

SUMMER 78



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL

**East Sussex
Cycling Association**

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

PRICE

10p

EAST SUSSEX CYCLING ASSOCIATION

-oooOooo-

New Series No. 6

Summer 1978

President: Charlie Lednor

Secretary & Treasurer: Roy Humphrey, 4 Ebenezer Cottages, Framfield, Uckfield. TN22 5NR

Editors: Maurice & Esther Carpenter. 10 Maplehurst Road, St. Leonards on Sea, Sussex.

EDITORIAL

Once again the time has come to produce this review of East Sussex cycling activity. All Clubs seem to be enjoying increased membership, and some ambitious promotions have been undertaken. At this time of the year racing news takes precedence, but we mustn't forget that without marshalls and backroom helpers there would be no racing, and thanks are due to them. Memories of Easter, in particular, are of soggy figures in the Crawley events, and Tony Peachey timekeeping for two hours in the Gemini '10s', before going off for his own ride. If the young riders entering our sport can be encouraged to put that amount of service back into it, we need have no fears for the future.

Maurice & Esther

EASTBOURNE ROVERS C.C.

The first point I have been asked to make is that the Club dinner will be on Saturday 11th November at the Eastbourne Motel. For a change the date has been moved to before Christmas, and you are all asked to note the date in your diaries. On 20th January of next year we shall be holding a Club social and buffet. There's nothing like planning ahead!

Calling all wheeled brethren! Everyone is welcome to call in at our clubroom on a Monday evening, 8-10.30 (except Bank Holidays), for a cuppa and a chat while out training, etc. It is situated at Stone Cross Hall, two miles east of Polegate.

Our Club evening '10's' have attracted record entries, averaging twenty five riders, and anyone is invited to ride. Start on Pevensey Marsh, A259, 7.30 p.m. on Tuesdays until the end of August.

Stu Greenway is organising the London South D.C. final of the G.H.S. '10' competition on 15th July. Entries close on 28th June, and schoolboys in the district are urged to enter. Does GHS stand for 'Go home smashed'?

We note some meritorious performances on the racing front. Andy Leach again forged ahead in the Track Championships by winning the Handicap event at the Brighton Festival Meeting, and Cliff Sharp at last beat the 59-minute barrier for the Arundel course in winning the Worthing '25' in 58.48. When Richard Shipton finished in 59.11 he felt quietly confident he would beat Cliff, but the £15 prize for top spot was denied him.

Ken Griffiths and Doug Roberts made a team for the Medway Velo '25', whose combined ages total 111, and they recorded 1.10.00. Doug complained that if Ken had shoved they might have done a '9'. Junior Mark Bergin improved by four minutes to 1.6.36 and Doug has done his best time for five years, 1.9.56, Stu thinks his time of 1.8.9 is a personal best, but he is not sure; all he can remember about his previous

best is that he did it in 1947.

People seem to be exceedingly rich recently. Mark Bergin is now the proud owner of a gleaming new blue Phoenix track bike, from John Pratt's new shop in Eastbourne. Price £240. And last weekend Pete Coles travelled over 500 miles by car to do 50 miles racing on his bike. Travel cost approx. £18. Stu and family went for a fortnights holiday in Spain and Stan Nash is currently spending two weeks sunbathing in Yugoslavia.

George Dick's car is yet again in trouble. Or so we think. After two punctures and one door having fallen off, he now leaves the bonnet up during the evening '10's'.

Amidst the talk about the bad surface at Preston Park, Jon Cooper, in his first ride as a senior, hit the railings, bounced back onto the track, and wrote off his track iron, losing some skin into the bargain. Was this a private demonstration against the state of the track, or didn't he know you go round faster if you avoid the railings? Asked if the track machine is a write-off, a spokesman said: "Well, unless you can find someone with 12" wheels.." Quite.

Club President Ted Godden recently retired from his job as a wood machinist, and he now takes advantage of the extra time to go out on his bike. In his busy working life he spent several years as a universal miller and jig-borer. Imagine filling that in on forms. His firm gave him a send-off ceremony which was reported in the local paper. Evoking memories of bygone cycling days he said: "We used to go for our evening ride, and towards the end of the evening we'd sit by the hedge and wait for the South-down bus to come along, then tuck in behind it all the way home." He is quick to point out, though, that they didn't go quite so fast in those days.

Gavin

BRIGHTON MITRE

Perhaps at last the cycling boom that the previous Editor was looking for is now approaching, out at weekends, usually motorised, we see more and more cyclists on the move. I was agreeably surprised with the entry for the spring '10' and '25', which was 20% up on last year. In fact if everyone who entered the '10' had also entered the '25' we would have had a full field. Perhaps next year.

Club support has also been increasing, our membership, I believe, is now over sixty (numbers, not age), with good representation at all branches of the sport.

High spot so far is Clive Oxborrow's selection for the Peace Race, I cannot remember another Sussex rider gaining full international selection since the war. Club road racing strength has been reinforced by the addition of George Matthews, who alas, is soon to leave us for South Africa, and Christer Jonsson from Sweden who is studying at Sussex University.

Clive and George, together with Ray Smith and Don Awcock, formed the Sussex team for the Three Day event at Girvan at Easter. Diabolical weather caused Ray and Don to retire, but some excellent riding by Clive, in 6th place overall, and George, 20th, should ensure another invite next year. Clive, George and Ray have all had wins this year, the second echelon of road racers have not yet produced anything startling, Baz Abbo, Martin Butcher and Barry Coomber have been competing regularly.

On the time trial front, Mark Panton has collected some junior placings in the '10's', but apart from some early season flourishes from Jumbo we did not have any notable successes until our clean-up in the ESCA '10'. Club events have been fairly well supported. Club '10's' have been moved to the Lewes-Newhaven road as an experiment, and a field of twenty for the first event was fairly encouraging. My poor old legs found the hills a bit steep, but the rest of the field seemed to cope.

Socially, a Club lunch at Ringmer after the ESCA two-up was well supported, and our first tourist trial is due to take place on the 28th May, so beware of lost Mitre members in the depths of East Sussex on that day.

Our spring jumble sale produced a profit of £76 to add to Club funds, which will be needed as hopes of a sponsor for our June 11th Track meeting fell by the wayside. Good work by Peter Panton and Peter Taylor raised prize money for the Hove Park Kermesse on June 18th, another first try this year.

On the comeback front Bob Bicknell, who qualified for the GHS final in the same year as Terry Leach, and retired soon after, has reappeared on the scene, together with Graham Charlton and Dave Best (again, again).

The track season has got off to a good start with entries well up on last year. We now have seventeen members riding the track, not counting schoolboys.

As promotor for the first S.C.R.L. meetings, I was agreeably surprised to have the problem of sorting out excess entries over the track limit set by the Division Committee, and full fields seem to be the order of the day, with increased representation from Central Sussex, Eastbourne Rovers and Worthing Excelsior.

The first of the Division Championships have passed bringing reasonably good fortune. George winning the Senior Road Race after Ray and Christer had both retired with mechanical trouble, and Stephen Harkness being second to Sean Yates in the Junior. Terry Putock gained third place in the Schoolboys Championship at Crystal Palace, so at least we have a full set. Nick Lelliott outclassed the opposition in the pursuit, we had to be content with second and third from George and Steve.

That's all for now.

Ken

LEWES WANDERERS C.C.

"Oh to be in England now that April's here" wrote the poet, but had he, like the rest of us, just survived the coldest April on record he would surely have put the accent on the first word.

However, despite conditions that brought tears to the eyes of brass monkeys most of our racing strength were out and about and commenced their usual assault on the tarmac in the Hardriders, when three hardy souls took on the combined weight of ESCALand. Hopes of social season decadence among the latter were rudely shattered when Nick Lelliott smashed the course record with 39.9, and started what all agree is the comeback of the age after having been written off with back trouble six years ago. Second claimer, Don Hook, was our best in 44.40, with John Honeyball a further 43 seconds back, and Copper at 3 minutes, as he said "Just stretching the old legs". Ian Burgess did 27.21 in the Central Hilly '10', while Kieran O'Brien trampled round the spiky '25' course in a 9 with John 1½ minutes back, and the Copper on a 15. However they all had to take a back seat to Ken Stevens in the Lewes/Newhaven when he hared round in a 35, with Ian Burgess second in a 37. On Easter Monday our fair name graced the Bishops Stortford Hilly '27', with Ian Burgess getting round in a 19, with Dad at 8 minutes, and doubtless feeling chuffed at having walloped Kieron and John by nearly 1 and 2 minutes respectively. The ESCA two-up junior '24' saw Ian Burgess and Giles Ree getting third with a 3, while John and Kieron managed ninth in the senior '29' with a 15. Ken and Iris did a 17, thereby rocking the Copper and Ian Landless who found they'd been gazumped by 12 seconds. In the S.C.A. two-up Ken and the Copper did a 2, but were run pretty close by Ian Burgess and Giles who hammered out a 3 and put the likes of Burberry and Landless and John and Kieron in the shade. Iris teamed with Brian Samworth and they did a 9.

