

BRIGHTON EXCELSIOR C.C. - Continued

the motoring patrons. With the President on the back of the bunch the ride home was much more leisurely. The day's mileage for most was just over 80.

Steady, longer runs seemed to meet with approval of the majority and the trend has spread to holidays. The Club Easter Tour, based at Wilderhope Manor Youth Hostel, and there is wild talk of taking in Mid-Wales one day, North Wales the next tomorrow The World? Whitsun saw the start of the Stringer's holiday with Dave and Chris making up the fast moving group of four on their week's excursion of Devon and Cornwall - cycling all the way. Six members from the Club will be touring together from the beginning of August for two weeks.

Our keen youngsters, Roy, Simon and Mark, all 14-year olds, have done very well on Club runs, which was their main object in joining the Club, but with all the racing enthusiasm generating and the Club's offer of providing them with B.C.F. Licences it is quite possible we should see them competing in events of one kind or another this year.

Talking of youngsters - "young Dave" - so missed the Club whilst away at Agricultural College, there was a celebration on his return to Sussex. Club night was held at the Rising Sun, Upper Beeding and the ride home was quite orderly but then we went our separate ways! It appears the lad on his way home to Rustington was stopped at traffic lights but forgot to put his feet down, resulting in his falling onto the grass verge, where he promptly fell sound asleep. A good samaritan, walking his dog, found the unconscious body, whereupon he rang for an ambulance. At Worthing hospital the lad's comments were "dig that crazy rhythm man", whereupon they proceeded to examine his head. Eventually parents were called to the scene and the naughty boy and machine were removed. Lectures were given, red handkerchief packed, but, seeing as daddy couldn't get the lawn mower to go and kind son spent all day Saturday working on the wreck, all has now been forgiven. I don't think there will be a next time, the lad is now strictly on orange juice and the wallet reduced in size after paying expenses of calling out the ambulance. Thank goodness the social season is still a long way off.

Please see page 12 for correspondence concerning Hardriders 16 result and why it was not published in 'Cycling'.

V.S.

EASTBOURNE ROVERS C.C. continued

EASTBOURNE ROVERS C.C.

In the last issue of 'Bonk' I finally achieved my long-held ambition of out-writing, in length if not in quality, the mighty 'Alsoran'. My ambition was achieved despite the Editor severely censoring my anti-motorist tirade, on which subject I will only add now the petrol shortage is over that traffic is again heavy with the smallest glimpse of the sun. Western man's 20th century love affair with the motor car is obviously not yet over, since it seems that financial sacrifice to the great god still knows no bounds.

Being only human, however, both John Dutson and I might well have been grateful for a lift bearing in mind the pitiful shattered state in which we staggered back from Washington after the SCA Luncheon. Having had a double dose of 'flu hadn't helped me but I don't know what John's excuse was. An observer would never have believed he was looking at two recent ESCA BARs! In an attempt to regain some semblance of fitness I joined several clubmates in riding the Central's excellently organised Mountain reliability trial in late February but certainly wanted no part of the full-scale road race which the fine weather produced. Racing starts quite early enough in the year for me without turning reliability trials into sprints-and-tubs ego-boosters. When the bunch swept past Steve Chapman and I, Martin Hawes was fighting furiously to get on the back but in view of the fright he gave Cliff in Hardriders the following week it clearly did him some good! Ron Rogers allegedly went off course in the trial, though I suspect he muffed a gear change and let a gap open! In contrast with those February fanatics, the Southborough club and ourselves tried to extend the Social Season by challenging each other to table tennis and darts at respective club rooms which enabled us to inspect the project into which the Southborough put so much effort, a fine clubroom which perhaps stands as a memorial to Lou Bathurst. In the matches we triumphed at table tennis but were pretty abysmal at darts - but we're now working on the latter!

We were again lucky with the weather for our road race in March, using the old Hardrider's course in reverse - Bob Woodley was a decisive winner, with Cliff roared off and Terry suffering from a disintegrating bike. Cliff showed in the Hardriders the next day that his form wasn't so bad, Terry got 3rd despite more bike troubles and we continued our stronghold on the team award in this event despite my slipping somewhat place-wise. The weekend was notable for the first viewing to

a wide audience of the latest Humphrey cycle, which seems to have inspired Doug Roberts to dispose of a couple of elderly machines in favour of a new iron - watch out you vets!

