

## Testing ride for cyclists

WITH THE racing season only six weeks away, Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club are finding plenty of support for their Sunday club runs. Last Sunday there was a good turnout for a 50 miles trip.

It took a devious route through various tracks and side roads to Petworth, on to Fittleworth and Storrington and back to Worthing via Washington and Findon.

The riders did not meet much traffic, but it was a testing ride.

This Sunday Tony Hill leads the run which starts from Broadwater Green at 9 a.m. and the

route will see members back to Shoreham in time for the annual lunch and prize presentation of the Sussex Cycling Association at the Royal Coach.

WORTHING HERALD

29TH JAN. 1971.

## Ride along seashore and bridleways

DAVE HUDSON, who is at present involved in working for the Duke of Edinburgh award, was in charge of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's run on Sunday.

He showed a good knowledge of the county with a ride of 45 miles that included some roads experienced members did not know about.

After a straightforward ride to Fontwell, the party then turned off to Aldingbourne church, and then to Woodgate before going through Shripney and Bersted to Bognor for refreshments.

On the return journey, Dave used few recognised roads, taking the party along the seashore and bridleways back to Worthing.

This Sunday, the next run, starting at 9 a.m., will be led by Tony Hill from the Parish Rooms, Broadwater Green.

WORTHING HERALD

24TH FEBRUARY 1971.

## Cyclists have a good balance

A PROFIT over the year of £6.75 bringing a balance in hand of just over £280 was reported by treasurer Harry Beasley at the annual meeting of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club at the Broadwater Parish Rooms on Tuesday.

Unfortunately, Mr Beasley is unable to carry on with the job as he is soon to leave the district. His place has been taken by a former treasurer, Ray Douglass.

In April, Excelsior hold their first ever open road race and it was decided at the meeting to hold it again in 1972 whatever the success of this year's event.

Officers elected: President, Mr W. D. Argent; chairman, Mr C. Lednor; secretary, Mr J. Mansell; assistant secretary, Mr R. Smallman; treasurer, Mr R. Douglass; assistant treasurer, Mr N. Barlow; social secretary, Mr T. Puttick; time trials secretary, Mr A. Palmer; assistant time trials secretary, Mr A. Hill; road and track secretary, Mr C. Woodcock; touring secretary, Mr D. Hudson; runs secretary, Mr J. Besley; committee Messrs. R. Sparks, D. Lock and A. Matthews.

WORTHING GAZETTE 22ND FEB. 1971.

## TRADITIONAL START

THE CYCLING SEASON starts in traditional style on Sunday for members of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club — with the annual reliability trial over 50 miles. The course has again been set by Brian Weir, who specialises in arduous routes. This one will certainly sort out who among club members have retained a high degree of fitness during the winter months. According to past performances, standard times of three-and-a-half or four hours have been set, and certificates will be issued to those who successfully complete the course. The start will be made at 9 a.m. at Broadwater Green, and the route will include a run over the new bridge to Brighton, and then Race Hill, Woodingdean, Falmer, Rottingdean and Seaford and then back to Worthing. Entry fee for the event will be 12½p.



## EAST WIND SORTS OUT CYCLISTS

BECAUSE of the postal strike, Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club were unable to widely publicise their 1971 reliability trial held on Sunday. Therefore it was almost entirely a domestic affair with 24 entries from Worthing Excelsior and one from Brighton Excelsior.

The 50-mile course to the Seaford area and back to the Broadwater Green starting point was a good one and thanks are due to organiser Brian Weir and to Theo Puttick who provided hot drinks on the route.

An east wind sorted out those who were fit and those who were not on the outward journey and helped fit and flagging riders alike on the return half.

Those who had taken advantage of the mild winter weather to main-

tain fitness finished well inside their allotted time allowance.

There were two groups in the field, one asked to complete the ride in four hours or less and the other in three and a half hours or less.

Successful riders in the latter were: Mike Venner, Mike Poland, George Matthews, Tony Hill, Harry Beasley, Don Lock and Colin Miller.

Those successful in four hours: Pete Reeves, R. Sturt (Brighton Excelsior), Y. Lebourhis, Bernie Bethell, Steve Richards, Richard Shrimpton, Tony Palmer, John Lucas, Ray Douglass, Graham Barnes, K. Bishop, H. King.

This Sunday the first club time trial of the season takes place, the popular "circuit race" over a hilly 20-mile course. The start is at Sompting Church (10 a.m.).

## Matthews rides well over rough course

THE SEASON opened in earnest for members of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club on Sunday. Fourteen riders took part in the 21-mile time trial over the exacting course from Sompting Church to Offington and then twice round the Findon, Clapham, Offington route and back to the start.

A strong east wind meant that times were a little slower than in previous years and many riders found it tough going, especially up Findon Valley and then to the top of the Long Furlong road.

Bang in form, however, and starting just where he left off last year was George Matthews, the only rider to record a time inside one hour. He did it easily with 56 min. 8 sec. ahead of Don Lock (1hr.

0min. 23sec.) and Pete Reeves (1-0-56).

Bernie Bethell gained fourth place with 1-2-11 and, with an allowance of 6min. 5 sec., he gained the handicap prize with a revised time of 56min. 8sec.—just ahead of scratch man Matthews.

There were promising performances from two youngsters, Bob Sparks (1-3-4) and Graham Barnes (1-8-10).

Other times were: Colin Miller (1-2-41), Chris Woodecock (1-4-3), Eddy Keen (1-4-56), Harry Beasley (1-7-14), Martin Ford-Dunn (1-7-27), Ray Douglass (1-9-50), Paul Hampton (1-15-29), P. Ward (1-19-15).

On Sunday, members of the club should do well in the Central Sussex time trial over a similar distance starting at Balcomb.

CYCLING 13TH MARCH 1971.

## Central Sussex TT field

See diary for start details: 1. G Boor, Cent Sussex CC; 2. E Dore, Crawley Wh; 3. M Wyatt, Brighton Mitre; 4. M Creek, Cent Sussex; 5. C Davies, Addiscombe CC; 6. C Durham, Croydon Prem; 7. P Lipscombe, Cent Sussex; 8. M Withers, Southboro & D; 9. P Peachey, De Laune CC; 10. D Awcock, Cent Sussex CC; 11. H Pink, S Eastern RC; 12. B Bethell, Worthing Excel; 13. E Bonner, Crawley Wh; 14. G Dyer, VC Londres; 15. R Matthews, Worthing Excel; 16. C Green-slade, S Eastern RC; 17. A Hill, Worthing Excel; 18. R Hayward, Southboro & D; 19. J Ruby, Delta RC; 20. J Gifford, Croydon RC; 21. R Gaskell, S Eastern RC; 22. M Jackson, Southboro; 23. J Ware, Croydon Prem; 24. G Hills, Cent Sussex; 25. G Williams, Norwood Par; 26. C Lochrie, Croydon RC; 27. R Wall, Hastings & St L; 28. D Lock, Worthing Excel; 29. unallocated; 30. E Baker, Hainault RC; 31. A Bathurst, Southboro & D; 32. G Siddle, Spartan Wh; 33. I Murray, Norwood Par; 34. unallocated; 35. A Jones, Crawley Wh; 36. R French, Hastings & St L; 37. R Rogers, Cent Sussex; 38. A Murray, Norwood Par; 39. unallocated; 40. D McKcown, Middx Cl; 41. A Wilkinson, Cent Sussex; 42. J Sutherland, Hastings & St L; 43. P Hayes, Crawley Wh; 44. unallocated; 45. M Venner, Worthing Excel; 46. M Cumlin, Middx Cl; 47. G Withers, Southboro & D; 48. L Jennings, Norwood Par; 49. unallocated; 50. P Humphreys, E Surrey RC; 51. A Gayfer, Lea Valley RC; 52. P Howard, Kentish Wh; 53. E Boorman, Croydon RC; 54. unallocated; 55. T Woods, Hainault RC; 56. A G Gayfer, Lea Valley RC; 57. R Sparks, Worthing Excel; 58. P Crowsley, Southboro & D; 59. unallocated; 60. D Clarke, Croydon Prem.



## SPORTS GOSSIP

by Ray Potten

and

Tony Mustard

### Success story

ON SATURDAY, April 3, Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club held their first open road race. Any doubts about the support available have already been dispelled, for they have received 58 entries for a maximum of 40 starting places.

Police regulations say that Excelsior must limit the entry to 40, so the club now face the task of sorting out the names and probably restricting each club to one team.

"We had visions of having to make up the numbers for this race with some of our younger

members. But the entry has been fantastic, and with many top names already on the list from areas like Brighton, Portsmouth and London, it should be a great event," said Press officer Don Lock.

Club member Colin Miller is promoting the event on behalf of Excelsior. The start and finish will be at Yapton village hall and the riders—juniors as well as seniors—will cover a total of 50 miles.

## LOCK RIDES IN AS No. 1 FOR EXCELSIOR

A TOP-CLASS field of 78 riders, including several from Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club, took part in the Central Sussex CC 22-mile time trial on Saturday over an arduous course taking in Handcross, Turner's Hill and Cuckfield.

Excelsior had held hopes of a team win, but this was not to be. Don Lock was the fastest club rider with 1hr. 0min. 12sec., just ahead of Mick Venner (1-0-19), who had not fully recovered from flu.

George Matthews was doing well when he punctured and crashed about a mile from home, and Bob Sparks (1-2-30) completed the Excelsior team. He won a special prize for the fastest junior time.

Tony Hill, having his first ride of the season, had trouble at the start and lost about a minute, but returned a satisfactory 1-5-25. Pete Reeves also started, but retired half-way.



## Palin's only test brings a victory

CONFESSING himself not a man for the heat of summer, Ray Palin, Vulcan CRC, chose the Central Sussex hilly "21.825" for his one and only time trial of the year — and his first win. Not that the Central Sussex had fallen down on the job; far from it, they laid on the warmest afternoon of the year.

The sun shone on the marshals' smiles at each corner of the figure-of-eight course through the rolling South Downs' lanes.

An unpremeditated loop to the east over the second half was caused by road works near the original turn, and from now on will be incorporated in the course, said promoter Ron Ewart, pleased at the reception.

Palin caught Addiscombe's John Smith, after only five miles as the little village of Turners Hill flew by under the wheels in his 24-inch frame.

Luckily he did not suffer the fate of another roadman-favourite, Dave Clarke, Croydon Premier, last man off in the "legal" field, who punctured twice. Palin's pump had proved defective when he was preparing for the off.

More than half who rode had entered on the line, doubtless encouraged by the bright sunshine, and four of the first six came from these hopefuls.

Bob Sparks, Worthing Excelsior, was a more than adequate junior winner (a rare prize, this!) whose seat pin, a gap between jersey and shorts, betrayed a big-eating, fast-growing rider!

What a contrast to veteran Smith, once more the fastest in his class.

Second man Claude Kearley, Whitewebbs CC, set out with the aim of getting a third second-place, to overcome a hoodoo.

"These things run in threes, I've found, and I thought the hilly circuit would suit me well."

Ray Palin, Vulcan CRC .....	54 29
C. Kearley, Whitewebbs CC .....	55 41
A. Edmonds, Redmon CC .....	56 16
P. Humphreys, E. Surrey RC .....	57 57
E. Bonner, Crawley Wh .....	58 12
B. Catt, S. Bucks RC .....	58 14
J. Smith, Addiscombe CC .....	58 24
D. Osborn, Sorlan RS .....	59 00
D. Awcock, Central Sussex .....	59 10
Junior. — R. Sparks, Worthing Ex.	
1-2-36. Veteran. — J. Smith, Addis-	
combe. Team. — Redmon CC.	

## Ken steps in

THE Sussex Cyclists' Association at their AGM held at Patcham youth hostel, thanked president Stan Curtis, Crawley Wheelers, and, as is the custom, passed the right of presidency to the next club in alphabetical sequence, Eastbourne Rovers C & AC.

Ken Stevens is the new president. Following the CA's tradition, Ken immediately asked to be put off number one in the first event of the season.

Hard worker Alf Dawes was re-elected secretary and treasurer, and in appreciation of his holding these positions for 20 years and committee work for 34 years, he was elected the first association life member.

Tony Creed VTTA Surrey/Sussex, was re-elected assistant secretary and Charlie Lednor, Worthing Excelsior, chairman.

Valerie Stringer, Brighton Excelsior, is time trials secretary again.

### SUSSEX CA "25"

G931

Mike Venner, Worthing Excel	1	3	39
D. Lock, Worthing Excel	...	1	6 30
J. Dutton, Central Sussex	...	1	6 45
A. Morris, Brighton Mitre	...	1	6 53
M. Colburn, E'bourne Rovers	1	7	6
R. Hughes, Brighton Excel	1	7	43
H'cap. M. Wyatt, Brighton Mitre (8-0)	1-3-9.	Team. — Worthing Excelsior	
(Venner, Lock, Bethell)	3-19-59.		



## POLICE SAFETY RULE LIMITS RACE FIELD

DUE to a police safety rule limiting the field to 40, Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club had to turn away entries from more than 30 riders for their 50-mile handicap open road race to be held on Saturday.

The race headquarters will be at Yapton Village Hall and the race will be over 11 laps of approximately 4½-miles. It will start and finish at about a quarter-of-a-mile east of the village hall on the B2024 at Britstant Works, Burndale-road, Yapton.

The course, a left-handed one, is virtually around the old Ford airport. It turns off the B2024, along Horsemere Green-lane, past Ford Open Prison along the Arundel-road, left along Ford-road and back to the start.

The riders will go off in four handicap groups; the juniors at 2.30 p.m.; third grade at 2.32 p.m.; second grade at 2.34 p.m. and first grade at 2.38 p.m.

Mick Venner will be the promoting club's star rider among the first grade riders of whom J. Gifford (Croydon RC), and B. Beaty (East Grinstead CC) are tipped as likely winners. George Matthews (Worthing Excelsior) is likely to be the fastest junior.

One Worthing Excelsior rider who will not be in the field on Saturday is Tony Hill, of Roedean-road, Worthing, who is art master at the Andrew Cairns school at Littlehampton.

On Wednesday evening Tony was out training with club colleague Don Lock, preparing for two-up events in which they plan to ride together this year.

After a hard struggle against the wind to Wick they were travelling about 35 mph on the return journey to Worthing when their wheels touched at Rustington and Hill crashed.

He sustained severe facial injuries which will keep him out of the saddle for some time. Hill was detained overnight at Worthing Hospital . . . where his wife is a nurse.

Later this year Hill plans to ride in the National 24-hour championship in which Peter Langridge, a student at Cardiff University whose home is in Mardale-road, Worthing, is also to ride. Lock is trying to be persuaded to compete as well so that Worthing can enter a team.

### CYCLING

Worthing Excelsior open road race  
(Yapton Village Hall, 2.30).

## VENNER STORMS TO VICTORY IN TIME TRIAL

THE FIRST Sussex Cyclists Association event of the season, a 25-mile time trial on the local course starting and finishing on the road east of Lancing Manor on Sunday, proved a great success for Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club.

They provided the first two men home, Mick Venner and Don Lock, and easily won the team prize.

Conditions were difficult but Venner, well known for early season fitness and fast times, returned a magnificent 1hr. 3min. 39sec.—almost exactly three minutes faster than anyone else in the field of 30 riders.

Don Lock was also in good form, recording 1-6-30, and the Excelsior team was made up by tenth man home, Bernie Bethell (1-9-5).

Other Excelsior times were: Tony Hill (1-10-32), Mike Poland (1-11-26), Eddy Kneen (1-12-23), Harry Beasley (1-16-4).

Junior George Matthews was also in action on Sunday. In a good class 40-mile circuit event

in the Boxgrove-road area near Chichester, George had difficulty in keeping up with breaking groups at times, but on each occasion hauled himself back into a favourable position.

At the finish he managed 11th place, not a bad effort and certainly good experience in a field of third category senior and top junior riders.

With no local racing at the weekend, many Excelsior members will be training. However, Don Lock and Tony Hill travel to Orpington to ride in a 25-mile two up event on Sunday.

There will also be a club run on Sunday starting at the club room, Broadwater Green, at 9 a.m.



# Loner Porter's brave win

A fantastic lone effort by time trial specialist Bob Porter, of Feltham R.C., in extremely rough conditions was the feature of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's first open road race promotion.

The 50-mile event held over 14 laps of a four-and-a-half-mile exposed circuit in the Yapton-Ford area on Saturday afternoon was a successful promotion and a credit to the go-ahead Worthing club.

Being a handicap event, riders started in four main groups — juniors, third category riders, second category, and the first category riders, who were giving some up to eight minutes' start.

Laps one and two were fairly uneventful, although there was already some bridging of gaps between the groups. This was particularly evident by the fast-moving second category, who included Eric Bonner, brother of professional rider Dave Bonner, from Crawley Wheelers, and the eventual winner, Bob Porter.

## VICTIM

A count at the end of lap three showed that the hard, north-easterly wind was being merciless to any who dropped even slightly from the back of a group. Of the 40 who started there were only 30 remaining.

Worthing's Mike Venner was a most unfortunate early puncture victim and by the end of lap three Chris Woodcock and John Lucas, his club colleague, had also both retired.

On the fourth lap, still with more than 30 miles to go, the Feltham man made his effort. It was particularly exciting for a while when it looked as if a similar one-man effort by George Matthews, of Worthing

Excelsior, might take him up to Porter.

This was not to be and George, still a junior, sensibly dropped back to the leading group who were at this stage trailing Porter by about one minute.

By half-way mark, the race had settled down to Porter at 1½ minutes from a group of eight, including Bonner and Matthews, and then a further gap of two minutes to another bunch of mainly first category riders, who seemed quite unable to make any impression despite the presence of Bob Beatty, of East Grinstead C.C., and Cliff Sharpe, the strong Eastbourne Rovers rider.

## STRENGTH

In lap five, Worthing's Bernie Bethell retired, and soon afterwards Pete Reeves also gave way to the conditions. Porter's lead at the end of lap eight had stretched to three minutes and those behind had started to think of the value of the second prize.

Matthews's early effort had left him without the strength to match the break in lap nine, which saw Bonner and T. Clancy, of St Raphael C.C., clear for the second and third spots.

The final circuit saw Porter applauded round, to win in the excellent time of 2hr. 5min. Bonner had shaken off Clancy to come in second four minutes behind. Clancy was third a further minute down.

A spectacular sprint for fourth prize was won by reserve rider D. Wingmore, of Farnborough C.C., and poor

Matthews, game to the last, was just pushed out of the prize list to finish seventh. Fifth was D. Bate (St Raphael) and P. Dooley (Bognor Regis C.C.) was sixth. Dooley, a junior, thus took the junior prize.

Race organizer Colin Miller was thanked for his efforts and invited to stage the race again next year.

PICTURES ON

NEXT TWO

PAGES.