No Club rider entered the Circuit of Glydebourne R.R. (where the "Great White Chief" had to stop and lecture the riders), but in the next day's

E.G. '25' they were out in force. Then came the ESCA '10' where Ken shot round in 24.9, Ian Burgess 25.45, beating a gaggle of 26's and 27's, among the latter being Geoff Boxall who implemented his threatened comeback. Iris did 29.2 and thereby demoralized the gentleman known as "Zonca", by 53 seconds. He said afterwards that he felt "well and truly Zonked!". Next morning's '25' had thirteen of our elite on what proved to be a cold and wet morning. Kieron was best with a 7, beating John by a minute and Ian Burgess by 2. In this event the Copper suffered two 'kippers' before the turn and had to be ignominiously carted back by car, the Dicker community doubtless receiving the full force of his ruminations on the subject! The SCA Team Championship came next and we had the pleasure of seeing our name at the top of the pile with a 3 from Ken, and that, together with 7s from Kieron and John gave us fourth team. Ken tore round the 'staple-shaped' Club '30' course in a 16.39, the fastest time for many years, and was nearly 5 minutes for John, with the others in limbo. The same day saw some bad luck for Ian Burgess in the Division Junior R.R. Championship when he cramped up on the last hill whilst going well. Kieron and the Copper finished in the Senior grind, the latter a lap down but determined not to miss a good training opportunity - he said! It must have done them a bit of good as they both did 2s in the next weekend's Met. Police '25', following this with Kieron doing a 3.16 and the Copper 3.28 in the next day's Redmon Hilly '73', John being sandwiched between 'em with a 3.23. In addition our mob have been able to keep their muscles flexed in the evening '10s' that started in early May, so they can't complain about lack of racing!!

One name missing from all this feverish activity is Ken Savage who received the usual "knocking up from hibernation" visit but must have gone back into his warren as he hasn't been seen since. Steps will have to be taken to unearth him if he doesn't show up soon! Agg made a brief appearance at the clubroom

(someone remarked "I suppose he wanted something urgently!"), but has shown a marked disinclination to return to competition - possibly the thought of being pulverised by a fit Iris is too much for him!

Re the diary that Iris gave your scribe at the Dinner - he soon found that it was not a current one, but dated from 1975. She explained this by saying that she thought a current one would prove too great a shock to the system; perhaps she thought it might bring on 'diary-a'!

Anyone willing to create a mischief should make a point of asking Ian Landless what it feels like to turn up at an event with the bike locked in the boot and no key to get it out. Well, it takes all sorts, doesn't it?.....

People complaining that they can never contact Jack 'Goldmine' at his Hove address aren't "with it" as they evidently need to be told that he spends most of his time at Seaford. Those who were at the Dinner, and more recently the Division R.R. Champs., won't be long in guessing why! He'll have to put Rosalind on a bike.

With near capacity fields in recent Sussex events, and reports of Club memberships rising, it looks as if the sport is on a healthy kick despite the foul Spring and, so far, indifferent Summer. This is a good trend that we must do our best to maintain for everyone's sake, so ta bikeriding to the unconverted and somewhere among the strange looks and mumbles that it's "too hard" you could unearth a future clubman or, better still, clubgirl (!) of some worth.

Finally your scribe bows to the remarks of appreciation for last time's Irish joke to end all Irish jokes (it came from an old London tourist now living in the Forest of Dean) and wonders if you've heard about the Irish level-crossing keeper who only dropped one barrier because he was half expecting a train. Then there's the Irishman who gave up water polo because his horse got drowned, and final-

ly the Irish labourer who was found in the gutter at CROWBOROUGH with his wellingtons full of water. The local Constabulary concluded that someone had been trying to brainwash him.

Had enough? There's just time to put in what Jack said to Val Baxendine when he saw her new puppy: "Have you bought a black and white one because you thought the licence was cheaper?"

After that, it's time to go, so all the best to all the rest and keep churning the pedals.

Alsoran

All Wanderers and many Sussex cyclists will be sorry to hear of the sudden death on May 22nd, of our 1978 President, Reg Eldridge.

Reg had a long and honourable career in the Lewes Club dating back to the late 20s, first as a racing man and then, when the Club was reconstituted in 1950, as a most conscientious Treasurer and Timekeeper until he retired in 1967.

He was persuaded to take the President's office as a mark of respect for all he had done for the Club over such a long period, and when he officiated at the 1977 Club Dinner those who knew him felt that in the ensuing decade since we had seen him last his appearance had hardly changed. A lifelong bachelor, he was in his seventies and leaves a brother, and also a sister with whom he lived. Our sympathy is extended to them in their bereavement.

CENTRAL SUSSEX C.C.

After letting my stand-in have her moment of glory writing the last lot of 'BONK' notes, I can only say that the time has come round again much too quickly, and it's here we go again.....

This is the time of year when members can test all those thousands of miles and idle boasts and be judged by results only.

Highlight of our early season were the Club Open hilly events. This year the course was once again revamped to cope with problems at the Crawley end, and also to enable the use of the Clubroom in Staplefield, which, if not as unique as the Scout Hut at Balcombe certainly offers an easier task to the teamakers.

The weather Gods were kind this time and we were blessed with warm sunshine. Added to this, an entry from King Alf added more than a little extra interest to the field. Clive Oxborrow won in 1.0.48, which was event record, Alf did 1.1.2 after slipping off course for a few seconds. Club best was Don Awcock, 1.1.53, in third place. He was supported by Ade Jones, 1.3.17; Paul Lipscombe, 1.4.16; Mark Jones, 1.5.18; George Windsor, 1.5.19, etc. etc., but unfortunately no permutation of these could beat the Brighton Mitre trio for the team prize. The Junior and Ladies '10' was won by Sean Yates in 24.27 which proves that the course can't be very 'Hilly', Craig Chalkley 28.23 and Steve Rann 28.31, were the best of the home produced rides. Everything seemed to go very well on the day and so perhaps both the course and the H.Q. will remain static for the next few years.

In the S.C.A. '25' Paul Lipscombe won in 1.3.27, Ade Jones 1.3.53 was second and with the addition of Graham Kerr, 1.7.15, took the team race. Easter weekend was it's usual remarkable self, with the bulk of the membership being employed in the novel Crawley two day, three event bash. The '25' on Friday must have been hard to say the least of it, but Ade Jones 1.4.6, Paul Lipscombe 1.4.26 and Mark Jones 1.5.22, laid a good foundation for a team win. Geoff Hoare

clocked 1.15.47 and was disgusted, Roy Jones 1.10.55 and Duncan Stewart 1.10.45. In the Hilly '44' the main team came up trumps with Paul, 1.52.15, third; Ade, 1.55.35 and Mark 1.57.35. This just left the Saturday afternoon '10', quite an ordinary event one would think, but this one was held in a gale of wind plus a hail and rain storm. However the team rode like men possessed. Paul won in 25.7, almost having the pleasure of catching Cliff Sharp on the line. Ade did 25.50 and Mark 28.5, sufficient to gain the overall team award. Paul was third overall, Ade sixth and Mark equal tenth.

On Good Friday four members made their way to Herne Hill for the track meeting only to meet four more members there, who also met four more members there, so it was declared an official clubrun.

The E.S.C.A. two-up was handled for the Association by John Dutson, and resulted in a collection of odd times, best of our bunch were Mark Puckett and Graham Kerr who were third with 1.11.38. Nice to see a collection of antique members and friends out for the event, just shows they will all come if you dig around a bit.

Brighton Mitre two-up was won by Paul and Ade in 1.0.10 a 2.48 beating of the next pair. They seem to be specialists at this sort of thing for they also claimed the S.C.A. two-up in 59.1. This event was unique for the reappearance of 'Young Thropp' all the way from Stockport. He tanked round with Ron Ewart in 1.9.20 and had enough breath to chat to all riders, marshalls, etc., on the way.

This more recent part of the season has shown a return to form of Tony Goodsell. Tony was injured in a road accident a couple of seasons ago and has had a hard and long haul back to his former fitness, but this year he had a real fling with times of 1.0.35 in the Counties '25', a 1.1.0 in the Poole Whs. event and a winning 1.2.1. in the Hampshire R.C. This last event was held on May Day in most unspringlike and windy weather, and Tony collected some good scalps, including Cliff Sharp. For comparison, times in the

same event were, Paul Lipscombe 1.4.16; Ron Ewart 1.10.43; Mark Atkins 1.11.23 and Tony Philpott 1.13.20.

