

BOMK!

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL

**East Sussex
Cycling Association**

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EDITORIAL

We were rather hoping that our new President would continue with Limbo's idea of writing a few words for the membership - in which case, of course, this page would have been headed "sartorial" rather than "editorial" - however it was not to be and once again this page will be signed by your editors. There will be a picture of Dick on one of the following pages and he is of course off at number 1 in the Hardriders, so there is no excuse for anyone not to recognise him and give him the respect due to his office.

Talking about the following pages, there aren't very many of them! Our old and valued William Hickey continues his column throughout 1989, and very grateful we are, too. It must be realised that the opinions he expresses are absolutely unique to him and it seems that the Association membership is united in being disassociated from anything he says. In case he has got any admirers out there, we have a few of his original manuscripts to give away and anybody wanting one should send an s.a.e. to the above address.

The CLOSING DATE for COPY for the next BONK is MAY 18th. PLEASE.

Maurice & Esther

SOUTHBOROUGH AND DISTRICT WHEELERS

Regular BONK addicts will have noted something lacking in their quarterly fixes of the printed word. There has been no Southborough news. So herewith 1989 greetings from the Association's North East Frontier.

The Wheelers 1988 racing scene was dominated by the three bearded tricyclists, (well two of them are bearded), specifically Peter Holland supported by Esther and Maurice C. Peter came to us on a free transfer from the South Eastern R.C., and headed the trophy winners by grabbing the B.A.R. and the Vet's Championship.

On the road racing side, in between promoting the Club's events at Brands Hatch, the Kent League and the Ashdown Forest Grand Prix, Andy Howey gained enough points to take the Club trophy. He was also one of a small group from the South East to ride in the National Hillclimb, and more notably won the Sevenoaks Tri-athlon. He currently heads a group of Wheelers doing a twice weekly gym workout as well as training on the road with the Tunbridge Wells runners. Having returned from Manchester, Rosemary is also entering the running and tri-athlon scene.

The Club Dinner, already set to be marginally smaller than usual, was further reduced when a change of Hotel management meant a last minute switch from a Saturday to a Friday. Nothing to do with the price of the ticket, though. (Who is this William Thicky bloke anyway?). The eight shillings we used to pay in 1950 for a Dinner ticket probably made a bigger hole in the Average Bikie's pocket than today's prices do. But I digress. Our late starting function without Disco proved to be a very pleasant evening. (Food for thought there perhaps!).

EP (early pensioner) and occasional competitor, Geoff Abraham, led quite a large Club group round the Kent C.A. reliability rides in early November. As usual, he also headed the non-racing Club mileage chart from Jean Smith. She is always concerned by the amount of surreptitious miles accumulated by Les Hayman and Warwick Dunford.

Ambling out to meet the clubrun, Terry Collins snapped a crank and ended up in hospital with a double leg fracture. Like all cyclists he was the perfect patient. Faced with six weeks of traction he was there for one whole day before getting bored. Allowed at last to hobble around the wards on crutches he caused further furore when one of the nursing staff on a passing bus spotted him hopping around the town! ESCA Luncheon goers will have noted that he has now extended his operational radius and we hope he will be awheel soon.

So what of '89? With all this mild weather winter miles, there's just a chance that Clive, John H, Arthur and possibly Warwick, might get an act together for the coming season. By the way, if you are near the Southborough at any event watch out for a nearly new car. Having taken delivery recently, a Southboro' couple shopped in Tunbridge Wells. Leaving the car park afterwards proved a difficult exercise as they could not engage reverse gear. So they pushed it backwards and then drove home. (Note to J... and A..... if all else fails read the instructions).

The "anti Association 100 mile" brigade might like to note that the Kent C.A. have dropped one of theirs and the remaining one is on the same day as ESCA's. May be a case for date re-arrangement in future.

Our best supported Club event was the Boxing Day 10. Those who felt unable to compete struggled out to the Carpenters Arms. Meantime a lorry collision with a brick building meant yet another variation for our New Year's Day 10 course at Bethersden. In this event, newcomers John Thatcher and his son Robert made up our second team with Peter Holland, behind the established group of Howey, Orchard and Harding. Peter Saville, a latter day convert to cycling, has also shown up well during the season under the guidance of pre-war Wheeler, John Fuller, who we are delighted to see out and about on two wheels again.