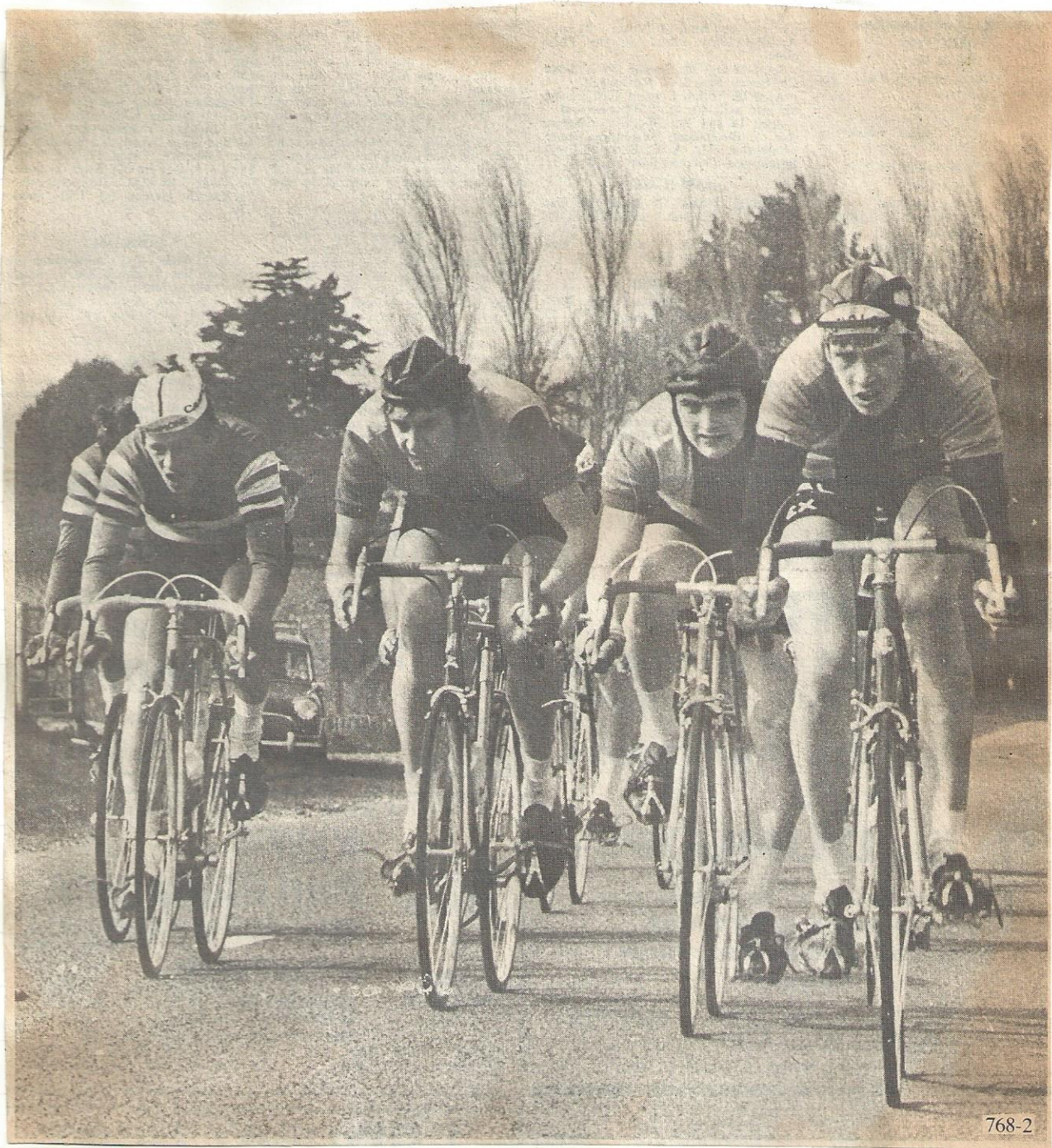




The winner of the 50-mile handicap open race on Saturday, Bob Porter, of Feltham, raises a weak but triumphant arm (above). The going (below) gets tough as the strong wind and biting cold takes its toll of the field.

W.S.G 768-3





768-2



# Fantastic effort is produced in first open road race

A FANTASTIC lone effort by time trial specialist Bob Porter of Feltham RC in extremely rough conditions was the feature of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's first open road race promotion.

The 50-mile event, held over 11 laps of a four-and-a-half mile exposed circuit in the Yapton-Ford area on Saturday, was a successful promotion and a credit to the go-ahead Worthing club.

Being a handicap event, riders started in four main groups; juniors and third category riders off first followed by second category and the first category riders giving them up to eight minutes start.

## BRIDGING

Laps one and two were fairly uneventful although there was already some bridging of the gaps between the groups particularly by the fast moving second category which included Eric Bonner, brother of professional rider Dave Bonner, from Crawley Wheelers, and the eventual winner Bob Porter.

A count at the end of lap three showed that the hard, north easterly wind was being merciless to any who dropped even slightly from the back of a group. Of the 40 who started, only 30 remained.

Worthing's Mick Venner was a most unfortunate early puncture victim and by the end of lap three Chris Woodcock and John Lucas, his club colleagues, had also retired.

## EXCITING

On the fourth lap still with 30 miles to go, the Feltham man made his effort. It was particularly exciting for a while when it looked as if a similar lone effort by George Matthews of Worthing Excelsior might take him up to Porter.

This was not to be and George, still a junior, sensibly dropped back to the leading group who were at this stage trailing Porter by about one minute.

By the half-way mark the race had settled down to Porter at 1½ minutes from a group of eight including Bonner and Matthews and then a further gap of two minutes to another bunch of mainly first category riders who seemed quite unable to make any impression.

## RETIRE

In lap five Worthing's Bernie Bethell retired and soon after Pete Reeves also gave best to the conditions.

Porter's lead at the end of lap eight had stretched to three minutes and those behind had started to think of the value of the

second prize. Matthews's early effort had left him without the strength to match the break in lap nine which saw Bonner and T. Clancy, of St. Raphael CC, clear for the second and third spots.

The final circuit saw Porter applauded round to win in the excellent time of 2 hr. 5 min., Bonner had shaken off Clancy to come in second four minutes behind and Clancy was third a further minute down.

A spectacular sprint for fourth prize was won by reserve rider D. Wingmore, of Earningborough CC, and poor Matthews, game to the last, was just pushed out of the prize list to finish seventh. Fifth was D. Bate (St. Raphael) and P. Dooley (Bognor Regis CC) was sixth. Dooley, a junior, thus took the junior prize.

Race organiser Colin Miller was thanked for his efforts and invited to stage the race again next year.

WORTHING

GAZETTE

7TH APRIL

1971.



Excelsior competitors in Saturday's 50-mile open road race included (left to right) Mick Venner, Chris Woodcock, Bernie Bethell and George Matthews.



EVENING ARGUS APRIL 5TH 1971.

**Cycling**

## **BOB HAD TO BE TOUGH TO WIN**

A SUPERB lone effort by time-trial specialist Bob Porter (Felt-ham R.C.) in extremely tough conditions was the feature of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's first open road race over 50 miles (11 laps) of an exposed circuit in the Yapton-Ford area.

On the fourth lap, with more than 30 miles still to go, Porter made his effort and Worthing junior George Matthews was the only rider immediately to challenge him. By the half-way

mark Porter was 90 seconds ahead of a group which included George Bonner and Matthews, and then there was a further gap of two minutes to another bunch of mainly first-category riders.

Porter won in 2hr. 5min., Bonner was second four minutes behind, and T. Clancy (St. Raphael CC) third a further minute down. D. Wingmore (Farnborough CC) was fourth; D. Bate (St. Raphael) fifth and P. Dooley (Bognor Regis CC) sixth and top junior.

9TH APRIL 1971.

## Two-up is won in good time

RAW COLD, damp and a strong north east wind. These were the unpleasant conditions Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club riders faced in the club's two-up 25-mile time trial on Sunday.

The start and finish was on the Upper Brighton-road at Lancing west of the Sussex Pad and the course went to Angmering and Findon.

Mick Venner and George Matthews won in a good time of 1 hr. 1 min. with Colin Miller and Alan Orman, the latter making a comeback this year, taking second place in 1 hr. 4 min. 26 sec. This pair lost a minute with mechanical trouble.

Peter Reeves and Peter Churchill came next in 1 hr. 5 min. 17 sec. and the other teams were: Harry Beasley and Ray Douglass 1 hr. 9 min. 10 sec.; Chris Woodcock and Jim Besley 1 hr. 9 min. 30 sec.; Richard Shipton and Tony Palmer 1 hr. 9 min. 52 sec.; K. Bishop and Derek Pearce 1 hr. 12 min. 44 sec.

CYCLING APRIL 10TH 1971

Worthing CC h'cap. — BOB PORTER, Feltham RC, 50m in 2-8-4; 2. E. Bonner, Crawley CC, 5-42; 3. T. Clancy, St Raphael-Stanton at 8-15; 4. D. Wigmore, Parnborough & Camberley, at 8-45; 5. D. Bate, St Raphael-Stanton, at 10-0; 6. P. Dooley, Bognor Regis, st. — Team: St Raphael-Stanton.

16TH APRIL 1971

## CRASH ENDS VISIT BY CYCLISTS

LEADING Sussex cyclist Mick Venner headed a highly successful party of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club members who spent Easter in Guernsey competing in a four day meeting.

Starting with a two up 25-mile event in which there were 31 teams, Venner and highly promising teenager George Matthews won the race.

In a ten mile time trial, Matthews was second and, with Venner taking sixth place and Peter Reeves eighth, Worthing collected the team prize.

On the third day, Matthews won a 23-mile road race for junior and third category riders by a clear three minutes. Reeves was third and Steve Richards sixth, giving Worthing the team award.

### Venner wins

Venner won the senior, first and second category riders road race. Later that day Matthews won a 7½-mile juniors race held on a go-kart track and, with Reeves finishing third, Worthing won the team award.

The visit ended abruptly that day, however, for Venner, in his second event, crashed heavily and sustained severe abrasions and bruising.

The Worthing riders pulled out of the fourth day's events as a result of Venner's crash.

Excelsior members Don Lock and Tony Hill rode in a 25-mile time trial on the Loughborough-Derby road at the weekend. Lock was 16th out of a field of 106 in 1hr. 3min. 22sec. and Hill's time was 1hr. 8min. 32sec.



## Whitehouse scores win number 100

**A** SUPERB ride in Arctic conditions this morning showed why Dave Whitehouse is a national cycling champion. He completed the Guernsey Velo Club 10-mile time trial in 24 minutes 40 seconds to win by more than half a minute.

It was a special win — Whitehouse's 100th in open road races and time trials.

Results: 1, D. Whitehouse (Shirley Roads Club) 24-40; 2, W. Vetcher (Hampshire R.C.) and R. Matthews (Worthing Excels) 25-15; 4, A. Herrathy (Solihull C.C.) 25-25; 5, D. Pitman (Sth Pennine R.C.) 25-27; 6, M. Venner (Worthing Excels) 25-32; 7, S. Guilbert (Exeter Wh.) 25-46; 8, J. Rogers (Sth Pennine) 26-11; 9, P. Reeves (Worthing Excels) 26-47; 10, A. Harvey (G.V.C.) 27-04; 11, A. Renyard (G.V.C.) 27-11; 12, R. Southgate (Lincoln V.C.) 27-16; 13, K. Parkyn (Bromley R.C.) 27-20; 14, M. Roberts (Sth Pennine) 27-26; 15, A. Wardle (Sth Pennine R.C.) 27-43; 16, T. Travers (G.V.C.) 27-51; 17, P. Bennett (Wessex R.C.) 27-56; 18, R. Smith-Ainsley (G.V.C.) and A. Harrison (Sth Pennine) 27-58; 20, H. Ferbrache (G.V.C.) 28-01; 21, A. Sauvarin (G.V.C.) 28-05; 22, D. Pinchin (Ex. Wh.) 28-11; 23, G. Wallbridge (G.V.C.) 28-19; 24, G. Osmond (Ex. Wh.) 28-28; 25, H. W. Pink (South Eastern R.C.) 28-30 (new veterans record).

## Cycle records tumble in opening race

**R**ECORDS tumbled in the first event of the Guernsey Velo Club-Willem II cycling festival, although many of the English riders did not arrive in Guernsey until 1½ hours before the start of the two-up 25 mile time trial from Pleinmont to Bordeaux and back.

M. Venner and R. Matthews of the Worthing Excelsior club beat the record set in the inaugural Easter Festival last year by nearly two minutes in 1 hr, 4 min., 45 sec.

Local schoolboys Tim Travers and Mark Sauvarin lopped 4½ minutes off the old schoolboys

and juniors best while Al Harvey and Hagen Ferbrache beat the old native record by more than two minutes.

Leading South Pennine pair J. Rogers and D. Pitman were just outside the old record in second place and former holders W. Kirkland and P. Bennett, of Wessex, were only eight seconds slower in third place.

Results:— 1, M. Venner and R. Matthews (Worthing Ex), 1-4-45; 2, D. Pitman and J. Rogers (South Pennine R.C.), 1-6-34; 3, W. Kirkland and P. Bennett (Wessex R.C.), 1-6-42; 4, Al Harvey and H. Ferbrache (G.V.C.), 1-7-0; 5, A. Baker and W. Vetcher (Hampshire R.C.), 1-7-11; 6, D. Whitehouse (Shirley R.C.) and A. Renyard (G.V.C.), 1-8-07; 7, R. Powell and A. Herraty (Solihull R.C.), 1-8-34; 8, P. Reeves and C. Woodcock (Worthing Ex), 1-9-08; 9, A. Wardle and M. Harrison (South Pennine), 1-10-46; 10, M. Sauvarin and T. Travers (G.V.C.), 1-11-04; 11, P. Pinchin (Exeter Wh) and S. Richards (Worthing), 1-11-49; 12, M. Roberts and G. Beswick (South Pennine), 1-12-12; 13, A. Sauvarin and R. S. Ainsley (G.V.C.), 1-12-32; 14, G. Wallbridge and D. Barrett (G.V.C.), 1-14-04; 15, J. Galway (Hampshire R.C.) and J. Clements (Bath R.C.), 1-15-16; 16, A. Best and A. Warr (G.V.C.), 1-16-17; 17, E. and R. Southgate (Lincoln Velo Club), 1-17-30; 18, J. Martel and D. Smith (G.V.C.), 1-17-45; 19, S. Scott and D. Newbury (Old Park C.C.), 1-20-18.

Retired: T. Wright and M. Smith (G.V.C.), D. Chamberlain and R. Pritchard (Old Park C.C.).



## Worthing riders on top in cycling

**W**ORTHING Excelsior riders claimed the road racing honours yesterday in the Willem II cycling festival organised by the Guernsey Velo Club. M. Venner and R. Matthews won the 31 and 23 miles massed start races.

The riders moved to the Track in the afternoon for three circuit races.

Results:—

23 miles massed start road race: 1, R. Matthews (Worthing) 1-1-9; 2, A. Wardle (Sth Pennine) at 2-50; 3, P. Reeves (Worthing) same; 4, G. Wallbridge (Guernsey) at 4-25; 5, R. Smith-Ainsley (Guernsey) same; 6, S. Richards (Worthing) same; 7, M. Harrison (Sth Pennine) same; 8, M. Smith (Guernsey) same; 9, D. Barrett (Guernsey) same; 10, R. Southgate (Lincoln) at 7-00; 11, G. Beswick (Sth Pennine) at 9-20; 12, J. Clements (Bath) same; 13, A. Warr (Guernsey) same; 14, R. Pritchard (Old Park) at 11-20.

31 miles massed start road race: 1, M. Venner (Worthing) 1-18-4; 2, A. Herraty (Solihull) same; 3,

S. Guilbert (Exeter) same; 4, D. Whitehouse (Shirley) same; 5, D. Pitman (Sth Pennine) same; 6, B. Lidster (Caesarean) at 1-00; 7, W. Kirkland (Wessex) same; 8, A. Renyard (Guernsey) at 8-50; 9, H. Ferbrache (Guernsey) same; 10, P. Pinchin (Exeter) same; 11, A. Harvey (Guernsey) at 9-05.

Five miles circuit race, school-boys: 1, G. Osmond (Exeter) 13-34; 2, T. Travers (Guernsey) 13-35; 3, T. Wright (Guernsey) 14-07; 4, M. Sauvarin (Guernsey); 5, A. Best (Guernsey); 6, S. Tostevin (Guernsey); 9, D. Newbury (Old Park).

7½ miles circuit race: 1, R. Matthews (Worthing) 19-26; 2, A. Wardle (Sth Pennine); 3, P. Reeves (Worthing); 4, P. Bennett (Wessex); 5, R. Smith-Ainsley (Guernsey); 6, M. Smith (Guernsey); 7, M. Harrison (Sth Pennine); 8, R. Pritchard (Old Park); 9, D. Chamberlain (Old Park); 10, J. Martel (Guernsey); 11, R. Southgate (Lincoln); 12, G. Beswick (Sth Pennine); 13, S. Richards (Worthing); 14, S. Scott (Old Park); 15, T. O'Sullivan (Old Park).

10 mile circuit race: 1, S. Guilbert (Exeter) 27-06; 2, B. Lidster (Caesarean); 3, D. Whitehouse (Shirley); 4, A. Herraty (Solihull); 5, K. Parkyn (Bromley); 6, D. Pitman (Sth Pennine); 7, A. Harvey (Guernsey); 8, W. Kirkland (Wessex); 9, J. Rogers (Sth Pennine); 10, A. Renyard (Guernsey); 11, H. Ferbrache (Guernsey); 12, M. Vetcher (Hampshire); 13, M. Venner (Worthing); 14, P. Pinchin (Exeter); 15, P. Bennett (Wessex); 16, M. Roberts (Sth Pennine).



WEST SUSSEX GAZETTE

APRIL 22ND

1971

### Worthing pair placed third

Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's Mick Venner and George Matthews, favourites for the Sussex Cyclists' Association open 50km. two-up team trial on Sunday — an event to celebrate the association's 50th anniversary — had to be content with third place behind opposition from outside the county.

The winners were P. Crofts and P. M. Humphrey (East Surrey Road Club) in a time of 1hr. 15min. 20sec. Second were G. Charlwood and T. Wilson (Folkestone and District C.C.) in 1hr. 15min. 45sec. The Worthing pair's time was 1hr. 16min. 19sec.

There was a good entry of 33 teams, of which seven came from the Worthing club, and the event was staged mainly on the A24 road, with the start and finish at Knepp Castle, near Horsham.

Other Excelsior teams to finish well up the field were Bernie Bethell and Tony Flumm (ninth in 1hr. 21min. 19sec.) and Tony Hill and Don Lock (12th in 1hr. 22min. 17sec.).

## THIRD PLACE GAINED BY LEADING RIDERS

ANOTHER FINE performance came from Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's leading riders Mick Venner and George Matthews when Sussex Cyclists Association — celebrating their golden jubilee — held an open 50 kilometre two up team time trial on Sunday. Venner and Matthews finished third in a field of 33 teams from London and the home counties.

The course—which, converted, was 31½ miles—started at Knepp Castle, went north to Broadbridge Heath, then turned back to Washington and on towards Steyning.

It continued north to Ashurst and Partridge Green before a short finishing straight back to Knepp Castle.

### High wind

The weather was cold despite some sunshine. A high wind helped riders at the start, but later caused the field to string out a good deal.

The event was won by P. Crofts and P. Humphrey of the East Surrey Road Club in a time of 1hr. 15min. 20sec. Second were Folkestone and district riders G. Charlwood and T. Wilson (1-15-45).

Venner and Matthews had been strongly fancied for a leading place and they justified this speculation with third position in 1-16-19. They were the first Sussex pair home and so prevented a clean sweep of the prize list by the "foreigners."

Other Worthing Excelsior teams recorded the following times: Bernie Bethell and Tony Flumm (1-21-19), Tony Hill and Don Lock (1-22-17), Bob Sparks and Mike Poland (1-23-13), Ray Douglass and Harry Beasley (1-27-28), Tony Palmer and Richard Shipton (1-30-01), Graham Barnes and Paul Hampton (1-41-52).

APRIL 23RD

1971

WORTHING

HERALD



# GEORGE EASILY EARNS A PRIZE

MANY Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club members were in action over a cold and wet weekend—some of them with a good deal of success. To start the competitive ball rolling, George Matthews took part in the Bellingham Wheelers 10 miles event on Saturday.

