

Geoff

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL

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# East Sussex Cycling Association

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EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION

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New Series No.4

Christmas 1977

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EDITORIAL

This, dear friends, is the fourth and final edition of 'Bonk' for 1977. With support from all our stalwart regulars and one or two new contributors, we have managed to bring you an extra large edition to brighten your day. For our part, we have enjoyed the task of producing this magazine throughout the year, and have found, as deadline date approached, that our emotions were fully exercised. Excited anticipation, depression, and then, as the postman finally calls, a feeling of great elation. Another aspect of the job which is very gratifying, is the respect which is afforded to 'Editors'! The expectant lull in conversation as we enter a room, and the subservient attention which is paid to everything we say! If you are kind enough to re-elect us for another year, we will be most grateful for your continued support.

The social season is now gaining momentum, and with Christmas almost upon us, we wish you a very happy time throughout the festivities, and everything that you wish yourselves for the New Year.

Maurice & Esther

## CENTRAL SUSSEX C.C.

In an attempt to catch up with the various and varied happenings of Central members over the last few months, I think I had better start with the final run down of the racing news for 1977.

Paul Lipscombe came back from France - broke - but decided to put his season long training to good use, and returned the year's fastest hundred in the Bournemouth Jubilee event. His time of 4h 23m 29s was backed up by Ade Jones, 4h 25m 30 and Ron Ewart, 4h 53m 31s, but regretfully left them all out of the prizes. Rod Laker was luckier in the ESCA '50', where he snatched 1st handicap with a 2h 16m 29s, showing a smart return to form. Robin Maclagan did 2h 16m 52s, Ron Ewart, 2h19m5s, 'Lancing' Ken Atkins, 2h 23m 14s and Les Shrub 2h21m38s. This was Les's first attempt at the distance and in his first real season of racing, too!!

Don Awcock showed a return to form in the "Tour of the Peaks". He climbed well, taking 3 out of the 4 primes and was eventually 3rd in the event. I gather that no one was more suprised than Don when on one of the steep corners, a figure bearing a placard with "ALLEZ AWCOCK" on it, jumped out into the road. This turned out to be no less than our member in Stockport, Tony Wilkinson or 'Young Throp' of BONK fame. Apparently Tony has gone slightly crackers now and developed a liking for tricycles and 24 hour events. No accounting for taste, I suppose! The ESCA '25' had the team of Paul Lipscombe, 1h 2m 43s, George Windsor, 1h 3m 58s and Ade Jones, 1h 4m 5s, cleaning up and adding a few more points to our total.

Talking of teams, this year the Club decided to recognize a team record at '10' miles, the fastest aggregate during the year to be the first record. In the Rodney event at Tonbridge the team of Mark Puckett (a junior), Mark Atkins (a schoolboy) and guess who? aggregated 1h 14m 54s, with not a senior rider in sight.

Don Awcock cleaned up the ESCA hillelimb very well, backed up by Paul Lipscombe, George Windsor and Robin Maclagan. We got the team as well, and as far as we can see did enough to recapture the ESCA Points shield for

1977 from the Rovers. On the same day Mark Puckett rode his first '25' and clocked 1h 3m 24s on the Portsmouth Road, avoiding a skidding car in the process.

Don continued his winning ways in the hillclimbs, taking the Catford in 1m 59 2/5s and being second in the Bec, beaten by only 2/5ths by Bob Downs. The National climb was somewhat different, though, and he finished 13th in the middle of a gaggle of other roadmen. Comment afterwards was that Winnats was not at all like the long hill of the previous season. However he says that he is going again next year!!

In recent weeks we have had two film shows and a slide show by courtesy of John Yates, who, by the way, is both Sussex and Club B.A.R. this season. The R.T.T.C. film was shown at one of the film shows and was outstanding if only for the number of ESCA members standing in the way.

Club runs have started with a bang! Led by Martin Hawes the first run resulted in a first rate crash when he turned right and the rest turned left in the middle of the run. Saturday morning is now given over to Ronnies Rambles or Runs led by Ron Ewart. If you have ridden the hilly '25' or one of Ron's reliability trials you will have some idea of what we have to put up with.

The 'Overseas' members of the club are still in good form. Nick Bown has been joined in Brazil by his eldest son Jon, who has promptly taken over Dad's bike. Nick has received a challenge from a visiting American, and has decided to get into strict training. With the need of another bike a shipping order has been dispatched to Crawley, and a new machine is being flown to Brazil at Christmas. We know that Nick will uphold the honour of the club and ESCA out there. Fancy a holiday in the sun, junior Craig Chalkley flew to Florida, complete with bike, for three weeks late training. Ron Ewart has chatted workmate, Doug Tanner, (Callewa-Derbyshire vintage) into riding again; he is putting in his basic riding prior to getting among the plusses. Ron is now having second thoughts. In the Brighton Mitre E & B '25', David Codd and Stephen Maclagan tore up their respective Dads. At 9 & 10 they could improve! That's it, more next time.

Honest Ginge

## BRIGHTON MITRE

Carrying from the Autumn edition, our riders at the Leicester National Championships managed to uphold the club's name, without, alas, winning any medals. Steve Harkness finishing just in the top half of the Junior Kilometre T.T., and Andy Jenkinson reaching the third round of the Schoolboys Sprint. Andy was also selected to ride the Schoolboy events at the SKOL 6.

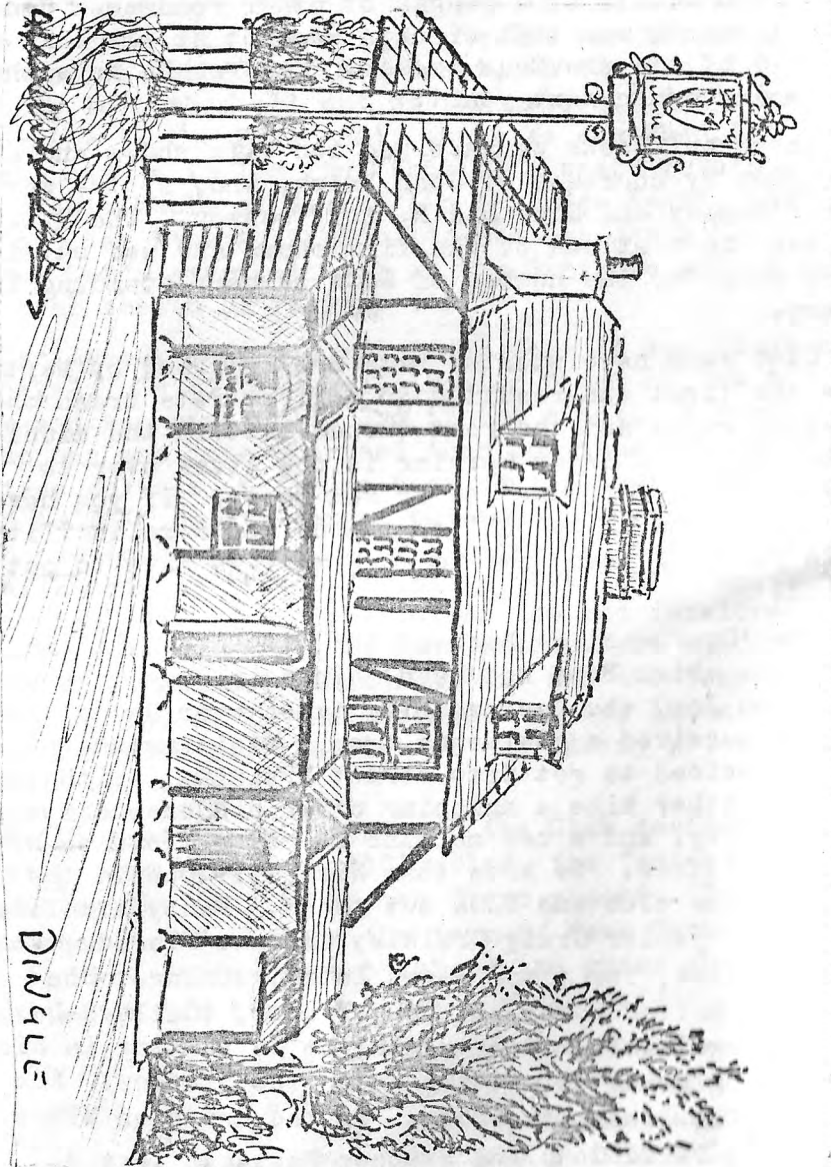
Our excursion to the SKOL 6 was well supported, with a full coach on Saturday, and other minor forays on Monday and Wednesday.

The latter part of the season has been mainly quiet, enlivened by a club '100', and Hour track record of Jumbo's. Jumbo beating Alan Limbrey's 1953 track record by about half a lap. Colin Leigh had a couple of wins in the Kent R.R. League, riding 2nd claim for East Grinstead. Club Track Championships were shared by Steve Harkness and Andy Jenkinson - Steve taking the sprint, and Andy the handicap series and the Schoolboy events.

Club promotions this year have been generally successful. July's sponsored track meeting was marred by rain almost up to the starting time, which reduced the crowd, and prevented several star riders from travelling. Glen Mitchell, 34' Nomads, cleaned up the prizes, but Dave Barnard suprised us all by beating Bob Beatty for 2nd place in the Open Sprint. Prizes were presented by Miss Brighton, who has since been appearing regularly on page 3 of The Sun, we're not sure whether that's because of, or in spite of, her appearance at the track.

