

COMMITTEE REPORT 1964

1964 was a year of continued success in the history of the Excelsior. This, by itself, is a bare statement, but true. In support of it I would like to bring to your attention the following points.

MEMBERSHIP

Considering that the national trend is for membership of cycling clubs to decrease it is particularly gratifying to be able to report that there is a continuing influx of new members to our ranks. Even more important is the fact that a large percentage of these new members are juniors, and seemingly keen ones at that.

ANNUAL DINNER

Even though the attendance was slightly lower than last year, the dinner was, if anything, more enjoyable than on previous occasions and our sincere thanks are due to Theo Puttick for his, not inconsiderable, effort in organising this function.

FINANCE

When one bears in mind the knowledge that 1964 saw our funds taking the brunt of two club dinners and two sets of prizes, the comparatively small loss shown on the balance sheet is satisfactory.

OPEN PROMOTIONS

The club successfully promoted two open events during the year:-

a) 25 MILE TIME TRIAL: This was the third consecutive year in which we have held our open '25' and it continues to enjoy good support - the 86 entries received for this years version being the largest field for any event held on local courses this season.

b) 100 IN 7 RELIABILITY TRIAL: The past twelve months have also seen the promotion, for the first time by the club, of a reliability trial. Held in February it received 35 entries, with some 17 riders qualifying for Excelsior certificates.

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RACING

Here, once again, time for our annual self-congratulatory pat on the back. But surely this time, if never before, we deserve it.

During the year we retained the Sussex 25 mile and Best All Rounder team titles as well as having the individual 12 hour champion in Dave Funnell. We also won the majority of the rest of the Sussex team awards and had a grand total in all open events of 11 team awards and 8 individual wins.

On the track we won the Sussex 4000 metre team pursuit title for the fourth successive year and as well as sharing the Strudwick Trophy with Brighton Velo, we also have the new Sussex 1000 metre sprint champion in John Lucas.

There were 12 club records broken during the season, including new marks, on bicycle and tricycle, at 10 miles. This being a distance at which we were allowed to compete for the first time, holding a series of evening time trials, which were most successful, both from the competitive and financial viewpoint.

FOOTBALL PONTOON .

A new weekly football pontoon has been organised during the past two months. This form of fund raiser being considered by your committee to be preferable to the traditional annual Xmas draw. The initial response to this scheme has been quite favourable but I would point out that its continued success depends, obviously, on your continued support.

In concluding this report I would like to take this opportunity of thanking anyone who has helped the club in any capacity during the past year and assure them that their assistance will be appreciated equally as much during 1965.

John Mansell

Hon. Gen. Secretary