George, a most promising junior, did well to finish fourth in 23min. 35sec. and this easily earned him the prize for the fastest junior.

On Sunday, George, together with Peter Reeves, Colin Miller and Steve Richards, took part in the Bognor CC 50 kilometre road event for third category and junior riders on a course near Yapton. Richards retired early, but the other three did well, achieving respectable places in a tight finish.

A. Williams of Redhill proved to be the man with the best finish. Unofficially, Matthews was eighth, Reeves ninth and Miller 15th.

## *Bunched finish*

Following this event, the first and second category senior riders had an event over 100 kilometres and once again there was a bunched finish. Excelsior's Mike Venner did extremely well to gain fourth place.

On the time trial scene, Don Lock and Eddy Kneen travelled to Ringwood early on Sunday morning to take part in Poole Wheelers 25

miles promotion and both had reason to think the trip well worth while.

Lock improved his time for the fourth successive occasion this year with 1hr. 2min. 57sec. His best time ever, 1-1-39, set 14 years ago, looks certain to be bettered soon.

Kneen, who started cycling again last year after a long lay off, did 1-10-55 and should have no trouble improving considerably on this when the weather gets better.

At the end Lock was 12th in a field of 117, and the winner, P. Harris of Plymouth, recorded 59 min. 29sec.

The first club junior event of 1971, the 15 miles time trial, was held on Sunday and was won by Graham Barnes in 40min. 25sec. It was a close and interesting race.

Kevin Bishop was second in 40-53, Derek Pearce third in 43-17 and Paul Hampton fourth in 44-22.

Bob Sparks started favourite, but punctured and finished with 48-23.

The handicap prize went to Pearce (allowance 10min. 30sec.) with a net time of 32-47.

This event was the first to count towards the junior best all-rounder trophy, and it indicated a tough fight for this cup.

This Sunday, Mick Venner, George Matthews and Ray Douglass travel to Weston-super-Mare for a 25-mile event on a reputedly fast course. One of these riders could well return the first one hour or less time of the season for the club.

Also on Sunday, Don Lock tackles the Southern Counties 50-mile time trial, run between Broadbridge Heath and Findon and centred almost entirely on the A24.

WORTHING HERALD 30TH APRIL 1971



CYCLING 1ST MAY  
1971.

**JACK SHRIMPTON MEMORIAL "10"**  
(G.511)

M. Sibbald, Clarence Wh	.....	23	22
P. Coare, '34 Nomads CC	.....	23	27
R. Donington, S Eastern RC	...	23	33
A. Locke, Clarence Wh	.....	23	35
R. Matthews, Worthing Ex	.....	23	35
J. Smith, Addiscombe CC	.....	23	39

**Juniors**

R. Matthews, Worthing Ex	.....	23	35
M. Herrin, Redhill CC	.....	25	12
M. Rutherford, Clarence Wh	...	25	21



7TH MAY 1971.

## Two riders break the barrier

THE COMPLETION of 25 miles in under one hour is the goal of every racing cyclist.

On Sunday, both Mick Venner and George Matthews of the Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club achieved this aim when riding in the Clevedon and district CC event on the Bristol to Bridgwater road.

Many times the talented Venner had gone close to the barrier without quite reaching it. On Sunday, however, he made a thorough job of his effort, clocking 58 min. 35 sec. This gave him fifth place in a high class field of 120.

When Matthews also went through the barrier—he did 59 min. 55 sec. — this meant two Excelsior men under the hour in one race for the first time in the club's long history.

If one of the club's other top 25 milers had been in the event Excelsior would probably have set a new team record for the club. But Ray Douglass, a veteran now, was the other Excelsior man present and he clocked 1hr. 9min. 48sec. — his best so far this season.

### Good enough

In the Southern Counties Cyclist's Union 50-mile event on the A24 on Sunday, Don Lock finished 12th in a field of 81 with a time of 2hr. 13min. 36sec. This was good enough to gain him second prize in the handicap section.

Colin Miller also competed, did well for 40 miles and then tired considerably to record 2hr. 21min. 26sec.

This weekend sees one of the major events of the Sussex road racing calendar, the Sussex division of the British Cycling Federation championship over a hard hilly circuit near Burwash. Excelsior will have eight men competing, including Venner and Matthews.

Other riders will be taking part in the New Forest CC time trials and also trials being held by the 34th Nomads.

38 Worthing Gazette,  
Wednesday, May 12, 1971

## VENNER WINS THE FIRST TEN-MILER

THE FIRST of the season's ten-mile evening rides for Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club resulted on Thursday in a win for Mick Venner, who clocked 24 min. 19 sec. He was closely followed by Pete Reeves (24-23) and junior Bob Sparks (24-24).

Other fast rides in a field of 22 came from junior Graham Barnes (25-01) and second claim member John Finch (25-14). Finch, a first claim member of Ross Wheelers, will be able to ride for Excelsior in Sussex Cyclists Association events and should be a great asset.

### Good field

Last night (Tuesday) the club's committee was meeting to pick riders for the Sussex team 25-mile championship on May 23. No fewer than 23 members had said they were available and, with Venner and George Matthews in great form, Worthing should do well.

The club have to select six riders (four to count) for the main competition and then teams of four (three to count) for the secondary competition.

CYCLING 8TH MAY 1971.

LITTLE late coming to hand, WORTHING WHEEL'S Christmas number was most welcome and proves the Worthing Excelsior CC to be active in all spheres of the cycling game.



# VENNER IS PIPPED IN A SPRINT

WHEN THE Sussex Division of the British Cycling Federation held their road race championships at Rushlake Green, East Sussex, on Sunday, it soon became obvious that many of the county's leading riders were extremely fit for this early part of the season.

Worthing Excelsior riders were to the fore in the event, and two of them, Mick Venner and Chris Woodcock, performed particularly well.

The senior race, over 11 laps of the six-mile course, was more closely contested than for many years and a higher number of riders than usual stayed the fast course.

Of the local men, Bernie Bethell and Colin Miller found the going extremely tough and retired before the end. Then Woodcock, who is to ride in the national 24-hour event this year, and is reaping the reward from long hours of training, stayed well with the experienced Venner.

## BREAKAWAY

It was with about threequarters of the distance completed that Venner broke away with crack East Grinstead rider Trevor Budgen. In the end, Budgen proved too strong, but Venner had done really well to finish second.

Woodcock's lack of a sprint finish meant he could not vie for third or fourth place, but he finished well up the field with an effort that surprised many of his clubmates.

In the junior event over six laps, George Matthews, now 18, was riding his last event in the junior category. The changeover will bring sighs of relief to other juniors and some trepidation to many seniors.

Matthews was determined to end his junior career on a high note and he did this by winning easily. He was helped over the early stages by a determined effort from club colleague Bob Sparks.

## SHOWS FORM

It was again Keith Dodman who travelled furthest for competition at the weekend. He went to Lichfield to ride in the Kynock 25-mile event and showed his form in returning with a time of 1hr. 6min. 32sec.

The New Forest CC 25-mile event saw Don Lock return a good 1-3-10, Ray Douglass a time of 1-12-15 and Harry Beasley 1-10-45.

Tony Hill rode in the 34th Nomads 25 on the Portsmouth road and was pleased with his 1-6-09. This is a good return to form after the accident he suffered just before Easter.

This Sunday, the club hold their 25-mile championship and junior handicap 25 for the Sherwin Trophy at Withy Patch, just west of the Sussex Pad Hotel. It is understood that neither Venner nor Matthews will be competing and so it should be an extremely open race.

WORTHING

HERALD

14TH MAY

1971.



CYCLING 15TH MAY 1971.

## Sussex

### Senior

**TREVOR BUDGEN**, East Grinstead, 68m in 3-7-38; 2 M. Venner, Worthing Ex at 3-55; 3 C. Sharp, Eastbourne Rov at 5-4; 4 E. Bonner, Crawley Wh at 5-15; 5 P. Doocey, Bognor Regis at 5-17; 6 P. Lipscombe, Central Sussex at 5-20; 7 A. Jones, Crawley Wh at 5-23; 8 M. Colburn, Eastbourne Rov at 5-24; 9 D. Aweock, Central Sussex at 5-25; 10 R. Sturt, Brighton Ex at 5-26; 11 R. Rogers, Central Sussex at 5-30; 12 P. Hayes, Crawley Wh at 5-32.

### Junior

**ROBERT MATTHEWS**, Worthing Ex, 36m in 1-40-30; 2 T. Leach, Eastbourne Rov at 4-43; 3 Stephen Myatt, Lewes Wanderers at 5-51; 4 A. Fendleton, Crawley Wh at 5-55; 5 N. Tingley, Brighton Ex at 5-57; 6 A. Holcombe, Bognor Regis at 6-20; 7 A. Handley, Brighton Mitre at 10-0.

### CLEVEDON & D "25" (U21R)

John Legge, Bristol South ...	56 30
D. Holliday, Gordano Val ...	57 34
K. Johnston, Bristol South ...	57 52
P. Harris, Plymouth RC ...	58 27
M. Venner, Worthing Ex ...	58 35
R. Matthews, Worthing Exc ...	59 55
H'cap: P. Glendell, Clevedon & D	
(20-0) 53-56, Team. — Bristol South	
(Legge, Johnston, Fry) 2-57-2.	





**DON AWCOCK** — fourth in the East Sussex 68-mile road race.

a very shaky start to the road racing season. Competing in his home club's 68-mile Tour of East Sussex, Don finished fourth, the leading Sussex rider.

The event was won by Tooting's Tony Bartlett, but Don showed the form that is expected of him by filling a splendid fourth position.

East Grinstead's Trevor Budgen, who won the county title last weekend, did not make the first ten. Neither did Cliff Sharp from Eastbourne, last week's bronze medallist, while Worthing Excelsior's Mick Venner, who has had a very hectic week, did not complete the course.

On Friday night, however, Mick did gain a place in the Sussex pursuit championship final when he beat Brighton Excel's Mick Adams, while Alan Temple of Velo Club Noviomagos beat Brighton Mitre's John Yardley to take the honour of facing Venner in the final at the end of June.

In the race-off for third place Yardley got the verdict and takes the bronze medal.

The Brighton Mitre and Wor-

thing Excelsior held 25-mile time trials on the Sompting circuit on Sunday morning and it was Worthing rider Don Lock who turned in the fastest time with 1hr. 3min. 48sec.

P. Reeves and R. Sparks took second and third places in the Worthing event with 1hr. 4min. 55sec. and 1hr. 6min. 44sec. respectively.

Adrian Morris took the Frank Smith cup for the Mitre's event with 1hr. 5min. 5sec., 34 seconds clear of John Yardley in second place. Robin Johnson took third place with 1hr. 6min. 50sec. and Maurice Wyatt filled fourth spot with 1hr. 7min. 16sec.

With an allowance of eight minutes Ken Wells took the handicap event with a net time of 1hr. 2min. 26sec.

EVENING ARGUS

TUESDAY

18TH MAY

1971.

☆ ☆ ☆  
CENTRAL Sussex Cycling Club's  
Don Awcock at last hit form after



WORTHING GAZETTE

19TH MAY 1971.

## Cyclists do well in the face of blustery wind

CONDITIONS FOR Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's second evening 10-mile event of the season on Thursday were far different from those at the first. This time there was a blustery wind which meant that individual times were at least a minute slower than before.

First man home was young George Matthews, who had such a successful season last year. He clocked 24 min. 51 sec., ahead of Don Lock (25-29) and Pete Reeves (25-46).

There were some good rides from a number of juniors and, now that Matthews has moved up to the senior category, there will be much competition in this section of the club.

Graham Barnes (26-28), Kevin Bishop (27-51), Clive Roberts (28-05) Derek Pearce (28-51) and Paul Hampton (28-57) did well in the difficult conditions.

The club's racing committee have selected the following riders for the Sussex team championship 25 on May 23: Mick Venner, George Matthews, Don Lock, Keith Dodman, Pete Reeves and junior rider Bob Sparks. The club must be favourites to retain the title.

In the secondary event the club again look capable of retaining their championship and the first team will be: Alan Orman, John Finch, Colin Miller and Tony Hill.

WEST SUSSEX GAZETTE

20TH MAY 1971

## Excelsior 25-mile win for Lock

Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's annual 25-mile road race at the week-end resulted in a win for Don Lock in a time of 1hr. 3min. 48sec. Second was Peter Reeves (1hr. 4min. 55sec.) and third Bob Sparkes, a junior member, in 1hr. 6min. 44sec.

The Sherwin Trophy for the best junior on handicap went to Graham Barnes.

Two of the club's top cyclists were competing in the 69-mile East Sussex tour. They were Mick Venner, who finished second in the Sussex road race championship the previous week-end, and George Matthews (18), second in the county junior championship a week earlier.

Venner, who was suffering from a cold, had to pull out of the tour after covering 40 of the 69 miles, but young Matthews, in what was his first senior race, finished a splendid 13th, coming home with the leading bunch of riders.



CYCLING 22ND MAY  
1971

SPRING issue of THE WORTH-  
ING WHEEL carries on the  
good work of reporting the  
busy life of Worthing Excelsior  
CC. There is a deserved tribute  
to Tony Palmer, with picture,  
editor Don Lock continues his  
speedy way in competition, and  
from British Columbia comes a  
cheerful letter from Ted Long  
who, naturally enough, asks to  
be placed on the mailing list to  
receive such an entertaining  
publication of home news.

CYCLING. 22ND MAY  
1971

## Nick back

WHATEVER HAPPENED to  
Nick Lelliott? For anyone who  
is wondering, he is suffering  
from a malformed back, which  
is basically a displaced ver-  
tebra.

Nick is shortly going into a  
Middlesex hospital and hopes  
to be fighting for his place in  
the Olympic squad by the  
beginning of September. — D.  
Funnell, Shoreham-by-Sea,  
Sussex.

## WINS TITLE AT NINTH ATTEMPT

AT HIS NINTH attempt in 10  
years; Don Lock has at last won  
Worthing Excelsior Cycling  
Club's 25-mile championship. ...

He did it in cold and wet condi-  
tions on Sunday morning—taking  
full advantage of the fact that the  
two leading riders over this dis-  
tance, Mike Venner and George  
Matthews, were not competing.

Lock was the first to admit that  
both the absentees would probably  
have beaten him, but he was pleased  
with his excellent time of 1hr. 3min.  
48sec. in the adverse conditions.

In the past Lock has won the  
club's 50-mile, 100-mile and 24  
hour championships, but the short  
distance title has, until now, always  
eluded him.

Second was Lock's close rival  
Pete Reeves and these two were  
closely followed by junior Bob  
Sparks.

## JUNIORS

Run in conjunction with the club  
championship was the Sherwin  
Trophy, a handicap events for  
juniors over the same distance  
which was keenly contested and  
well supported.

Graham Barnes was the youngster  
who took most out of the handicap-  
per, doing an actual 1-8-18 which,  
with an allowance of 4 min. 50sec.,  
gave him a winning net time of  
1-3-28.

Bob Sparks was second with a  
net time of 1-3-39 (allowance 3-05)  
just 11 seconds adrift and third  
Clive Roberts with 1-4-41 (allow-  
ance 7-50).

Senior result: D. Lock (1-3-48), P.  
Reeves (1-5-55), R. Sparks (1-6-44),  
C. Miller (1-6-45), B. Bethell  
(1-7-03), G. Barnes (1-8-18), G.  
Bishop (1-10-58), A. Hill (1-11-23),  
C. Roberts (1-12-31), A. Palmer  
(1-12-48), R. Douglas (1-12-55), P.  
Hampton (1-14-31).

## TOUGH RUN

The event which kept Venner and  
Matthews away from their own 25  
was the Tour of East Sussex, a  
tough 67 miles run through the  
rugged country in the north-east of  
the county.

Venner had a heavy cold and  
started only to help his young club  
mate. Venner retired after 35 miles.

In this, his first event as a senior,  
Matthews decided not to push him-  
self too hard and did well to finish  
15th in the sprint finish. The winner  
covered the distance in 2hr. 50min.  
13sec.

This Sunday the Sussex team  
championships take place, starting  
near Sompting church at 7 a.m.  
There is an entry of 74 riders and  
Excelsior will start favourites.

WORTHING

HERALD

21ST MAY

1971.



# Worthing take '25' title in downpour

RISING early on a Sunday morning may not appeal to many, and when it is teeming with rain and the wind is blowing there seems even more excuse to lie in bed.

But more than 50 Sussex cyclists were up well before six to make their way to Sompting for the Sussex 25-mile time trial team championship, where the first man set off at one minute past seven.

Conditions were really appalling, and with the record sheets made soggy by the rain, the officials did well to get out any sensible result.

Several riders came adrift at the Offington roundabout, but after suffering the rain, winds and cold, and, of course, the tumbles on the slippery roads, it was the Worthing Excelsior team which won with a gross time for their four riders of 4hr. 15min. 26sec.

Brighton Mitre took second place with 4hr. 18min. 11sec., and Brighton Excelsior were third with 4hr. 19min. 39sec.

## BETTER

The fastest individual time was recorded by Worthing's newly-crowned county junior road race champion George Mathews, who recorded an excellent 1hr. 1min. 30sec.—very fast in the conditions. The day before he recorded a sub-1 hour 25-mile in a private time trial.

The Brighton Mitre championship, held in conjunction with the country event, was won by Keith Chandler with 1hr. 3min. 13sec. Bill Sladen has now gone nap with the Bantel/Raleigh pro team for the Fyffes Festival of Cycling at Preston Park on June 11. Having already signed up team captain Hugh Porter, Bill has now heard that four more of the team—Jim Moore, Sid Barras, Reg Smith and Bill Painter—will also be competing.

With a total of 16 pros signed up for the meeting, Bill has done better than he ever hoped.

There will be some open amateur races, a course-des-primés, flying start 400 metre time trial, ten-lap point-to-point with points at half laps, and a 10,000 metre scratch event. Entries for these races close on Wednesday, and Bill will be at the Sussex Cycle Racing League meeting at Preston Park to collect entries.

Don Awcock, of Central Sussex, did the double at the weekend

in good-class open road races—an unusual feat.

On Saturday Don competed in a 52-mile open event at Cliffe, near Rochester, and got home by half a wheel. On Sunday, racing over 65 miles in the Southborough event at Frant, he broke clear with three miles to go and cruised home an easy winner. Cliff Sharp (Eastbourne Rovers) finished third.

EVENING ARGUS TUESDAY MAY 25TH 1971.

## FAST TIMES SET BY CYCLISTS

PERFECT WEATHER conditions on Thursday meant that five members of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club were able to record their fastest ever times in an evening 10-mile event.

This quintet were taking part in the third of this year's 10-mile series.

George Mathews was first home with a splendid time of 22 min. 50 sec., and he was followed by Don Lock (23-58), who was well over a minute faster than his previous best.

The other three improved rides came from Steve Richards (25-32), and juniors Clive Roberts (26-35) and Paul Hampton (26-55). Ahead of them were Pete Reeves, third with 24-20, and John Finch, fourth with 24-55.

There were 29 competitors for the event and the series is proving as popular as ever.

The 10-mile rides are competitive, but at the same time ideal for training, adding sprinting ability to stamina.

WORTHING

GAZETTE

26TH MAY

1971.



# Cyclists win despite two big setbacks

DESPITE TWO major setbacks and the fact that the weather was far from ideal for the event, Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club retained the Sussex Cycling Association 25 miles team championship on Sunday.

Excelsior were favourites but their position looked grim when first Mick Venner was unable to compete because of bronchitis and then Bob Sparks crashed and was unable to finish.