Robin Johnson's promotion of our Autumn '25' was up to it's usual high standard, and Eddie Adkins time on a cold morning with an east wind, makes us wonder what he would do on the course on an ideal day.

Social events continued with a club tea at Amberley, preceeded by a wellie throwing contest.



New club champion is Dave Barnard, with Sally Blake taking the ladies section. Enthusiasm was there in generous proportions, but marksmanship was sadly lacking, and my dog was employed to retrieve errant wellies from the undergrowth.

Club A.G.M. was on November 12th, and several changes took place, Joy Sladen standing down as General Secretary after a five year stint. New Secretary and Treasurer is Yvonne Smith. Bill Sladen remains as Chairman. New T.T. Secretary is Jackie Taylor, Track Secretary is Martin Leigh and myself as R.R. Secretary.

Club Dinner on 26th November looks like being a success, with 96 booked to date, the transfer to Portslade Town Hall does not appear to have affected the attendance. Catering is by Bingham's, who manage the Central Dinner and the B.C.F. Lunch, for those who attend either or both.

Next Social event is a Christmas Tea at Ringmer, with mince pies, etc., on December 11th.

Club Egg & Bacon '25' in October was again well supported, with over 35 starters. For the uninitiated this consists of an egg, bacon, bean, bread and marmalade, etc., breakfast at 12½ miles of a 25, with the 12½ miles to follow. Fastest was M. Tanner with a 1.11. Various R.T.T.C. regulations are suspended for the event. One of the minor attempts to upset the opposition was by Alan Handley, who lay in the road pretending he had crashed; when Ron Wilde stopped to help, he had his wheels nicked by Keith and Adrian who were hiding behind a hedge. I upset Tony Yorke and John Pears by tucking in behind their tandem, sprinting past them up a hill, and taking their photograph at the top. Bill Sladen made a stop on the way round and brought back flowers for the cooks. Don't tell Rod Starmer, or I will be drummed of the D.C. committee.

As these notes are already overdue, I will end now.

Ken Wells

## SOUTHBOROUGH & DISTRICT WHEELERS

At last all is safely gathered in. 'What is?', you eagerly ask. 'The Season's racing results and the hop and barley harvest', comes the cheery reply. Yes, that means that the Sarfbra, whilst not exactly putting their feet up, are using them to turn smaller gears to a succession of reliability rides, touring competitions, A.G.Ms., and Sunday potter runs numbering two dozen, as well as supporting the Tuesday Toter potters.

First this time, the facts and figures paragraph. (Note, the non-racing readers can talk amongst themselves whilst we clear this one). Club B.A.R. this year is last year's President, Peter Baker, with an aggregate of 22.023 m.p.h. However, Ron Hayward stole a march in years on him in the Vets. championship with a plus of 2.136 m.p.h., whilst Arthur Smith's plus of 2.024 was better than Peter's of 1.959 m.p.h.

Hazel Whitehouse snatched the Ladies B.A.R. from Jean, with 22.723 to 22.546 m.p.h. Dave Membrey took the Junior '10' championship (over 3 tens), with a gross of 1.17.12, whilst Paul Wilson headed the Juvenile version with 1.18.49. Familiar name, Geoff Withers headed the Senior one with 1.9.16, but Pete Roberts pushed him into second place for the '25' one. His best three added up to 2.55.11.

In addition we run a season long league with scratch and handicap points for all the club events. Despite a mixed season, Roy Harrison topped the Scratch with 147, whilst the Handicap spread amongst more people, especially the young members, was headed by Alf Obbard. Spider was heard to comment, that at last it should stop him moaning about the handicapping!

The change of hill from something looking like the side of a house to the more leisurely Ide Hill, has of recent years meant increased numbers in our club hillclimb. No less than 27 riders competed this time, including the first ever appearance of ladies

in this promotion - Jean and Hazel. Winner was Jim Abbott with a creditable 1m 58.2s. It was Jim, in 2m.13.8s., supported by Geoff in 2m. 19.6s, and Dave Membrey in 2m. 26.4s., who took the Catford Hillclimb Trophy for the third year in succession for the Club.

Meantime our tourists have not been sitting around. Margaret Barrett was the first club member ever to reach the B.C.T.C. final, and Les Hayman practising for the E.S.C.A. one, promoted the club's tourist competition. Split into two half day sections, and run in the area north and west of Tonbridge, it attracted 31 entries. Overall winner this year was that well known debonnaire figure about town, much sought after by the ESCA ladies. No, not Prince Charles - Crow, of course! He has even threatened to come to the dinner to collect the Trophy, provided he does not have to wear matching jacket and trousers. Second was Frank Warriner, a recent addition. Mind you, people look worried when we tell them we now have a Coroner on our club runs. Close behind were Pete Wall and Phil Boddy. This event is one of the counters for our all round tourist trophy. The others are attendance on clubruns and reliability rides. Vice-captain, Paul Abraham collected this award, with Phil right on his tail.

Some half a dozen stalwarts rode the South Eastern C.A. 50 in 4, which climbs up and down the face of the North Downs, whilst a similar number rode in the Kent C.A. one, which is designed once and for all to prove that Kent is not a flat County.

The Junior and Juvenile group are still charging around at full strength, with unabated enthusiasm. They have done several three day Hostel runs, including one to the Cotswolds. They have even used the free bike train to explore London. Apparently, their numbers 'en masse' were a bit of a shock for both BR and the Capital.

The continuing inter-club saga between the San Fairy Ann and us, has extended to yet another roller competition at Tenterden, and an enormous 30-a-side rounders match. This latter followed the Tunbridge

Wells Sports Council's Mammoth Relay Race across the Common. This year we entered six teams including an 'under 15' girls team. Clubs affiliated to the AAA this year graciously decided to run, but the organisers only gave clubs who were not specifically running clubs, the prizes.

Richard Wood, a doctor at Ticehurst, who has been with us for the season, is moving north. He threw a very convivial party at his house, the centre piece of which was his home made beer. Most complained initially of the yeasty smell and taste, but after a couple of pints, nobody seemed to notice. The only certain facts are that everyone returned home somehow, but recollections of the journey seem to be mixed and very hazy!!

That's all this time folks' as the Cartoons say. No doubt we shall see you around the prandial circuit (whatever that is), and the New Years Day '10' (on January 1st would you believe). If you are celebrating the hop harvest, there's no hurry - you can always leave some 'til tomorrow.

Season's greetings from the

S.B.B.B.

Sarfbra Boozing Birdloving Bikie.

Guy Little of Hastings, confounded in his attempts to seek out the Loch Ness Monster and the Yeti of the Himalayas, proudly announces a pre-hibernation sighting of the Monster of Rock-a-nore, lumbering between his lair in East Parade and the High Street bookies.

EXPOSE

For many years we have had living among us a man who's way of life has been that of the true dilettante. Not for him the irksome toil of lesser mortals; while we strive, he peddles the leafy lanes, drinking in the sights and sounds of nature; while we rush from job to job, he visits friends, practices yoga, enjoys good music, studies bird life, dabbles in the past with the local Historical Society and shares the cultural life of the town's Forge Singers.

The Chief Editor of this magazine, thinking that an interview with this fascinating man would be of interest to our readers, dispatched me to Edenbridge one day. After an expensive visit to Ken Birds, she dropped me off on the Tonbridge By-pass, and laden with a 'bonk bag' of 'Bonks', I made my way through the lanes to the pleasant little town of Edenbridge. Not knowing the whereabouts of the Crowsley Residence, home of the man I had gone to seek out, I popped into a local cafe to inquire the way. The somewhat garrulous proprietor spent some time telling me about his own cycling exploits before the war, and from there began to discuss the habits of 'Peter', whom he described as a 'very nice boy' and he had in fact cycled past his cafe only the day before. He prattled on for a while, then made a remark which brought me up with a jerk. "Of course," he said, "he doesn't have to WORK very hard now that there are only two of them at home." This sounded very suspicious to me. Dilettantes are not supposed to indulge themselves in the same way that other mortals do. Thus it was, with thoughts of a Sunday newspaper type scandal buzzing in my mind, that I quickly rode to the Crowsley Residence. Making my way quietly along the passage beside his house, I became aware of the sound of machinery coming from a low building in the garden. It seemed that my fears were to be confirmed! Looking through the window, I could see a figure clad in overalls and wearing safety glasses bending over a lathe. Scattered on the floor were piles of parts waiting to be worked on. Then the figure turned and saw me, and I could see instantly that I had caught him in the act.

Going into the workshop, I said pleasantly, "I have brought your 'Bonks'." A long, pregnant pause followed, and the word 'Bonk' echoed between the walls. It was obvious that the game was up, and words tumbled from the mouth of the poor wretch. He told me that he is really the hard-working Managing Director of a Light Engineering firm. Whereas most men in his position enjoy a game of golf or the odd cocktail party, Crow goes for a ride or indulges in one or other of his many interests, and works into the small hours to make up for it. He excused himself by saying that he and his mother need little money for their simple pleasures, but to me this didn't alter the facts. This man WORKS for his living! He tried to bribe me to keep his secret with offers of food and drink, but nearly twenty years of marriage, and the Chief Editor's incorruptible influence, enabled me to remain unyielding, and I refused to give in to his requests. He even tried, in desperation, to buy my silence with the offer of a track bike, but I continued to demand his promise that he would give up his WORK, and do his best to lose the affectionate respect of his fellow townfolk. He made a pledge that he would live on Social Security, and try to redeem the carefree image that all E.S.C.A. cyclists have of him. I fear, though, that he will soon be back to his old ways, for WORK is as bad as a drug, and very few people are completely cured of their craving for it. However, we shall keep an eye on Peter Crowsley, and keep you informed as to his progress. Perhaps one day we shall be able to bring to you the true story of 'CROW', the person we all thought we knew and loved.