Finally, our wish for all for 1989 is fast mornings, tubs that are imperforable and never empty tankards!

Sarfbra Scribe

EASTBOURNE ROVERS C.C.

Here we go again! yes, the racing season is here once more.'

I hope you had a good winter, not too much booze and nightclubbing.

As for the Club, things have been going on. Mark 'Gonzo' Gibbins led from start to finish to win the coveted clubrun eggcup trophy, closely followed by 'Hot Rod' Robert Light who was most disappointed after training all season for the clubruns.

Speedy Paul 'Deep Throat' Delani has had a very good season and looks set for 1989. He recently collected the Junior B.A.R. at the Club Dinner in January, where the 'Acid Man' Nick Smith also collected his awards before freaking out and making a fool of himself with his close friend Steve Willis in front of the entire Club.

Duncan Geals has recently been going to "alcoholics anonymous" after heavy drinking sessions in the nightclubs whilst looking for "some trim"!

Graham Lade and family may be joining Duncan in the near future after their drinking binges on the quiet C.T.C. rides (Lager Louts terrorize countryside on C.T.C. rides).

John 'Stump' Blackman the man voted "biggest calves in Sussex" is looking sharp for '89 after visiting his local Cooden Health Club and other massage parlours.

Psssssssssssssssssstt! Club veteran record holder Clive 'Crust' Willis is making a comeback after being seen out training on a low profile, or was just his stomach bending the top tube.

Charlie "I measure Club courses" Robson has recently ordered a 94 tooth chainring for '89.

Simon "I like my picture in the Gazette posing with whatever I sell if it's over £100" Prior is also on the comeback and is hoping for a good season with the new improved road squad, including new members Louis Passfield, Matthew Scott and Dave Harding.

Good luck for the season. 'Til next time,

Clement Condom

C.T.C HAILSHAM & EASTBOURNE SECTION

Our Annual New Year Lunch in February was again a memorable occasion. Cross toasting proceeded apace during the meal whilst the accordion playing of Richard Stinton afterwards and our attempts at singing ensured no let-up in the jollifications. The main part of the meal was, as usual, provided by the ladies whilst Jeff Stevenson supplied the soup and rolls. Bill Collins, our President, presented the Attendance Trophy - the North Cup - to Ray Gearing as the winner for 1988 and an award to Debbie Springett for being runner up. Several other awards were made to members for services provided during the year. Although we had no snow and ice in 1988, competition for the Topsy Turvey Trophy was fierce. Several members managed to depart from their machines for one reason or another, but the trophy was awarded to Jon Cooper mainly because his injuries caused us most concern and he managed a longer stay in hospital than anyone else; a doubtful honour. It was nice to have Andrea Winchester at the Lunch; she seemed rather pleased with life now that she has acquired her own trike.

Our casualty list has shortened a lot, only Dot Collins is now in the care of the surgeons after a brief stay in hospital at East Grinstead. We are all sorry you missed the Lunch, Dot, but hope you enjoyed the visit of the carload of members who came to see you immediately afterwards. Our two rides on Sundays have been well supported during the winter months and we are looking forward now to the longer days and the chance to venture further afield.

Tourist

BRIGHTON EXCELSIOR C.C.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate the E.S.C.A. on their choice of guest speaker at the annual luncheon (even if he was a little rude about Charlie Robson's apparel). It was a real treat for the ladies to have a sharp dresser amongst the "sweaters"!

I believe "Hickey's" experience of public speaking, namely at our recent Club dinner, has left him checking which monastic orders are affiliated to the R.T.T.C.! Is it true he's ordered a new racing frame so that he can tuck in closer when caught in events?

E.S.C.A. President, our very own Dick Jones, is living up to his reputation as a loony; he came out on a Clubrun on the coldest day of the year - freezing fog et al - on his track iron, 84" fixed and no hat or gloves. He had to be prised off his machine at elevenses. It was the first day out with the Club for a new member and Andrew Attwood thought he would be friendly towards the young blonde struggling up hill in the freezing conditions. "I'm Andrew, who are you?". "Knackered", came the response from Carol, who has persevered and is now a regular on Sunday runs with or without husband Chris. Andrew and Vanessa are now back in a double bed as he now has a thin one and with two single size duvets instead of one double, it means Vanessa has a thick one, keeping them together in comfort.