But young George Matthews, only just a senior, rode well to record the fastest time of the day in a field of 74, 1hr. 1min. 30sec. Don Lock was second fastest man with 1-2-45 and this gave Excelsior a fine basis to win.

## BEST TIME

Keith Dodman rose to the occasion to clock 1-4-25, his best time of the year so far, and the fourth man in the team, Pete Reeves, did 1-6-46, below his best.

This gave Excelsior an aggregate time of 4-15-26, enough to win the title by about five minutes from Brighton Excelsior and by a further minute from Brighton Mitre CC.

In the secondary competition, Worthing fielded a strong B team and there were some excellent rides, any one of which would, in fact, have improved the A team's aggregate.

Alan Orman, in only his second ride this year, was fastest with 1-3-55, John Finch did well to record 1-4-17 and Colin Miller and Tony Hill, with 1-6-05 and 1-6-09 respectively, meant that the team finished clear of all the other B strings.

There was a good turnout from the Worthing club and a man to give a hefty kick to the selectors was Tony Flumm. He clocked 1-4-41, an excellent time.

Other times by Excelsior riders: Chris Woodcock (1-6-54), Bernie Bethell (1-7-28), Graham Barnes (1-7-33), Kevin Bishop (1-8-11), John Lucas (1-9-13), Steve Richards (1-9-24), Mike Poland (1-9-56), Richard Shipton (1-10-13), Paul Hampton (1-11-12), Ray Douglass (1-12-14), Eddy Kneen (1-14-05), Derek Pearce (1-14-18).

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## TWO UP

On Saturday, several Excelsior members took part in the Brighton Excelsior two up 25 on the Hosham road course. With Mick Venner ill, George Matthews had lost his partner, but he was allowed to ride as an individual—to great effect.

Matthews clocked 58 min. 27 sec.—a personal best—and it was just a few seconds slower than the winners, the Brown brothers from Portsmouth CC.

This makes Matthews once again the fastest man in the club over the distance—eight seconds faster than Venner.

Pete Reeves and Colin Miller rode well to finish with 1-0-30. Also competing for Excelsior were Steve Richards and Bernie Bethell (1-2-13), Richard Shipton and John Mansell (1-4-26) and Chris Woodcock and Jim Besley (1-6-34).



2ND JUNE 1971.

## PERSONAL RECORD SET BY CYCLIST

ANOTHER FAST time set by George Matthews. Not content with simply winning the fourth in Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's evening 10-mile series on Thursday, he cut his personal record to 22.29.

The event was run in cool and fairly calm conditions that were obviously to the liking of the riders. This resulted in another batch of personal best performances.

In order to achieve his result, Matthews had to catch second fastest rider Don Lock, who improved his best time to 23.36.

### Exciting ride

Possibly the most exciting ride of the evening was that of schoolboy Graham Barnes who returned an extremely creditable 24.36. This really promises keen competition in the junior best allrounder competition as well as for the evening ten series.

Graham's time was the third fastest of the Worthing riders and easily beat the time of several seniors.

Other times were: Bernie Bethell 25.07, Tony Hill 25.19, Mike Poland, 25.36, Kevin Bishop 25.46, Clive Roberts 26.05, Paul Hampton 26.26, Paul Fish 26.49, Derek Pearce 26.57, Chris Howard 27.04, John Lucas 27.20, H. King 28.20, C. Moore 28.52, R. Smith 29.06 and P. Ward 29.58.

### Annual series

Lewes Wanderers annual evening Criterium series of 36-miles road races start tomorrow (Thursday) on the six-mile circuit east of Ringmer. There are three events spread over the next three Thursdays and they have attracted a total entry of 35 representing most of the Sussex clubs. This promises some good racing.

Worthing Excelsior will be represented by Mick Venner, George Matthews, Tony Palmer, Richard Shipton, Colin Miller and John Lucas. John was the Series winner in 1969 but at the moment does not have the form of two years ago.

9TH JUNE 1971.

## LOCK RIDES IN FOR FIRST WIN OF SEASON

EXTREMELY rough weather meant a low entry of 14 for the fifth of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's 10-mile series on Thursday. It resulted in a win—his first of the season—for Don Lock.

Lock and club colleagues Tony Hill, Ray Douglass, John Mansell and Keith Dodman, together with Pete Brooker of East Grinstead, had enjoyed a tour of mountainous Wales over the Bank Holiday and this no doubt had helped the fitness of all six.

On Thursday, Lock recorded 25 min. 7sec., just ahead of Pete Reeves (25-24) and junior Bob Sparks (26-09). Two days earlier Reeves had recorded a personal best of 23-51 on the same course.

Other times were: Tony Hill (26-22), Graham Barnes (26-33), Bernie Bethell (26-58), Kevin Bishop (27-17), Mike Poland (27-49), Paul Hampton (28-00), Clive Roberts (28-15), Alan Matthews (30-16), C. Moore and R. Smith (both 31-46) and P. Ward (32-15).



## Testing time for 77 young cyclists

THE busy Saturday afternoon shopping scene in West Worthing was further enlivened at the weekend by 77 young cyclists from 14 schools competing in a road safety test over a six-mile course through Goring and Durrington.

They were under observation all the way by 12 volunteer marshals armed with scoreboards, who stopped them en route to test them with questions about road signs and the Highway Code.

Four regular police officers and three specials gave up their afternoon to examine the machines at the starting post, Selden County Primary School in Nelson-road. The cyclists were sent off and received in well-spaced groups by Mr Theo Puttick, of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club.

This annual test, open to all schools, was organised by Worthing's road safety officer, Mr R. E. Edser, and the chairman of the Junior Accident Prevention Council, Mr John Cairns, who ran a pedal car circuit for the infants and did some useful recruiting for the "Tufty" Club.

Witnesses present from Worthing's watch and local safety committee included the chairman, Councillor H. Nelson, and Councillor B. R. Warden Swinfen.

The event also included the testing of 16 adult motor-cyclists who had taken an RAC-ACU

tuition course. Their ages ranged from 16 to a woman of 64 on a moped and a man of 56.

The serious business of the day was lightened by Mr Robert Perkis, who brought his model steam road locomotive to the school, complete with driver Mr Michael Thompson, to give joyrides to the smaller children, his sturdy little engine accommodating 12 at a time quite comfortably.

The result of the inter-schools contest and the numbers of diplomas awarded will be made known when the complicated scoring system is completed and checked.

WORTHING HERALD 11TH JUNE 1971.

## TOP-TIME REEVES TAKES SECOND PRIZE

LIGHT WINDS made conditions favourable for riders in the Southern Counties Cyclists Union 25-mile time trial on the Shoreham, Arundel, Findon roads on Sunday.

Pete Reeves turned in the best performance by a Worthing Excelsior rider with a personal best of 1hr. 2min. 39sec.—a ride which brought him second handicap prize.

Mike Poland (1-6-49) also showed a return to form in an event won by P. Humphrey (East Surrey) in 59 min. 2 sec.

Other Excelsior times were: Bernie Bethell (1-7-28), Richard Shipton (1-8-01) and Tony Palmer (1-9-56).

The New Forest area again attracted Don Lock who took part in Wessex Road Club's open

50-mile event and did extremely well to finish sixth in a field of 96.

He clocked 2hr. 4min. 50sec.—his best time at this distance and the fastest by an Excelsior rider this season—and covered the first 25 miles in just under an hour.

Competition is bound to be keen on Sunday for the Excelsior 50-mile championship. A good entry is expected.



CYCLING, 12TH JUNE  
1971.

GHS (London South) "10"		
I. Coventry, Wallington HS	...	25 48
P. Churchill, Hove College	...	26 12
M. Perry, Horley County	...	26 12
G. Barnes, Boundstone Sec	...	26 16
B. Tidey, Selhurst Gram	...	26 36
R. Bicknell, Nevill Sec	...	27 0
Team: Thomas Bennett (King, Blunt, Greene) 1-26-2.		

BELLINGHAM WH "25" (G231)		
R. Vacher, Norwood Par	...	59 18
J. Froud, Festival RC	.....	59 47
D. Mee, Kenton RC	.....	59 54
R. Gaskell, S Eastern RC	...	59 56
R. Matthews, Worthing Exc	1 0 33	
H'cap: J. Dutson, Central Sussex (4-0) 57-42. Team: Norwood Par (Vacher, Hamilton, Ansell) 3-2-23.		



## Six riders brave foul conditions

FOUL CONDITIONS prevailed for the sixth race in Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's Thursday evening 10-mile series.

It was so bad that Tony Hill, the assistant time trial secretary, and timekeeper Alf Dawes, conferred like umpires in a Test Match before deciding in favour of racing.

Six riders braved the conditions and times bore no relation to the cyclists' real capabilities. Peter Reeves, and Pete Langridge in one of his all too rare appearances this year, both recorded 26 min. 36 sec. to result in the first tie since the races started five years ago.

Paul Hampton finished in 27 min. 27 sec.; Clive Roberts did 27 min. 45 sec.; Kevin Bishop 28 min. 15 sec. and R. Smith 32 min. 10 sec.

## Favourite wins, but not without a struggle

SUPERB WEATHER conditions prevailed for Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's 50-mile event over the course from the Withy Patch, North Lancing, to Westhampnett roundabout and back on Saturday. Don Lock was the favourite in a field of 12 and he justified his position by winning the title—but not without a struggle.

Lock had ridden a fine 50-mile time the previous week and his nearest rival was expected to be Keith Dodman, who is getting back to top form and actually has a faster 50 time than Lock.

In the event, Lock won, but had his work cut out not only to beat Dodman, but to finish ahead of much improved Colin Miller.

### 20 seconds up

At Arundel, Miller was 20 seconds up on Lock and a further 20 seconds ahead of Dodman. Lock and Dodman,

obviously a little shaken by this, worked hard to pull back the deficit.

On the return stretch Lock finally caught and overhauled Miller to win with the fine time of 2hr. 7min. 55sec. This left a great duel for second place which Dodman (2-11-36) just won from Miller (2-11-45).

There was also a good performance from Tony Hill, who rode well and gained fourth place with 2-15-38, a time near to his personal best.

Other times: Bernie Bethell (2-18-44), Tony Palmer (2-26-09), Ray Douglass (2-28-43), Paul Davies (2-31-43), Eddie Kneen (2-50-00).

This Sunday, members of the club will be taking part in the Sussex 50-mile championship over the same course. Lock, Dodman and Miller and also George Matthews will be competing and Excelsior have high hopes of sweeping the board.

## 50-mile title for Lock

There was an entry of 12 for Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's 50-mile championship on Sunday, and ideal conditions produced a fine race, the winner being Don Lock with a time of 2hr. 7min. 55sec. Second was Keith Dodman (2hr. 11min. 36sec.) and third Colin Miller (2hr. 11min. 45sec.) Tony Hill came near to a personal best with his fourth place in 2hr. 15min. 38sec.

The start of the race was from North Lancing, and the course, apart from a detour from Fontwell down to Yap-

ton, was to Westhampnett roundabout and back.

At Arundel, an unofficial check showed Miller slightly up on Lock and Dodman, but Lock soon corrected this and had pulled out in front at Westhampnett. On the long return to Lancing, Lock increased his lead, but at the finishing line just nine seconds separated the second and third riders.

Other times were: Bernie Bethell (2.18.44); Tony Palmer (2.26.09); Ray Douglass (2.28.43); Paul Davies (2.31.43); Eddy Kneen (2.50.00).

This Sunday, over the same course, the Sussex 50-mile championship is being fought out, and the leading three Worthing Excelsior riders, plus George Matthews, must be in with a good chance of taking the title.



# Excelsior riders' tough task

Four riders from Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club — Chris Woodcock, John Mansell, Tony Hill and Don Lock — have entered the Catford 24-hour event on July 3 and 4, a race which incorporates the National 24-hour championship.

There are only four 24-hour events staged each year in the whole of Great Britain, and each event in turn incorporates the National championship. Last year the Wessex event, in the Hampshire / Dorset area, staged the championship, and the one Worthing entry, Tony Hill, finished 15th from a field of 76 after covering 410 miles.

Worthing Excelsior, probably more than any other club in the county, has been able to produce long distance riders over the years, and there have not been many years in which the Catford 24 has not had a Worthing rider taking part.

During the close season of 1970—1, and throughout the early months of this season, there has been a tremendous interest in 24-hour riding by members of the Worthing club. Six riders originally intended to enter the Catford 24, but when the entry list closed on June 15 only four of these were sufficiently satisfied that they had been able to prepare themselves to ride in the region of 400 miles in a day.

While it is not possible to think of the individual winner coming from Worthing, there is every hope that the club will be able to complete a three-man team, which in itself would be a tremendous achievement. The club once had a team fill second place in the national 12-hour championship, and with reasonable luck a team success in this 24-hour race is not impossible.

## TRAINED

Probably the least experienced long distance rider of the four is Chris Woodcock, but he has trained extremely hard and is fully aware of the task before him.

John Mansell has ridden in many 100-mile and 12-hour races, but this will be his first 24-hour event. However, he has covered a tremendous mileage in the last two or three months,

## Cycling

including touring Italy and Switzerland, and he could go farthest of the four.

Tony Hill is the current 24-hour champion of the club, and although he has not been able to do as many miles in training as he would have liked, he considers he is fit enough to stay the course. He is an extremely reliable rider.

Don Lock is the club's 24-hour record holder with a distance of 416.79 miles, and he has been riding faster than ever over short distances. In preparation for the Catford 24 he has covered something like 4,500 miles in training.

## EVENING

The Worthing riders will be fighting out their own 24-hour championship in this event, and they will have the support and encouragement of more than 20 club members as they tackle this mammoth task.

The second of three evening criteriums promoted by Lewes Wanderers Cycling Club was held on Thursday on the Ringmer-Laughton - Shortgate circuit, but deplorable conditions kept the entry down to just 13 riders.

Owing to the failing light the race was restricted to five laps (30 miles), and the heavy rain and cold, blustery wind soon split the field. The lead changed hands on each of the five laps, and at the finish a group of nine came in together.

The result was: 1, R. Beatty (East Grinstead C.C.), 1hr. 13min. 49sec.; 2, E. Bonner (Crawley Wheelers); 3, D. Best (Brighton Mitre); 4, A. Jones (Crawley Wheelers); 5, R. Smith (East Grinstead C.C.).

Twelve riders finished the course, and the primes on the second and fourth laps were taken by Beatty and C. Miller (Worthing Excelsior) respec-

tively. The overall winner will be decided on a points basis, and the leader after two events is Beatty with 69 points.

Following Beatty comes Jones (67, Bonner (63), N. Martin (Brighton Premier), 62; Smith (59); W. Rankin (Crawley Wheelers), 53; R. Rogers (Central Sussex) and Miller, both 52.

The final event is being held this (Thursday) evening at 7.30 p.m., the start being approximately a mile east of the Hare and Hounds, Ringmer, on the B2036 road.

WEST

SUSSEX

GAZETTE

JUNE

17TH

1971.



WORTHING HERALD JUNE 18TH 1971.

## Cyclists plan to ride for 24 hours

INTEREST in 24 hour cycling events is really growing among Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club members—and it now looks certain that the club will have at least a team of three finish in the national championships next month.

Only four such events take place in Britain each year and this year it is the turn of the Catford 24 to incorporate the national championship.

Early this year six Excelsior members showed interest in entering and four have actually sent in their names before the entry date closes.

Over the years Excelsior have generally had one man in the national 24, but this year their hopes of not only improving on this, but of taking a high place in the team of three competition, have soared.

### Riding

On July 3 and 4, Chris Woodcock, John Mansell, Tony Hill and Don Lock will be riding for 24 hours mainly over the roads of Sussex and Surrey and they expect up to 20 of their club-mates to be there helping them at various stages of the competition with food, drink and encouragement.

Chris Woodcock is inexperienced, but has been training extremely hard.

John Mansell, with a good deal of 12 hour and 100 mile experience behind him, has put in a tremendous mileage this year, including tours in Italy and Switzerland.

### In shape

Tony Hill rode in last year's 24 hour national and covered 410 miles to finish 15th in a field of 76 of Hampshire and Dorset roads. He has not covered as many training miles as he would have wished, but is in good shape.

Don Lock is in fact the club 24 hour record holder with 416.99 miles. He is riding better than ever at present over shorter distances and has 4,500 miles of training behind him.

The other two men who originally showed interest were Ray Douglass and Pete Langridge. They did not enter Langridge because of college studies.

When the four ride they will also be competing for their own club title as well as national honours. They will cover roads stretching from Windsor to Havant.



# Two riders crack magic hour as record is broken

THE WEEKEND'S cycling activities started on Saturday when five members of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club travelled to Theale near Reading to take part in the Clarence Wheelers 25-mile event on the A4 road towards Newbury.

A break in the awful weather gave good conditions and riders were able to take full advantage of them.

Fastest of the Excelsior riders was Pete Reeves, who knocked three minutes off his personal best time and became the third member of the club this year to beat the magic hour. Pete's time a magnificent 59.12.

Second was Don Lock, who also broke the hour for the first time. Don's time was 59.29 and improved his personal best (done as long ago as 1957) by two minutes. Pete beating Don on this occasion was sweet revenge following Don's win in the recent club championship.

## Improves

Tony Hill, really right back in form now, was the next fastest and not to be outdone he improved by two and a half minutes to record 1.1.39.

The aggregate of these three riders was 3.0.20, and this smashes the existing club team record. A remarkable achievement for three riders who would not consider themselves to be the club's star performers at this distance.

Steve Richards also returned a best ever with 1.4.23, and Alan Matthews, beginning a comeback, finished in 1.10.56.

Sunday morning saw two events staged by the Sussex Cyclist's Association on the local course. It also saw a return to the weather conditions more appropriate to March than midsummer. There was a constant drizzle of rain with strong westerly winds.

The main event was the Sussex 50-mile championship, and Excelsior were well represented and proved themselves once again to be too strong for their competitors.

Conditions saw to it that no records were broken, but Keith Dodman's time of 2.13.42 made sure that the trophy came to Worthing. Keith beat clubmate George Mathews by just ten seconds. Third was Don Lock in 2.15.24. With the first three places going to Excelsior there was little dispute about the team award.

Other Worthing times were—Tony Hill 2.19.11 (sixth), Colin Miller 2.20.40 (mechanical trouble), Mike Poland 2.23.1, Tony Palmer 2.31.2 (crashed), Ray Douglass 2.43.9 (puncture).

## Winners

A junior 15-mile event again saw Worthing carry off the awards.

Graham Barnes beat Bob Sparks for first place in a good time of 40.31. Bob finished with 41.25 and Clive Roberts was third in 44.12. Graham also won the handicap prize.

This weekend Keith Dodman, Tony Hill and Don Lock travel to Yorkshire to ride a 100-mile event. With current form and given good conditions there could be more records.

WORTHING

GAZETTE

JUNE 23RD

1971.

# Fourth win is recorded by Matthews

THE SEVENTH of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's evening ten-mile events was held on Thursday and provided another win for specialist George Matthews. So at the half-way stage in this 14 long series George has four wins to his credit and Mick Venner, Pete Reeves and Don Lock have one each.

George's time on Thursday was 23 min. 31 sec., about 45 seconds slower than he has done; perhaps he was worried about restrictions in operation on the Adur Bridge!

Don Lock was second behind George for the third time in 23:52 and third yet again was Pete Reeves with a time of 24.4.

Best junior times came from Bob Sparks and Graham Barnes with 25.36 and 25.37 respectively.