M.C.

## BRIGHTON EXCELSIOR C.C.

Travelling away seems to have been the theme recently, the SKOL 6 as usual attracted good support from the EXCEL well equipped with musical instruments including DICK'S famous FIRE ENGINE BELL. If lager drinking produces riders of the calibre of those on the wooden track - it's worth drinking, even if it doesn't improve your riding, it's good anyway.

The National Hillclimb Championship in Derbyshire made an enjoyable weekend camping coupled with spectating some fantastic hillclimb riding. The 'Cat & Fiddle' which is the second highest pub in England (altitude, that is, not the state of the participants) provided the EXCEL with a good evening's enjoyment, coupled with thrashing the Worthing Excel at darts. Next morning saw some fantastic performances on the steep and slippery road as the experts in this field of riding made local heroes look a little tame. Our first aid man, Dick, came into his own when one of the competitors collapsed at the finish line.

Buckinghamshire was the location of a recent cycling weekend enjoyed by a few members, joining up with some pleasant touring organised by the Bucks D.A. Local clubruns are still going on apace with some interesting and varied rides, and a new winter programme is being drawn up.

Our own hillclimb took place recently on Ditchling Beacon, the mist was so thick that it was difficult for riders to see the timekeepers at the top of the climb, and it was only that the road levelled out that gave a clue as to the finish of the event. Anyway our congratulations to Roger Hughes for winning the event and to Dave Cotton and Richard who came in second on their tandem.

With Christmas in mind the club's annual Christmas run to Amberley will be taking place in mid December ably organised by Chris Beckenham, and no doubt the participants will be full of the spirit. (which one I wonder) by the time they 'ride'

home.

The club's ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE will be held on SATURDAY, 7th JANUARY at the ROYAL COACH, SHOREHAM, at 7 p.m. Tickets at £4.75, are available from RICHARD JONES, 13 DALLINGTON ROAD, HOVE. Believe me the EXCEL Dinner is a memorable occasion - just ask anyone who has attended before!! Well organised by Dick with a Musical Cabaret by the Harry Strutters Hot Rhythm Orchestra, this really is one evening you cannot afford to miss.

Our film show is on Thursday, 2nd February at our Club Room - Bus Co. Sports Club, Conway Street, near Hove Station. The evening will be of interest to all cyclists and the film to be shown (apart from a spectacular collection of slides) is a new release from the Belgian Consul - HOW DOES EDDY MERCKX TRAIN? Well to find out come along on Thursday, February 2nd at 8 p.m.

Well, I must cycle over to Esther now, and hopefully on the return pick some holly and mistletoe for my Christmas Bike Decorations, filling my water bottle with some high gravity liquid to keep out the cold on these pleasant yet nippy winter days.

All members of the EXCEL sincerely wish all members of the ESCA a Happy Christmas and Safe New Year, and remember if you wish to prosper in cycling - Saturday, 7th January - contact Dick - tickets in advance, and Thursday, 2nd February - just come along before 8 p.m.

All the best for 1978.

Rough Rider



## TO ABSENT FRIENDS

The lunch I had attended that day had continued well past teatime, and as they were then 'open', I had lingered on. It was very late as I made my home through the lanes, but the thought of no work next day gave a certain pleasure to my ride. We don't get many nights like that one, pitch dark, with a frosty mist drifting across the fields, the only sound the whirr of my dynamo. I had been riding for some time, perhaps slightly hypnotized by the light playing on the mist, when I realised that a group of riders had joined me. We continued for a mile or so in companionable silence, until at last I mentioned that I had been to a cycling lunch that day. They all expressed an interest, and I told them who had been there, and other snippets of information, which naturally led to further reminiscences of other "do's", tours undertaken and memorable rides of past years.

The rider at my side changed constantly, although as I was on the inside, I was always in front of the bunch, and this was the pattern throughout the ride. One of them explained that as they always rode together, they rarely met anyone to keep them abreast of the news, so for the remainder of the ride, I brought them up to date with the happenings of the past few years.

All too soon, it seemed, we were riding along the last stretch of road to home, and when we got to the junction, I wished them good night, or rather, good morning as it was then, and thanked them for their company. They in turn expressed the wish that when I had given up the racing game, I would join them. So we parted, and when I looked across the road into the mist, they had already vanished.

Next morning, as I was partaking of a late breakfast, I recounted the previous night's experience to my wife. After I had told her of the pleasure I had got from my ride home, she asked me who my new acquaintances were. I told her the names, and for a moment she looked startled. Then she laughed. "You really must have had a skinful yesterday," she said. "They've all been dead for years!"

Anon

## E.S.C.A. RACING RESULTS

### SENIOR B.A.R. (25, 50 & 100 miles)

1. CLIFF SHARP	EASTBOURNE ROVERS	22.412	mph
2. JOHN YATES	CENTRAL SUSSEX	22.134	"
3. JOHN HONEYBALL	LEWES WANDERERS	21.996	"
4. M. Burgess	Lewes Wanderers	21.734	"
5. R. Laver	Central Sussex	21.533	"
6. I. Landless	Lewes Wanderers	21.332	"
7. R. MacLagan	Central Sussex	20.924	"
8. J. Pratt (Trike)	Crawley Wheelers	19.792	"
9. J. Southerden	Hastings & St. L.	19.142	"

(all qualifiers)

1st TEAM	LEWES WANDERERS	21.687	"
2nd Team	Central Sussex	21.530	"

(two teams qualified)

### JUNIOR B.A.R. (2 x 10 miles & 2 x 25 miles)

1. M. JONES	CRAWLEY WHEELERS	23.778	mph
2. S. HARKNESS	BRIGHTON MITRE	23.202	"
3. I. BURGESS	LEWES WANDERERS	22.879	"

(only two other riders qualified)

### LADIES B.A.R. (2 x 10 miles & 2 x 25 miles)

1. MRS. I. STEVENS	EASTBOURNE ROVERS	20.736	mph
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(only one other rider qualified)

### FASTEST VET. ON STANDARD AT 25 MILES

A. Limbrey	Brighton Mitre	+6m. 43s.
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### FASTEST JUNIOR 25 MILES

M. Jones	Crawley Wheelers	1h.3m. 37s.
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UNDER THE HOUR 25 MILES

C. Sharp Eastbourne Rovers 58m. 49s.

FASTEST LADIES 50 MILES

Mrs. A. Killick Crawley Wheelers 2h. 30m. 58s.

The qualifying distances for the Junior B.A.R. are:

2 rides at 10 miles and 2 rides at 25 miles.

If any Junior apart from the first three listed thinks he has qualified, please inform the Racing Secretary, Mick Burgess.

Will anyone who still has E.S.C.A. Trophies in their possession, please return them as soon as possible to: Mick Burgess, 7 Sandridge, Crowborough (T.W. 61754) in order that the 1977 results can be engraved.

Would promoters please indicate on start/result sheets, if a rider is a Junior or Juvenile, and the age of all Vets. This is to assist in working out awards, and will eliminate guesswork!!

Mick Burgess

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8th, 1978

E.S.C.A. Luncheon and Prize Presentation at Framfield Memorial Hall. Meet at the Hare & Hounds, Framfield from 12.00 hours.

Details available soon, from your Club Secretary.

E.S.C.A. INDIVIDUAL POINTS COMPETITION

FINAL RESULT

H/R	10	25	50	10	25	100	50	25	H/C	TOTAL
C. SHARP	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	-	178
R. Shipton	18	18	17	19	18	-	-	19	-	125
G. Windsor	-	14	11	16	16	-	-	17	18	92
M. Jones	-	13	13	17	15	-	16	-	-	91
J. Honeyball	9	-	7	7	2	19	17	13	-	74
A. Jones	17	17	18	-	-	-	-	16	-	68
F. Baker	11	11	9	-	-	-	-	14	-	57
S. Harkness	13	4	-	15	10	-	-	-	-	57
M. Burgess	-	-	6	12	3	14	15	-	-	50
P. Taylor	-	9	14	1	9	-	-	-	-	48

Congratulations to Cliff on his near 100% total of points



Brian Wilkins got himself on the air when he rang up Radio Brighton to protest about a Brighton Councillor's remarks that cyclists should be made to use the pavements "as cyclists and lorries are incompatible". (Try telling that to a bloke who's just done a 'personal' behind one!!). Brian was invited along to the studio to reply on cyclists behalf and he made a good job of shooting the said idiot up the bracket, his interview being put out three times on the same day.

Peter (the other) Sharp criticized cycle paths as the thin end of the wedge to our being forced off the roads altogether when he spoke at a Council Meeting. This drew an indignant letter from a lady, published in the Sussex Express, in which she described this attitude as "unbelievable from a safety point of view." Reading this, your scribe was half expecting her to add something to the effect that she supposed that Mr. P. Sharp had never even ridden a bike. Unfortunately she didn't and escaped the inevitable squashing correction that would have followed!

Your scribe was forced back onto his bike for over a month when the famous "Bomb IV" was stranded at Horam with a broken crankshaft and the engine had to be removed and stripped in situ. Still, the weather was nice - better than the so-called summer - and Seaford to Horam is a darned sight better than ploughing along the coast road to Brighton and back each day.

