

THE WORTHING WHEEL



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CYCLING CLUB**

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Clubroom: Broadwater Parish Rooms: Meetings every
Tuesday evening, 7.30 to 10.30. Canteen until 10.00.

Opinions expressed are those of the contributors,
and not necessarily of the club or its committee.

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The Club 30.

Another course produced from the pen of ace course man Ray Douglass, as still we dodge the West Sussex County Council's road-works men. This time we dived into the lanes of the Ashurst/Shoreham 25-mile circuit, put the start back towards Washington and finished with a grovel up to the Wiston Pond area.

As with practically any new course design, it attracted more moans than applause before the day, It did not however detract from an entry of 16 and times were good.

Richard Bonner and Jeremy Wootton were on joint scratch, which was enough to ensure that defending champion Jeremy gave one of his typically aggressive performances. His time of 1.11.07 on this type of course was a super effort. Hardly less meritorious though was the ride of, ever getting faster, Richard Bonner, who pushed him every inch of the way in recording 1.11.48. It may have been a nice morning with good racing conditions but these were fine rides.

Chris Bacon also enjoyed himself, producing a personal best effort of 1.13.47 for an excellent third place ahead of Father Bonner (Eric), 1.14.39.

Mathew Gould was the one to upset the handicapper, his allowance of 7.45 was a minute and a half too good for the rest in this section.

Pos.	Name.	Actual Time.	H'cap Allce	H'cap Time.
1.	Jeremy Wootton	1.11.07	Scr	1.11.07
2.	Richard Bonner	1.11.48	Scr	1.11.48

3.	Chris Bacon	1.13.47	3.35	1.10.02
4.	Eric Bonner	1.14.39	2.45	1.11.54
5.	Colin Toppin	1.15.16	1.00	1.14.16
6.	John Poland	1.16.13	3.45	1.12.28
7.	Mathew Gould	1.16.20	7.45	1.08.35
8.	Gavin Baylis	1.17.10	4.30	1.12.40
9.	Peter Baird	1.17.31	6.45	1.10.46
10.	Keith Gelder	1.20.06	10.00	1.10.06
11.	Adrian Brown	1.20.07	9.00	1.11.07
12.	Adrian Roberts	1.25.14	11.30	1.13.44
13.	Richard Cooley	1.31.25	14.30	1.16.55
14.	Reg Searle	1.31.38	18.30	1.13.08

Tim Stedman - see new members - made his first time-trial outing riding as a private entry and recorded 1.18.09, and second-claim member Dave Jenkins (1.30.06) noted "there were two slower than me".

AWARDS

Fastest.

1st	Jeremy Wootton	1.11.07
2nd	Richard Bonner	1.11.48
3rd	Chris Bacon	1.13.47

Handicap.

1st	Matthew Gould.
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Timekeeper:	Ray Douglass.
Pusher-off:	Mel Robertson
H'capper:	Don Lock

A Fine Tale? (but not of Worthing).

When the old member died he left in his will specific instructions for his funeral. He wished to be cremated and asked that his ashes should be scattered in a local beauty spot frequently visited by

the Sunday club runs.

In an effort to meet the wishes to the full it was decided that this little ceremony should be carried out by the runs leader on the Sunday following the funeral.

So, with a good turn-out of members, on a breezy morning, the run made its way to the chosen open country area.

It was then that careful planning was forsaken, and without much more ado than a rousing "Cheerio, Charlie", the leader removed the lid and waved the urn above his head.

We don't know how popular he had been, but one rider at the rear of the bunch was heard to comment that it was not the first time that Charlie had got up his nose!

"Brighton Cycling Opportunities Group (C.O.G.)".

We have supported the initial work and aims of this organisation, and Vern McClelland has involved himself in the youth development aspects.

The following letter to your club secretary gives you an idea of their plans.

Dear Paul

You will have heard through your club representative of the creation of the "Brighton COG" (Cycling Opportunity Group) and we are grateful that your club was able to contribute the sum of £20 to assist us in getting started on the work that this Committee has identified as needing doing. Several other clubs have made donations and the Sports Council will also make a contribution.

BACKGROUND

The initial impetus behind the group came from the BCF and Brighton Council with the aim of promoting cycling issues in the local area. COG is not a new

idea; there are other COG groups throughout the country. Notably the nearest one is in Portsmouth. Thus it is perhaps fitting that two of the towns that secured the visit of the Tour de France to Britain should be further involved in promoting cycling generally.

The membership of the Brighton COG group is not exclusive and it welcomes people with an interest in cycling to attend Committee meetings on a regular basis or as a one off. At present the Committee has established a regular membership, largely composed of local club cyclists; we are keen to attract other members, especially those with a specific interest beyond that of the existing membership e.g. mountain biking, commuting, and people new to cycling.