# CYCLING 26TH JUNE 1971.

Lewes Wanderers crit. — BOB  
 BEATTY, E. Grinstead CC, 36m in  
 1-27-14; R. Smith, E. Grinstead CC;  
 R. Rogers, Central Sussex CC; W.  
 Rankin, Crawley Wh; C. Miller,  
 Worthing Excelsior; A. Jones, Crawley  
 Wh, all st.  
 Final (3 events) overall: BOB  
 BEATTY, 104pts.

## CLARENCE WH (1-1-0) "25" (H51)

R. Rogers, Central Sussex ...	58 12
W. Blake, Bon Amis CC ...	58 13
R. Harrison, South Boro & D	58 15
B. Crawford, Fulham Wh ....	59 9
P. Reeves, Worthing Excel ...	59 12
D. Lock, Worthing Excel ...	59 29
H'cap: P. Hollins, Charlottesville CC	
(8-50) 54-22 Team, — Bon Amis CC	
(Blake, K. Denton, A. Blair) 2-58-25.	



## OVERALL WIN FOR BEATTY

The last of a series of three evening criteriums promoted by the Lewes Wanderers Cycling Club was staged on Thursday over six laps (36 miles) of the Ringmer-Laughton-Shortgate circuit, and the overall winner was R. Beatty (East Grinstead C.C.) with 104 points.

Fifteen riders faced the starter, and during the race several breaks were attempted, but none were successful. At the finish seven riders came in together, Beatty getting the verdict by a length. Second was R. Smith (East Grinstead C.C.), with R. Rogers (Central Sussex) half a length back. Fourth was W. Rankin (Crawley Wheelers) and fifth C. Miller (Worthing Excelsior).

Beatty's time for the six laps was 1hr. 27min. 14sec. There were ten finishers, and the primes on the second and fourth laps went to Rogers and Beatty respectively.

### CRASHED

E. Bonner (Crawley Wheelers), who was third overall after two of the three events, crashed on the fifth lap and had to retire with injury. M. Adams (Brighton Excelsior) crashed during the third lap, but was able to continue and eventually finished ninth.

The overall placings behind Beatty were: 2, A. Jones (Crawley Wheelers), 97 points; equal 3, M. Adams (Brighton Excelsior) and R. Smith (East Grinstead C.C.), 93; equal 4, R. Rogers (Central Sussex) and W. Rankin (Crawley Wheelers) 85; 5, C. Miller (Worthing Excelsior), 83; 6, R. Sturt (Brighton Excelsior), 78; 7, R. Whittington (Lewes Wanderers), 68; 8, E. Bonner (Crawley Wheelers), 63; 9, N. Martin (Brighton Premier), 62; 10, C. Sharp (Eastbourne Rovers), 60.

## Venner gains narrow win over Matthews

THE EIGHTH event in Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's evening 10-mile series on Thursday saw the second win for Mick Venner, who has been trying hard to get really fit again after bronchitis. Mick gained a narrow win over George Matthews.

It was a dry and sunny evening but hard winds meant only average times. Mick's winning time was 23.27 as against George's 23.29.

Pete Reeves was third fastest in 24.29 but will not have been happy with that time after his fast 25 of the previous Saturday.

Graham Barnes was again the fastest junior and begins to look favourite for the junior award in the series. Graham's time was 24.56.

The event also saw the return to competition of Geoff Allibone who has not ridden for some seasons. His modest 32.59 will give him a target to improve on in future events.

### Qualifies

Graham Barnes has qualified for the final of the National Schoolboys 10-mile event to be held on the Bicester/Oxford road on Saturday, July 10. No. 35 in a field of 120, Graham will have considerable difficulty in emulating Nick Lelliott who won this event when riding with Worthing Excelsior.

Graham is nevertheless a good prospect and will be sure to give a good account of himself.

On Wednesday, Tony Hill and Don Lock rode in the Hampshire Road Club 25-mile event on a rural course north of Emsworth. Don finished seventh in a field of 65 with a time of 1.2.25 and Tony 21st in 1.6.2.



EVENING ARGUS 1ST JULY 1971.



● Mick Venner (left) and Colin Miller, of Worthing Excelsior, receive the Strudwick Trophy from Sussex Racing League president George Rickards at last night's cycle meeting at Preston Park, Brighton.



## Rough cross winds mean a testing time for cyclists

TWO EVENTS occupied the racing members of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club at the weekend.

Those preferring the shorter distances went across to East Sussex to ride in Eastbourne Rovers 25-mile event on the London to Eastbourne road south of Uckfield. Those with an eye on the club best all-rounder championship and perhaps the club's 100-mile championship in a few weeks journeyed north to Nottinghamshire. The event was the Rutland CC 100-mile event on roads north and west of Newark.

Both events were completed in dry conditions which was perhaps some blessing in this wet period, but rough cross winds made fast times impossible and for the long distance riders provided an extreme test of stamina.

### *Fastest rider*

The 25 slowed Pete Reeves, the fastest of the club's riders, by more than six minutes from his recent under the hour ride. He finished outside the prize list in a time of 1.5.28.

Second fastest was Colin Miller in 1.5.57 and the club team

was made up by Mike Poland whose time of 1.6.58 was possibly the best of all the club times on current form.

Bernie Bethell who has been troubled with a back injury, finished in 1.8.6. The other Worthing times were Ray Douglass, 1.10.25; Tony Palmer, 1.11.59; Eddy Kneen, 1.11.1 and John Lucas 1.12.34.

### *'Classic'*

The Rutland 100 is a "Classic" event counting towards the National Best All Rounder Championship and it saw some of the country's finest long distance riders competing.

Keith Dodman, Don Lock and Tony Hill had journeyed north on the Saturday and, given good conditions, had hopes of a new club team record for the distance.

Records of that nature were, however not possible in the conditions although all three rode well.

Keith managed to improve his own personal best time of three years ago and in doing so easily won the first handicap award. Keith's time was 4.34.58.

Don was the next fastest. Over the first 40 miles he had been up on Keith by about two minutes but this was turned into a deficit of about three minutes by 70 miles.

Some leeway was pulled back on the last 30 miles but Keith's margin over Don remained just over one minute. Don's time was 4.36.15.

Tony rode strongly over the first half of the course, being never more than two or three minutes down on the other two but he slowed considerably over the later stages to finish in 4.51.19.

### *Final stage*

For Tony and Don this event was the final stage in their preparations for the National 24-hour championship which they ride this weekend along with club mates Chris Woodcock and John Mansell. Chris and John have both returned from the "holidays" in which quite an amount of hard training has been done. The event starts at noon tomorrow (Saturday) at Peas Pottage near Crawley. Dry and less blustery conditions are hoped for.



CYCLING 3RD JULY.  
1971.

SUSSEX CA "50" (G951)		
Keith Dodman, Worthing Ex	2	13 42
G. Matthews, Worthing Ex	2	13 52
D. Lock, Worthing Ex	2	15 24
J. Spooner, Brighton Ex	2	16 21
R. Hughes, Brighton Ex	2	19 6
T. Hill, Worthing Ex	2	19 11
H'cap: A. Creed, Private member		
(50-0) 2-7-8. Team: Worthing Ex		
(Dodman, Matthews, Lock) 6-42-58.		
Junior "15" (G921)		
Graham Barnes, Worthing Ex	40	31
R. Sparks, Worthing Ex	41	25
C. Roberts, Worthing Ex	44	12
C. Leigh, Brighton Mitre	48	7
H'cap: G. Barnes, Worthing Ex		
(Scr) 40-31.		





Don Lock (right), Tony Hill, John Mansell and Chris Woodcock before the off in the National 24-hour championship.

# DON RIDES 426 MILES TO A CLUB RECORD

**DON LOCK, 35, achieved his ambition in the National 24-hour time trial championship to beat the Worthing Excelsior club record of 426 miles.**

Although official results are not available for a couple of days, Don unofficially clocked up 429 miles as he wended his way, along with the 70 other riders, through Sussex, Hampshire, Surrey and back to Sussex to finish at Effingham.

Don was in fine form over the first 12 hours, covering 235 miles, which is only eight miles below his best for a 12-hour race. But during the early hours of Sunday morning he hit a bad patch and it was not until he reached the final circuit at Effingham that he really regained his early drive.

Four Worthing Excelsior riders started at midday on Saturday but only two completed the course, which proved a real killer in very hot conditions on Saturday afternoon and again on Sunday morning.

## TRAINING

John Mansell hit a bad spot early on and only survived to the 120-mile mark, while Tony Hill, the reigning club champion and record-holder, who was not able to put in as many miles in training as he would have liked, survived until the 280-mile mark.

But Chris Woodcock, the least experienced of the four riders, gamely fought his way through to complete 390 miles, a splendid performance for a rider who has not previously raced longer than 70 miles.

Robin Johnson, the sole Brighton Mitre rider, rode well after having stomach trouble during the night to top the 400-mile mark by a few miles.

EVENING

ARGUS

TUESDAY

JULY 6TH

1971.



# BUCHAN BRILLIANT!

THE 24th RTTC 24-hour championship, promoted by the Catford CC, must rank among the finest in memory because it produced a great atmosphere, a fine race and a superb new champion in Robin Buchan, Norwood Paragon.

A rival helper was heard to remark that Buchan had the guts to try something new and the "class" to carry it off, to such effect that at 23 hours he could almost have indulged in the luxury of reclining on the sweet grass by the side of the road waiting for second-place man John Cahill, North Staffs. St. Christopher's, to do his mighty best to beat him. Such was the champion's winning margin: 483.84 miles to Cahill's multi-troubled 464.80.

Buchan and Cahill were two of many 24-hour first-timers at the midday start just off the Brighton Road at Peas Pottage.

It was hot, humid and the Surrey roads were hotter still from the heavy traffic coaxed out by the fine outlook, a hazard that hardy distance men could well do without; Jack Mummery, San Fairy Ann, fell foul of a motorist and ended his 24-hour ambitions in Chichester hospital — fortunately not too badly injured but with a badly-mangled bike.

Speculation was rife of a defending champion John Baines, Icknield RC, with legs full of preparatory miles for the End-to-End bid that eluded him; Robin Buchan with talent, experience at all forms of racing except "24s"; the Tynesiders Alan Robertson, Wes and Dennis Clayton, all of whom could take the individual title; Cliff Smith, East Midlands CC, 50 years of age but seldom beaten at this speciality... and mystery man John Cahill.

And it was Cahill who shot into the lead in the early miles, leaving the rest to battle out the lesser placings while he ploughed on in a mountainous

**SURPRISE** Staffs challenger John Cahill, early leader who still managed a silver.

gear (reminiscent of past champion Nim Carline) so that by 66 miles he was 10 minutes clear of eventual winner Buchan!

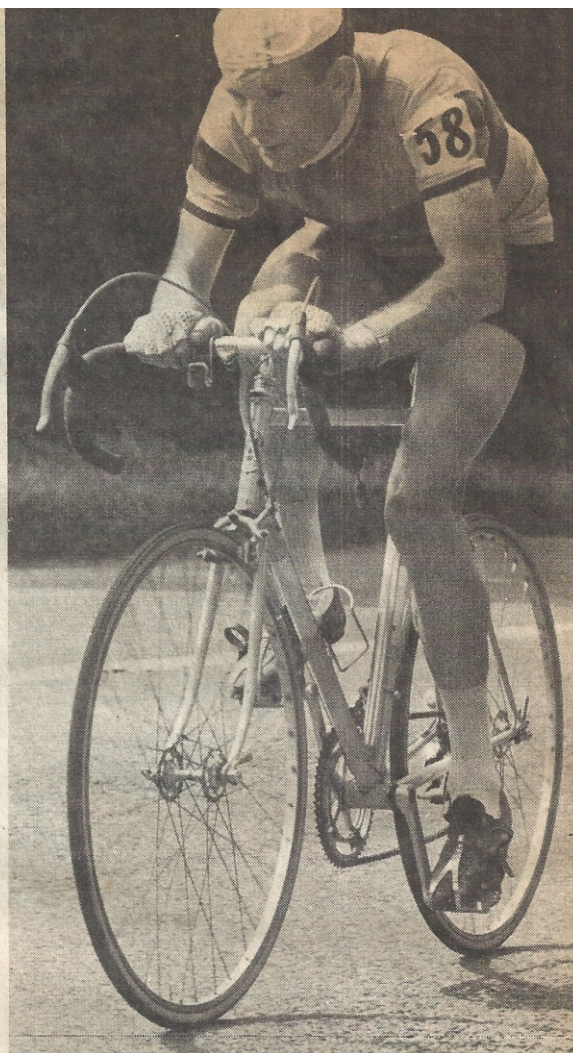
Tynesider Alan Robertson had the heads nodding with approval at his economic style, and was managing to hold Cahill to seven minutes with hardly a drop of sweat to be seen on his brow — and what was more here was the Tyne RC third team counter leading his powerful team.

What a wonderful piece of Tyne teamwork it was too; at 150 miles there was only two minutes between them and they were never seriously challenged for their third consecutive championship team win. But big drama was already taking place. John Baines was suffering and creeping with 5-3-21 for 100 miles, and no explanation to offer — one was only left to surmise that he sorely missed his band of regular supporters who were otherwise engaged with the organizing of the Luton "12" on this very day, an unhappy coincidence for Baines.

Almost at packing point, Baines once more showed that he is made of stern stuff and continued nursing his gigantic and inexplicable "bundle" of which he never did rid himself.

Meanwhile Cahill was leading at 100 miles with 4-31-41; Buchan, moving beautifully, face wet, and set, 4-35-5; veteran Den Grady Bec CC, a one-time athlete of note with 480-mile ambitions backed up with mammoth winter training miles, 4-37-5; Alan Robertson 4-38-57, tough Wes Clayton 4-40-35; brother Dennis 4-40-26.

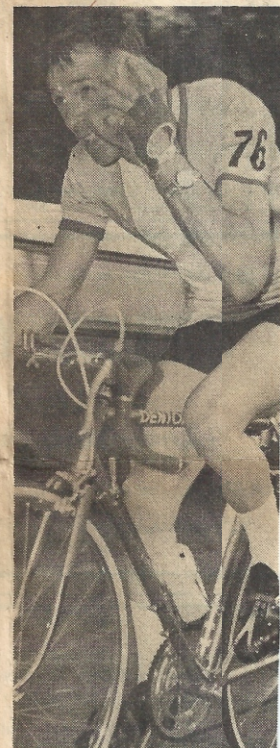
Cahill had apparently lost



R. Buchan, Norwood Paragon	483.84
J. Cahill, N. Staffs St. Chris.	464.80
W. Clayton, Tyne RC	462.60
D. Clayton, Tyne RC	458.01
A. Robertson, Tyne RC	456.44
C. Smith, E. Midlands C	455.67
B. Hygate, F'boro' & Camb	446.91
K. Davey, Bec CC	446.21
R. Poole, F'boro' & Camb	444.71
J. Baines, Icknield RC	438.74
P. Smith, F'boro' & Camb	431.35
L. Lowe, Speedwell RC	429.54
D. Grady, Bec CC	429.07
D. Lock, Worthing Excel	428.55
T. Finney, N. Staffs St. Chris	428.27
D. Farley, Marlboro AC	427.71
K. Smallwood, F'boro' & Camb	424.48
R. Powney, Kingston Ph	420.06
R. Grimes, S. Bucks RC	413.77
M. Waters, Hampshire RC	409.77
R. Johnson, Brighton Mfrc	407.50
S. Spelling, Wren Wh	407.45
B. Parslow, Marlboro AC	406.28
T. Lee, Balham CC	404.41
L. Cole, Balham CC	403.50
R. Addison, Harp RC	402.40
M. Coupe, N. Staffs St. Chris	401.91
P. Bavage, Kentish Wh	400.97
P. Lock, Portobello RC	400.81
P. Friend, Port Talbot Wh	400.77
R. W. Beels, Kentish Wh	398.57
M. Badham, Norfolk RC	398.30
A. Hamilton, Acme Wh (Rhndda)	386.73
B. Morrison, London Coreus	386.39
C. Brown, Oxonian CC	386.32
W. Filby (trike), Surrey RC	387.75
B. Gifford, Faversham C&AC	383.68
C. B. Woodcock, Worthing Excel	382.50
B. Smallwood, Kenton RC	380.37
R. Storey, Marlboro AC	379.35
M. Shaw, Clarence CC	379.35
E. Dore, Crawley Wh	377.08
G. Monk, Crawley Wh	376.49
G. Siddie, Spartan Wh	373.39
R. Roach, Peterborough CC	367.63
R. Lewthwaite, Peterborough CC	363.78
R. Craig, Charlottetown CC	362.59
G. Wylie, Chelmer CC	360.29
R. Holmes, Lea Valley R	358.67
J. Perkins, S. Bucks RC	357.20
K. Reed, Crawley Wh	347.47
J. Beutter, Portobello RC	336.46
M. Seago, Wigmore CC	324.71
F. White, Balham CC	322.72
K. Graham (trike), Wigmore CC	308.87
Team, Tyne RC (W. Clayton, D. Clayton, Robertson)	1377.05.2
Farm-boro & Camberley (Hygat, Poole, Smith)	1322.97

**MAGNIFICENT** Robin Buchan (left), still a forceful trackman and now proved just as adept at the longest time trial distance.

**SPONGE** for Wes Clayton (below) spearhead of the well-packed Tyne RC team, covered at the finish by some six miles.



ground but it was not his doing, wheel and puncture trouble persisted throughout those early miles, causing so many bike and wheel changes that he frequently forgot what bike he was on... fixed wheel track iron or multi-gear road bike! But one thing they all had in common, they all sported a big gear which was used by Cahill to good effect.

Silver medalist in 1970, Dennis Clayton was riding determinedly but below form due to the previous night's lengthy bout of sickness from worry (his helpers did not arrive until after midnight).

Later on the finishing circuit brother Wes spent an uncomfortable couple of laps in similar condition yet hardly faltered in his quest to bring home to the Tyne RC at least a third-place bronze medal.

Not until Arundel (198m) did Buchan draw level with Cahill, and from then on he steadily drew away until at West Grinstead (229m) he was 14 minutes up and never looked like losing his grip on the championship.

Throughout the night he built up a gigantic lead, forcing his way farther and farther in front of the field.

At dawn, when a breeze stirred from a warm night's sleep, freshening the tired eyes of rider and helper alike, Buchan was still whirling away with a lead of 50 minutes before the next man struggled into view. So far was he in front that a 17.9-mile detour was closed to the rest of the field in an attempt to bring him back a little... it helped a bit!

That detour made time com-

parison a little difficult, all checks from that point on looking a little misleading. At 200 miles Buchan clocked 9-27-14; "The Rest" minus 17.9 miles were as follows: Cahill 9-22-47; Robertson 9-45-33; Wes Clayton 9-47-7; Dennis Clayton 9-50-17.

Lower down the list, but not much, great rides were being forged. End-to-End and RTTC coaching secretary Dick Poole was riding as steadily as ever, he had never looked better and only lacked the serious and time-consuming training that really big rides require. That he finished undistressed with a fine 444 miles speaks volumes for his class and self-knowledge.

Athlete Den Grady too was showing well, but later spent many agonizing miles struggling against fatigue.

Leading times at the start of the finishing circuit (400 miles) tell the rest of the story as far as statistics are concerned. Buchan 19-36-52; "The Rest" 17.9 miles down were Cahill (now on a track iron round the finishing circuit) 19-33-47; Wes Clayton 19-49-5; Alan Robertson 19-57-23; Dennis Clayton 20-00-57 with Cliff Smith, who had missed a later detour of 29-76 miles, fighting in sixth place with 19-24-30.