As usual the bad weather returned after the Hardriders, and our club 10 the week after saw the Seniors declining to ride, victory therefore going to a fit Gareth Griffiths in 27.22 despite foul conditions. I decided the only way to get some fitness was by a stint of riding from Willingdon to Brighton everyday for 6 weeks, during which I appreciated anew how infuriating the north-easter, which blows so much in March-April, can be. Indeed, to the extent of 25 headwinds out of 28 homeward rides! When I next ventured out to actually race, I was too tired to do anything but follow Cliff's rear wheel in the Assn 2-up, although I think he went so well out of annoyance at Pete Croft's estimate of Cliff's age - 35! Cliff's form was demonstrated by his fine 2nd place to Mick Ballard in the Southborough 10 the day before - but can anyone tell me honestly they enjoy riding such a boring and exposed course in a gale like that? Congratulations to Don Awcock for his superb 5th in the G.R. Fernod that same weekend and after his Division Championship win I think he has every chance in the National road race.

My Brighton bash having finished two days before, I was pleased to find some fitness had returned by doing a '4' in the Assn 25 on 28th April, where Cliff and Terry took 1st and 3rd, which gave us another decisive team victory. It seems to me that Assn event entries are up again, which is very gratifying in view of the large jump last year: perhaps more people are inclined to travel less. Cliff himself doesn't seem to have got further than 'F' courses so far - incidentally, referring to the funeral oration for GJK 263 in the last 'Bonk', surely the author (perpetrator?) knows said vehicle was around from 1966, not 1969, indeed by 1969 the stage had already been reached of capes being necessary inside when the rain came down!

Capes don't seem to have been very necessary even outside of vehicles in the last few weeks and draught conditions threatened. That, within reason, suits me fine but my idea of heaven on June 30th for the 100 is no wind and a steady drizzle instead of baking sun.

Only 30 weeks to Hardriders and only a few weeks to our Open 25 - downty'all fergit now!

THE MOOR

Yet another racing season under way. Although not a large club we felt proud of our six entries in the Harriders and our members mixing their racing more this year, though none have hit the headlines.

We had big hopes in the Div. Road Champs. and, although Don Awcock was favourite to win, we hoped Bob Beatty would come up trumps. Bernard De Cuay in the Junior race attends boarding school at Heathfield but in spite of the school banishing his bike this term his cycling has come before everything else - the school does not go much on this!

Bob Beatty has recovered from his early season hit-and-run accident which gave him another short spell in hospital but he has not really reached his top form.

It seems that as soon as we get a new member to our club their wives join a different sort of club. Next new member due to the Dukes, Amma and Dave, followed by Sandra and John Goulds. Stephen Heppelthwaite is alright (I think) because he is not married. We are thinking of putting him on the transfer list as our engraving bill has doubled since he has been with us. Stephen is a neighbour of other new members (2nd claim) Will and Mo Wates. I hope during this year you will get to know our new recruits, they really are a great asset, both on the racing and social side.

Club night at the old football club house at East Court E.G. on Friday nights are very lively. Each Monday finds us at Edenbridge joining Crow and Bob Liddiard practising Yoga. The benefits like proper breathing would have helped my racing I am sure. Wish I had done it years ago. So should you visit our clubroom and find us all standing on our heads, that's what it's all about - YOGA!

Our new Editor may not do yoga but he does do an odd thing at the B.C.F. meetings. He slowly takes off several layers of clothes and just when one thinks he is about to do a streak down Lewes High Street, he stops undressing - he seems to wear so many coats and trousers. (Only in the Winter, Val, it's so cold on a moped at 40 miles per hour. - Ed.)

Since the last edition of Bonk we are no longer Escabods, the rearrangements have made us Wescabods, that makes life complicated don't it?

We have not seen much of our Esca President - seems he is working long hours, but he is still managing to fit his racing in.

So from all us Wescas to all you Escas -
Happy cycling.

VAL

ESCA POINTS LEAGUE

EVENT	CLUBS						
	Grinstead C.C.	East Wheelers	Wanderers	St. Leonards	Hastings & Wheelers C.C.	Southboro	Excelsior C.C.
Mar. 3-16m. Hardriders	5					1	6
Apr. 7-29m. 2-up T.T.T.					12		7
.. 28-25 miles			2				24
May 10-10 miles					11		13
June 9-50 miles							18
.. 22-10 miles							
.. 30-100 miles							
July 28-25 miles							
Aug 11-50 miles							
Sep. 15-25 miles Open							
Oct. 6-Hill Climb							
TOTAL POINTS							

INDIVIDUAL POINTS		
1. M. Hawes	56	6. R. Rogers
2. T. Leach	55	7. A. Limbrey
3. M. Colburn	52	8. D. Hook
4. K. Stevens	42	9. C. Leigh
5. C. Sharp	40	10. J. Blackman/P. Crofts
		19

CENTRAL SUSSEX C.C.