Very little has been seen of Jack Goldstein in recent weeks, but from an underground report on his probable activities we're hoping that he doesn't meet the same fate as Victor the giraffe!!

With all this talk of the possibility of a national police strike one alarmed ESCA gentleman was heard to say: "Can you imagine anything worse? If Mick Burgess has all day to train, he'll tear us all to pieces!"

Latest news on the Club Dinner is that as there is now a Discotheque involved the price has been adjusted to £2.95, which hasn't pleased most of the recipients of the news. Cliff Sharp nearly fell down the stairs, and others have reacted accordingly, but

it was felt that as this is to be a special occasion we should put on something different just for once. It's not yet known whether a pay-by-instalments scheme will be operated for the end-of-social-season financially embarrassed(!) but will have to wait and see. It has been decided to contact as many of the ex-Club members as possible to see if they can get there, so if half of them turn up, it will be a night of real nostalgia, and no kidding.

Your scribe wishes to use this opportunity to apologise to all those fans who had hoped to see him perform at Chainwheel Creek. Unfortunately the G.P.O. failed to deliver the start sheet, and that, allied to a failing memory, is the reason for my non-appearance.

Well, apart from the foregoing, the usual scandal is thin on the ground at the moment. It probably isn't so much that they don't get up to things, it's just that we don't get to hear of a lot of it.

And so into the Social Season where the unfit come into their own and the talkers, rather than the doers, hold sway at club functions. We'll leave you with the latest slice of wit from the bottomless repertoire of the notorious Derek Agg. Have you heard about the Irish football manager who had the pitch flooded at half-time so that they could bring on the subs?

After that there's nothing left but a quick Good-bye. See you at the functions.

Aloran

LEWES WANDERERS DINNER & DISCO

SATURDAY, 18th FEBRUARY 1978

at

CABURN HALL, RINGMER

Tickets £2.95p. from

Mick Burgess, 7 Sandridge, Crowborough (Tel.61754).

## TOURING COMPETITION

My thanks to everyone who turned out and made a successful day out of such cold conditions. My special thanks to the marshalls, mostly Southborough juniors, who cycled out and back and stood on the same spot for up to two hours, many of them both morning and afternoon.

The result list is compiled from score sheets kept by the marshalls, and checked as far as possible. Some difficulties did arise, the motorists perhaps, having fair cause to doubt the results. Dave Rix, for instance, who started as a cyclist in the morning, returned after multi punctures to compete in his car. He reached some check points after marshalls had left but unlike others did not get the opportunity to answer questions back at Hellingly. The Landless family answered the motorists questions differently from the others. They had reached the points, but my questions were not really explicit enough. Furthermore no motorist knew when he started exactly how many points he would get. My apologies.

Iris Stevens pointed out the error of the question at check point 5. Punnetts Town is N.W. not N.E. of that point.

The speed judging provided variety. Iris chose 8 m.p.h. and was  $\frac{1}{2}$  an hour too fast!! Crow chose 14 m.p.h. and was  $\frac{1}{2}$  an hour too slow!! I wish to apologise to Kiatt Huang to whom I suggested 14 m.p.h. would allow him to catch Giles Ree. He agreed, but had he stuck to the 11 m.p.h. he originally proposed, he would have scored maximum marks.

The observation bit did get a bit religious but it was Sunday! Many riders got the 10 marks for the questions on their sheets but few managed more than half marks for the questions asked by the marshalls. Many failed to keep 'due north' or take the 'shortest road to dinner'. Two thirds didn't see the school sign and not one rider stopped to remove the log in the road!

Finally my congratulations to Brian Barrett, an experienced C.T.C. rider, and to the Lewes team. My apologies to all at tea for mistaken arithmetic that gave 2nd place tie to John Bainbridge. Sorry John, the recount shows a third place tie with Graham Seymour.

Les Hayman

To my friends, old and new, just a word to say I'm leaving Eastbourne and moving to Cornwall. Good-bye sounds so final perhaps I can say au revoir, as I might wish to return home if you'll have me. I'm hoping to find a place of my own, and when I do, perhaps Esther will print the address, and should anyone be passing, they'll stop to say 'hello'.

Can I say a big thank you to all who helped me, with lifts to and from events, bikes and parts - I certainly had a variety. After such a long time outside I had forgotten just how nice cycling people are.

My best wishes for a very happy Christmas and a fast New Year.

Pat (Pearson)

(We shall look forward to receiving a 'Touring in Cornwall' article from you, Pat, very soon! I'm sure everybody wishes you every happiness in your future life. Ed.)

EAST SUSSEX TOURING COMPETITION - SUNDAY 20 NOVEMBER 1977

RESULT

	No.	SPEED JUDGING	OBSERVATION	Equipment Check	MAP READING (4)							Questions (8)	TOTAL (126)	
					Possible (20)	Route(8)	Questions(22)	(10)	Check Point 1(12)	2(12)	3(12)			4(12)
1. B.Barrett		Southborough	83	19	8	19	10	12	10	12	10	8	2	110
2. M.Burgess		Lewes Wanderers	85	19	8	15	9	12	12	12	9	10	2	108
3. J.Bainbridge		?	3	18	5	14	9	10	8	12	11	9	4	100
G.Seymour		Lewes Wanderers	91	17	8	15	10	8	10	11	10	8	3	100
5. G.Boxall		Lewes Wanderers	95	19	6	13	10	12	8	9	9	8	2	96
6. R.Rix		Seaford C.T.C.	42	18	8	10	10	11	8	8	8	6	3	90
7. Iris Stevens		Eastbourne	1	-	6	19	10	12	12	10	8	11	1	89
8. I.Burgess		Lewes Wanderers	84	12	8	15	10	8	8	12	6	6	-	85
9. D.Jakeman		Seaford C.T.C.	41	18	8	8	10	9	8	10	8	-	3	82
10. T.Arnold		Seaford C.T.C.	46	18	1	13	10	7	6	12	8	-	3	78
11. Ann Rix		Seaford C.T.C.	43	17	5	11	10	9	8	10	-	-	3	73
12. P.Comfort		Seaford C.T.C.	48	18	2	12	9	10	6	6	6	-	1	70
13. J.Eastwood		Seaford C.T.C.	45	16	8	2	10	8	10	10	-	-	3	67
14. D.Barratt		Southborough	82	8	6	7	10	5	8	10	8	4	-	66
G.Ree		Lewes Wanderers	49	19	2	11	10	6	4	-	6	5	3	66
16. S.Kelly		Lewes Wanderers	93	8	2	15	9	6	6	-	10	7	2	65
17. D.Kelly		Lewes Wanderers	94	13	2	10	7	8	4	-	12	4	-	60
18. N.Bradshaw		Lewes Wanderers	90	13	2	10	5	9	6	-	4	4	2	55
19. P.Jaques		Seaford C.T.C.	44	17	7	5	9	5	4	4	-	-	2	53
20. K.Huang		Lewes Wanderers	50	5	1	15	6	7	6	-	6	4	1	51
21. P.Crowsley		East Grinstead	92	-	4	12	10	-	-	-	12	10	-	48

TEAM SHIELD - LEWES WANDERERS

P.Wall	Southborough	81	15	6	6	9	} Morning Only
M.Pink	Crawley	86	9	2			
D.Chisnell	?	87	1	6	6	10	
N.Rayland	?	88	1	2	9	8	
R.Smith	?	89	2	2	9	8	
P.Phillips	?	96	17	2	12	8	

MOTORISTS

DUTSON  
LANDLESS  
WELLS  
DAVE RIX

12	12	-	8	10
10	10	6	10	8
12	10	10	9	9
12	8	-	4	4

MOTORISTS  
ONLY  
(27)

(87)

69  
61  
59  
55

## CRAWLEY WHEELERS

Herewith the jottings (SAGA) from the Wheelers diary, before referring to current topics I would ask you to turn back to the item concerning Dave Stokes' brush with the law when he was asked to leave a Crawley shop because he was creating a disturbance. Many people failed to see anything funny or strange about this, howabout if I told you he was trying to get a handbag exchanged as he'd been sold a faulty one. No! Ah well it must be me that has a strange sense of humour. To carry on however, from where we left off last time.

Over the summer Bank Holiday weekend we had a potterers run (inside evens) to Worthing to watch the Kermesses on Sunday, and saw Guy Filcher finish 6th in the under 14's event. Our other rider in the main schoolboys event, Andrew Hoare was not so lucky, finishing well down the field. Monday dawned fine, and a ride to Nutley with lunch at Horsted Keynes preceded a look at the East Grinstead Carnival to watch the Grinny's Road Race. The following Sunday, 4th September, saw six of us haul our weary bodies over the Ditchling Beacon to Brighton where we had lunch whilst watching preparations and start of the Brighton to London Road Race. From there we punched into a strong headwind and in bright sunshine along the coast to sunny Worthing, returning to Crawley past Sompting Church, thro' Steyning, Nuthurst and Mannings Heath. On the climb up to Pease Pottage two of us (it had to be me) were treated to one of those funny episodes which really makes a day out. As I say we were on the climb up to Pease Pottage when just before a steepish part we espied a young lady done up as though she was about to enter the Horse of the Year Show. Slowing down and giving the beast a wide berth we crept past, losing all our impetus for the hill ahead. Yes, you've guessed, Guy and I were really struggling when clip clop, clip clop, up comes the horse! To add insult to injury as the animal strode imperiously past, his immaculately turned out rider looked scornfully down at us, and in a broad Sussex accent said, "You'll 'ave to roid those boikes faster than that if yew want

to beat 'im to the top of the 'ill." Ah well you can't win them all.