The S.C.A. Team Championship was promoted by the Club once again in the person of Robin Maclagan and was a triumph for his organisation, even if the Electricity Board did conspire to stop us getting any hot water. The best laid plans of many Clubs came to naught in this event with people not starting or just starting late. In the end the Worthing Excelsior justly won both 'A' and 'B' teams, with the Central in runners-up spot both times.

Following an early morning and a long car chase Mark Atkins was fourth in the Divisional Schoolboys Road Race at Crystal Palace. Clive Richards was our other entry, but he packed when his bike began to shed bits and pieces. Just to keep up the placings Craig Chalkley was third in the Junior Road Race Championship in a bunch gallop which found Steve Rann in ninth spot, and Don A cock was third and Paul Lipscombe fourth in the Senior event. Paul was also King of the Mountains. The main sponsor for this event, in spite of the posh sounding name, turns out to be Michael Wren, our ex club twenty five mile record holder of a few years ago.

On the home front, Rod and Chris Laker now have another daughter, Karen, who is obviously destined to become Dad's training weight in years to come.

Lynn Ewart, Ron's eldest, and Colin Leigh have announced their engagement, thereby further cementing the Central/Mitre alliance - who said diplomatic attachments were out?

Our roving member in Brazil finally got his bike (see last edition). It was taken out at Easter to the new fangled capital of that country, lovingly put together, ridden to a Road Race and promptly pinched. Nick is not very amused, and there is talk of sending out the Copper on the next available flight.

Enough, it's all jumping up and down,

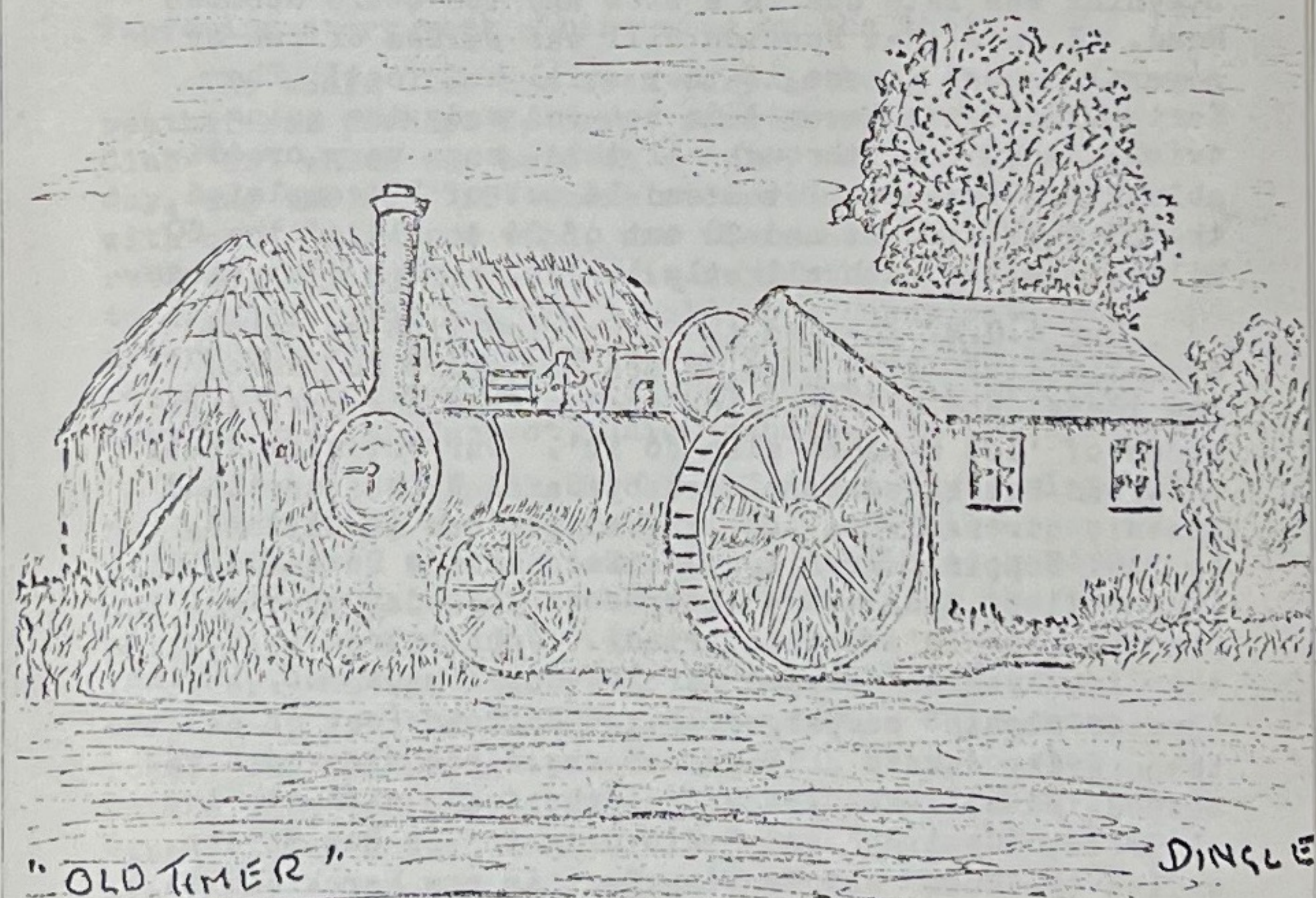
Honest Ginge.

STOP PRESS!

Mark A. has just taken £5 from Mum for beating her best '25' in the Worthing Excel. event, says "Makes up for losing pocket money at Christmas".

MORE STOP PRESS!

You should see the Palmer tandem..... a Roberts with everything. On it's first racing outing at Worthing with Les Shrubbs, John said that they rode it "like two cats in a bag". The mind boggles!



"OLD TIMER"

DINGLE

WESTERN REVIEW

The WECC was fairly well represented at the BECC slide show in February, where we were treated to a viewing of members slides, together with a personal commentary. This was followed by a teabreak (the bar upstairs was also heavily in demand and this must be where the Brighton get in their private 'training'). This in turn was followed by the traditional movie film specially hired for the occasion. Thanks Brighton.

Hot (or cold) on the films heels, came our Reliability Trial 12th Feb, and as those of you who rode will know, it was ridden in sub-zero temperatures, and the Steyning Bostal road was closed by snowdrifts!! The extreme weather (-10°C) probably stopped a lot of on-the-line entries, but the diehards and idiots turned up in an assortment of protective gear, to ride with stiff joints and frozen bearings. Our marshall at Steyning was late due to a snow and ice bound Coombes Road. I know that Duncton Hill was walked or run by several - just to see if they still had feet! The Eartham Road was covered in ice and made the going tricky - however, through all this, some very creditable rides were completed and 14 out of 17 completed the 25 mile circuit and 30 out of 34 completed the 60 mile circuit - both slightly longer through diversions.

Our A.G.M. changed the committee line-up quite dramatically. It's nice to see new faces and hence new ideas, and a refreshing change from the past attitudes of 'let someone else do it'. Our retiring Asst. Sec. Ian Reader was replaced by Sarah Webb (shorthand Queen), our retiring Asst. Treasurer Don (studying), by Paul Toppin. Evening 10's Sec. is now Dave Hudson (who will be pleased to see you on Thursday evenings now that the 10's have started). John Antram is now the Club Events Sec. and our new Road/Track Sec. is the 'junior rights' campaigner Nigel Burrows (out of action temporarily due to a large submerged pothole and a reshaped frame). The Press Sec. who deals with the local press, 'Cycling' and Radio Brighton is Roy Holden, whilst the Runs and Touring Sec. is now Derek Smith.

Numerous other 'new faces' were also elected for varying 'offices'. So we go into 1978 (Cycling Centenary Year), with a renewed front line. Incidentally Rick and Val of the BECC won the A.G.M. Fund Raising Draw. Congratulations.

RACING SCENE - Well, as you ESCAbods will already be aware, we at Worthing have a new 'force' - no, not from Star Wars - but a rider who goes by the name of Nick Lelliott. He left the Club 10 years ago as National Junior Champion, record breaker, and Olympic squad member. Now starting again - firstly on one of our evening runs, giving the juniors a run for their money on the Sompting/Steyning road - he now gives everyone a run, and a new time to beat! He broke the ESCA 16 miles Hardriders course record in a time of 39.09 to give Worthing the team award in 2.04.28. The Fareham Wheelers '10' was polished off in 22.28 on a borrowed track bike and the West Kent R.C. '25' was attacked in a time of 58.31. In all so far - and improving every week - nine wins on the trot.