Our cyclo-cross event held at the Wild Park, Brighton, got a prime time slot on T.V.S. in January. Martin Penfold will sign autographs at all events this year (was it Vanessa who said "let's hope he puts his teeth in"?). The event was a great success marred only by two incidents. One of the competitors had his car broken into and some cyclists rode across the cricket pitch leaving us with a repair tab of some £35.

Richard Smith, a regular visitor to our Club Room, rode the 50 in 4 just for the beer at lunchtime. So many people have bought fluorescent racing capes from him that the clubruns resemble a custard slick.

We've had three early season Club events so far. The New Year's Day 10, won by Chris Chapman; a restricted (72") gear 10, with Rick Stringer and Vince Lowe equal first and a circuit two-up won by Martin Penfold partnered by young Ben Merricks. The latter event was held in appalling conditions and at one point Dick Holkham actually got blown off his machine into a muddy ditch.

Talking of events, it's obvious ESCA members prefer short, tough courses, judging by the bumper entry for this year's Hardriders and I have now to apologise to Mick Burgess for suggesting he has a vicious streak in him when he devised the new course. Let's hope all eighty riders are as keen after they've ridden. The standard of entry form completion doesn't improve - some riders presumably have blank minds as the forms are blank apart from names and addresses, yet I could have sworn that they've even picked up fastest Vet's prize before now; others haven't included an entry form at all - just £2 and a note to say what event they want to ride; £1 coins are popular with someone along the route to my letterbox, which doesn't do ESCA funds much good; and dare I complain about the late entrants no, I'll be sporting just once more and hope the offenders will make it a New Year's Resolution to do better in 1990. It will certainly be interesting to see who sets the fastest time for the new course. If I were a gambling person, which I'm not, I'd settle for Steve Dennis, Brian Phillips, Paul Lipscombe. More than anything, I'm interested to see if Dick Jones actually walks any of the hills.

Ropey Rider

One enthusiastic rider from Burgess Hill sent his Hardriders entry to Val, at great expense, by registered post. Let us hope that his enthusiasm does not go unrewarded.

Maurice and Esther's editorial in BONK's last edition is we fear a personal assessment on long distance time trials, as they personally see it, and probably reflects the amount of time they have at their disposal to enable some appropriate preparation to be made available. In truth, anything above 12 hours is no longer financially practicable or pleasurable as far as most riders are concerned. Contrary to general opinion marshalling these events is, we feel, self inflicted torture and really should only be undertaken by the retired or the minority. From well informed opinion we are sure that once 12 hour events are curtailed, due, we think more to the lack of appropriate courses than cursory lobbying, then the 24 hour will follow.

Nicks's letter to me in the last BONK issue, whilst an enthusiastic attempt to personalise long distance events, is purely cosmetic judged against the real number of dedicated long distance men, who by and large will readily take up arms against shorter distance events. However telling the latter arguments may be, we could if space permitted, spend whole columns in advancing opinion regarding very sound reasons why long distance events have outlived their purpose. However, suffice to say that with increasing pressure the R.T.T.C. may take the least (and I think the next word is "sofony" but I don't know what it means. Ed) sofony and curtail both the 24 and 12 hour events as lacking in numbers to maintain it's Championship status.

Can we briefly turn to the Charlie Robson Reliability Trial. We were advised in advance that Worthing Excelsior had circulated a note to all their Club members (racing or otherwise) to participate in Charlie's event if only to secure his trophy he had previously donated. In return Charlie has promised to bring Eastbourne Rovers over in number to Washington to assist Worthing in running their own Reliability Trial and boost their much depleted funds. The point here is that this is a classic case of quantity triumphing over quality. If Worthing could afford to bring half their Club over to East Hoathly, where were they in all the other events promoted on East Sussex roads!! Since Don was President in 1988 and since due to injury he was unable to ride, we feel that some additional enthusiasm should have been injected into his Club to maintain the ESCA acceptance for Worthing to provide the annual President for the Association.

We hope that Brighton Excelsior will not follow in Worthing's wake especially as they now have a number of worthy competitors in their ranks.