The 10th September saw our Open '10' event, organised this year by Dick Denman on a new Gatwick course. Unfortunately I missed this event being on escort duty with Neal Rayland plus Mum and Dad, Gary Moore and Robert Flinn to the G.H.S. final at Newport. To travel all that way to have such a cold windy ride was a big disappointment for the lads, and not suprisingly all times, apart from the odd super few, were way down on normal. However, they all rode well to get to the final, and I think we all enjoyed our day out in Welsh Wales, one of the highlights being a very windy crossing of the Severn Bridge. A name I've deliberately missed from the G.H.S. finals, is one Clive Swan. Many of you in ESCA must know him. He deserves special mention, as he rode up to, and back from, Newport; nothing special in that you might say, for a lad of 15. How about on a stripped down racing machine with an old spare tub, and wearing the only clothing he took. After 15 hours on the road he arrived at Newport to find his mate, bringing tents, sleeping bags, etc., had not made it. Would you also believe that he was picked up by a farmer who having heard his tale took him home to the family, and insisted, or so we are led to believe, that he stay with them for the whole weekend, all for nothing. Despite all these 'hardships', he still managed the fastest Crawley ride of 25.23, and returned home the following Tuesday apparently none the worse for his experiences. It is with a touch of sadness that it appears for personal reasons, I have to announce his retirement from the cycling game. Clive says he will not be riding next year. Without doubt, we and the sport are losing a star youngster who had a flair for our sport and was at times quite a personality within the club. In the evening Big H (Hilda Boxall) held a cheese and wine party which was the usual big eats and wine 'do', the lady handling was excellent (am I whetting your appetites?) and at midnight when the wife dragged me off home, I must confess to feeling Cinderellaish. Sunday 11th September saw a dozen of us poking round the relics

at Bluebell Railway's Vintage Sunday. The 18th saw four of us up at the unearthly hour of 5 a.m. on marshalling duties at the ESCA 25. Derek Malin, our ageing but energetic Romeo, seemed to have difficulty dragging himself away from Esther Carpenter at the start. He said you have real appeal Esther! (That's how he starts all his overtures). (Another dream shattered, I thought he was genuinely sincere and charming! Ed.) On completion of the event we escorted M. Chambers of the Hastings & St. L., who was suffering horribly, back to the finish. Trust you are now recovered sir. Then with the promise of free teas from your event organiser, Crawley Cuphunter extraordinaire, Ian Berry, at Nutley, off we went there to meet the remainder of the clubrun, and sink the free tea. Berry never showed up!! A noisy group of 18 or so led by Hilda Boxall duly arrived, who during the course of conversation said that after doing the Tour of Yugoslavia she could do anything. Someone said ANYTHING and was met with silence and that Boxall hook.

The last Sunday of September saw us on marshalling duties in pouring rain at the S.C.C.U. promotion at Ellens Green circuit. First weekend in October, the 2nd, saw our penultimate club event for the year, some 24 riders took part, with no startling times, the only noted item being that Basil Chilcott was seen parading up and down at the finish in cycle clips. We didn't actually see his bike but he must have ridden out, mustn't he!?!? After this, 17 set out to see the Steam Rally at Hadlow Down, but with mechanical troubles of one sort or another, whilst we made Hadlow Down, we decided against going in to see the Rally. Following weekend, the 9th, was the ESCA Hillclimb, and as usual we were in time to see the course marshalls, cheer leaders, etc., grovel to the top, our congratulations to Don Awcock who must surely almost have made this cup his own. Brighton Mitre 25 was our target for the weekend of the 16th, 17 of us riding on to Littlehampton where we had dinner sitting on the beach in warm autumn sunshine. The ride home from there was equally enjoyable.

Sunday, 23rd October, was for us BONNAR TROPHY day this year, with a touring type competition splendidly organised by A. Killick, catering by Mr. & Mrs. Bonnar, with a chicken and chips disco supper at Gatwick Manor Inn in the evening, where the Bonnar Trophy was presented to the winning boy/girl of the morning's competition. This year's winner being John Denman. We were pleased to welcome Graham Seymour, Mick Burgess and partners to the disco, trust that they enjoyed themselves, taking away a good impression of Crawley Club Life. On the last Sunday of the month we held the last club '10' of the year. This was yet another win for Mark Jones, who has had quite a season, bearing in mind he does very little training due to O and A level studies, next year should see him under the hour for 25 miles. To continue, however, following the '10' the clubrun trekked off through the Winterfold Forest to the Silent Pool at Shere, a Surrey beauty spot, returning home over Leith Hill.

On then into November, and on the 6th, Roger Smith led the run over the Devils Dyke to Brighton to see the Veteran cars, returning home again via Ditchling Beacon. Following week, 13th, Roger won the Hill Climb, by beating winner of the past two years, Mark Boorsma, by four tenths of a second. The course is shorter now at West Hill so it looks as if we'll have to find another for next year.

Finally, a brief run down of prizewinners for the year. 12 hour champion is Ian Berry with 233 miles; he also has the fastest 100 of 4h.43m. Mark Jones, in what has been an excellent year, wins the 50 with 2h.9m.; 25 in 1h.0m.59s and 10 in 23m.plus. Mark Jones is also the Senior and Junior B.A.R. You can now see why Ian Berry, in the first event of the year, asked me what his dad fed him on after he'd passed us both in the Hilly 24 mile T.T.

The winter now seems to be on us, as the gales and hail are hammering the windows even as I write. Summer seems an awfully long way off. As a final



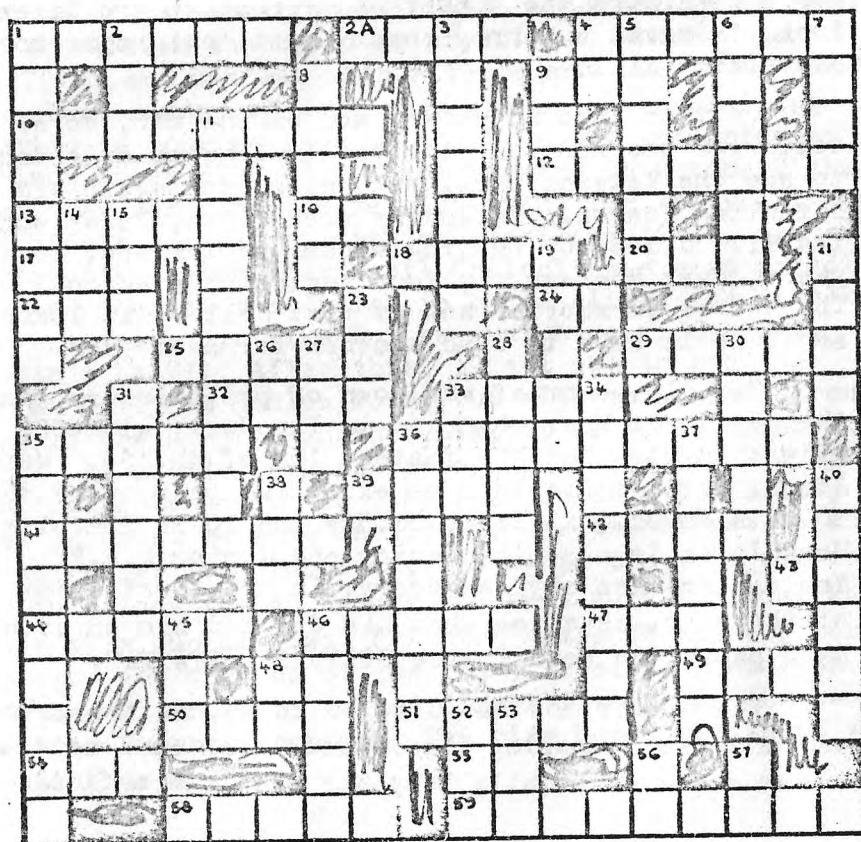
thought on the year I would remind all members that it is only their participation in all aspects of club life which makes a successful club, so! even if it's not your scene make an effort to support that clubrun, club trial, reliability run, disco, dinner or whatever in the New Year. We all need your support.

We at Crawley wish all ESCAbods a Happy Xmas and a Personal Best New Year. See you up the road.

Malcolm

## SUSSEX CYCLING CROSSWORD

By Ian Landless



### Across

1. A metal for Mike Burgess.
- 2A. 2/3rds of 40 down from the Mitre.
4. Worthing '25' event sec. for 1977.
9. Bit and ---.
10. G.895 Course record holder.
12. Vessel and a weight for a Worthing rider.
13. Rider with a fine edge.
16. Road race (abr.).
17. Once round at Preston Park.
18. The other half of 21 down
20. Relationship of 54 to 1 across.
22. A horse has one on Pevensey Levels.
24. Time trial (abr.).
25. Christian name of Lewes coach.
29. Central Sussex riders airline.
32. Eastbourne's flower power girl.
33. Off a tree into a wheel.
35. Hotel on Brighton seafront.
36. S.C.A. B.A.R. 1975.
39. Graham's in the Aston Villa defence.
41. Mitre man from Milbery.
42. Sixth in the women's BBAR 1977.
43. Beryl Burton (abr.).
44. Cross on the G895.
46. ---- Yew Green, near Frant.
47. S.C.A. Team Championship Shield.
48. Christian name initials of 58 across.
49. Worthing rider of 270°.
50. Son of 5 down.
51. Central Sussex rider made from yeast.
54. Son of 1 across.
55. 5.4.3.2.1. --
58. Central Sussex reliability trial organizer.
59. Not Phil, the Eastbourne vet.