The whole Club has been very active, although the weather has perhaps deterred some entries, i.e. the Club '25' which was held on a cold, wet and miserable day, and the SCA '25' where riders had to contend with cold, rain and wind, and where Richard Shipton retired, saying he could swim no further, having got to Arundel. The SCA '10', held on a sunny Saturday afternoon, saw 8 Worthing juniors and 10 Club seniors competing, and our Club produced the winner Richard Shipton and the fastest junior handicap in Colin Hardy.

On the 15th April, Nick well and truly christened his new bike in the Bognor Regis C.C. 10 mile open TT, with a time of 21.48 to win. Paul Toppin took 24.04 and Ray Douglass 26.54, which gave Worthing the team prize, and to Paul (17), a prize for the fastest under 18 rider. On the Sunday the individual time triallists coupled-up for the SCA 2-up '25', on the Chichester road. The following week in the Club Championship '25' on the same course, 14 riders crossed the finish line, winner Keith Dodman in 1.01.18, with juniors Paul Toppin 2nd in 1.04.38, and Duncan Waghorne 3rd in 1.06.30. Fastest handicap was Colin Miller with 58.22.

For the ESCA '10', eight members ventured up to East Hoathly, with our seniors and juveniles being represented. The following morning another eight surfaced for the ESCA '25', but weather conditions had deteriorated. Our own Graham Tooley took the fastest handicap prize with 1.06.37. On Saturday, 6th May the Excelsior's Annual Road Race was held on a circuit in the Thakeham area. Thirty four riders from south of England Clubs, including two from WECC took part in miserable cold and wet conditions. Twenty four completed the 60 mile course in 2.23.54. It was a bunch finish, with George Matthews of Brighton Mitre winning from J. Bisson (Archer/Cutty Sark), C. Bateman (Festival R.C.) and our Nick Lelliott who came fourth. The following Sunday was the SCA Team Championship '25' and WECC swept the board clean winning both the 'A' and 'B' team prizes. But not without effort - for Don Lock was down with a fever, and Nick's driver, Pete Reeves, overslept, Duncan Waghorne was suffering from concussion and Keith Norris went short at one turn. However Nick pulled himself together and rode from Rustington to the start at Cowfold. He finished the '25' with a '6' after a hectic weekend to take the 'A' team to victory.

Enough of that racing blurb and back to the Club... An Annual 'pastime' of ours is to enter the Worthing Adult Road Safety Quiz, held one evening in March, in the Worthing Town Hall. Under our organiser Alan Matthews, four teams of four members, including one all-girls team, met at the Gorden Rooms. We were asked questions regarding the Highway Code, Road Signs, and a faulty road layout model. Competing against eleven other teams, we failed to beat the Chichester Ist. of Advanced Motorists, the SAAB Drivers Club of Wessex and other I.A.M.'s, and were placed 8th, 12th, 13th and equal 14th. Next year we will take this 'pastime' a lot more seriously and smash the I.A.M.'s, taking the first six places (well that's the aim!!). The whole evening is a lighthearted affair; we watch

road safety films featuring such idiots as Reg Varney and mad motorway drivers and finish off the evening at the local hostelry - all good fun, but NOTHING to do with CYCLING!!

A handful of the Club joined BECC and stayed the weekend at a famous cycletourist's house in Gloucestershire during March. His name? - Neville Channin of course, and a very hospitable host so I understand. Touring in his local lanes, he was heard to voice a cheery greeting to all he passed, be it the postman, newsboys, gardeners, car washers or cyclists. All responded - this is the fun of cycling, so much intimate contact with the immediate surroundings.

Another venture in which our Club joined forces with the BECC was for the Bluebell Line Steam Railway tea. Here we all met at the station, eighteen from our Club and twenty from the Brighton, for a massive 'tea on the move' - a kind of 'meal on wheels'!! The weather couldn't have been better and many enjoyed a full day on the bikes, before making this their tea stop. Also on this day we visited the Horsham museum, for a special 'Cyclists only' showing of the Cycling Centenary Exhibition which was being held. Many old touring machines, maps and lamps were on display, together with Club badges, medals and certificates through the ages. As a special treat we were shown a trike that was undergoing restoration. It's wheels had double rims, the first hub being conventionally spoked, but the two rims connected with stiff springs, giving the rider of this solid tyred trike, at least some comfort.

The additional waste paper collection has borne fruit, in that the Clubroom now possesses a set of relatively quiet nylon rollers, which drain surplus energy from the youngsters and finds their weak tubs. The resulting loud explosion frightens off any of a nervous disposition and reduces the life expectancy of the remainder!

We were represented at the Chippenham Wheelers 'White Horse Weekend' 15th/16th April, and those

attending enjoyed a wonderful weekend awheel in gloriously hot weather, with a social evening on the Saturday. On the 30th April, another enjoyable day was spent attending the London and Home Counties 'Centenary Rally' at Godalming, when six members entered the spirit of Club life and joined approximately forty or fifty others on the run to Odiham. Other rides were organised to Windsor and Petworth.

Anyway, bye for now - more next issue.

WECCytor

HERE AND THERE

Hazel Whitehouse (Southboro' Whs.) tells us that she likes to tease her bottom with tiny new stinging nettles before the start of an event.

The Alice bands worn by Pete Wall and Alan Steinle, also of Southboro' Whs., are very fetching. Why not have them in Club colours?

Timekeeper Roy Humphrey, enlivened the Central Sussex Hilly event by setting fire to the grass verge when he dropped that pipe.

Some of his Sussex Nomads clubmates are spreading rumours that Geoff Boore is quite a nice chap really.

Robin Johnson tells us that it was nice to see Geoff Boore at the front of a bunch of riders in The East Grinstead '25' instead of his usual position at the back.

EAST GRINSTEAD CYCLING CLUB

Well, it's all happening as far as the racing side of things are concerned here at the E.G.C.C. with many of the Club members having been awakened early from their hibernation which usually finishes when the '10's' start in May, by Jim Powell, who has prematurely opened their eyes to other 'joys of cycling' such as marshalling, marshalling and marshalling. But really Jim has been very active in organising most of our events. On the 23rd April we promoted our 25 mile T.T. on the G833. One hundred and twenty riders competed and Jim decided to have a list of 30 prizes to give everyone an even chance of winning. The introduction of a 'lanterne rouge' onto the prize list brought out the best in many of our riders even though they knew it would be hard to win with riders like me around.

The Annual Road Race which was held on Sunday, 7th May, around the Dormans circuit went smoothly. The winner of the Junior event in the morning was Sean Yates of the Archer R.C., formerly a member of the E.G.C.C., and now heading for bigger things, which I understand include a trip over to Belgium to race, organised for him by the Archer R.C. I'm sure most of our members wish him the best of luck for the future. In the afternoon the senior event was held. Brian Phillips from our club and R. Cater, came 13th and 22nd respectively. On the 14th May, Trevor Budgen promoted the Sussex Road Race Championships - the winner of the Junior event was Sean Yates, and the winner of the Senior event, George Matthews of the Brighton Mitre.

On the social side of things, you may be interested to know that we have changed our Clubroom from the Hamster cage at East Court to the Village Hall at Felbridge. This change has proved very popular and on Fridays we can all be found down there playing darts and table tennis. Any visitors might care to join some of the braver members of the club in partaking of the coloured waters brewed by Val. I think she calls it a 'cup of char' or something like that.

Our Wednesday evening '10's' are now well under

way, and are proving to be an increasing attraction with up to twenty riders taking part. Terry Thorn and Jim Powell have been stirring it up with times of 22 minutes odd, and most of the younger lads have recorded personals, including Clifford Moore with a 33.58 an improvement of 7 minutes, and Dean Hutt did a 29.31 (must be due to his streamlined haircut).

Well all that remains now is for me to wish you all a speedy racing season and many an enjoyable club potter during the Summer.

John

GEORGE DICKS' HOMEMADE CIDER RECIPE

Take a large quantity of apples (condition immaterial) and place them on the floor in the rear of the car. Next fit as many of the local Cub Pack into the car as possible and go for a fast drive through the lanes. This should ensure a mash of just the right consistency.

Remove Cubs and leave the mixture to ferment.

Over the next few months it will be necessary to add water. This must be of the best quality puddle and farmyard type, and should enter through the badly fitting rear doors in long jets. The brew can, of course, be improved with the addition of the odd sandwich, newspaper, dead bird, fish, etc.

After about six months a suitable container should be left under the car at night. This is to ensure that as the brew rots through the floor it will filter into the container.

Store until the ESCA '100' and hand up to all competitors, or use it around the house instead of paint stripper.