The Racing season again with a few of our riders gaining places in local events. Martin gave Cliff a bit of a shock in the Hardriders, just being beaten by 7 secs, the closest anyone in Sussex has got to Cliff for years

Paul has been placed several times this season on the road scene, getting himself set for France, along with Adrian, who came 2nd in the Sussex 25. Not a good day, quite a few riders want to forget their times although the excuse of one or two was - just giving the old legs an airing!

Our hilly 25 was well supported with 87 entries, although the number who actually rode dwindled considerably. Fastest of the Central riders was Paul with a 1-6-37, with Martin and Don recording the same time 1-7-52. Not bad considering the dreadful conditions.

Our keenest rider was Paul Smith whose gear went into his wheel and was eager to have another go. Only lady rider was Christine Jones of the Crawley Wheelers and was, in fact, not last; Fagg, who started behind her was heard to say at the start that when he caught her he would perform the latest craze - streaking on a bike, but I don't think this came to much - too cold?

The Reliability Trial was organized by that sadist Ron Ewart, when 48 riders finished in given times. A couple of riders went off course - one actually being a Central Member - who doesn't read the routes? No names mentioned but he has since given up trying to grow hair above his lip as well as on top of his head!

A lot has been said about the Central dinner this year: some for, some against, but what do you do for the best? Who's ever heard of a quiet disco? Next year we are issuing ear plugs and dark glasses with the tickets! Still, as I've said, everyone's taste is different, but the actual dinner itself was a great success, the most we've ever had attend.

We say welcome back to Dave Challis, who's re-appeared on the racing scene and has already beaten the Boore (who hasn't) in an event.

It's nice to see Dave and Beryl connected again with the cycling events; their help is greatly appreciated, perhaps we may get them back to riding.

Ron Rogers, it seems, has found a new way of training - he leaves his own bike at home and takes to his daughter's bike, wearing carpet slippers and rides from his house into Uckfield at night. He swears it gets results!

See you all around.

CAL

CORRESPONDENCE: ESCA Hardriders 16. Non-appearance of
the result in the columns of 'CYCLING'

From a letter dated 15th March 1974: Event Organiser,
Val Stringer to Ken Evans, Editor of 'CYCLING'

"Dear Editor,
Is there a reason why the result of the E.S.C.A.
Hardriders 16 could not be printed in 'CYCLING'
As Event Secretary I feel a responsibility to those
who, having done particularly well, would have liked
to see their names in print. The winner Cliff Sharp
came within 6 seconds of the course record; other
riders turned out creditable performances, especially
a young lad who is usually beaten by his two brothers-
what a pity. . . I was photographed writing out the
results and posting it after the race.
From a puzzled rather than bitter promoter. Yours in
sport, Val Stringer, Brighton Excelsior C.C."

From a letter dated 20th March 1974, Ken Evans, Editor
of 'CYCLING' to Val Stringer.

"Dear Mrs. Stringer,
Thanks very much for writing to me. I can quite under-
stand you being puzzled that your result hasn't
materialised in the columns. . . I can't trace it
Naturally if you send it again I'll print it, results
are our lifeblood and we print every one we can.
Yours sincerely, Ken Evans."

From a letter dated 22nd March 1974, Val Stringer to
the Post Office.

"Dear Sir,
On Sunday March 3rd I posted a letter to the Editor of
'CYCLING', Fleet Street, London, bearing a 3p stamp.
This letter was placed in a box with a 3.30 p.m. Sunday
collection . . . witnessed by a group of six people. . .
The Editor of the Magazine never received this communica-
tion. Is it still in the box or what might have happened
to it?
Yours faithfully, Mrs. V.A. Stringer."

I trust this business has now been satisfactorily
resolved and/or Val has now got her 3p back!!!