### Down

1. East Grinstead yoga man.
2. The Bicycle Arms at Argos Hill is one
3. Unravalled cut herb in the Mitre.
4. 3.142 or a course at Totton.
5. R.T.T.C. London South Hon. Treasurer.
6. Haves bird.
7. Trailer for a Central Sussex rider.
8. Central Sussex Vet. becomes a hero.
9. Turn on the G833 minus it's hip.
11. Bonk correspondent.
14. Dried grass for half the E.S.C.A. President.
15. The animal in a pedal race.
19. Cross passed twice on the G.852
21. Listen half a Mitre rider.
23. Did not start (abr.).
26. Christian name initials of Berry of Crawley.
27. It goes on tyres.
28. Are you keeping up with the Crawley ones.
30. Lewes rider also a timekeeper.
31. First off in the E.S.C.A. Harcriders, 1977.
33. Central Sussex rider who's lost an old penny. Fishy!
34. said to be out when riding hard.
35. Division R.R. Championship promoter, 1977.
36. Not Jimmy on the radio, Alan of Brighton.
37. Liver salts man from Lewes.
38. Giles of Lewes.
40. Ecclesiastic from Southboro' with an extra T.
45. Faintly luminous cycle lamp.
46. Hastings bread maker.
48. Ron Rogers (abr.).
52. Lewes rider starting aggravation.
53. The highest point in Storrington.
56. Course at St. Neots backwards.
57. Time trial (abr.).

Dear Readers,

I am writing to tell you about 'something special' being promoted by the Crawley Wheelers next Easter - the "LABEL RESEARCH EASTER 2-DAY".

You are probably aware that we have promoted a Good Friday '25' for a number of years now. Next year we will add a Crawley-Shoreham and back time trial on the Saturday morning (approximately 45 hard miles) and a '10' on the Saturday afternoon!

To encourage a good entry at least £250 in prizes will be on offer: £60 plus for the '25'; £40 plus for the Shoreham and back; £40 plus for the '10', and additional-  
ly there will be an overall classification prize list (all three events) down to 12th place, totalling at least £100.

Lots of prizes to be won in all categories. Full details and entry forms will be distributed shortly, but in the meantime further details can be obtained from Malcom Pink (Reigate 48455) or myself (Cophorne 713733).

A provisional prize list is attached.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Berry.

'25' miles. 8 a.m. 24th March, 1978

1st - £10. 2nd - £8. 3rd - £6. 4th - £5. 5th - £3. 6th - £1  
1st Vet - £4. 2nd Vet. - £2. 3rd Vet. - £1  
1st Vet. on standard - £2. 2nd Vet. on standard - £1.  
Best improvement - £2. 2nd best improvement - £1.  
1st Junior - £4. 2nd Junior - £2. 3rd Junior - £1.  
1st Lady - £2.50p. 2nd Lady - £1.50p.  
1st Schoolboy - £2.50p. 2nd Schoolboy - £1.50p.

Shoreham and back (app. 45 miles) 8 a.m. 25th March

1st - £10. 2nd - £8. 3rd - £6. 4th - £5. 5th - £3.  
6th - £1.

1st Vet. - £4. 2nd Vet. - £2. 3rd Vet. - £1.

1st Jun. - £2.50p. 2nd Jun. - £1.50p.

1st Lady - £2.50p. 2nd Lady - £1.50p.

'10' miles. 3 p.m. 25th March, 1978

1st - £6. 2nd - £5. 3rd - £4. 4th - £3. 5th - £2.  
6th - £1.

Best improvement - £2. 2nd best improvement - £1.

1st Vet. - £3. 2nd Vet. - £2. 3rd Vet. - £1.

1st Vet. on standard - £2. 2nd Vet. on standard - £1

1st Jun. - £3. 2nd Jun. - £2. 3rd Jun. - £1

1st Lady - £2. 2nd Lady - £1

1st Schoolboy - £2. 2nd Schoolboy - £1.

Overall classification (all 3 events)

1st - £20. 2nd - £15. 3rd - £10. 4th - £9. 5th - £8  
6th - £7. 8th - £5. 9th - £4. 10th - £3.

11th - £2.50p. 12th - £1.50p.

1st Vet. - £2. 2nd Vet. - £1.

1st Junior - £2. 2nd Junior - £1.

1st Lady - £2. 2nd Lady - £1.

Entry Fee is 65p each event or special reduced rate of £1.50p. to cover all three.

## EAST GRINSTEAD C.C.

Answering the door of my workshop one day, I found Maurice clutching a parcel of BONKS for my club. "This Carpenter economy is going a bit far", I thought, imagining that he had cycled up from Hastings to beat the G.P.O. out of 30p. Things were not quite what they seemed it transpired, as Esther <sup>DROPPED</sup> him off by car after a visit to Ken Birds. Nevertheless a long ride home in the call of editorial duty has to be admired.

With the club dinner only six days away, and as your scribe also plays social sec., you may imagine that things get a little hectic. We have the media-man, Don Lock who was one of our founder members, to say a few words, and about seventy people to listen to him. What is more the money seems to balance at the moment!

Don will possibly comment on our balanced approach to the ESCA points competition. Not only did we gain no points in the club league, but none in the individual section, either. However all this is going to change, as our new racing sec. is pledged to gingering the club a bit. You'll know Jim Powell next season - he'll probably be carrying a big whip.

Jim joined us in February, and won our club B.A.R. from Will Wates. Jim's 1.1. on the Q25/3 and 2.13 in the E.S.C.A. 50 was augmented by 4.50 in a Vets. 100. Will was 10 minutes <sup>FASTER</sup> in a hundred, but his 50 let him down. Our lad at Lancing College added a 1.1.27 25 to his fast string of 10's, but wasn't able to ride enough evening 10's to dent Shaun Yates lead in that department. Ron Pannell produced a 1.0.55, but was rumoured to be joining another club.

John Carter fair whizzed up "The Wall" on Ashdown Forest to win our club hillclimb a minute faster than previous years, and also beat an on-form Hepplethwaite. Possible favourite, Richard Woodward had to be content with a bronze, and a 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>sec beating of John Geal.

Val's Carnival Road Race was praised for being a fast, aggressive race, with plenty of action, and backed with fine organisation. The only thing is, we can't remember who won it!

Twenty of the club attended the final night of the SKOL 6 and enjoyed a late night. A recent essay into Youth Hostelling - the first for many a year, was presumably a success, as more are planned.

Our club A.G.M. is never an event for those of a claustrophobic disposition, our clubroom being more suitable for hamster rearing. Rod Starmer, who is now in the big-time with the R.T.T.C. L/S secretary's job, has passed the club secs. job to John Hutt, whose address is 90 HALSFORD PARK ROAD, EAST GRINSTEAD, should you need it. Val is back as Pres. and Jim "New Broom" Powell, will sort out the racers.

Just before you write our club off, we can blow our trumpets for an open win. Agreed it wasn't actually racing, but in the Southborough Tourist Competition, where Crow managed to score a maximum on speed judging and hung onto a five point lead via observation in fog and many funny questions. Something of a sentimental journey, as he first won it, also in Grinstead colours, twenty years ago. Thanks Southboro' for a well run event on a lovely day. Now for the ESCA on November 20th.

Trusting that Xmas and the Social Season will be enjoyed by all.

Crow

# BONK DEADLINE

# FEBRUARY 15TH.

## A-ride, A-walk and A-rundel

At precisely 9.30 a.m. or thereabouts a tandem had arrived at the Classic Cinema, East Grinstead, with Pat and Terry Thorn to keep it company for the weekend ahead. By 10 a.m., our agreed departure time, almost all had arrived, with the Powell family interspersed between Lingfield and the start. Suddenly around the corner comes the aforementioned, with big Jim pushing little Michael along, while his chain dangled on the road with his derailleur wrapped round his back wheel (a Campag. Valentino). Frantic breakdown repairs went into action trying to straighten out a mangled set of rollers, but half an hour later little success had been achieved. A new gear was the only solution, and by 11 a.m. precisely by the G.P.O. tower we were on our way to Turners Hill to pick up Gary --- (don't know his other one?). All together again with a jubilant Gary, who had only learnt the previous night that a space was available.

Handcross village arrived, where I was politely told "Please ride in single file", as a Police patrol car drove alongside me and the tandem. To which I retorted, "Ay! can't hear yer!" "It's for your own good, you know!" "Oh, alright then." I said, "the tandem is in single file and so am I, the only thing is we're riding side by side." That baffled him, and decided to pull away again, with the remainder of the bunch coming into view sprawled across the road.

After an eternity, Henfield had made its presence, to my newly found knowledge it was to be our lunch break, a fantastic twenty miles from the start.

"Where's Paul Yates?" "Paul who?" "Is he supposed to be with us then?" "Yes down at the mill somewhere!" "Come on then Dean (Tick-Tick) Hutt."

Off we went flat, having unloaded my bonk bag on Heather Reeves, who so gracefully offered to carry it to the restaurant at least a hundred yards from where we were standing. While Dean and I thrashed our way towards Upper Beeding looking for the unidentified flying object with a distinguishing haircut (or lack of it ).

