

SECRETARY'S REPORT 1976

OPEN EVENTS.

During the course of the year we again promoted four events consisting of :-

(a) Reliability Trials in February over distances approximating 50 miles which attracted 63 entries with 39 riders qualifying for certificates.

(b) Road Races in April (this year we departed from the handicap format previously used and ran two separate events - one for 1st and 2nd cats. and the other for 3rds and juniors). Maximum entries were received for both events.

(c) 25 mile Time Trial in June once again benefitted from the generosity of Ron Mills Cycles and was held on a warm busy Saturday afternoon under attentive police eyes.

(d) Fiesta Kermesse seafront criteriums were sponsored (largely due to Don Lock's efforts) in excess of £100 and successfully brought "racing to the masses" on August Bank Holiday.

RACING.

Club events have generally been favoured with a good entry - one of the evening 10's (still a very popular series) boasting 28 club riders.

Incidentally, I wonder how many other athletic sports could have a nine year old (Andrew Lock) competing against a 71 year old (Wilf How) with both riders enjoying their first year of competition!

New club team records were established at 25 miles and 100 miles - the 25 mile mark being broken three times. There were 8 qualifiers in the Best All Rounder (sic!) competition. Whilst writing of B.A.R's. it is perhaps apposite to note here that Ray Douglass achieved 118th place in the vets national table.

Our colours were also carried, with mixed success, in road races and on the track, with one of the better performances being George Matthews' successful defence of his Sussex Cycle Racing League individual crown.

TOURING.

Sunday club runs have continued to thrive, with the average attendances showing a small increase over last year.

Youth Hostel weekends, motor vehicle assisted trips, and various evening pub and soup runs have completed an enjoyable programme.

SOCIAL.

The annual dinner was held at the Royal Coach in Shoreham where a full house (there was this year even a waiting list for tickets) enjoyed (!!) the disco which provided the musical entertainment. The evening was overwhelmingly voted a great improvement over recent years functions, and the same venue has been booked for 1977.

Tuesday evening club room attendances continue to fluctuate, the cost of hiring from the Council continues to escalate, but Jim and Connie's endeavours behind the canteen counter remain constant and much appreciated.

GENERAL.

Our thanks are due to Theo for his efforts in organising the fund raising schemes, both of which continue to be an important source of revenue, and our congratulations must go to Charlie Lednor who celebrated 50 years unbroken membership of the Excelsior in 1976.

In closing this report I would bring to your attention the following dates and invite your continued support of these events.

OPEN ROAD RACES.

7TH MAY.

OPEN 25.

22ND MAY.

SEAFRONT KERMESSES.

28TH AUGUST.

ANNUAL DINNER.

12TH NOVEMBER.

JOHN MANSELL.

GENERAL SECRETARY.