As well as Club cyclists we have, attending meetings regularly: Sue Winter who works for Brighton Council Recreation Services, Mark Adams who works for the Sports Council as a Regional Development Officer and a representative from the Sussex Police Force.

Brighton COG have a rotating chair at meetings but have elected as officers a treasurer and secretary Tony Kennedy and Anthony Rogers respectively.

WORK OF BRIGHTON COG

We have set up the following sub-committees:

1. - Finance - Tony Kennedy, Mark Adams
2. -Track and road - Walter Chamberlain - Simon Birnstingl, Caroline Fife, Anthony Rogers
3. -Youth development - Simon Taylor - Sue Winter, Vernon McClelland, Mark Adams,
4. -Events - Sue Winter (with combined backing)
5. -Off road - Gavin Rogers, Dewi Richards, Gabrielle Rolls
6. -Bricyles co-ordinator - Anthony Rogers

Objectives

Track and road

This committee has identified the idea of trying to attract interested parties to develop a criterium circuit in Sheepcote Valley, East Brighton. Advice is being sought as well as potential sources of funding.

Youth Development

This committee is focusing on the development and promotion of youth

cycling in the area. Simon Taylor is already involved in this work through school and other events.

Events

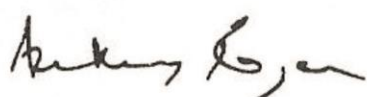
To help promote both cycling and Brighton COG we would like to organise an event, probably of a 'mass participation' form.

Bricycles co-ordinator:

To avoid duplicating the campaign work already carried out by Bricycles we wish to co-ordinate with them so that we can use our energies most effectively.

I hope the above is of interest to you and your members and thank you for your support,

yours faithfully



Anthony Rogers

1995 Evening "10" Series. Event 8, 29th June, 1995.

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Name.</u>	<u>Actual Time.</u>	<u>H'cap All'ce</u>	<u>H'cap Time.</u>
1.	Richard Bonner	21.58	0.30	21.38
2.	John Poland	22.56	1.15	21.41
3.	Eric Bonner	23.15	1.15	22.00
4.	Charlie Parsons	23.50	2.15	21.35
5.	Mike Gibbs	24.12	2.30	21.42
6.	Alan Cooper	24.24	3.15	21.09
7.	Adrian Brown	24.27	2.45	21.42
8.	Neil Hedley	24.42	3.15	21.27
9.	Paul Terry	25.57	4.00	21.57
10.	Alan Matthews	26.01	4.15	21.46
11.	Reg Searle	28.08	6.30	21.38

Twelve private rides included Jeremy Wootton with 22.13 and Colin Toppin 22.26.

Event 9, 13th July, 1995.

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Name.</u>	<u>Actual Time.</u>	<u>H'cap All'ce</u>	<u>H'cap Time.</u>
1.	Richard Bonner	21.33	0.30	21.03
2.	Chris Bacon	22.07	1.15	20.52
3.	Eric Bonner	22.14	1.15	20.59
4.	John Poland	22.29	1.15	21.14
5.	Charlie Parsons	22.58	2.15	20.43
6.	Mike Gibbs	23.24	2.30	20.54
7.	Adrian Brown	23.37	2.45	20.52
8.	Peter Baird	24.06	2.45	21.21
9.	Adrian Roberts	25.03	3.30	21.33
10.	Reg Searle	26.54	6.30	20.24

Eleven guests tonight, but no-one faster than Richard.

Event 10, 29th June, 1995.

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Name.</u>	<u>Actual Time.</u>	<u>H'cap All'ce</u>	<u>H'cap Time.</u>
1.	Eric Bonner	22.17	1.15	21.02
2.	John Poland	22.56	1.15	21.45
3.	Charlie Parsons	22.57	2.00	20.57
4.	Chris Bacon	23.07	1.15	21.52
5.	Adrian Brown	23.33	2.45	20.48
6.	Mike Gibbs	23.48	2.30	21.18
7.	Peter Baird	24.07	2.45	21.22
8.	Philip Saunders	24.13	3.00	21.13
9.	Robert Downham	25.06	3.45	21.21
10.	Adrian Roberts	25.09	3.30	21.39
11.	Reg Searle	27.26	5.15	22.11

Twenty-two rides including a record-breaking 19.58!! from Steve Elms of East Grinstead C.C.

Twenty-two rides including a record 19.58!! from Steve Elms of East Grinstead C.C.

Event 11, 27th July, 1995.