We were delighted to support Michael Rabbetts promotion to that of Chairman of the ESCA Hierarchy, since Michael is a professional man, articulate in style it would seem an appropriate appointment for his talents.

We have been informed that the F1 course has been partially disallowed by the police in the Cambridge area. Evening 10s and 25s have been sanctioned. This is the bad news. The good news is that the 'Boro can now be re-used. Anyone wishing to significantly improve his 25 or 50 time may discreetly contact the writer for appropriate dates. Stamped addressed envelope and nominal retainer fee c/o The Editors.

We fail to see the sense in three major cycling clubs organising their annual dinners on precisely the same evening - the 21st January. This is surely appalling timing especially as there must be a number of our members who would wish to attend a number of the club functions, again, all Clubs should let Esther and Maurice know in advance so that Social Secretaries can plan their year more intelligently by inserting some relevant information in BONK.

As the 1989 season looms ahead, we wonder who will dominate the Sussex racing season; it is our prediction that whereas most of the vets will support the local events, some new names will start to appear on the result board. Who knows, Sussex Nomads could in reality dominate the 25 mile area.

Did you catch the ESCA Lunch at Framfield? Some 116 people attended. Another highly successful event supervised by the Pope 'Roy the Boy'. Virtually all the Association clubs were present, but where was Central Sussex? Could it be that they knew in advance that Brighton Excelsior were going to be there in force and that Dick Jones was nominated as the 1989 East Sussex President. What we do know

is that they were very well behaved, with no complaints of drunken behaviour. In fact we would venture to suggest that since Andy Attwood has officially joined the Excelsior a reasonable degree of respectability has crept into the Excelsior affairs. We hope to examine this Club in depth in time for the next issue.

Reverting back to the Association Lunch, we were disappointed that the Senior B.A.R. did not contribute a short speech, however we were treated to one of the best after dinner speakers the Association has had the pleasure to listen to. Ron Keeble of the Wren Wheelers has a certain "je ne sais quoi" in his delivery and has probably made a lot of friends in this part of the world. I'm sure he would be welcome again.

In closing, we ask the editors to print a copy of a letter recently sent to a close friend, which we are sure our readers will appreciate.

Safe training.

W.H.

Dear Agony Aunt,

Please find enclosed a photo of a young man who I think has on previous occasions turned to you for advice, particularly where young ladies are concerned. I think his apparel may be the root of the problem - particularly as the fertilizer sacks don't appear to have been cleaned for some time (not to romantic when it comes to the last waltz!).

A French Tart





1989 CHAIRMAN
MICHAEL RABBETTS



Above

1987 President (Alan Limbrey)
and 1988 President (Don Lock)
pucker up for their annual
kiss.



Left

1989 President Dick Jones
Brighton Excelsior

ESCA EVENTS 1989

Sun	Apr	2	2 up	"29"	Ken Atkins, 46 Valebridge Road, Burgess Hill	9.30
Sat	Apr	22		"10"	Mick Burgess, 7 Sandridge, Crowborough	15.30
Sun	Apr	23		"25"	Roy Humphrey, 4 Ebenezer Cotts. Framfield	8.00
THUR	May	18	BONK CLOSING DATE		M/E Carpenter, 10 Maplehurst Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea	
Sun	June	4		"50"	Steve Dennis, 105 Home Park, Oxted	7.00
SUN	June	4	BONK DISTRIBUTION			
Sun	June	18		"25"	Alan Kraft, 50 Addison Road, Hove	7.00
Sun	July	23		"100" (Open)	Michael Rabbetts, Jarvis Court, Mottins Hill, Jarvis Brook	6.00

SOCIAL EVENTS 1989/ 90

Sun	Nov	19	RELIABILITY TRIAL	Charles Robson, 39 Winchcombe Road, Eastbourne
Sat	Jan	20	Eastbourne Rovers Dinner	
Sat	Jan	27	1066 Dinner	

If, as soon as you have arranged your Club Dinner date (or made arrangements for any other event that you would like Association members to support), please let us have details and during the season we will compile a list of what is happening.

bonk closing date may 28

**DEADLINE
MAY 28**

**MAY
28**

Of the 116 people who found their way to Framfield on January 8th for the Annual Lunch and Prize Presentation, it seemed that about ninety per cent rode there on their bikes. The weather was glorious and even some of those who hadn't arrived under their own steam had got some miles in earlier in the day. The Hare and Hounds blazed with colour as the various Club members assembled in their motley.