Even on the circuit Buchan continued to display his mastery of the situation, lapping the 15.23 miles in 46 minutes and still pulling ahead, seemingly for the first time in this 24-hour championship pulling out all the stops.

He won his championship by his refusal to indulge in battle, he rode his own race and proved beyond all doubt that his way was the right way.

**Report: BERNARD THOMPSON**





JULY 7TH 1971.

### **Third victory is gained by Venner**

NINTH EVENT in Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's 10-mile evening series resulted in a fine, fast win for Mick Venner. His personal best ever 10 mile time of 22 min. 57 seconds gave him his third win of the series and he is now only one win behind George Matthews. George was unable to ride.

Second place was filled by Pete Reeves in 23.52 and third fastest overall was junior rider Graham Barnes in an excellent 24.47.

Other Worthing times were: Steve Richards 25.16, Bernie Bethell 25.26, Mike Poland 26.10, Kevin Bishop 26.16, Clive Roberts 26.17, Ray Douglas 26.40, Paul Hampton 26.44, Alan Matthews 27.30, C. Moore 28.43, Geoff Allibone 31.48.



## Lock breaks his own 24-hour record

HOPES THAT Worthing Excelsior held of a place in the team event (teams of three) of the national 24-hours cycling championship on Saturday and Sunday were dashed when only two of their four competing riders finished. But the club had some consolation when Don Lock, at 35 riding better than ever, broke his own club record with 429 miles in the 24 hours.

All distances recorded are unofficial at present, but it is fairly safe to assume this was Don's distance and it shattered his previous best, 416 miles, covered three years ago.

A superb performance also came from young Chris Woodcock, riding in his first 24-hour event. His aim was to last the time rather than set any records and, with great cheerfulness he slogged through the day and the night for an extremely creditable 390 miles.

The club's other two riders were Tony Hill, who had ridden a 24 hour event before, and John Mansell, who, like Chris Woodcock, was trying it for the first time.

### *Drops out*

John Mansell dropped out after he had completed 125 miles, for, despite a lot of training done in the previous two months, his legs felt "dead" and had done so for the previous 80 miles.

After a bad patch, in which he suffered considerably, Tony Hill gave up after 280 miles. He had tried, without success, to ride through and eventually out of his discomfort.

Don and Chris never looked like having to quit, though it was always sure that Don would finish well ahead of his team-mate over the arduous laps which covered the roads of Sussex and east Hampshire.

Both Don and Tony Hill covered their first 100 miles in less than

five hours and at 115 miles they had tea—a stop of only two or three minutes—at a van owned by club member Theo Puttick.

### *Going well*

During the cooler evening the two were still going well and there was not much to choose between them for distance covered. As it became dark the riders—about 80 started—turned west to Havant and then came the long haul back to Worthing.

At Offington roundabout came a short break for supper and by this time Don was 20 minutes ahead of Tony Hill with Chris Woodcock a further 75 minutes behind.

It was then that Tony Hill began to lose ground and eventually dropped out. But Don, aiming at 430 miles, had completed 230 in the first 12 hours.

### *Last quarter*

The last quarter of the event saw the riders returning from Guildford down to Crawley and Horsham and on to the finishing circuit situated between Horley and Newchapel.

Don flagged a little, covering two laps of this finishing circuit of 15 miles in almost two hours. But, realising he had the club record well within his grasp, he covered this circuit three more times, much more quickly, to record his really fine distance.

These four riders could do extremely well over 12 hours and they are looking forward to the Sussex and Southern Counties 12 hour championships.



# Long wait for Steve —and then a title

"SORRY I couldn't smile!" apologised the new GHS schoolboy champion Steve Bennett, Winton County Secondary, Manchester and member of the Westwood RCC. He went on bashfully: "I felt like crying when they told me I had won, I could not believe it."

Steve's apology for not smiling at the camera as he posed to receive the trophy from Mrs Lila Kings at the finish was quite understandable.

He had been beaten four times in recent weeks by his biggest rival Dave Penketh, Fairfield County Secondary, Liverpool (a Kirkby CC member) and only the previous week in the Stone Wheelers "10" Bennett, off No. 40, had clocked a fast 22-53 then to await nervously for Penketh, off No. 151, to arrive and beat him with an even faster 22-11.

Now, in the sixth schoolboys' 10-mile championship, in the event that REALLY mattered, it was poor Dave Penketh's turn to wait, having clocked 23-5 from his No. 60 position on the start card of 120 finalists, for No. 120, Bennett to arrive and beat him with 22-52.

It was a thrilling climax to a fine championship immaculately organized down to the last detail by West London's Peter Valentine, who found time amid his prolific coaching activities to produce a polished event leaving nothing to chance.

Such is the enthusiasm for this title race that, three hours before the Saturday afternoon start on the Bicester-based H76 triangular course, the finishing stretch was lined with cars, bikes, parents, relations, schoolmasters and coaches.

Early on, as early as No. 15 in fact, Graham Daniels, Selwyn Jones CSS, Newton-le-Willows, had clocked 23-38, which seemed good enough to take the handsome trophy even at this early stage and add it to his schoolboy road-race laurels of a few short weeks ago.

Off No. 50, Tony Evans from

Somerset's Wellsway County, made his bid with 23-51 and held second place until dislodged by the arrival of Penketh with his 23-5.

Then Penketh began his nail-biting wait to see if his time could withstand the onslaught from the rest of the talented field. Penketh could stand the suspense for only a few minutes before climbing back into the saddle of his sparkling machine and pedalling off down the course to release the tension.

Soon after Penketh came Alaric Gayfer, Hackney Downs, London riding 79 fixed and strongly tipped for a medal.

His own modest ambitions had been for a place in the first six and a universal schoolboy dream ... to become a champion.

His 23-44 clinched an equal fourth place with Bob Bennetts, Prince Rock SM, Plymouth, who had beaten Ann Horswell by three minutes in a midweek "25" prior to the big event.

Bob was one of a happy contingent from Devon under the wing of Captain Mike Mullett.

"The lads from deep Devon," said Mike "suffer a psychological disadvantage from up-the-liners as we call Londoners. You see, although they know that their 22s and 23s are done on faster and flatter course they have never had the chance to ride them to prove the point in practice." ... But Bob Bennetts found this H76 course flat by his native standards and used it to good effect.

The wait for the other Bennett (without the "s") was over as he flashed over the line to become the sixth schoolboy champion and earn for himself, apart from the wonderful GHS Trophy, a pat on the back from his father and his coach bearded Malcolm Firth (no kin to past champion Reuben).

Firth had built an ergometer to Bennett's exact position for his use two nights per week; this, with every Tuesday evening at



ANXIOUS look on the face of last starter and eventual champion Steve Bennett.

## Bernard Thompson reports

Fallowfield track and lots of short, hard, fast training, is the basis of Steve's success.

The hotly-contested team title went to Guthlaxton Upper, Leicester, with Steven Hutchins, Norman Meason and Andrew Cockin aggregating 1-14-35.



CYCLING. 17TH JULY 1971.

## FULL RESULT

Steve Bennett, Winton County Sec. Manchester	22	52	R. Hanneck, Sandfields Comp. Port Talbot, Glam	25	24
D. Penketh, Fairfield County Sec. Liverpool	23	5	D. Mallinson, Hutton GS, Preston, Lancs	25	26
G. Daniels, Selwyn Jones CSS, Newton-le-Willows	23	38	C. Robinson, Don Valley Comp. Doncaster	25	26
R. Bennetts, Prince Rock SM, Plymouth	23	44	T. Cook, Lincoln School, Lincoln	25	28
A. Gayfer, Hackney Downs, London E5	23	44	R. Friend, Sheldon Heath Comp. Birmingham	25	37
S. Heanes, Woodlands Comp. Coventry	23	46	N. Hymer, Middlesbrough High	25	35
T. Evans, Wellaway County Sec. Somerset	23	51	S. Webster, Hodgkison Sec. Cleveleys, Lancs	25	37
C. Reeson, Wolfraton SM, Hull	23	52	M. Mawson, Cramlington High, Northumberland	25	39
D. Lilley, Redbridge Sec. S'hampton	23	52	L. Neary, Sheldon Heath Comp. Birmingham	25	42
D. Pittman, Forest Hill, London SE23	23	54	R. Harbottle, Erith School, Kent	25	42
L. Minshall, Christleton Sec. Chester	24	0	T. Batch, Wolfraton SM, Hull	25	43
P. Gould, Sheldon Heath Comp. Birmingham	24	2	S. Harding, Diss SM, Norfolk	25	45
P. Benington, Abbotsford SM, Ashford, Middx	24	5	P. Christophers, Torquay Boys Grammar, Devon	25	45
C. Wells, Bramcote Hills Tech. Beeston, Notts	24	6	H. Ruston, Wolfraton CS, Hull, Yorks	25	46
A. Cockin, Guthlaxton Upper, Leicester	24	7	S. Leach, St Hughs SM, Grantham, Lincs	25	50
S. Hutchins, Guthlaxton Upper, Leicester	24	9	A. Gallagher, Cramlington High, N'umberland	25	52
L. Boulter, Hatfield, Herts	24	10	I. Deakin, Torquay Boys Grammar, Devon	25	53
L. Wardley, Tower Ramparts SM, Ipswich	24	14	S. Cole, Western SM, Grimsby, Lincs	25	54
M. Wardroper, William Ellis, London NW5	24	14	P. Shaw, Forest Hill, London SE23	25	56
C. Langley, Sandfields Comp. Port Talbot	24	15	J. Mason, Longslade Upper, Leicester	25	59
S. Fleetwood, Hutton Hey CS, Hutton, Lancs	24	16	A. Eadington, Middlesbrough High	26	7
I. Waddilove, Eastholme Boys, Peterborough	24	19	R. Crawshaw, Hodgkison Sec. Cleveleys, Lancs	26	11
A. Collard, Longsands SM, St Neots, Hunts	24	27	L. Weeks, Redbridge Senior S'hampton	26	12
D. Tadman, Testwood Comp. Totton, Hants	24	28	T. Sumner, Heol-Gam Sec. Bridgend, Glam	26	15
D. Longstaff, Gosforth Grammar, Newcastle-upon-Tyne	24	29	L. Hibberd, Forest Hill, London SE23	26	16
P. Arnold, Mellow Lane Comp. Hayes, Middx	24	32	C. Plummer, Hodgkison Sec. Cleveleys, Lancs	26	16
D. Baronowski, Woodhouse Close Sec. B Auckland.	24	32	N. Measom, Guthlaxton Upper, Leicester	26	19
Co Durham	24	34	A. Pountney, Whitchurch SM, Salop	26	19
G. Athron, Hele's Grammar, Southam, Essex	24	35	S. Wakefield, Western SM, Grimsby	26	21
P. Usher, St Pauls CS, Addlestone, Surrey	24	35	N. Taylor, Western SM, Grimsby, Lincs	26	23
C. Ridings, Mansfield SM, Nelson, Lancs	24	36	R. Gillham, Torquay Boys Grammar, Devon	26	26
T. Travers, Elizabeth College, Guesney, CI	24	38	R. Dennis, Audsley Park SM, Torquay, Devon	26	26
C. Behling, Collenswood SM, Stevenage, Herts	24	38	R. Waters, Cramlington High, Northumberland	26	28
G. Barnes, Bounstone Sec. Lancing, Sussex	24	43	D. Parsons, The Ipswich School, Norfolk	26	31
P. Robinson, Middlesbrough High, Teesside	24	45	P. Dutton, Maltby Grammar, Rotherham, Yorks	26	34
G. Anderson, Gosforth E Sec. Newcastle-upon-Tyne	24	45	B. Clark, Redbridge Sec. S'hampton	26	56
J. Furey, Bletchley Grammar, Bletchley, Bucks	24	46	P. Duckworth, St Philip Howard, Glossop, Ches	27	2
D. Cruise, Maldon Plume Comp. Maldon, Essex	24	48	V. Applegate, Saintbridge, Glos	27	4
M. Perry, Horley CS, Horley, Surrey	24	48	R. Wright, Collerswood SM, Stevenage, Herts	27	5
R. Combe, Beaufield Comp. Corby, Northants	24	49	S. Fox, Diss SM, Norfolk	27	8
M. Sauvarin, Elizabeth College, Guernsey, CI	24	50	G. Pope, Collerswood SM, Stevenage, Herts	27	18
A. Ingram, Monks Park, Bristol	24	51	R. Greene, Thomas Bennett, Crawley, Sussex	27	21
R. Glanville, Hreod Burna, Swindon, Wilts	24	53	T. Walcock, Maldon Plume Comp. Maldon, Essex	27	34
R. Blackshaw, Lealand High, Luton, Beds	24	54	R. Whiteley, Maltby Grammar, Rotherham, Yorks	27	35
S. Lawrence, Immingham SM, Immingham, Lincs	24	54	A. Gort, Diss SM, Norfolk	27	38
K. Hugill, St Aiden's, Sunderland, Co Durham	25	3	J. Jackson, Whitchurch SM, Salop	27	48
C. Wilson, Tamworth Grammar, Tamworth	25	6	M. Blunt, Thomas Bennett, Crawley, Sussex	27	57
K. McArthur, Harrogate High, Harrogate, Yorks	25	6	J. May, Sandfields Comp. Port Talbot, Glam	28	41
I. Coventry, Wallington HS, Wallington, Surrey	25	6	I. Knight, Dormers Wells SM, Southall, Middx	29	41
M. Lee, Crown Woods, Eltham, London SE9	25	7	P. Phelpsstead, Santbridge Sch, Glos	29	55
J. Mason, Longslade Upper, Leicester	25	9	R. Woolfries, Dormers Wells SM, Southall, Middx	30	16
A. Hillam, Bourne CS, Bourne, Lincs	25	10	M. Gyde, Saintbridge, Glos	30	40
D. King, Thomas Bennett, Crawley, Sussex	25	12	P. Swain, N Manchester High	30	54
K. Stones, Shildon Boys Sec, Shildon, Co Durham	25	12	S. Halford, Dormers Wells SM, Southall, Middx	31	58
V. Wickers, Cesterham SM, Chesham, Bucks	25	22			
A. Roberts, Whitchurch SM, Whitchurch, Salop	25	23			

Team. — Guthlaxton Upper (Cockin, Hutchins, Meason)  
1-14-35.

SCCU "50" (G552)	
Peter Crofts, E Surrey RC	2 4 25
M. Garwood, 29th Wh	2 4 32
S. Sayers, Catford CC	2 6 38
J. Smith, Addiscombe CC	2 7 4
K. Duncumb, E Surrey RC	2 7 29
C. Paterson, Festival RC	2 8 4
H'cap: E. Keen, Worthing Excel	
(19-0) 2-1-0. Team. — E. Surrey	
RC (Crofts, Duncumb, Fox)	6-23-27.



WORTHING GAZETTE

JULY 14TH 1971.

## VENNER ADDS ANOTHER VICTORY

A GLORIOUS summer evening on Thursday made conditions ideal for the tenth of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's 10-mile events. Once again the winner was Mick Venner and his time of 22 min. 43 sec. was a personal best.

George Matthews, rather out of form lately finished second in 24-26. Graham Barnes was third (24-48), showing good form just before he was due to compete in the national schoolboys 10-mile championship on Saturday.

### Two seconds

Barnes was two seconds ahead of Steve Richards (24-50) and in fifth place came another junior, Bob Sparks (24-53). Tony Hill, still feeling the effects of his ride in the national 24-hour event, was sixth with 25-35.

Other times were: Kevin Bishop (25-49), Clive Roberts (26-01), Paul Hampton (26-33), Derek Pearce (26-49), Geoff Allibone (31-16).

WORTHING GAZETTE

21ST JULY 1971.

## Venner hots up race for title

COMPETITION between Mick Venner and George Matthews in Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's evening 10-mile series is really hotting up.

On Thursday, Venner won for the fourth time and now the two are level with four successes apiece.

Grahame Barnes was again the fastest junior home and he is now way ahead in that competition.

### Fast ride

Venner turned in another fast ride, completing the course in 22min. 58sec. to again beat 23min. This was close to his personal best performance.

In second place was Matthews and he was not at all pleased with his time of 23-46. Barnes was third with a personal best 24-21.

Other times were: Pete Reeves (24-43), Tony Hill (25-27), Pete Langridge (25-27), Mike Poland (25-42), Kevin Bishop (25-43), Clive Roberts (26-08), Paul Hampton (26-32), Paul Davis (27-41), Geoff Allibone (30-36).



# Venner rides to personal best in 50

EIGHT OF Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's riders were competing on Sunday in the Southern Counties Cycling Union 50-mile event.

The event, on the main Horsham road with detours to Adversane and Cowfold, was a hard one. The course is considered slow both by reason of the terrain and the poor road surfaces and no records were contemplated.

Fastest from Worthing was Mick Venner who managed a personal best at the distance with his time of 2.9.55. Keith Dodman was next fastest in 2.12.50.

Don Lock finished third fastest of the club in 2.16.56 and, although no doubt feeling the after effects of his 24 hour ride the previous week, was still dissatisfied with his performance.

## Misunderstanding

A misunderstanding of arrangements for the journey to Horsham led to Tony Hill being late to the timekeeper and his time 2.26.36 included the 8 min. 36 sec. penalty.

Undoubtedly the best performance for the club came from Eddy Kneen who returned 2.20.00 and won first handicap prize. Eddy really rode above any form he has shown previously and he can now look forward with confidence to other personal best performances at other distances before the season is over.

John Mansell rode his first 50 for a number of seasons and seemed well pleased with his time of 2.19.57; Pete Reeves rode his first-ever 50 and gamely stayed the course to finish with 2.25.47.

WORTHING HERALD

FRIDAY JULY 16TH

1971.

## Competes

Graham Barnes returned from the Oxford-Bicester course on Saturday having competed well in the national schoolboys 10 mile championship. His time of 24.43 was in fact only six seconds slower than his personal record.

On a tight triangular course, with quite an amount of second class road his effort saw him finish less than two minutes behind the winner and in 28th place in the field of 120.

On Sunday, Grahame and four other club schoolboys took part in the schoolboy kermesse racing on the seafront at Bognor.

The special ten mile event (20 laps of the half mile course) took in the Sussex Division of the British Cycling Federation championship and included all the promising schoolboys in the county.

A number of crashes split the field and Grahame was the only one from Worthing lucky enough to avoid these and strong enough to stay with the leaders.

In the sprint for the finish, Grahame gained second place, and this despite his efforts of the previous afternoon. Grahame is becoming a real asset to the club's racing strength.



CYCLING 31ST JULY. 1971.

SUSSEX CA "100" (961)	
Robin Johnson, Brighton Mitre	
D. Hook, E'bourne Rovers	4 32 21
D. Lock, Worthing Ex	4 34 57
K. Dodman, Worthing Ex	4 36 22
A. Wilkinson, Cent Sussex	4 37 2
M. Venner, Worthing Ex	4 40 21
M. Venner, Worthing Ex	4 49 12
H'cap: R. Johnson, Brighton Mitre	
(6-30) 4-25-51. Team: Worthing Ex	
(Lock, Dodman, Venner) 14-2-36.	

WORTHING HERALD

30TH JULY 1971.

## Venner rides close to a record time

STILL AND humid conditions meant extremely fast times when Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club held their 10-mile event last Thursday. Once again Mick Venner was the winner and this fifth success in the series again brought him a personal best time.

Venner clocked 22min. 36sec., only 30 seconds outside the record set by Nick Lelliott for the Adur Bridge course.

There was a return to form by George Matthews, who returned 22-50, but who met Venner on a night when he was virtually unbeatable.

Then there was a gap of a couple of minutes to third placed Pete Reeves (24-52), Graham Barnes was fourth with 25-04.