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Name.</u>	<u>Actual Time.</u>	<u>H'cap All'ce</u>	<u>H'cap Time.</u>
1.	Richard Bonner	22.01	0.30	21.31
2.	John Poland	22.30	1.15	21.15
3.	Eric Bonner	22.33	1.15	21.18
4.	Paul Toppin	22.57	scr	22.57
5.	Charlie Parsons	23.08	2.15	20.53
6.	Mike Gibbs	23.44	2.30	21.14
7.	Adrian Brown	23.50	2.45	21.05
8.	Chris Bacon	24.07	1.15	22.52
9.	Robert Downham	24.41	3.45	20.56
10.	Reg Searle	27.53	5.15	22.38

A total of 45 riders - our maximum! Other club rides included Colin Miller 25.50, Alan Matthews 26.22 and first ride for new member Simon Markwick of 27.08. Also noticed the name of "J. Ford-Dunn" as a guest rider recording 24.02. Is this a relation of ex W.E.C.C. stalwart Martin, we wonder?

Entry Forms.

John Poland broke the club record in the 25 mile event on the 15th July. He is the youngest person ever to have completed a time trial under R.T.T.C. rules. According to his entry form he was born on the 13th June 1995. Amazing!

Adrian Roberts does a good entry form. Having ridden tens and twenty-fives, he still manages not to actually disclose any of his times. Well, you don't want the handicapper to have too much help, do you? In the column headed "Actual time or Distance", he has quite reasonably opted for the second choice and inserted "10" or "25" as the case may be!

Eric Bonner helpfully indicated to club event secretary Mel Robertson that he was prepared to be a reserve if the club 25 on the 16th July was over-subscribed. It was O.K., we managed to squeeze him in!

The Club 100/The Sussex Championship.

A move from West to East Sussex because of road-works problems in this part of the county signalled an almost immediate lack of interest from W.E.C.C. Only three entered of whom just two finished. Chris Bacon was fastest, but 25 minutes outside his best with a time of 4.46.40 and Peter Baird again way down on his "personal" was second with 4.53.19. Jeremy Wootton was to climb off at around half distance, he did not, he says, have the appetite for long-distance suffering. These positions, were of course in our club event and were well back in the county championship and in the open event.

Steve Blackmore, East Grinstead C.C., the '94 Best All-Rounder, made light of course and conditions to finish four minutes ahead of all opposition in 4.7.31 - it was an impressive performance; a course record on a day when only 29 of a poor entry of 40 were to finish.

Well done Chris, the time may not have been what you were looking for, but it was Worthing's best on the day and that's a deserved trophy for your mantelpiece.

Peter collected the handicap award, his allowance of 30 minutes against Chris' 20 minutes gave him a net of 4.23.19.

Let's hope for a better entry when we get back onto the West Sussex course next year.

The Missing Palmer.

We are pleased to announce the resurrection of your club runs organiser Mr. Anthony Palmer, and to offer both to Tony and to his many fans, our sincere apologies for his omission from the page one credits of the Worthing Wheel.

Somehow when Dave Hudson stood down from the job some years ago we stopped including this office on page 1. Perhaps Tony's details, well, name, address, telephone number and club official capacity mysteriously disappeared in John Grant's magic box. To John it is a computer, to me it is a kind of black hole. Press the wrong key, and I frequently do, and it will swallow anything. Probably went through a "window" or a "door" or as John would explain - "probably just put it in the wrong file" - which is still double-Dutch to me cause I've seen nothing like a file all the time we've been working together.

Anyway, on the basis, and as required by Mr. Palmer, that any apology should occupy at least the space taken up by the error, we reckon he has now been fully compensated.

"John, did you put the Palmer details on page one?"
- nice to know somebody reads it.

Don.

Congratulations are in order for Reg Searle, not only for clocking up his fastest ten for about 40 years (see evening ten results for a "26"!) but also for winning his first event. Stoked by Alan Chatfield they thrust their monster tandem trike along the A.20 at Harrietsham in Kent to take first place in the Southborough and District Wheelers'

tandem trike ten-mile event on Wednesday the 26th July.

Just in case you think they were the only entry let us correct that. The other team came second. The fiver each must have nearly paid for the petrol as well and have you got your name in Cycling this year.

A Wedding.

Jean Cornelius, long-time partner of old grandad Ken Retallick, has finally got her man. Flashing an engagement ring at me, Jean explained that now he was retiring it would be a more full time job for her to keep him in order and she wanted it on a proper basis. Any suggestion that the redundancy or golden handshake from his employment made him any more attractive was denied - and we all agreed.

The date of the wedding is the 20th April, and everyone is welcome to go along and throw old tubs or inner tubes - well they didn't exactly say that, but we're sure they meant it.

Congratulations to you both and every happiness for the future.