Olympian Ron Keeble was our guest speaker and he soon entered into the spirit of the occasion exchanging insults and parrying cross toasts with gusto. Geoff Boore, who was responding to Ron's toast, spoke eloquently and with dignity and generally conducted himself like the jolly good fellow he is.

It was the duty of retiring President Don Lock to present the prizes to the Champions and it was a duty he performed most graciously and it is a very emotional and moving sight to see him embrace his old friend and rival Alan Limbrey every year.

The afternoon ended with the introduction of the 1989 President. Brighton Excelsior had the privilege of nominating this year's President and their choice, Dick Jones, appears to be most worthy of his election to this office.

Amid all the jollity though we were very sorry that Stan and Joan Shirley were not able to be with us but Stan is getting on alright now and we hope that he will be out to Association events this summer.

As usual, all credit must go to Roy Humphrey for the hours of work he puts in in preparation the night before the Lunch and clearing up afterwards.

Charles Robson was responsible for the photograph display and he too spent Saturday evening at the Hall, arranging and fixing the photos on the boards.

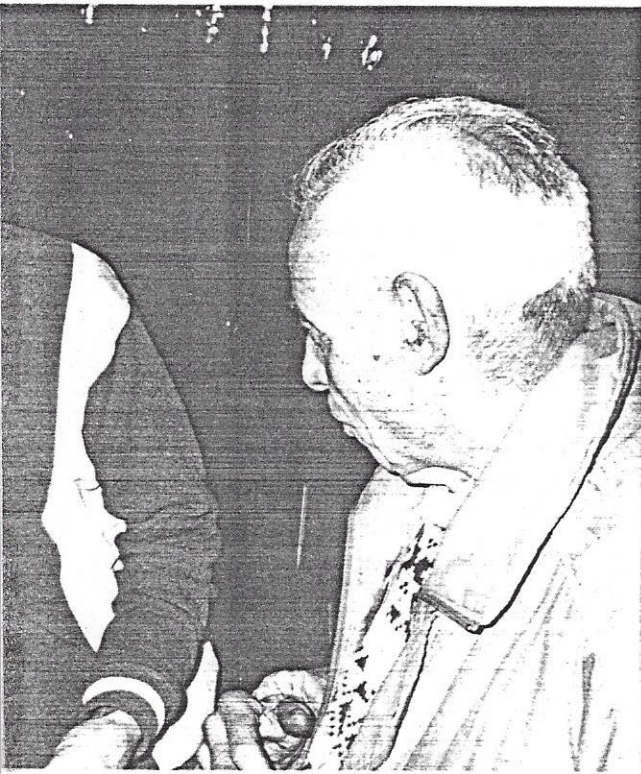
I thoroughly enjoyed myself and I'm sure that everybody who was fortunate enough to be at the Lunch will echo my thanks to all the people who helped to make it such a successful occasion.

Butterfly



Pete Cory and George Clare enjoy themselves at the Lunch.