With nothing in sight, only an empty road and Dean half a mile further back carefully measuring the course, I decided to retrace picking up my partner on the way and dropping him on the final climb back to the restaurant, just to make sure he was ready for his food. Back at the Ranch the second course was in motion, with everybody sitting at one long dining table.

At about 2 p.m. our wheels were rolling towards the hostel on the outskirts at Arundel. A quiet hour passed with no particular incidents occurring, only the beautiful weather and countryside to enjoy, until a weird object sitting on the right hand side of the road was spotted as it rose to it's feet. "'Ere that's Brian Phillips!" said Richard Woodward (Callan for short). "Oh! is he coming as well?"

He had just hopped off from school somewhere near Lancing, deciding to run into us somewhere near Lancing, stripped down with the smallest amount of baggage of all.

At around 4 p.m. a devious route was taken across the South Downs Way, with bikes in one hand and walking sticks in the other. With no shoeplates left, we were back on the road again, with only a mile or two to go. Ambling by a bus shelter with a bike holding it up, a groan came forth.

"Is it?" "It must be. It is!!" "Hello, where have you been?" "I've been here all day!"

At last everybody had arrived, it had only taken us 7 hours. After a fairly peaceful night, having had a few drinks at the local hotel in Arundel, we were getting ready for bed (in a men only dormitory!). Crash, in comes Paul with his protégé, Brian, having sampled further refreshment across the road, accompanied by a 'Halt at Major Road Ahead' sign and a bollard for company.

"Dean turn that light out!" shouted his father John from the far corner.

How did he get near the light switch?

Sunday dawned, another beautiful morning after a week of doubtful weather. This was quite remarkable. I didn't know that in hostel life you have to do a chore, and ours was to sweep the dormitory and do the washing up - not just our lot, but everybody's (not quite so funny).

By 10 a.m. meandering around Arundel when a cyclist came tearing down the High Street, with shorts on and a number on his back. Funny, must be a race or something. Eleven in all came through while Val busily occupied herself changing tyres. A quick look at the bird life on the pond; they can all swim you know, and away past the Black Rabbit (unfortunately closed) to the banks of the River Arun, where we were forced to walk along the towpath, with the going extremely good to soft. I came to the conclusion that mudguards are fine until you ride through MUD when they become firmly blocked up. Rainguards are alright but mudguards are useless. "I'll have to buy myself some rainguards!"

After an exhausting plod over stiles and various other oddments, lunchtime had arrived at precisely the same time as the Public House.

With two old Landlords. One a lady.

"What have you got to eat?" "Bread and cheese!"

"O.K. fifteen bread and cheeses please!"

With her blood pressure gradually rising, John Hutt entered. "What have you got to eat, Dear?" "Are you in a hurry or something?" "Yes, I'm bloody starving."

Friendly people, these tourists with rainguards.

Having satisfied ourselves in more than one way, it was decided to split up. The adventuresome This way and the shattered That way.

I was with the fast group being the tandem, Brian, Dean, John and myself, stopping at practically every junction to consult the map; ask the local peasants; a quick check with the compass, watch, stars and the wind before we could make another move. "It's up to

you Steve. If you want to carry on regardlessly, you're quite welcome, but I don't fancy spending the night at Portsmouth."

We managed to control ourselves all the way to Cowfold, where afternoon tea was enjoyed with some sort of pancakes and an everlasting teapot. Back on the road again, it was cheerio to Brian, who had to get back to school.

"At 3.30 p.m. on a Sunday. Funny school that must be. Do you know, he even sleeps there!"

With the remaining five, Handcross was our next landmark, with a call of nature on the way. That tea was nice! From here it was downhill all the way, with the pace gradually picking up all the way to Turners Hill, where Dean said to me, "I think my legs are going." John's had already gone (it's the saddlebag you know).

Down to the magnificent three, The Tandem and I with the Dukes Head Roundabout looming in front with one startled driver who only just got out of our way in time as we thrashed towards the Mormon Temple, where our partnership was to end for the weekend. A gradual whittling down process on the way back, but just the opposite on the way out.

On the whole a great weekend, with some new ground covered. "I've still got some of it on my rainguards now."

Steve Hepplethwaite  
East Grinstead C.C.

## HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS C.C.

The end of the summer saw mixed fortune being enjoyed, or rather endured, by our racing team, although from a series of D.N.S.'s, D.N.F's, fallings off and blowing up, a few bright spots shine out. The E.S.C.A. '50' provided a few surprises for us - Maurice managed 4th place, 3rd handicap and 1st vet., Martin did a very praiseworthy 2.23.32, Tim finished with a creditable 2.29.40 and Terry did 2.31.24. In the E.S.C.A. '25' Tim deservedly won the 1st handicap with a two minute improvement to 1.8.29, with Stephen, our only other finisher, recording 1.11.15. The following week, Tim was 2nd fastest Juvenile in the K.C.A. '25' on Romney Marsh.

On the last Sunday in October, twelve people set off on our 50 in 4 trial. At the end of the madcap dash to Ringmer and back, only one person failed to report to the timekeeper within the allotted time. He was a member of 'another club', and succumbed to the siren lure of home as he rode through Sidley. Dave and Audrey even had time to partake of a mini-banquet which they produced from their saddlebag and ate in a bus shelter. Robin Peters made one of his rare appearances, and rode round in fine style. This was David Kitching's ("no relation" he laments), introduction to our way of club life; he and his wife Jennifer have joined us from the Hillingdon C.C., and we are very pleased to welcome them.

At our A.G.M. in mid-November, there was little change in the hierarchy. A few minutes aberration were sufficient to see Esther elected President for 1978. Martin has taken over from Dave Morris as Runs Captain, and Ron Longley and David have been added to the committee. We decided to introduce a new category of membership - it was agreed that O.A.P's. should pay the same reduced membership subscription as the juniors. So far, the expected hordes of senior citizens, brandishing their pension books and demanding membership, have not materialised, but when word gets round, who knows what may happen!

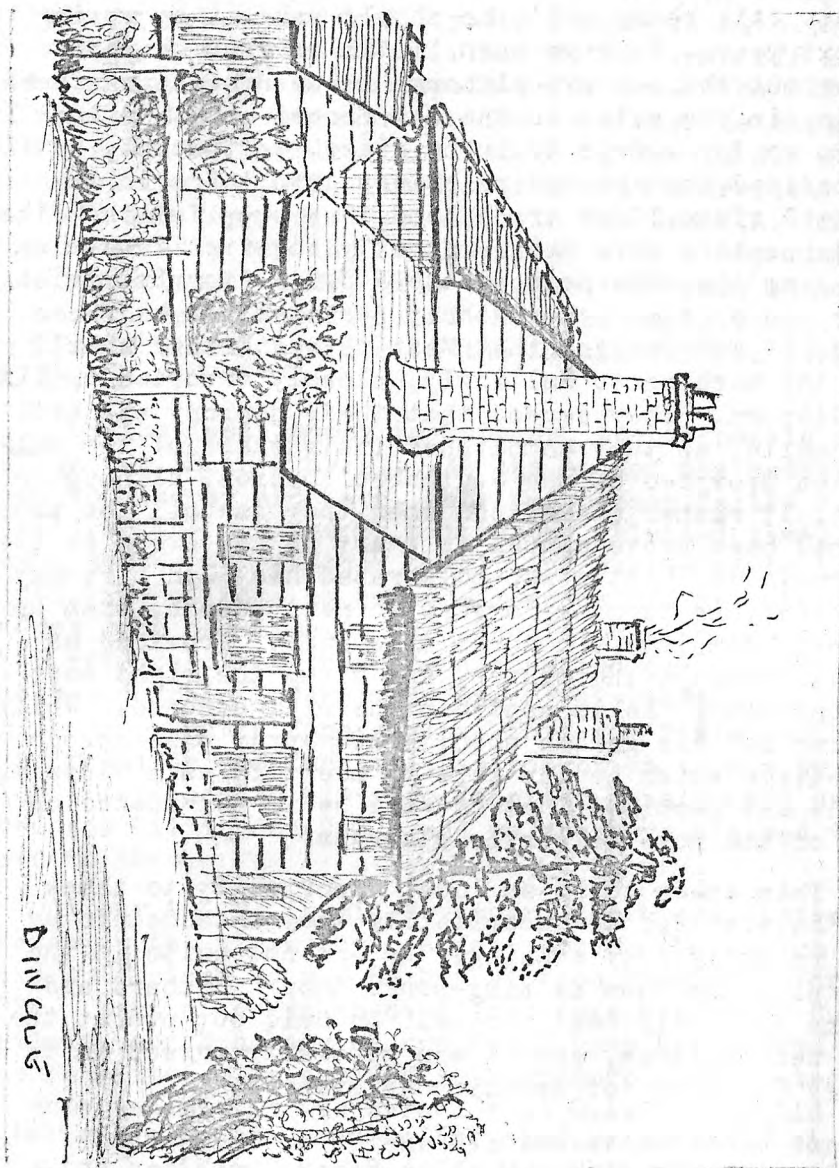
At the moment we are all on tenterhooks for Ted Coussens, who only needs to ride just over 1,000 miles to achieve his ambition or reaching his 400,000 mile target. All being well, he should make it by spring of next year. We have seen little of John Lawrence throughout the summer, although he assures he has been getting in the miles in the New Forest area. A long way to go for secret training rides, we thought, until he confided that he had relatives down there in the licensed victuallers trade, and they supplied the digs. The Carpenters gave their recently acquired tandem an airing on the afternoon of the E.S.C.A. tourist trial. After one or two rather wobbly permutations had been tried, it was decided that Maurice and Esther should ride the machine to Hellingly, closely escorted by Tim and Stephen. They agreed that their journey was well worthwhile, as they demolished their share of the splendid tea provided by the Southboro' Ladies, although they felt rather shamefaced when they saw all the people who had been brave enough to start in the event in the morning. Guy Little who celebrated his 70th birthday this year, is looking forward to next season, when he hopes to complete a hundred mile ride. Provided he can get through the winter, and given the right sort of conditions, he is confident he will succeed. Whilst tidying out his garden shed, Ernie Spray came across an article which he was able to identify as a bicycle, and he has promised that he will be in attendance on some of the more leisurely clubruns!