Peter Andrews, an old member of the club who has lived in Germany for the last few years, has returned and rode only his second race in almost 10 years.

He borrowed a machine which gave him some trouble and he lost several minutes. Even so he recorded a creditable 30-13.

Other times: Mike Poland (25-37), Clive Roberts (25-45), Kevin Bishop (26-15), Paul Hampton (26-18), Derek Pearce (26-36), Allan Matthews (27-08), Geoff Allibone (30-00).

WORTHING HERALD 30TH  
JULY 1971.

## Cyclists face rough weather

PROVIDING competition on Sunday for Keith Dodman, John Mansell and Don Lock of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club was the Southern Counties Cyclists Union 100-mile event.

The event started at Horsham and covered a course through Cowfold, Bolney, Henfield, Ashurst, Worthing and then back to finish near the start.

Weather conditions reverted to those of March with heavy showers and strong southerly winds. The entry of 65 riders was whittled down by retirements to 40 by the finish and the local club's three did well.

Don Lock finished ninth in 4 hours 34 mins. 5 secs. Keith Dodman was 14th in 4.38.21 and John Mansell, with his fastest 100 for many years, finished 25th in

4.46.53. With this team aggregate the club went near to winning the team trophy.

The Sorian Club promoted a 25-mile event on the Farnham/Alten course and three Worthing Excelsior members competed. Most successful was Eddy Kneen who returned a personal best 25 of 1.6.27 to win third handicap prize; his second handicap win in recent weeks. Ray Douglass finished with a time of 1.9.21 and Tony Palmer in 1.12.12.

Colin Miller journeyed to the Portsmouth Road course near Guildford and rode well in the Surrey St. Christopher's 25. He finished well up the field with a time of 1.4.49.

This coming Sunday sees the club's 30-mile championship to be held on the local course.



WORTHING HERALD 23RD JULY 1971.

## LOCK HIGHLIGHTS A CHAMPION WEEKEND FOR EXCELSIOR

**DON LOCK** is the new Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club 100-mile champion.

He gained this title, his third in club events this season, on Sunday; finished in third place in the Sussex Cycling Association championship—run in conjunction with the club event—and Excelsior became the Sussex club champions.

The course from Lancing out to the Chichester by-pass and back with detours to Littlehampton, Bognor Regis and Nyetimber provides a good test of stamina with the hills around Arundel to be tackled early on and again, when it hurts more, at about 90 miles.

The club championship had attracted the biggest entry for many years with no fewer than ten entries. Favourites were Keith Dodman, with a previous 4 hours 34 minutes ride and Don Lock with a previous 4.36 ride this season. These two had to consider seriously the threat posed by Mick Venner and George Matthews, making his debut at the distance.

### Rapid start

Don made the most rapid start of the club riders and by 30 miles had seemingly established himself as the new club champion. He had caught both Keith and George to be respectively two and five minutes

up on these riders. He was also well up on the other club entries and possibly also leading the Sussex field at this stage.

It was from this point on that a real battle developed and, with the assistance of a following north easterly wind, the first 50 miles were covered by Don in about 2 hours 10 minutes. He was still tagged by Keith and George, however, and, having crashed heavily at Eastergate at about 36 miles, was beginning to feel the strain.

An approximate check at the half-way point showed Mick Venner about six minutes down. By this stage both Tony Hill and Bob Sparks had retired.

### Begins to tire

George Matthews began to tire on the way back from Bognor and gave more ground to Keith and Don who were by now out on their own so far as the club championship was concerned.

As the field turned east on the last 21 miles to the finish and began to feel the force of the head wind, both the club riders were suffering, Don more than Keith, and Brighton Mitre rider Robin Johnson and Eastbourne rider Don Hook began to figure in the leading positions.

At Tangmere Keith shook off Don and then had to recover the two minutes he had lost early on.

At Arundel, a check showed that Don was leading the club championship by only half a minute. It was also confirmed that Johnson and Hook were slightly ahead.

It looked as if everything was slipping out of Don's reach but a fighting effort over the final ten miles saw him home with a 40 second margin over Keith and a time of 4 hours 36 mins. 22 sec. His position in the Sussex event was third, 4 minutes 1 sec. behind Johnson and 1 min. 25 secs. behind Hook.

### Second

Keith was second in the club and fourth in the county, recording 4.37.2. The club's winning team was completed by Mick Venner who finished in 4.49.12.

Other club times were—George Matthews, 4.49.40; John Mansell, 4.53.43; Mike Poland, 5.3.57; Eddy Kneen, 5.6.15 and Chris Woodcock 5.6.45.

Ray Douglass, Harry Beasley and Colin Miller travelled to the Southampton area to ride in the Crabwood CC Open 25-mile event. Colin was fastest with a time of 1.4.38. Ray returned 1.10.40, and Harry, now living in Ringwood, 1.11.20.

This Sunday many of the club's 100 milers will again be in action over the same distance when they compete in the Southern Counties event starting near Horsham.



## FAST TIMES RETURNED BY CYCLISTS

A SMALL BUT good field for Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's 10-mile event on Thursday. Pleasant, still conditions with an autumn-like mist across the Adur favoured fast times and the riders duly obliged.

The competition between Mick Venner and George Matthews seems to get faster and closer, but at the moment it is still Mick who has the edge.

On Thursday he returned 22 min. 44 sec. and George 22 min. 58 sec.

As the series begins to draw to a close—there are just three more races—it is going to take a big effort from George if he is going to retain the overall championship.

Schoolboy Grahame Barnes turned in a tremendous time of 23 min. 58 sec.; the fourth time this year he has improved on his own personal record.

Pete Reeves was fourth in 24 min. 23 sec. and Tony Hill fifth with his best time of the year, 24 min. 58 sec.

Other times: Steve Richards 25 min. 21 sec.; Kevin Bishop 25 min. 42 sec.; Clive Roberts 25 min. 42 sec.; Derek Pearce 26 min. 16 sec.; Chris Moore 28 min. 27 sec.; Geoff Allibons 28 min. 44 sec.

## Venner speeds to victory

MICK VENNÉR was a convincing winner of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's 30-mile championship on Sunday with a personal best time for the distance of 1.12.59. Second place was filled by George Matthews in 1.14.51. Other times were Steve Richards 1.20.19, Graham Barnes 1.21.19, Peter Reeves 1.21.54, Ray Douglass 1.23.59, Kevin Bishop 1.24.00, Clive Roberts 1.25.12, Derek Pearce 1.29.39, Chris Moore 1.30.29. The first handicap prize was won by Clive Roberts, one of the most promising of the club's younger riders.

WORTHING HERALD

6TH AUGUST 1970.

WORTHING GAZETTE

4TH AUGUST 1971.



CYCLING

AUG. 7TH.

1971.

Sussex Cycle Racing League. —  
Devil: K. CHANDLER, Brighton Mitre  
CC; 2. M. Venner, Worthing Exel; 3.  
M. Adams, Brighton Exel. 1 lap scr:  
MICK VENNER, Worthing Exel; 2.  
Chandler; 3. P. Bealch, Brighton  
Prem: 13-6. Italian Pur: WORTHING  
EXCELSIOR CC (Venner, C. Miller, C.  
Woodcock). 600m h'cap: VENNER; 2.  
A. Packer, Brighton Mitre; 3. Adams;

13-0. 10km pt-to-pt: VENNER, 35 pts;  
2. Adams, 31; 3. C. Miller, Worthing  
Exel, 13; 14-10.4



## Mansell nets the trophy

CLUB SECRETARY John Mansell won Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's 20th Clapshaw Memorial 25-mile time trial on Sunday, taking the handsome trophy with an actual time of 1hr. 6min. 22sec.—a net 57 min. 4 sec. with an allowance of 9 min. 18 sec.

Placings were decided on handicap, but both Eddie Kneen and Graham Barnes recorded personal best gross times over 25 miles.

Result on handicap times (allowances in brackets): 1 John Mansell 57 min. 4 sec. (9 min. 18 sec.), 2 Paul Davis 57-23 (10-00), 3 Eddie Kneen 57-48 (7-15), 4 Graham Barnes 58-07 (7-54), 5 Kevin Bishop 1-00-01 (8-59), 6 Mike Poland 1-00-21 (7-37), 7 Ray Douglass 1-1-49 (7-20), 8 Pete Langridge 1-4-03 (4-27), 9 Geoff Allibone 1-5-59 (10-00), 10 Tony Palmer (punctured) 1-7-54 (9-54).

WORTHING

GAZETTE

11TH AUG.

1971.

## John joins up with Excelsior

WHEN AN application was made recently by John Finch to join Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club as a second-claim member, the older members of that club realised at once that John was no ordinary applicant. He had, in fact, once been one

of the leading amateur cyclists in the country.

John asked to join second claim because he wanted to retain his interest in Ross Wheeler, the club for whom he rode in his heyday.

As a competitor he will undoubtedly be a useful man to have in the club, for he still turns in some fast rides. But his greatest value will be as an advisor and coach to the younger and less experienced riders.

John started cycling in 1951 and in later years achieved great success, including his selection to ride in the national team in the tour of Belgium and Austria.

It was during the period 1960-63 that he clocked his fastest times over distances ranging from 25 to 100 miles. His best for 25 was 57 min. 7 sec., and for 100 miles 4 hr. 6 min. 27 sec.

He now works and lives in Worthing, and Excelsior are hoping he will be with them for many years to come.

WORTHING HERALD

13TH AUGUST 1971.



## Mick Venner in great form in the Park

MICK VENNER climaxed another highly-successful track racing season at Preston Park, Brighton, when he not only completed a hat-trick of victories in the Sussex Cycle Racing League but won the Sussex 25-mile track championship.

The championship event was a fitting climax to the season with the crowd shouting themselves hoarse in the closing stages of the event which was held in appalling light conditions.

Bob Beatty, from East Grinstead, the title-holder, with Mick, Ken Duncumb, of the East Surrey Road Club, and Brighton Mitre's Keith Chandler, were the main protagonists after the halfway mark had been reached in 29min. 34sec.

These four swept through the 20-mile mark in 46min. 31sec. and then Chandler was dropped.

With six laps to go it was Duncumb's turn to be severed from the leaders but threats from the trackside from his wife that he would go without dinner for the rest of the week if he did not win seemed to put new life into him and he fought his way back with the leaders and they went through the bell together.

Beatty made the first move with 300 yards to go but it was

### CYCLING

Venner who swept through off the final bend to win the event by a length in 58min. 23sec. with Duncumb in third place.

The first event of the evening saw Mick ensure a third successive year as League champion when he won the Devil-take-the-Hind-most from Bob Beatty, with Keith Chandler in third place. Mick amassed 44 points to Keith's 40 points with Brighton

Excelsior's Mick Adams in third place with 35 points.

Mick also led the Worthing Excelsior club to the team victory with 67 points to Brighton Mitre's 53 points.

EVENING ARGUS

THURSDAY 19TH

AUGUST 1971.

WORTHING HERALD AUGUST 20TH 1971.

## Ride in 25

On the flat and exposed coast at Lydd in Kent on Sunday, two members of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club, Ray Douglass and Don Lock, took part in the Miphisto 25-mile time trial. Lock, after a fortnight's holiday in which he did no cycling, was satisfied with his time of 1hr. 7min. 6 sec. and Douglass did 1-10-21. Both finished down the field.



## VENNER WINS TEN MILE SERIES

THE FINAL EVENT in the 14-long evening ten mile series of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club was run off on Thursday on the Adur Bridge course in humid and fairly still conditions.

Mick Venner, fresh from his fine track performances at Preston Park the previous evening, was again the fastest club rider and has easily been the most successful senior rider.

His 22.29 was just seven seconds too good for George Matthews, but it was good to see George back to this form.

### Beats seniors

Grahame, with his consistently fine performances, gains the junior award for the series.

Grahame Barnes finished third behind George and Mick and beat many senior riders with his excellent 24.6.

Eddy Kneen continues to improve and lowered his best ten mile time to 24.45. Next season Eddy plans to ride more regularly and tackle some longer events. He is extremely strong and should be a useful performer.

Fastest ride of the evening was by the Eastbourne rider Cliff Sharpe. His time of 22.19 was only 13 seconds outside the course record.

### Results

Worthing times:—Mick Venner 22.29, George Matthews 22.36, Grahame Barnes 24.6, Don Lock 24.21, Eddy Kneen 24.45, Steve Richards 24.51, Mike Poland 25.11, Kevin Bishop 25.22, Clive Roberts 26.6, Derek Pearce 26.25, Tony Flumm 27.54, Geoff Allibone 29.2.

Racing secretary Tony Palmer, announces the final results as:—  
1 Mick Venner, six points; equal 2 Grahame Barnes and George Matthews, 10; equal 4 Peter Reeves and Don Lock 11; 6 Bob Sparkes, 16; 7 Kevin Bishop, 17; 8 Clive Roberts, 20; equal 9 Paul Hampton and Steve Richards 23; 11 Tony Hill, 26; 12 Mike Poland, 40; 13 Derek Pearce, 41; 14 R. Smith, 45; 15 P. Ward, 54.

## KEEN FIGHT AMONG CYCLISTS TO GAIN ALL ROUNDER TITLE

NOW THREEQUARTERS of the way through the racing season, and with five of the eight club championships decided, the interest of many of the racing members of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club turns towards the best all-rounder championship. The club BAR is decided on the best average speed in events at 25, 50 and 100 miles and 12 hours and those involved are busy calculating the mph average of their own performances and those of their rivals so far this year.

Some riders are better at the longer distances and they will hope to gain ground in the 12-hour event. Those preferring 25 or 50 miles will be endeavouring to go better still at these distances.

The Worthing club has not seen such tremendous competition for many years and at this time no fewer than eight riders qualify at the three distances, 25, 50 and 100 miles.

### BIG HURDLE

The big hurdle is the 12-hour. The club, Sussex Cycling Association and Southern Counties Cyclists' Union 12-hour championship is on September 5 and several will compete in this. It is not, however, on a fast course and some riders not satisfied with their performance might still ride another 12-hour in another part of the country.

The half day event is a real test of stamina, but is not simply an endurance test, for riders will be aiming at something around 240 miles and 20 mph is a racing speed.

The position in the club BAR at present is Don Lock 23.709 mph, Mick Venner 23.148, George Matthews 22.983, Keith Dodman 22.955, Tony Hill 22.348, John Mansell 21.655, Eddy Kneen 21.360, Mike Poland 21.153.

### Team win?

Keith Dodman, John Mansell and Don Lock are also currently lying second in the Southern Counties BAR Team Championship, and being only .205 mph behind Kentish Wheelers will really be looking for good rides on September 5. If they could win that team title for Excelsior it would be a considerable achievement against the strong London clubs.

WORTHING

GAZETTE

AUGUST

25TH 1971.



WORTHING HERALD

AUGUST 27TH 1971.

## Venner comes second in Sussex 25

ALTHOUGH THE Sussex Cyclists' Association's 25-mile championship at the weekend did not attract a large field, the quality was high.

On what was generally considered to be a hard morning, it was national class rider Cliff Sharp of the Eastbourne Rovers Club who proved himself to be the fastest man in Sussex. His time of 59.14 was two minutes too good for Mick Venner of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club who finished second in the nonetheless excellent time of 1.1.16. P Lipscombe of Central Sussex gained third place with a time of 1.2.30.

The event was held on the course from Withy Patch, at the back of Shoreham Airfield, out to Angmering and then back via Findon roundabout. The east and west directions were troubled by cross winds and the ride up through Findon Valley proved the agony stretch, where many lost considerable time.

### Change ?

It may be that this will be the last time the championship is held on this course for traffic lights planned for the Thomas A'Becket crossroads may be in position before next season.

One thing that would please riders about a move to a new course would be a chance of better road surfaces.

Other Worthing riders in the championship recorded the following times: George Matthews 1.2.49, Grahame Barnes 1.5.55, Eddy Kneen 1.6.57, Rob Parker 1.7.12, Mike Poland 1.8.18, Harry Beasley 1.9.13, Don Lock 1.10.51 (including 5½ mins. late start), Tony Palmer 1.12.48, Mrs Nicky Parker 1.17.52.

Ray Douglass took part on Saturday in the Sheffield Highgate 25-mile event near Blyth. His time of 1hr. 8min. 2sec. was a good effort on an exposed course in windy conditions and is close to his veterans age-standard time of 1hr. 8min.

WORTHING HERALD

3RD. SEPTEMBER 1971.

## Cyclists bid for big race titles

ONE OF THE biggest events in the local cycling calendar takes place this Sunday, the 12-hour race that incorporates the Southern Counties, Sussex and Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club championships.

Five members of the local club will be taking part and they have all been training hard for the event, two of them, Keith Dodman and John Mansell, going far afield for the purpose.

Dodman has been touring in Scotland, and while he was there did well to finish eighth in the Fife 50 with a time of 2hr. 12min. 48 sec.

Mansell has been touring in East Anglia.

### Competes

On Monday, Don Lock, another 12-hour contestant, took part in the classic Bath Road Club 100-mile event and finished 30th of more than 100 competitors in 4-33-22, a satisfactory time.

The other two men due to take part on Sunday are Mick Venner and Chris Woodcock.

On Sunday, Ray Douglass travelled to ride in the Bromsgrove Olympic 25-mile event near Worcester and, in difficult, windy conditions, recorded a good 1-11-59.



CYCLING SEPT. 4TH.

1971.

Sussex (St John's Benefit) Track. —  
Devil: MICK VANNER, W'thing Ex CC;  
2. R. Beatty, E Grinstead CC; 3. K.  
2. K. Duncumb, E. Surrey RC; 3.  
Chandler, Brighton Mitre . 500m  
Beatty, E Grinstead CC. S'boys 2 lap  
h'cap: G. MATTHEWS, W'thing Ex CC;  
h'cap: J. BISHOP, W'thing Ex; 2. R.  
Barnes, W'thing Ex. 25m SCF Div  
championship: VANNER: 2. Beatty: 3.  
K. Duncombe, E. Surrey RC. 1st.  
winner: DUNCOMB.



## Lock wins 12-hour title for the fourth time

DON LOCK is Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's 12-hour champion for the fourth time. Lock, together with three other club members, took part in the 12-hour event starting from Povey Cross near Horley on Sunday and incorporating the Excelsior, Sussex Cyclists Association and Southern Counties Cyclists Union championships.

Lock covered 236 miles and this gave him his first club 12-hour championship since 1965.

The other three Worthing men were John Mansell, Keith Dodman and Chris Woodcock. John did well to finish with 227 miles and Chris rode gamely to record 216. But Keith Dodman, after completing 180 miles, had to retire as he was feeling the considerable strain.

### Lose title

This meant that the Southern Counties team title, which Worthing won in 1970, slipped from their grasp. This was a pity, for at the time Dodman retired, the three leading Worthing riders were well placed.

Conditions for the event were contrasting. For the first four hours competitors rode in cold misty weather and later they experienced the other extreme with bright sunshine and uncomfortable heat.

Mansell, Dodman and Lock started well and for the first six hours there was never more than 15 minutes between the three. Chris Woodcock rode steadily and was not much down on his clubmates.

In the heat of the afternoon, and as the course became more hilly, Dodman retired and Woodcock's speed dropped considerably. But Lock and Mansell pressed on well for their final good returns.

A good deal of checking must be done before the results are announced, but it is certain that Don

is Excelsior champion and the new holder of the Sussex Best All Rounder championship — a title he last held in 1962.

In the Sussex individual placings Lock was second behind Adrian Jones of Crawley and Mansell was fourth. Chris Woodcock probably finished seventh.