Anon

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Editor,

As organiser of the 1977 Touring Competition I would like to apologise to Malcolm and the Crawley Wheelers for failing to provide them with an enjoyable day. His letter in the last 'BONK' poses many questions, some of which are not easily answered. "What is a tourist?" and following from that "what should a touring competition consist of?". There is no specific answer. The Oxford dictionary defines a tourist as one who makes a journey from place to place. Not a very precise definition on which to base a competition. In my view cycling offers a wide range of interests to the cyclist. He who likes to compete with others can test his prowess over fixed distances with the R.T.T.C. or the B.C.F. He can test his endurance by riding '12' or '24' hour events or stage races. Reliability rides give him a chance to compete with colleagues, without a B.C.F. licence, for fun. Sprinters have the track, rough stuff enthusiasts have cyclo-cross. This leaves the cyclist who enjoys finding his way from place to place and observing these places as he passes through. For him the C.T.C. and some Clubs or Associations promote a touring competition. Riders are judged not by their speed or stamina but by their ability to find a route, find a place on a map, observe those things about them that they pass during the ride and answer questions on the sort of general knowledge that a discerning tourist might have gathered by learning about those things he passes from day to day in cycling travels.

These competitions are not to everyones liking. It would be a pity, however, if people did not compete simply because they knew they wouldn't win. The same attitude in the racing world would destroy it! Those competitors who abandoned last year's event at lunchtime would probably be suprised to learn that two-thirds of the field lost their way or failed many of the questions. This did not depress them, indeed they laughed together and went on to enjoy the rest of

the day. To the Crawley I suggest that they give it another try but with a different frame of mind. "Six hours of plodding over forty miles....." could become forty miles of refreshing mental exercise with only six hours to do all that needs to be done!

The comment from the A.G.M. which prompted Malcolm's letter was a little hard. People ride what they want to ride and should not be forced into anything. An Association exists to provide what the members want as Malcolm rightly says but I think they DO want a touring competition. Twenty one riders finished and it's worth promoting for this number. After all it's the only non racing event we do promote.

Finally a word about the marshalls. They were just getting the idea. This year we hope they'll be there - competing.

Les Hayman.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Bonkers,

I was suprised to read the Crawley complaints on the tourist competition as voiced by Malcolm.

It is interesting to note the comment on the numbers of marshalls and helpers comes from a club that promotes on G.633. Having successfully negotiated that course, a mere tourist competition route should be chickenfeed.

Yours sincerely,

Weald Wheeler (Sarfbra).

Dear Ed.,

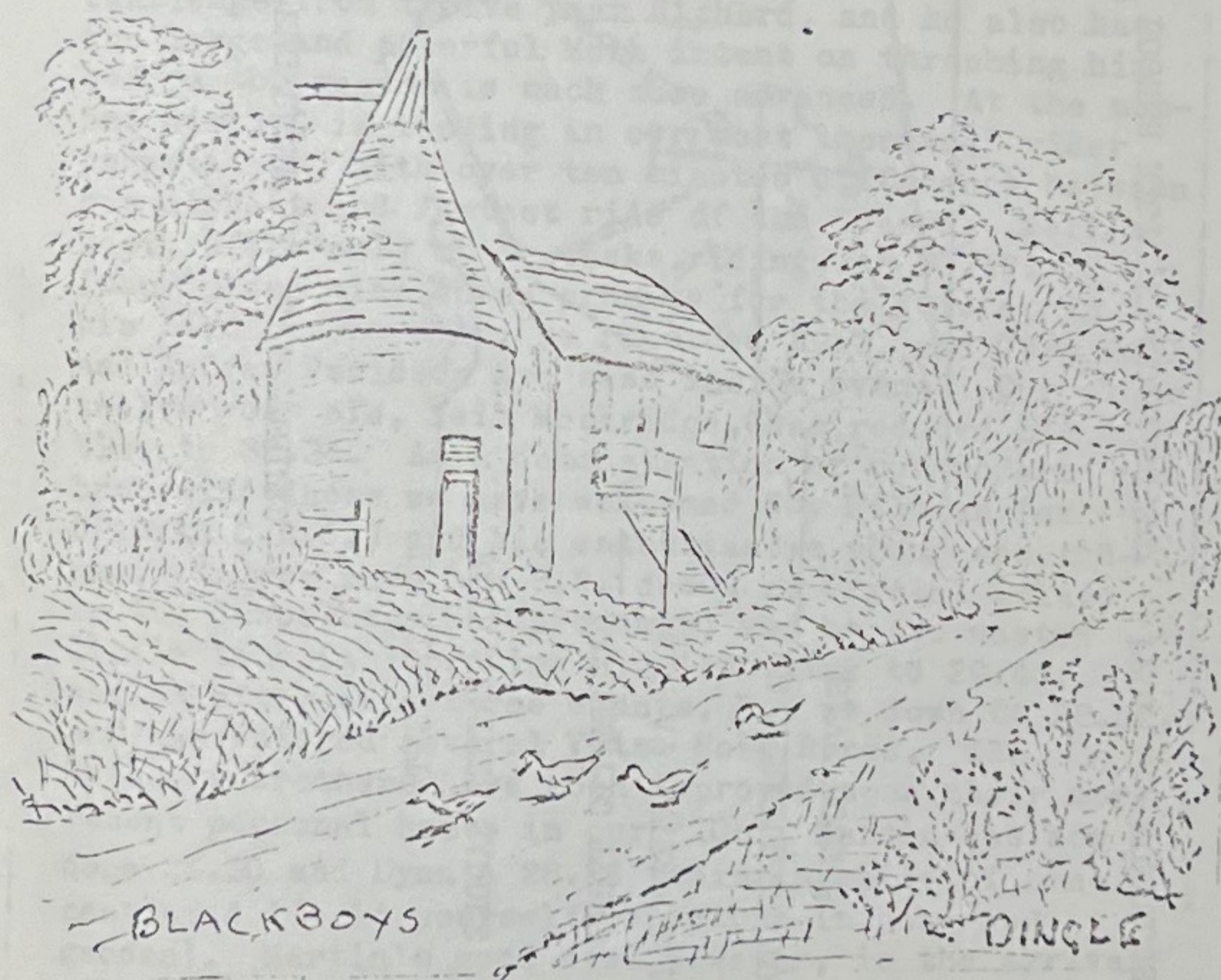
I find it hard to take Postmortum seriously and do not think much of their instinctive feelings at Sussex Nomads. How hypocritical can you get to talk about mergers and streamlining when they themselves have taken members from existing Clubs to form yet another outfit. Perhaps if the writer of this com-

ical article was to practice what he is preaching he might whip up a little sympathy. I am also happy to to sign my name to this letter scorning their 'news letter' only I would not call it NEWS.

Yours sincerely,

M. Pink.

Crawley Wheelers.



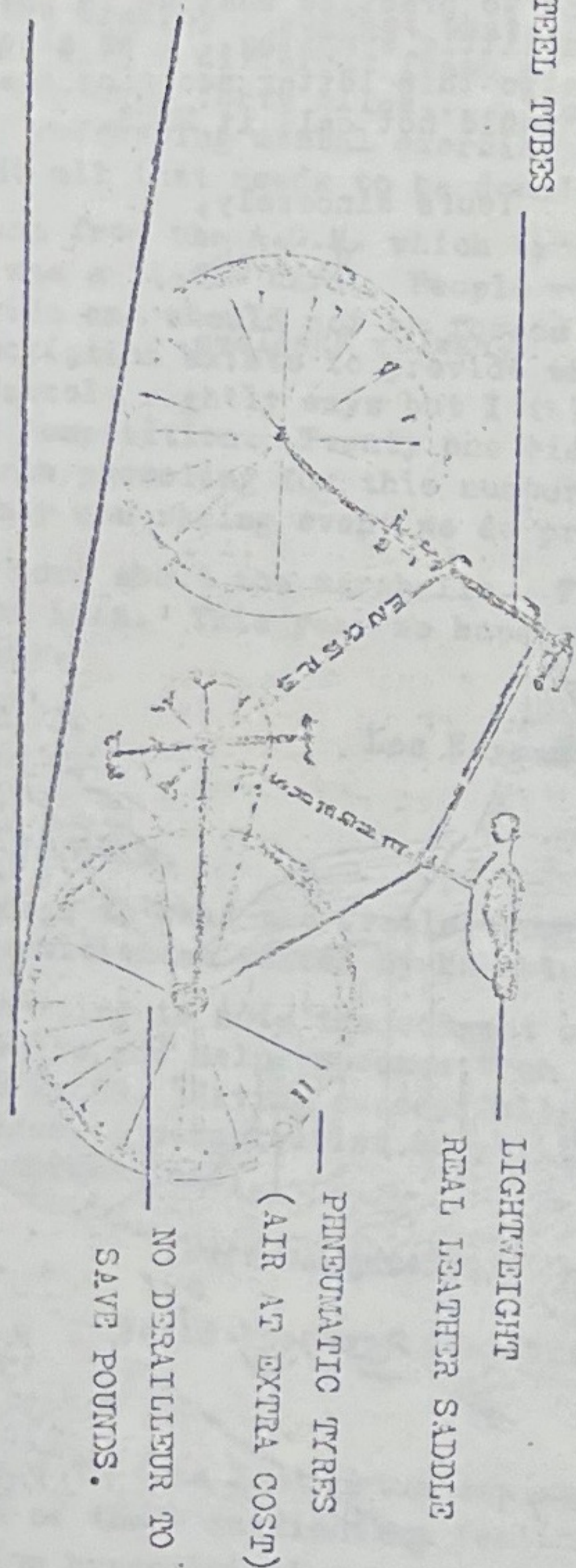
BLACKBOYS

DINGLE

HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS C.C.