This seems to be an ideal opportunity to thank the 'Rovers' for the hospitality they extended to us on a recent Monday evening. We are not quite in the same class as them at ping-pong, though Richard and Joanne did their best for us. We held our own at the more sedate games, and it was generally agreed to be a very jolly way of spending an evening.

As I seemed to have filled my quota of space, it remains only to wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year.

As ever,

Ragged Shorts



## EASTBOURNE ROVERS C.C.

Opening a very bleary eye on the "morning after" (having been to our first social event of the year, the East Surrey R.C. dinner!(Quiet 'do')!) I look at the calendar and find "Bonk Deadline" staring up at me, so I had better put fingers to typewriter and submit something.

Well how better to start than by sending all Escabods greetings from a very wind-swept and rain sodden "Suntrap of the South". I must also thank Mrs. Editor for writing our last lot of notes in the absence of a Rovers Bonk Reporter, and may I say that she did a splendid job. (Pause for first black coffee!! Ah that's better!)

Quite a lot has been happening in the Rovers, first and foremost being our change of Club Secretary. This position has been filled by Doug Roberts of 65 Victoria Road, Polegate, telephone Polegate 2251. Doug has certainly taken over the job with great enthusiasm, and I'm sure he won't be able to relinquish his post at the forthcoming A.G.M.

Our clubroom is now well supported, with members taking part in games of table tennis and darts, and we would extend a welcome to any cyclist who is near Stone Cross Memorial Hall on a Monday evening between 8 p.m. and 10.30 p.m. Tea is served at 9 p.m. so do come along and join us. We did in fact entertain the Hastings & St. Leonards 'lot' last Monday, and challenged them to games of table tennis, darts and shove-halfpenny, and at the end of the evening we came out pretty evenly matched, with 'them' winning the darts, 'us' the table tennis, and all even in the shove-halfpenny. (Another pause for headache tablets!)

Rovers clubruns have now been resurrected (I was supposed to participate this morning!) and these take the form of a Sunday morning run starting at the Polegate Shopping Precinct at 9 a.m. with riders returning home in time for 1 o'clock lunch. These runs are proving popular with a lot of members, especially the

ones with non-cycling families. Many of our 'come-back' men take part in these runs, but two at least seem rather rusty on their directions. The first mistake was made by Stu Greenway, who on returning home from the E.S.C.A. hillclimb took a wrong turning, and did a few miles 'northwards' before he managed to right himself. A couple of weeks later, Dave Dunbar, who had of course laughed at Stu, did the self same thing. With his wife away he had the job of cooking Sunday lunch, so he left the clubrun at Cross in Hand to get home early, but he went wrong and came out at Golden Cross instead of Horam, so he probably didn't get home before the others! Another man making a 'come-back' to clubruns is Deryk Greenway, who says his last time out on a bike was early 1946!! He is yet another to start cycling because his son is interested. A now familiar face in this area, Dave Carter (34th Nomads) came out a couple of Sundays ago, and he pushed young Stephen so well up hill, that they both dropped the rest. It was also nice to see Marion Hayday out with us whilst visiting Eastbourne from Portchester.

The first 'social' event for the Club was a trip organised by Stu Greenway to the Skol 6. A 42 seater coach left our President's home in Eastbourne on Saturday afternoon, and after stops at Hailsham and Uckfield was filled with club members, who I understand had a great evening at Wembley. They got back to Eastbourne at about 4 a.m. but much to the amazement of many, they started the E.S.C.A. 25 at 8 a.m. the same morning. (A further pause for yet another coffee!!!)

Many members took late holidays this year, with Graham and Jane and family visiting their 'second' home in Street, Somerset, where quite a lot of cycling was done. Pam and John Dutson had a camping and touring holiday in late September in Dorset, where they did quite a lot of walking. However, the lazy lot did not turn out in the wind and the rain to watch Graham ride an extremely wet Southampton Wheelers '50', but have since said that on hearing the wind and rain stayed in their nice warm beds!

Our mobile jumble sale, George Dicks, would like it known that his car does not rattle any more as at great expense and much toil he has put a new engine in it, but it is still as dirty as it was. He has even had to take the back seat out to get more stuff in, so he can only take one passenger!

Of our other members I cannot search out any lurid details. On asking them what they are doing I am told "just general riding", "working", attending Scout conferences", "keeping bees" or "catching up with the decorating". Ray Gearing made a spectacle of himself recently, however, by riding into the car in front of him whilst watching in amazement as an ambulance went round a roundabout the wrong way. No he didn't end up in that ambulance! Stan Nash was amazed to find that his 'old' bicycle had been vandalised whilst he was sitting on the beach at Seaford. As he says though, he can only feel very sorry for someone who has nothing better to do than remove his lights and his pump, let his tyres down and then buckle his front wheel enough that he couldn't ride it home! He had to leave the machine at a nearby house and complete his journey home by bus.

On a sad note we are going to lose one of our lady members, Pat Pearson, who made a good come-back this year after 20 years. She is going to move down to live in Cornwall the week after Christmas, so we would wish her all good fortune and happiness in the West Country. (Still as Graham Lade said "Cor, we've now got digs in Cornwall!!!")

Again on a serious note we were very sorry to hear that Harold "Whippet" Manser is in the Eastbourne Intensive Care Unit after collapsing from a possible heart attack. He is however due out in two days time, and we would wish him all the best for a complete recovery.

Looking to the future our Club A.G.M. will be held on December 5th, and our Annual Dinner/Dance will be on 21st January 1978. We are also promoting a Time Trial on Christmas morning, which will start at the Stone



Cross Memorial Hall at 11 a.m. The distance is approximately 9 miles, and by great demand the event will be in fancy dress. However, we hope it will not put those off who don't wish to make fools of themselves, as they can ride in normal attire.

Well I had better stop now as I have exhausted my supply of words and coffee! Having got this mammoth job out of the way for the first (and I hope last) time I shall crawl back to bed and await the arrival of my beloved from the clubrun.

We in the Rovers wish all Escabods a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous and 'Fast' 1978.

Yours, 'til someone else wants the job,

Geranibum

## SUSSEX CYCLING CROSSWORD

By Ian Landless



Dear Sir/Madam,

Reading the letter in the last BONK from George Dicks inevitably brought to mind a certain notorious vehicle in ESCA annals, GJK 268. While going some way to being compared to the latter, I would suggest that the Dick's conveyance has hardly got off the ground, metaphorically speaking, if it seriously intends to challenge the formidable record of the original "Sharpmobile".

A glance through past BONKS reveals a hilarious catalogue of incidents connected with that never-to-be-forgotten heap, from the fossilised tomato found sprouting like a toadstool under the seat, to the supreme accolade of a threatening letter from the Seaford Council saying that if the abandoned(!) vehicle was not removed from their car park by the owner, they would perform the distasteful task and render the appropriate bill. It need hardly be added that the said vehicle was in fact in use at the time - it just so happened that its ramshackle appearance deceived the Council snooper!

Photographs were taken of it; poems were written about it; and there was even an unconfirmed report that a lady approached it with a bag of rubbish in the mistaken belief that it was substituting for the local dustcart.

And so, George, it looks as if you've got a long way to go before your transportational deficiencies can bear comparison with what has gone before. Still, keep working at it and bear in mind the fact that records of all sorts are made to be broken.

Best of luck for the future.

Wellwisher

JUMBLED JOTTINGS

Lewes Wanderers rider, Nick Bradshaw, had a burglary the day he went on holiday - he now swears that the burglar is sending him food parcels because there was so little in the house.

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Who is the tall, confident, young Wanderer who said to Brian Wilkins, "If that old man does a 23 '10' before me I will give you £1."?

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Rumour has it that Geoff Boxall is intending to make a racing comeback, and has engaged the services of a Crowborough rider to provide the back wheel after school. An ex-Crawley rider now living at Crowborough said, "He's never unfit, all the half-wheeling he does up hill on clubruns, etc., etc."

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The following remarks were overheard by our Crawley correspondent, the first, at a committee meeting was, "Mine don't swell like that when I soak them."!! You may well ask, as he did, "What?" It transpired that the subject under discussion was prunes in a jar. The second remark was made during a conversation between a lady member and a Veteran. "I hear you've got a big one Dave, can we go out and have a look at it?" They were discussing chainrings and gears.

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During the summer Malcom Pink discovered he'd been riding odd cranks for the past four years, one being an inch longer than the other. Evening them up didn't make him go any faster however, and he is still Crawley Chainwheel Creek Champion.