

## SECRETARY'S REPORT 1971.

The year under review saw our continuance as one of the strongest Clubs in Sussex cycling. BUT!! ----- how much longer shall we be able to retain that strength?

In this equivalent report for 1966 it was noted that more than one-third of our membership was composed of juniors. The current figure of 18 makes a pitiful comparison!

The year's total of new members is also abysmally low, and as may be seen from the Balance Sheet our fund raising activities have not been as fortunate as of recent times.

Your present Committee is, however, intent on formulating a recruitment drive, placing particular emphasis on attracting the younger rider. Should this scheme be as successful as the last then the clubroom will no doubt once again be ringing to the sound "of the patter of tiny feet".

This black end of the report is probably the best place to note that clubroom attendances, certainly during the winter months, have been pathetically thin - the Licencee of The Cricketers, however, reporting a record profit!! Further comment is surely not needed.

Our open promotions met with mixed fortune. The 25 obtaining the smallest entry we have yet received. This, combining with impossibly dense fog, produced an extremely sparse finishing list. The Road Race held on the Yapton circuit started with the maximum permitted number of riders and victory was gained by Bob Porter who incidentally finished as runner-up in the B.B.A.R.

Copsale Village Hall was again graced with the presence of some 45 of our members for our annual Christmas tea - yet another in the long list of Puttick's Gourmet Promotions Limited.

Our Annual Dinner was, for the first time, staged at Warnes Hotel and even though the price unavoidably suffered a sharp increase, there were still in excess of 100 tickets sold.

The Worthing Road Safety Quiz once more saw our two teams placing first and second and to mark our third consecutive win we were, this year, also presented with a replica of the main trophy.

The Reliability and Tourist Trials again received the now traditional Weir organisational treatment - the latter event resulting in a first-time-ever dead heat.

Racing in its various forms still proved to be our major activity with our riders gaining success on road and track, including wins in the S.C.A. 25 mile Team Championship (again!), S.C.A., B.A.R. and S.C.A. 50 and second team place in the S.C.C.V. 12. Our track riders retained the Strudwick Trophy and won Sussex Championships at 1000 metres, 10,000 metres and 25 miles. The Club's road racing representatives invaded Guernsey over the Easter week end and apparently annexed the major portion of the available prizes - a further expedition is planned for the next Bank Holiday.

Four Club records were broken during the year, among them the 24 hour individual and 25 mile team marks.

In closing, may I express our thanks to all who have helped us in the past twelve months.

JOHN MANSELL.

HON. GEN. SECRETARY.