Our activities have diversified somewhat over the past few months, with an influx of new members making our club life more interesting. The Longley family are probably the most complete cyclists in the Club, with Ron and Richard racing, Connie doing some timekeeping and Joanne some marshalling for us. Weekends find them awheel, together with cousin Mark, on their own private clubruns or enjoying a Youth Hostelling trip. Ron is beginning to show signs of neurosis, as demonstrated at a recent Wednesday evening '10' when he hurled his bike into the hedge BEFORE he started in the event. This is understandable, though, as he is trying to hold off a strong challenge from twelve year Richard, and he also has the large and powerful Mark intent on thrashing him before the season is much more advanced. At the moment Richard is leading in our 'most improved' rider competition, with over ten minutes difference between his slowest and fastest ride of the season. Mark's best, after only three weeks riding, is 30.47. John Spence also shows promise for the future, in his first event ever, he recorded 29.3, and Gary Hall and Andrew Davidson are also inside evens. Our other twelve year old, Neil Mockridge, has reduced his '10' time to 32.34. As a demonstration of our modern broadmindedness we have welcomed Roy Hillman (ex SPARTAN C.R.C.) and his enthusiastic young son Andrew. Andrew made his R.R. debut at Crystal Palace in the Schoolboys Championship, and he too wasted little time in improving his '10' time to 29.43, whilst after only three events, Roy is down to 28.32, and has entered several Vets. Road Races. The Chambers brothers have both improved upon their more recent personal bests in our '10s', Martin has now done 26.50 and Lynn a 28.24 (this in spite of concentrated 'do it yourself' sessions in home and garden). Martin's good news however, is the arrival of his new baby daughter, Nadia, and we congratulate both parents on this success.

NOW, GET UP THOSE HILLS WITH THE "FINGERSMOBILE" LIGHTWEIGHT.
MARVEL AT THE INNOVATIONS:



ONLY 14½ POUNDS (EACH WHEEL).

OBTAINABLE FROM "CYCICAL CYCLES", BOGNER REGIS, NR. HOON, SUSSEX. PROP. A. NONYMOUS.

Stephen and Tim are finding that working for 'A' and 'O' levels has curtailed their cycling activity temporarily, as they have very little time to get fit. Tim hastily acquired some miles during the Easter holidays, and managed to beat his Dad a couple of times. Since then he has teamed with Maurice on the tandem to break the club '25' record, with 59.7 in the Worthing event, and has improved his own '25' time to 1.5.22. At the moment, Maurice is fastest over '10' and '25' miles in the club, with 24.49 and 1.1.54 respectively, but David Kitching is hard on his heels with personal bests of 25.30 and 1.5.28, and an excellent first '50' time of 2.17.36. Esther has at last managed to scrape inside evens a couple of times over ten miles, and Jenny Kitching, who is improving every time she rides, is down to 33.12.

Two of our other youngsters, who like to vary their cycling activities, are Dominic and Noel. They are enthusiastic about attending any clubruns we have, and turn up to race in the evenings. Their most enterprising feat so far was a trip to Brighton and back to see the Milk Race Prologue. Noel undertook this journey on his sister's small wheeler, as his own bike was out of action, and made a nonsense of our recent ban on this type of machine for club riding!

Dave and Audrey count a weekend spent at Godalming for the C.T.C. Centenary ride to Windsor, as the highlight of their year. Keen C.T.C. supporters they spend most Sundays in company with the Hailsham section, although they are now in action at the Little Common turn on Tuesday evenings for the Rovers '10s'.

John Lawrence is another of our members who has moved house, and had to indulge in a frantic round of repairs and renovations, but he has managed to sneak in another round trip to the New Forest and back on his bike. Unfortunately this ride, undertaken over the Spring Bank Holiday, tired John to

such an extent, that he overslept the following Sunday, the day of our Open '10'. Mandy arrived in the nick of time on her broomstick to organise the tea waggon before the first finishers came in, and John, in spite of the psychological disadvantage of having a very late start, still managed an actual time of 29.18. Incidentally John is notorious for being something of a sleepyhead. Some years ago his mother and father went off on holiday, leaving John to look after himself. He was awakened the first day by the sound of the hooter at the nearby woodyard. Afraid that he would be late for work that morning, John leapt out of bed only to find that he had heard the 5 o'clock knocking off hooter.

"What news of Neevo?" I am often asked. Well, he is to be found most days lolling in the doorway of 19 East Parade, thumbs in braces, panama hat at a rakish angle on his head, enticing passers-by to patronise his establishment. When pressure of work allows he rides out to our evening '10s', and he was able to snatch a few hours off to assist at our 'Open'.

Having mentioned our 'Open' once or twice, this may be an appropriate time to thank all Club members who helped - Dave and Audrey, resplendent in their marshalling jackets, at the turn, ably assisted by Guy and Bert. Ernie and Dennis who pushed off; Maurice and Mandy for coping with the refreshments, and Tim who acted as assistant to Peter Kilby on the result board, and last but not least, thanks to David for producing such an eye-catching result board for us. The winner was Marcus Roberts of the S.E.R.C., in 23.28, and winner of the junior event was T. Puttock of the Brighton Mitre.

That must be all for now, as I've got to rush off and put a patch in my trousers.

Ragged Shorts.

ASSOCIATION TIME TRIAL RESULTSHardriders '16'5th March, 1978

1.	N. Lelliott	Worthing Excel.	39.09
2.	A. Jones	Central Sussex	41.06
3.	C. Sharp	Eastbourne Rvrs.	41.12

1st. Team Worthing Excel. 2.04.28

(N. Lelliott; R. Shipton 42.07; P. Reeves 43.12)

Two-up '24'2nd April, 1978

1.	S. Harkness M. Blake	Brighton Mitre	1.00.42
2.	M. Tanner S. Abbo	Brighton Mitre	1.00.59
3.	I. Burgess G. Ree	Lewes Wanderers	1.03.13

Two-up '29'2nd April, 1978

1.	P. Crofts A. Peachey	Southboro' Whs.	1.10.08
2.	A. Limbrey M. Wyatt	Sussex Nomads	1.11.23
3.	G. Kerr M. Puckett	Central Sussex	1.11.38

Association '10'29th April, 1978

1.	C. Oxborrow	Brighton Mitre	23.06
2.	R. Smith	Brighton Mitre	23.33
3.	R. Matthews	Brighton Mitre	24.05

Association '25'30th April, 1978

1.	C. Sharp	Eastbourne Rvrs.	1.02.02
2.	A. Peachey	Southboro' Whs.	1.02.15
3.	R. Shipton	Worthing Excel.	1.02.19

1st. Team Central Sussex 3.10.07

(M. Ryall 1.03.09; G. Windsor 1.03.29.

P. Lipscombe 1.03.33)

CRAWLEY WHEELERS

Perusing the Crawley diary I've to go back to mid February to pick up where we left off, and it would appear from my notes that the less said about the month the better. Gordon organised our annual 100 kilometre reliability trial, which was very well supported considering the weather, as it rained for almost whole day. A new innovation this year has been the start of evening training sessions on Wednesday evenings during February and March, around a small circuit on the industrial estate; organised by Jay Chisnall they have been well supported, and hopefully he'll be doing the same next winter.

From my notes March seems to have been a slightly better month and there were certainly one or two chuckles to be had. Sunday 5th March saw many of us out at the finish of the East Surrey Hardriders. A few went on after this, a warning here to anyone who hires Duncan Stewart, now of Central Sussex, as a runs leader. As I said, we meandered up to Box Hill in Spring sunshine, when it was suggested that a cup of tea would go down well in Dorking. Duncan said 'you go this way', we didn't agree but you've got to encourage these youngsters, haven't you? When we arrived on Epsom Downs he was still sure we were on the right track..... ah well some learn the hard way.