CHAMPION STEVE DENNIS RECEIVING THE PRESIDENT'S CONGRATULATIONS

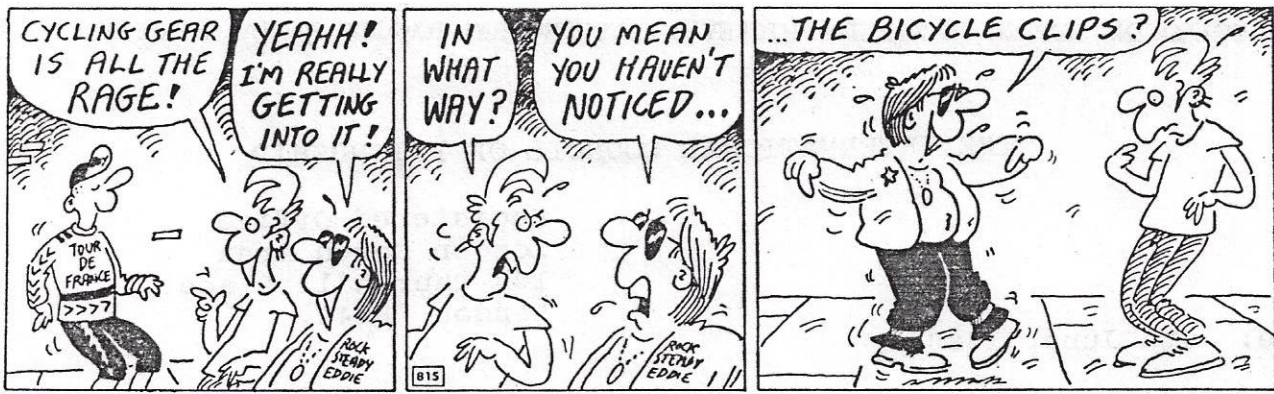


Above SECRETARY ROY HUMPHREY



EASTBOURNE ROVERS IN THE PUB BEFORE LUNCH!!!





PROPER
 POSERS
 PATRONISE
 PRIOR

All embracing

INSPECTION of the classified columns of the Eastbourne and Hailsham News has its rewards. A recent issue included the advertisement: "A1 Visiting Massage. All areas covered."

CORRECTION TO THE POINTS TABLE PRINTED IN THE LAST EDITION.

DUE TO A MISPRINT OF HIS NAME IN THE JUNE 25 RESULT BOB TAYLOR'S TALLY OF POINTS FOR THAT EVENT WAS OMITTED FROM HIS TOTAL, AND HE SHOULD NOW BE IN 5th POSITION.

CLOSING DATE FOR COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS MAY 18th BUT I WILL ACCEPT CONTRIBUTIONS UP 'TIL MAY 28th.

THE FOLLOWING LETTER IS WILLIAM HICKEY'S CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS RACIAL HARMONY.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF FRIENDSHIP

Registered Office
London South Area
109 Churchill Place
London EC42.

Date: 9th June, 1988.

Our Ref: PAK/Onk

Your Ref: -

R.A.B. Belts

Dear Mr. ~~_____~~

As part of our fostering great world understanding, the above council has selected your home and family to further the council's aims. You will be pleased to know that we have invited a family of Ugandan Asians to be guests in your home for the next four months.

This period of time will allow them to adapt themselves to our way of life, which I am sure you will appreciate. These people have suffered great up-heavel and physical deprivation and we will be grateful if you would do everything in your power to make their stay in your home a pleasant one. This will mean re-organising your home and personal habits to make the transaction as pleasant as possible.

The family we selected to stay with you are called Marhhanijad and consists of the father, his three wives, eleven children, one wife's brother, the fathers grandparents and two Brahmin bulls. The bulls are classed as sacred beasts and thus it will be necessary for you to approach the local authority for accommodation for these animals, a heated garage will be ideal. Their feed consists of pampas grass, boiled ham, sultanas and peanuts etc. We trust that this will not be too expensive for you to cope with but unfortunately all the Marhhanijads are on Social Security and we will be grateful if you would given them pocket money from time to time.

One important point here, the animal droppings are to remain where they fall for a minimum of 72 hours, to avoid upsetting the religious feelings of the Asians. To aid you feeding this family we are forwarding to you nearer their arrival 8 cwt of curry powder and chappatis and 7 cwt of fried stockfish, together with 24 pairs of bicycle clips and 600 toilet rolls, a book of Urdu. Examples as follows:-

Urdu and sind - Maya desai chutto (please change my underpants).

Uapa seema Fundu (the lavatory is blocked and will you dig it out).

We shall give you seven days notice of the arrival of the family and will be grateful if you can arrange all necessary documentation so that the family can obtain their rightful amount of Social Security, Supplementary Benefit and free National Health Treatment.

Yours faithfully,

R. Patel

R. Patel
District Community Officer
I.C.O.F.

THIS PAGE IS DEVOTED TO PICTURES OF GEOFF BOORE IN HIS WORK AS A MALE MODEL AND (inset) AT PLAY WITH HIS CHUMS IN THE "HARE AND HOUNDS".



Out thanks to Charles Robson for supplying us with photographs and to Ropey Rider, Tourist, Butterfly, Sarfbra Scribe, etc., for their contributions. Don't forget, ANYONE can submit material, so if you'd like to send news about your clubmates we'll be very pleased to receive it.

To fill up this page there is one more photo of your new President and a unique picture of two milk tankers mating near the Adur roundabout.