In the Southern Counties competition, Lock finished approximately fourth, Mansell eighth and Woodcock 21st.

Also at the weekend, Ray Douglass took part in the Verulam CC 50 miles time trial near Cambridge. He rode the first 25 extremely well, but slowed later to record 2 hr. 27 min. 29 sec.

Mike Poland and Tony Palmer rode in the East Sussex CA 25-mile event on the London-Eastbourne road near Uckfield and returned respectable times.



CYCLING

11TH SEPT. 1971.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES CU "12"		
(G17D)		
D. Grady, Bec CC .....	245.45	
C. Davies, Addiscombe CC ..	236.81	
A. Jones, Crawley Wh .....	236.22	
D. Lock, Worthing Ex .....	235.91	
A. Hutton, Redmore CC .....	233.28	
A. Roberts, Kentish Wh .....	232.71	
S. Heppelthwaite, Kentish Wh	230.32	
M. Ayliffe, Clarecount CC ..	229.38	
R. Johnson, Brighton Mitre ..	227.98	
J. Mansell, Worthing Ex .....	227.18	
Team. — Kentish Wh (Roberts, Hep-		
pelthwaite, Lock, 216.76) 679.79.		

WORTHING EXCELSIOR C.C.

**25-MILE T.T.**

3rd OCTOBER, 7 a.m.

NEW FAST COURSE G935

Entries to:

A. L. Hill, 72 Rosdean Road  
Durrington, Worthing

NOT AS IN HANDBOOK

CYCLING

18TH SEP. 1971.

ALWAYS ON TIME, Worthing  
Excelsior CC's bright publica-  
tion, WORTHING WHEEL, never  
fails to offer 36 pages of first-  
class material. The New  
(Summer) number sets the  
expected high standard, with  
Don Lock proving once again  
his skill as unpaid editor and  
first-class racing man.



17TH SEPTEMBER 1971

## CYCLIST TOPS 10,000 MILE MARK

A FAIRLY QUIET weekend was enjoyed by members of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club although considerable interest attached to Keith Dodman who travelled to Wimborne to ride in the Bournemouth Jubilee Cycling Club 100-mile event.

Keith was hoping for a good performance to improve his chances in the Club Best Allrounder Competition. He started fast but a rising easterly wind made the later parts of the course hard; and his time, 4 hours 41 minutes, was no improvement on his previous best this year.

This Sunday, Keith journeys to the Midlands to ride in the Classic Oldbury 12-hour event, his last chance at this distance this season.

Keith has covered more than 10,000 miles this year and is still capable, if he can find top form, of returning a distance of more than 240 miles.

Ray Douglass and Tony Palmer took part on Sunday in the Bognor Regis CC 25-mile event. Held this year on a new course running out to the Havant Bypass, it was hoped that faster times would be forthcoming, but again the rising easterly wind affected performances over the return half. Ray finished in 1-10-12 and Tony in 1-11-13.

### Racing trike

Interesting news comes from the Crawley home of club secretary John Mansell. After all those training miles for the Club 100 and 12-hour championships, John is preparing to get his racing trike on the road and have a go at one or two of the local records.

John's trike rides in the past have been of a very high standard and he currently holds many club and Southern Roads Records Association records at all distances up to 12 hours.

24TH SEPTEMBER 1971

## KEITH STILL AIMS FOR TITLE WIN

KEITH DODMAN'S effort to once again win the Best All Rounder Championship of the Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club is not over yet, and looks like continuing to the last weeks of the 1971 season.

Riding in the Midlands in the classic Oldbury 12-hour event on Sunday, Keith went further than he has ever managed before and recorded 239 miles. The official result after all checks have been made could indeed show that he managed 20 mph or 240 miles.

This was a really fine ride on strange roads, which will understandably give Keith encouragement and inspiration for the remainder of his season's programme. He now needs a fast time at 50 and 25 miles to edge his average above that of Don Lock who has led the competition for most of the year.

### Tragedy

Back on the local course, Excelsior members took part in the Sussex Cyclists' Association's 30-mile championship and the result was a tragedy for George Matthews.

Having finished second in 1970, he had planned revenge and his great ride of 1.15.0 would have given him a handsome victory—but George had reported 10 minutes late to the timekeeper and suffered this time as a penalty.

The winner was Roger Hughes, of Brighton Excelsior, who recorded 1.17.0.

Eddy Kneen, Grahame Barnes and Kevin Bishop also rode for Worthing and recorded 1.23, 1.24 and 1.27 respectively.

In the Surrey and Sussex veterans 25 there were some fine rides although Worthing's Ray Douglass was off form with his 1.13.1.



24TH SEPTEMBER 1971.

## SEASON'S BEST RETURNED BY DODMAN

KEITH DODMAN, of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club, travelled to the Midlands again at the weekend to continue his Club Best All Rounder Championship efforts.

Although not managing his hoped for 2 hours 6 minutes ride in the Leicestershire Road Club 50-mile event, he rode extremely well under atrocious conditions to record his best time this season, 2 hours 9 minutes 51 seconds.

Keith now has to return a fast 25, somewhere in the region of two minutes faster than he has ever gone before, but he will be continuing these efforts right through October.

Meanwhile, Best All Rounder leader Don Lock was trying to improve his 25-mile time in the Hounslow and District event on the Bath road near Newbury. The conditions were again not ideal and his time of 1 hour 2 minutes 40 seconds did not increase his lead.

### Creditable

Near home, Tony Palmer and Colin Miller took part in the Brighton Mitre 2-up 25 mile event on the Horsham road. Neither of these riders is able to devote a great deal of time to training and their 1 hour 6 mins. 36 secs. performance was a creditable one.

Ray Douglass was riding near Lichfield in the Birmingham and Midlands Veterans Time Trial Association 25 and showed better form than of late in recording 1.8.31.

This Sunday sees Worthing Excelsior's Open 25-mile promotion. There is an entry of 69 riders and the start is just 300 yards north of the Washington roundabout on the Horsham road at 7.30 a.m.



WORTHING HERALD

8TH OCTOBER.

1971.

## EXCELSIOR SPEED IN FOR TEAM TRIUMPH

A THICK MIST, an accident, two rides under the hour and another team win for Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club made the club's open 25-mile event on Sunday a lively affair.

From the start just north of Washington roundabout all the way to the 12½-mile turn at Broadbridge Heath was thick mist, which deterred many riders from starting.

And Jeff Marshall (Hounslow) had gone only a few hundred yards when he was involved in a collision and broke a collar bone and shoulder blade.

With very little wind and damp and depressing conditions, the riders were given no assistance in either direction.

Winner was Dennis Brown (Portsmouth) with a time of 58 min. 37 sec. Cliff Sharp (Eastbourne Rovers) finished comfortably in second place with 59.22, Dave Eldridge (Delta) was third in 1.0.1 and Mick Venner (Excelsior) fourth in 1.2.9.

The team event was won by Excelsior from Eastbourne Rovers, with Chris Woodcock (1.7.21) and Don Lock (1.4.22) the other scorers for the Worthing team.

Other Worthing times: Eddy Kneen 1.8.43; Steve Richards 1.10.46; Tony Hill 1.11.36; Tony Pamer 1.12.31; Geoff Allibone 1.20.11.

Keith Dodman was off form in the Haslemere 25 on the Portsmouth road and could manage only 1.6.26. Ray Douglass, riding on the Bath road course near Newbury in the veterans event, returned 1.8.3, one of his best times of the season.



WORTHING HERALD 15TH OCTOBER 1971

## 'HARDRIDERS' EVENT PROVES TOUGH

KNOWN as the club "hardriders" championship, Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's 33-mile event on the tortuous course from Worthing to Arundel, through Washington, Storrington and Houghton Hill and then back to finish in Findon Valley, lived up to its name on Sunday.

By contrast to the previous week the conditions were clear and sunny but the south west wind made for a hard outward ride, and a real tough climb of Houghton Hill to White-way Lodge.

### Specialist

Event record holder and last year's winner, Mick Venner again proved himself a real specialist over the course finishing in a slower but unbeatable time of 1 hour 33 minutes 10 seconds. He had been held over the earlier parts of the course by Keith Dodman but had eventually drawn away to a comfortable 2½ minute margin.

Don Lock rode into third place in 1.36.2 and George Matthews, out of training at present, was relegated to fourth position with 1.38.1.

Despite mechanical trouble Eddy Kneen finished in 1.42.20, only just beating a fine effort by young Kevin Bishop who clocked 1.42.42.

Mike Poland, a consistent performer in this event for many years, finished, as he did last year, in seventh place and his time 1.44.17 was only three seconds slower.

Chris Woodcock was eighth in 1.49.6 and Tony Palmer ninth in 1.49.57.

### Dream result

The handicapper managed a dream result in getting both Mick Venner and Keith Dodman on winning net times of 1.33.10 and the next four riders all within two minutes.

This Sunday sees the last of the club's 1971 racing—the hill climb championship to be held on the tough climb up the Steyning Bostal hill. The event will start at 10 a.m. and the favourite will doubtless be Mick Venner, the present holder, but he will not be allowed to "have it easy."



## Cyclists hit by atrocious conditions

THE HILL CLIMB championship held by Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club on the steep north side of Steyning Bostal on Sunday was hit by the most atrocious conditions of the whole season.

Torrential rain for some hours before the start made the road surface extremely slippery and the hill a much more difficult climb. It also deterred many of the entrants from making the journey to the start.

A decision by the timekeepers to delay the start by half an hour saw no improvement in the weather and only three riders tackled the climb. John Mansell gave best to the conditions after starting on a borrowed machine.

Mick Venner, the holder of the championship trophy, tackled the climb in capable and careful style and did well to complete the ride in 4 minutes 53 3/5ths seconds.

Only Steve Richards was to challenge and his ride and time of 6 minutes 10 seconds was a most creditable effort in the circumstances.

### Fair ride

Ray Douglass was competing on the Bristol to Gloucester road, riding in the Gordano Valley 25-mile event. With the winner six minutes outside his best in 59 minutes, Ray's effort of 1.12.31 was a fair ride in rough, windy conditions.

This Saturday sees two record attempts by club riders. Don Lock is attempting to lower Colin Miller's time of 2 hrs. 8 mins. 46 secs. for the Worthing to Haywards Heath and back record, a distance of approximately 48 miles. John Mansell will be setting up figures for the Worthing to Brighton and back tricycle record.

## RECORDS CUT BY CYCLISTS

THE EXCELLENT weather at the weekend provided perfect conditions for John Mansell and Don Lock during their attempts on Saturday on existing records of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club. They both made the best of the opportunity and produced handsome cuts in the previous times.

John tackled the Worthing to Brighton and back tricycle standard time of 1 hour 6 min. Efforts on this course can frequently be thwarted by the numerous sets of traffic lights that have to be negotiated and John was estimated to have lost nearly a minute to this hazard.

Riding strongly on this, his first really serious trike ride for some time, he showed that he is still the finest handler of this type of machine in the county and completed the ride in 1 hour 2 minutes 57 seconds. He adds this to the many records he already holds on three wheels.

### Route planned

Don's task was to try and reduce the time of Colin Miller for the 47½ mile trip to Haywards Heath and back—2 hours 8 minutes 46 seconds. Having planned a route through the lanes to cut the route distance down to this mileage of 47½, Don was soon up on a schedule of 2 hours 5 minutes and by the Haywards Heath turn was three minutes in advance.

A slight south westerly and some tiring over the later miles saw him finish just inside his schedule in 2 hours 4 minutes 14 seconds to lower the record by a substantial 4 minutes 32 seconds.

On Sunday, practically the last

day of the 1971 racing season, seven members rode in the Brighton Mitre 25 on the Horsham Road course with the start at Washington.

Although the early starters had somewhat cold and misty conditions, the morning soon developed into a warm and sunny one with only light south westerly winds.

Many star international riders had been attracted to this event and the winner, W. Moore, smashed the course record with a superb 56 minutes 20 seconds ride. This beat the old record which was somewhat unofficial but stood credited to Worthing's George Matthews with a time of 58.27.

### Best effort

The best of the Worthing performances was again turned in by Mick Venner with a time of 1.1.46. Mick's 25 mile performances during 1971 have been wonderfully consistent.

George Matthews finished in 1.3.45, but a good ride was that of Mike Poland who went nearer to his personal best than anyone else. His time of 1.5.46 was better than he has managed at any other time this year.

The remainder of the club times were—Don Lock, 1.6.45; Eddy Kneen, 1.8.58; Chris Woodcock, 1.9.42 and Ray Douglass, 1.14.21.

This Sunday the club hold their annual touring competition for the President's rose bowl and two previous holders, John Mansell and Tony Palmer, will be among the competitors.

Also planned is a record attempt by George Matthews who will be attacking the Chichester and back time held by Don Lock since 1963.



## TROPHY WILL BE SHARED

THE ANNUAL touring competition of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club for the President's rose bowl was held on Sunday, and was once again promoted for the club by Brian Weir.

This year the morning section, starting in rainy conditions, took the competitors by devious ways out to Ferring and then north to Angmering, Lyminster, Poling, Warmingcamp and finally to lunch at Burpham.

The distance covered was perhaps 18 miles but, including quite an amount of cross country, was soon splitting the field and at the end of this section only reigning champion Tony Palmer and past holder of the trophy, John Mansell, were clear of any penalty.

### Roundabout

With sunny and warm conditions prevailing, the afternoon route wound an equally roundabout course over the downs to Amberley and then through Rackham, Coldwaltham, Pulborough and West Chiltington before bringing riders back to Georges Lane near Washington where Theo Puttick's "mobile kitchen" provided excellent refreshments.

The 40 miles covered tested the map reading and general touring ability of the competitors but at the final reckoning it had failed to separate the two half way leaders and, for the first time, the trophy will this year be shared, by Palmer and Mansell who dead heated on points.

A tie also decided the places of Ray Douglass and Tony Hill who finished level and ahead of the remaining competitors.

### Failure

George Matthews failed on Saturday in his attempt on the club's Worthing to Chichester and back record, held by Don Lock at 1 hour 47 mins. 49 secs.

George had an abortive start when after a mile his saddle broke. This was repaired and a further start was then made.

Damp, cold and misty conditions were far from favourable and he was soon down on his own schedule for a 1 hour 45 minute record.

He gamely maintained his effort until Chichester, but then down on the record and feeling cold and dispirited, he retired.

This Saturday the club hold their annual dinner and prize presentation at Warnes Hotel.



## Nine awards received by Don Lock

STALWART Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club member Don Lock received the nine cups he had won during the year at the club's annual dinner and dance at Warnes Hotel on Saturday.

The trophies were presented by Mrs Argent, wife of club president Doug Argent.

Lock was also on his feet to reply to the toast to the club proposed by the president of Brighton Mitre CC, Bill Sladen, who congratulated Excelsior on an outstanding year of success in time trials, road races and track racing.

In his summary of the year, Lock referred to the performances of club members. Four riders did sub-one hour "25 miles" with Mick Venner the fastest at 58 minutes, and more riders than ever before rode the longer distances.

Mr Tony Hill proposed the toast to the president and vice-presidents and Mr Argent replied.

GEOFF ALLIBONE (left) of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club receives the Worthing Road Safety adult quiz trophy from Councillor H. E. Nelson, chairman of the watch and local safety committee. Looking on is Mr W. D. Argen the club president.

Prizewinners. Circuit—R. Matthews, 56.8; handicap, B. Bethell, 25 championship—D. Lock 1.3.48; handicap, D. Lock, 30 championship—M. Venner, 1.12.59; handicap, C. Roberts, 50 championship—D. Lock, 2.7.55; handicap, D. Lock, 100 championship—D. Lock, 4.36.22; handicap, J. Mansell, 12-hour championship—D. Lock, 235.77; handicap, J. Mansell, 24-hour championship—D. Lock, 428.54; handicap, D. Lock, Clapham 25—J. Mansell, Sherwin 25—G. Barnes, 1.3.38.

Hardriders—M. Venner, 1.33.10; handicap, M. Venner/K. Dodman, Junior 15—G. Barnes 40.25; handicap, D. Pearce, 10 miles series—M. Venner; 2 G. Barnes/R. Matthews. Hill climb—M. Venner, 4.56. Most improved rider—D. Pearce, 3,793 mph. Points cup—D. Lock, BAR—D. Lock, 22.711 mph; junior BAR—G. Barnes, 23.353 mph. Tourist trophy—A. Palmer/J. Mansell, 25 team TT—M. Venner/R. Matthews, 1.1.0.

Open time trials and road races (Individual First)—M. Venner (SCA 25. Guernsey RR (31). R. Matthews (Guernsey RR (23). Guernsey Jnr RR Jock Shrimpton Memorial 10. BCF Sussex Division RR Championships. SCA 25). G. Barnes (SCA 15). K. Dodman (SCA 50).

Teams (first)—SCA 25; 25 2-up; 50; 100; 25 Team Championship A and B. Club Open 25. Strudwick Trophy (Venner/Miller). Guernsey RR Velo 10 and 25 2-up.

Teams (second)—SCCU and SCA 12-hour.

Track (first)—M. Venner SCRL Track Championship. SCRL Sprint. SCRL Pursuit, 15 Km. 25 miles.

WORTHING

HERALD

NOVEMBER

12TH.

1971.



EXTRACT FROM REX COLEY'S

CYCLING IN EAST ANGLIA

'CYCLING' 20TH NOV. 1971.

then the name "Worthing" on town that boasts a vigorous a signpost promised an inter-cycling club (hail to the Worth-esting pilgrimage, and so it ing Excelsior) it was grand to proved. proceed along a truly delightful

Even if this Norfolk Worth-lane, being greeted by one ing could not compare in size milkman, two elderly lady cycl-with Suffolk's namesake, a ists, three cats and four dogs.



WORTHING HERALD

FRIDAY

NOVEMBER 26TH

1971.

## Cyclists go on outing

IN THE STILL dark hours of Sunday morning, ten members of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club loaded bicycles on to motor cars and headed off to Portsmouth. By 8.30 a.m. they were aboard the Ryde ferry and half an hour later were on the Isle of Wight.

This outing followed upon a previous winter outing to the island which had been enjoyed despite unfavourable weather.

This time the party were treated to some extremely high winds, low temperatures, some rain and some sunshine, and once again they all enjoyed themselves.

A long but exhilarating climb soon saw the riders on Ashley Down from which views over extensive parts of the island could be enjoyed.

Keeping to all the lanes, so completely free of traffic, and taking a bridleway cross country for part of the way, they arrived at Newport mid morning and, after a heavy rain shower, entered Yarmouth by lunch time.

In the afternoon they returned east through Freshwater and Brightstone and back to Newport for tea. A different route saw them walking the length of Ryde Pier in time for the 5.30 p.m. ferry.

WORTHING GAZETTE

WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 22ND

1971.

## Cyclists dine at Copsale

COPSALE, the small secluded village south of Horsham and just off to the east of the main A24 road, once again played host to Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club on the occasion of their annual Christmas tea.

The club's social secretary again put on a full Christmas meal.

Fifty members and friends made the 16-mile journey to the venue and, despite rough weather conditions, there was a fair number who arrived by bike rather than car!

The event was to have been preceded by an "Observation Run" which had been organised by Ray Douglass, but the atrocious weather conditions of the morning, when it was due to have started, caused its postponement.

'MAG-NET' CYCLING

DECEMBER 11TH 1971.

\* \* \*  
LURE OF WALES is well expressed by an article in the Autumn number of WORTHING WHEEL, and there is a description of a French "tourlet" which proves that two energetic members of Worthing Excelsior CC probably saw more of Paris and the country around Rouen than do many tourists who take two weeks or longer!  
\* \* \*