Sunday 12th was the Chichester and back reliability trial which was run off in dry weather. Today we received this quarters 'BONK' and there was much speculation by the large Crawley ladies wrestlers contingent as to who was responsible for the cartoon advertising their prowess, also discovered Barbara Malin did NOT know of Derek's letter to our delightful 'BONK' lady editor or her reply in the last edition. He took it home and hid it from her. Much blushing at the clubroom. Guy Pilcher complained his Mum had put soap in his drinking bottle, it was Persil apparently, and come to think of it he didn't swear at all on the ride to Chichester. Not even on the hills. Following Sunday 19th March, saw Dick

Denman win the Club Hilly 24 mile T.T. in 1.4.something, again very cold and wet, all of us going home after finishing. Good Friday and Saturday saw our first Open promotion of the season, with the Label Research Two Day event. As most will know it was quite a series of events. On Friday a 25 mile T.T. followed on Saturday by CRAWLEY-SHOREHAM-CRAWLEY HILLY 44 in the morning and a 10 mile T.T. in the afternoon. Majority of the prize values came from LABEL RESEARCH LTD., a Croydon firm specialising in the manufacture of sticky backed labels. The Ladies prizes were from HOUBIGANTS a perfume manufacturer from Horley and Lanterne Rouge rear lamps provided by F.H. PRATT & SON from Salfords, our local cycle dealer. Total prize values for all three events amounted to over £300, and thanks must go to our prize donors, all members and friends who helped, and marshalls. It seemed a successful format, the only letdown being the weather, and it is to be hoped that we will be promoting a similar series of events next Easter with even more prizes.

Bank Holiday Monday dawned dismal cloudy and windy, but a clubrun went to Worthing. Called in on Hilda on the way home, but she was not in and according to her daughter she was out with Ron Ford. What was not clear was what she was doing, either she was rubbing Ron down, Ron was rubbing her down or they were both rubbing Ron's boat down! On then into April and the hope that better weather was just around the corner. How wrong can you be, the first April Sunday run to Seaford and Newhaven ended in pouring rain, the following Sunday we had a two-up 25 mile T.T. challenge match with Redhill C.C. in which we were beaten by three minutes. Revelation of the morning being Roger Smith and Jay Chisnall beating Ian Berry and Dick Denman by twenty seconds, clocking 1.3.39.

On the 10th training ground to a halt with a snow storm, and on the 15th several of us went to Crystal Palace to see Mike Barretts Professional promotion. We enjoyed it but wished the Pro's had been a little more adventurous in their riding, however perhaps next time. Sunday 16th April saw Neal Rayland a schoolboy, do a 1.3 '25' beating Ian Berry our current B.A.R. into sec-

ond best Crawley time for the umpteenth time this season. Crystal Palace evening road races started again on Tuesday evenings and it has been encouraging to see more participation by Crawley riders than ever. Without doubt 'Palace' is a good training ground for road racing fitness, as many other Sussex Club riders have discovered.

April 23rd the Club Crawley-Shoreham-Crawley time trial, fastest ride being Mark Jones in under two hours. A plucky ride which deserves mention was done by Guy Pilcher who likes riding everything, he covered the 44 miles in 2h.19m., not bad for a lad still only 13 at the time.

Torrential rain greeted clubrunners on April 30th, a few made it to Horsham with several punctures, the writer however, showed a little more cunning and didn't go out until after lunch when Worthing was the venue.

On May 7th Crawley Wheelers in the guise of Ron Ford again promoted the Sussex Divisional Road Race Championships for Schoolboys/Girls at Crystal Palace. Our heartiest congratulations go to Robert Flinn who defended the Championship he first won last year brilliantly, to win yet again. Our sincere thanks to Neal Rayland who ably and unselfishly shared much of the work with Robert only to fade in the closing stages. At the Junior Div. Road Race Championships the following Sunday Colin Tamon and Darrell Pink found the pace too hot and retired during the event. A much improved Jay Chisnall however, rode competently we thought, to finish in sixth position. Today, 21st May, many of the regular clubrunners were competing in the Redhill 25 mile T.T. promotion on the Gatwick course, others competing and watching the Redmon Hilly '73'. Meeting up to ride home together from the finish over Ranmore Common. The weather is still pretty hopeless for the time of year and we are hoping it improves by next weekend when seven of us set off for a Youth Hostel tour of Cornwall. More of this in the next edition.

In general more members seem to be competing so far this season, it has been rumoured that a certain

person will be leaving the Crawley Club at the end of the season as he was caught in a club '10' the other evening by Catherine Killick in only her second event. Might I also ask whether it was just coincidence that Maurice Carpenter turned up at my spot on the Div. Championships just after Esther left, or did he know by telepathy that Esther had been chatted up by that well known Crawley rake, D. Malin, complete with shorts and disgusting hairy white legs which Esther finds so attractive. Oh yes, one more requirement, in the last issue the LEWES contributor speaks of Sylvia Burgess having "all the built in attributes for attracting new members". Certain kinky Crawley gentlemen wondered whether it would be possible to publish a photo for our perusal preferably in something tight and se.... my hand's gone all shaky. (I think Neevo might be the person to contact for those sort of pictures. He is definitely the number one Sylvia Burgess Fan!! Ed.)

In order to catch the post I must close now.
Love to you all,

Malcolm.

ADVERTISEMENT

HIRE REAL LADY WRESTLERS FOR YOUR CLUB DINNER,
SOCIAL FUNCTIONS, ETC. REALISTIC PRICES.
APPLICATIONS TO CRAWLEY WHEELERS SOCIAL SECRETARY,

BIG H.

SOUTHBOROUGH & DISTRICT WHEELERS

Who was the idiot who said 'Oh to be in England now that Spring is here'? He would have been at home in the land of the Hop watching the village maidens tripping about. Well you try dancing round that stupid Maypole in wellies. To chalk up another first, the Sarfbra celebrated the first May Day holiday in memorable manner. Well actually those involved said they would never forget it. A Spider inspired (if that's the word) run invaded Sussex to rough stuff the Downs in thick wet murk in the Ditchling, Clayton and Devils Dyke area. The surprise was, that nine other idiots went with him. Mind you, the Les Hayman neighbors hardened to seeing his bike coated with rough stuff amalgam were treated to the rare sight of him hosing it down in pouring rain afterwards.

Since it is now the racing season, this column will as always, deal with the other aspects first. Frank Warriner took a party of six for a three day tourlet in Devon. Originally planned for February, the trip had been postponed because that County had disappeared under a foot of snow. For the first time for a few years we had a team of four in the local BCTC heat, successfully led by Brian Barrett, who made third place. Meantime at the end of February, twenty six riders rode the club's reliability rides. All our new youngsters managed the '50', whilst the foolhardy did the '100's'

Robin, Jacko and Phil invaded Normandy over Easter, as though that country hasn't enough problems with it's surplus tanker oil. When he returned, Robin decided to lead one of our potter runs into Sussex. We afterwards established that on that day we climbed some 4,300 feet, almost as high as Ben Nevis. He's now threatened to take out one of our children's runs. We await the result with interest. They, the children that is, now have the habit of half wheeling all and sundry, before riding them into the ground.

O.K. stop complaining, here's the racing news. The season started with another mammoth (90 entry) field for our local school challenge shield. Huntley's won it again, this time in a three cornered match that included the Skinner's School. Despite persistent drizzle and a cold wind, all the youngsters supported the event well. Then came the start of the By-pass '10' Season. Entries have been so large this year (45 from the Club alone) that it has been difficult to squeeze them all in before the daylight has gone. Luckiest youngster this quarter must be Dave Adamson. Having recorded a 27 for his first '10', his Dad offered him 10p for each second he beat a 27 by in his next '10'. Dave did a 25 and picked up something over £7.

Now to the trendsetters. Some of you will have heard that Pete Crofts and Tony Peachey are hacking about on a tandem as well as riding two-ups. Already this season they have recorded a 20.20 for a '10' and a 51.20 for a '25', and they are setting their sights for better things. Meantime Val Peachey is not going to be left out of the picture. She has successfully trimmed a further minute and a half off her own Tonbridge to Rochester and back record to make the new figures 1.54.42. The ordinary mortals meantime are beginning to move, with Paul Woodman back under the hour and Jim Abbott recording a 58. Arthur Smith has managed a 1, and Hazel Whitehouse has done her first 6 of this season. (Well I suppose they are ordinary mortals!).

On a sad day for the Club and Tunbridge Wells, Percy Howard (Robin's Dad) died suddenly. A former Club Captain, he was always a keen supporter of our promotions and of other local interests as well.

That just leaves this month's laugh. It is Arthur and Jean again. This time they drove out to a Thursday '10' and locked the keys in the car. Jean raced, whilst Arthur went home for the other set and failed to find them. He eventually opened it with a spoke and left Jean to drive home, whilst he nipped up for a quickie at the Beehive. The Land-

lord greeted him with the news of a 'phone call to say that the car had broken down. Jean went home on the bike, whilst Arthur fetched out an AA garage. They diagnosed a fault in the petrol supply and towed it to a local garage. They 'phoned Jean next day to say that apart from a towing bill, all that was necessary was to pay for some petrol to go in the tank.