From a letter Val Stringer to Editor of 'BONK'
"Some people may have wondered why the result of the
Hardriders was not published in 'CYCLING' I assure
everyone that I did complete and post a full result form.
Thanks to everyone who supported the event in one way
or another. Yours in sport, Val Stringer."

SOUTHBOROUGH WHEELERS C.C.

Golly, don't a lot of things happen in one quarter: Going back to AGM time with the Southborough and ESCA on the same day, our club AGM was a model of brevity. Pete Baker is the President, who has worked hard for the new clubroom.

Memory goes back to the dinners: what a fabulous evening was put on by the Brighton Mitre. All those bowls of fruit too, most of clutched oranges or more in our grubby paws as we left and I thought Jenny Bore had stuffed a couple down the front of her dress, but Geoff says she always looks like that!!!

Large club parties attended the BBAR and KCA do's on successive weeks while Crow was at the Central Sussex function. The Leylands and Walls represented Southborough at the Hastings. The Rovers dinner - absolutely super, but then it always is. Geoff, Bob and Crow were at the association supper where John Dutson's formula for an enjoyable evening seemed to meet with everyone's satisfaction. The many fine photo displays gave mute testimony to the adage that cyclists don't grow older - just wider! There was a right scramble for Lewes dinner tickets, so popular has the function become. The only sad thing about the Lewes is that it marks the end of the dinners - although we are grateful financially.

We have seen some fine slide-shows: a varied selection at Southborough clubroom and Mick 'Noddy' Challen's round the world trip. Nev Channin's exciting Holy Land and Cyprus trip was shown at Helingly V.H. and was most interesting although it appeared far too hot and arduous for most of us.

The Rovers/CTC party for children of all ages allowed the extroverts to work off their mackerel sandwiches with vigour while the less active could exhibit low cunning at Beetle.

Club-running has shown a most cheering resurgence. Southborough runs have found that variety is what gets 'em out: Alf Obbards' hammers - nothing below evens, Howard's mud-baths (they call it rough-stuff), Doug Wright's potters for ladies and children also the aged and infirm, and Les Hayman's 'feature' runs, like crossing the Ouze by a practically non-existent bridge!

One wet day the Maison Crowsley was host to the Central Sussex for elevenses. fourteen of them were topped up with tea and sausage rolls in our small living room, which quickly assumed that peculiar aroma of wet cyclists.

SOUTHBOROUGH WHEELERS C.C. continued

In the euphoric atmosphere of the Lewes dinner I was lured by one Ron E. Wart to sign a form which, in my pineapple juice-induced stupor, I took to be for a reliability trial. Talk about innocents abroad, Bob and I entered with the slowest group which contained one, as we thought, lady and arrived at Cuckfield on our hack bikes with guards, saddlebag and a single 67" free; I prided myself on looking every inch a tourist. We soon learned that for reliability trials read road race as we thrashed off to Balcombe with Ditchling as Beacon en route. Over the back of Devil's Dyke the said 'lady' - Christine Jones - had us struggling males strung out behind her while I suggested that if she went much faster I'd ping her strap and John Blackman growled darker suggestions !!! Thanks to the fine weather we got round with half hour to spare and the first cats - sorry, 50-in-3 - group were far faster. A Southboro team journeyed down to Langley so the Rovers could thrash them at darts, however in a return match on their home ground Southboro won at table tennis.

After seven years of spending Easter near Brecon there was a change to an old-time tour of Dorset, i.e. cycling down to Dorset and back, with the rising cost of petrol, a timely move. Seven of us stopped at Wareham using Romsey as a staging point. Visits were made to Corfe Castle and the ancient earthworks of Maiden, also Poole Harbour. A delightful touring area with a bonus of passing through the New Forest en route. We returned with memories of a good tour but were unable to bring back a pretty chinese waitress we met in Romsey.

Almost forgot to mention that there has been some racing: the Hardriders had excellent weather, Crow was 13th backed up by Pete Baker and Julian Pryce. Kept fine for 'my' 2-up 29 as well where Malcolm Withers and Pete Crofts were 2nd to winners Cliff and Mo. The Woodman brothers continued their good run of TTT rides with 4th position. Alf and Royston took 11th spot and Oh, the shame, the two club tourists, Jacko and Robin contrived to go off course!

Haul and Ian Woodman and Malcolm clocked 1-0's on Good Friday and 25's in the first 10 of the year.

The big day when the new clubroom was officially opened by the Editor of the K&S Courier which was followed by the club's 42nd birthday tea.