Tuesday Totter supporters felt short changed this year, because traditionally they finish with Easter, which was earlier. Then Spider had a bit of luck. He found a pub that sold cheap beer on Thursdays. So we continued with Thursday Thingamebobs until the '10's' started.

Well, 'bottoms up' unless you're riding a bike.

S.B.B.B

Sarfbra Boozing Birdloving Bikie.

DEADLINE FOR AUTUMN

BONK

AUGUST 22nd

BRIGHTON EXCELSIOR C.C.

Hello again - looks up from his handlebars as the countryside blurs by with speed, it's the racing season again, with most of our members whirring the big gears, including a mock 'Tour de France' read on and you will learn. As well as our schoolboys Simon and Mark, who have got over their early season crashes, punctures and other misfortunes, there are a number of seniors time trialling as well as riding the track. Simon and Mark will be competing during the Isle of Wight weekend, with Simon winning the first schoolboys event at Preston Park.

Apart from our loyal, longstanding time triallers, Rick and Co., we welcome Frank back into the racing scene and wish him luck. Some of the racing men who have nothing to do on the day of the Women's '25' Championship have bullied Val into riding - just as an excuse to see Beryl Burton in action - cheek!

Dave Cotton and Richard Holkham had started tandem but a torn muscle has unfortunately put Dave out of racing action for a while, just as he was getting really fit.

Our evening '10s' recommenced on Thursday, 25th May - alternate Thursdays until the end of July. Starting in the Coombes Lane approx. 1 mile north of Lancing College, off the A 27, at 7.30 p.m. on a fast simple course, we offer a welcome to anyone who wishes to join us and enter on the line.

The Clubrun activities continue on a variety of themes, and with the absence of some of the racing members, we have on occasion been combining some rides with our friends from the Worthing Excel. Last month we repeated another venture on to the Bluebell Railway Line who provided some thirty members and friends with an enjoyable ride and tea. Our thanks go to Bernard Holden and his staff at Sheffield Park Station for making the day a success. Taking this run myself and blessed with one of those rare sunny days, a ploughmans lunch was enjoyed in the pleasant garden at Isfield, continuing appropriately in rough rider style across a few fields and the River Ouse to join

the old bed of the railway which was followed to Sheffield Park where we met up with the afternoon section and those who dared to come by car!!! Rick and Val publicly announce that the cracking pace home was NOT all the fault of their tandem, and it was pure coincidence that they arrived home indoors to see 'Kermit the Frog' and his Muppet friends. There was most certainly a string of hot redfaced cyclists scattered between Sheffield Park and Brighton. Thanks again to all who came making the organisation all the more worthwhile.

Rail seems to have been the theme lately, as last Sunday in pouring rain a joint clubrun led by the indestructable Chris - the man who counts miles like kilometres - cycled down to deepest 'ampshire meeting with us brave ones who travelled down by train to Havant, spending most of our ride looking for a cafe and be blowed we found a hot dog stall in the middle of a field - yes it was the Hambledon Sunday Market. After a successful rendezvous the soggy group cycled on to Alresford to sample the delights of the Watercress Line. The rain stopped, and revitalised after our short train trip and a cup of tea, we enjoyed a pleasant cross country lane ride back to Havant - chicken and chips and a train home. One of our Worthing friends had a brainstorm and insisted on cycling all the way back to Lancing - mad fool.

The Easter Tour despite the weather centred on the Bridport and Salisbury areas, was ably assisted by plastic money enabling the members to overnight it in the Wessex Hotel, Bridport, as listed in the C.T.C. handbook - well recommended, a far cry from sleeping under a hedge covered by one's cape.

Looking forward, most members will be gathering at the Harrogate Show for this popular meet-up, and later joining Dave Hudson on a mini-bus trip to Paris for the final stage of the Tour de France.

Earlier last month our Club were asked to create a crowd scene by a commercial photographer making an advertising film on a mock finish of the

Tour de France. The whole thing was quite a fiasco, as extras were also provided by the photographer, including an unexpected sex fiend. Just prior to the rolling of the film (near Preston Park) a limousine drew up and out stepped a fur coat clad lady (Ruth), who walked towards the group of shivering, short clad cyclists. Without warning Ruth flung off her fur, revealing a tight fitting catsuit, setting about giving the riders a new experience in a warm-up. Tony, who has now temporarily left the Club, returning to his parents' home in Pinner, attracted extra desire from the hotblooded Ruth, lavishly receiving more than his share of victor's kisses, - the film has so far not yet been released.

Johnny Palmer came out with a classic whilst travelling home from Havant on the train following the Watercress Line visit. Obviously his rain sodden head could take no more, as he asked, "What's that chimney doing behind Arundel Castle? I haven't seen that before". The thing was we were by that time crossing the River Adur, and of course the chimney was that of Beeding cement works, and the castle - Lancing College - never mind John, that's what it does to you in the finish.

Well as my cycle slows down (the bottom of the hill is reached), and for you, poor readers, my writing, but before I pop this into Esther's letter box I'll tell you about the Irish Bingo Caller who announced:

All the threes	Thirty Three
Double five	Fifty Five
Two little ducks	Twenty Two
All the fours	Forty Four
Clickety Click	Sixty Six
Six and Two	Clickety Duck

Oh never mind, it amused me. Cheers for now.

Rough Rider.

SUSSEX NOMADS C.C.

We were very pleased to welcome a goodly number of cyclists and their families at our first social in February, this subsequently produced more signings, which has now increased our overall membership to sixteen. ALL ESCA, SCA and Local events now feature our riders and hopes are held that with improved weather conditions more significant results will follow.

Our Club were highly delighted that East Grinstead and now the ESCA have altered the finish of the East Sussex '25' course, several members of the Club have actively campaigned to have this altered, both in the interest of safety and the production of a faster finish.

Whilst we tend to agree that the 'Timekeepers car' cannot be PREVAILED upon to negotiate the FINISHING area, we cannot see why the Timekeeper or Timekeepers cannot OBTAIN a seat and erect a shelter in poor weather CONDITIONS similar to other Timekeepers on other courses out of the County. We all like our comfort, but it is doubtful whether 'marshalls' would be permitted to give DIRECTIONS from STATIONARY cars!!

Through these pages the Club would like to express their APPRECIATION to Crawley Wheelers in the amount of time and preparation put into their Easter event. The programme was perhaps the best we have received to date.

The only CRITICISM we would make is the choice of courses. The '25' course must be more adequately marshalled with no children, since it is TOTALLY UNFAIR TO RIDERS to NEGOTIATE the MANY ROUNDABOUTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN GIVING TOTALLY INEPT SIGNS or WORSE STILL ONE MARSHALL HAVING TO PERFORM the duties of TWO to THREE.

The '44' mile event going through Henfield is not to be recommended, ONE simply cannot compete with SATURDAY traffic and pedestrians in the busy centre. However, we think it was a worthwhile series of events, and one which we hope is repeated.

We hear that the SCA is looking for a new venue for their ANNUAL DINNER, it seems, ^{NUMBERS} are decreasing due to, we suspect, the PRICING and apparent LACK OF IMAGINATION - we have a SAMPLE FORMULA for making it a success, (A) self catering. (B) a venue large enough to accomodate over one Hundred cyclists, this really means a Village Hall away from the usual attractions. In this manner between £1 and £1.50 would guarantee one hundred per cent support from NOMADS, and we feel instinctively that other clubs would be unanimous in following suit.

NOMADS hold their second SOCIAL/Club/get-together in June when members and their families attend a bar-beque in the grounds of an up and coming young veteran. We feel the absolute necessity of keeping all members closely involved, and KNOWING how the Club is RUNNING and how our RIDERS are making out.

CONGRATULATIONS to Rodney and Christine Laker on the birth of their daughter.

to Ron Rogers on sneaking a crafty '2' on an unnamed course.

to Don Lock on joining the tote.

to Ron Ewart on a recent merger of the Ewart/Leigh dynasty.

to Derek Agg who appeared on a 1964 start sheet as Derek Egg.

to John Dutson who threatened to come out of retirement if Boore went under.

and lastly to Arthur Linnington for some imaginative handicapping in the last ESCA event.

PREDICTIONS FOR 1978

Derek Agg to weigh in at over 16 stone.

Roy Humphrey to get the birch.

Charlie Lednor to make 74.

Brighton Excel to join the Samaritans.

Bill Sladen to offer mortgages on his tomatoes.

NOMADS to win the ESCA TEAM AWARD.

Lewes Wanderers to change their club colours.

Lastly, Cliff Sharp to join NOMADS.

Postmortum