Ron Hayward and Graham Seeth were married - but not to each other, I assure you!

I wish everyone a pleasurable season.

CROW

LEWES WANDERERS C.C.

Greetings, folks, from the stalwarts of your County Town. Having staggered through the Social Season, as always we had representatives at the Hastings and Eastbourne dinners and the SCA and BCF luncheons as well as the ESCA supper, and then, as usual, the festivities were well and truly concluded with our dinner. Again we had a very good attendance (71) although Mrs. Cox's absence through illness was greatly regretted, but all agreed that they lapped it up. Basil Chilcott, who does so much for the sport in so many ways, ably proposed the Club Toast and Mick Kilby replied with a workmanlike babble that went down very well. He got an unintentional laugh when he referred to George Rickards as Ricketts before he corrected himself, but not before the Copper had informed him that he's made a right 'Rickett' there! That reminded your scribe of a certain Major Ricketts, whose name is virtually unknown, yet who deserves everlasting fame as a public benefactor of the first order. He was an army bandmaster, who wrote 'Colonel Bogey'.

This year's Club President is Peter Sharp, who was prevented from declining the post with his usual excuse of 'I don't know many people', by being elected in his absence! All the old gang were allowed to do the official (?) jobs once again, so we must satisfy somebody! Other events during the Social Season were that, in common with a number of Sussex Division Commissairs, yours truly can now put 'failed' after his name as a result of not having passed the BCF courses held (there was some eyebrow-raising when even that gentleman known as the 'Walking Rulebook' tripped up on one or two questions and didn't qualify!) However it's not a disaster as we get few international events here anyway. The Whittingtons have a junior under construction and the happy event is expected very soon, so we hope that Dick's racing won't be too much affected by sleepless nights. Beryl told him he'd have to get cracking on converting one room into a nursery, and then took a dim view when she later found him rummaging around in the cellar!

Shortly after the Club Dinner Pete Burbery was laid low and finished up having a gallstone removed - which has messed up his racing so far and was responsible for his DNS in the Hardriders. Tony Andrews shook our contingent with 46.29 which was a minute too good for Honeyball, with Wilkins doing 48.45 and schoolboy Steve Wheeler an excellent 51.56, thereby beating the Copper by 45 secs. The Lewes/Newhaven and back was won

LEWES WANDERERS C.C. continued

by Honeyball with 40.10, second fastest and handicap winner being Mark Wadey, another schoolboy, who did 41.41 and beat Wilkins by 12 secs, with Whittington third in 42.27. Schoolboy Mick Wilkins did 44.49 and got the 2nd h'cap award. The March SCA 25 saw 12s from Honeyball and Wilkins, and the Junior 10 a personal of 28.27 from Wadey who beat Wheeler by just over a minute, with Mick Wilkins doing 30.33 and 12 years-old Ian Burgess getting down to 34.18. The SCA 2-up saw Andrews/Wilkins tying with Honeyball/Whittington in 1-19-51! Good Friday was just that for Andrews who did a personal 1-6-48 in the Crawley 25 and beat Honeyball by 39 secs. In the Bec event 2 days later Tony again beat them with an 8 to John's 9 and Brian's 10. However, John got sweet revenge in the Club 25 by 52 secs over Tony, with Brian another 10, Whittington a 12 and the 'Copper' arresting the handicap with a 13. Mick Wilkins grabbed the 2nd h'cap with a 22. One of the privates, Ian Landless, an ex-runner, did an excellent 15 and has since joined us. The absence of Steve Myatt will be noted and he has been working hard (for a change) and been unable to do much training so far. The Evening 10s have got under way and have seen such people as Richard Isted and our lone lady, Alison Burgess, having a go each week. Ex-Premier rider, Nigel Martin has joined us, but apart from riding a couple of 2-ups with Pete Bealch, has been preparing for his wedding, for which we all wish him the very best. We hope to see him a little more when he's recovered!

Our evening Criterium series was won by George Matthews on general classification, but it could have been Terry Leach if he had not gone to the Isle of Man. Keeping our fingers crossed weatherwise paid off. Well, having kept the Editor waiting a long time for this and having been threatened with having Judy set on to him (yes please!) your scribe had better belt up and deliver the goods. All the best to all readers for a real cycling summer; may you be punctureless for a long time.

ALSORAN

STOP PRESS - To Beryl and Dick a daughter, Tina. Congratulations!!!

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