Don.

Green Music.

We heard recently of a "green" gathering, where quite rightly, all cars were banned, but there was to be an outdoor disco and normal power generators were also prohibited. How did they cope? Well we are reliably informed that there were banks of bicycles connected up, and it seems that if you were not dancing you were expected to give of your

energies on the bicycle power production line. We can imagine that they had little difficulty in getting people up to dance if that was the only alternative!

Some numbers though were sounding distinctly lacking in RPM as the night wore on. Just a thought, but perhaps we could hire out our best long-distance men - could prove a nice little earner. Dave Hudson and Brian Howe could easily manage an all-night rave - cotton-wool for their ears could be made available and if they wanted to do a marathon we could get our 12-hour riders to take over for the day-time stint.

19-58 . . . No, it's not a date, it's a time, and in case you are wondering what distance it can relate to, let us assure you that it was a full, Ray Douglass, ten miles.

Ray, in accordance with the recommendations of the Road Time Trials Council, always adds another yard or two to his courses. Let us also confirm that it wasn't all down hill, totally wind assisted, or indeed anything more than a very average kind of evening when everyone else was recording very average kind of times.

It wasn't recorded by Chris Boardman, but by Steve Elms of the East Grinstead club,

who is without doubt the fastest time-triallist in the county right now. This ride was during our evening ten event on the 20th July, and we believe it is the fastest ten-mile time ever recorded in the county. Sean Yates may have gone faster, but not we think on a Sussex course.

So Ray's efforts to find us a replacement for the old Washington-based (G914) have been given a seal of approval in the most significant manner. It rather puts into perspective the personal bests that have been recorded, still, that's what it's all about, always having a new goal to strive for.

Trouble is that the goal seems to be getting so far away from some us ordinary people can't even see it with field-glasses!

Don.

A Double?.

Sue Dray swore (not at all lady-like!) that she had seen our Ray Douglass on a mountain bike, and in two quite separate locations, Whiteways North of Arundel and Safeways car park in Worthing. We shall have to put a tail on him, Alan Matthews suggested, but that was done some while ago and some people even thought his hair looked tidier like that!

Had Ray secretly acquired a chunky-tyred monster? We could imagine that the extra low gears would be found appealing and maybe the straight bars, but we were not at all convinced that Ray was going to take to off-road activities.



A watch on his bike shed did not produce any firm evidence - perhaps the battery had run down? Enquiries at local bike shops did not reveal any recent purchase but perhaps there was a code of secrecy? We are left with the rather unnerving thought..... could there possibly be two Ray Dou-

glasses..... Sue was very convinced.

Then at last on the day of the S.C.A. 12-hour came the admission. He did indeed own a mountain bike! Quite a few weeks' pension had been invested in a new machine and Ray's cycling career has taken a new direction. Jeremy Wootton is to let him have the Mountain Bikers' Annual Handbook and it is rumoured that he particularly fancies taking part in the Downhill events.

Well, you never can tell, can you.....

Still, perhaps better this, than two Ray Douglas-ses!

Don.

The 100 kms Audax.

"OK. it's 9.00 a.m., you may start the 100 km Audax", I called out to the assembled group at Heene Centre, Worthing. I had been entrusted with this duty of being the official starter for the event as Dave Hudson, the organiser, was elsewhere arranging the catering for the 200 km event.

We were pleased to be under way now in the early morning sunshine as all the starters pedalled towards the seafront and then turning Westwards along the coast towards Ferring, and then through Rustington to Littlehampton seafront. As we approached a bus shelter on the seafront we were halted by Mel Roberton who surprised us by leaping out in front of the bunch insisting that he stamp our brevet cards at this secret check. The stop enabled the bunch to break up, and several smaller groups of about half a dozen formed and continued around the seafront greens, alongside the River Arun and through the town centre to cross the river at the footbridge.

Continuing the ride past Ford prison it was obvious that the Northerly wind would be a hindrance later on. Turning West again to Yapton and the first scheduled checkpoint at 22km we encountered Dave and Maggie Funnell and after disturbing their early morning sunbathing on the grass verge, they kindly signed our cards for us. After a 10 minute stopover we proceeded through the quiet village of Walberton, turning right by the village pond to join the old A27.

The next section of the route was not obvious on the map but with Dave's clear instructions the underpass was negotiated with ease. Mike Poland and Nick Lelliot were on hand to advise us of any equestrian traffic in the tunnel, just another consideration of Dave's to ensure the flow of the event. On towards Eartham we encountered our first hill, not much of a gradient, but into the wind it proved tougher than on previous rides. Left in Eartham, then on to Halnaker, right, and onto the Duke of Richmond's estate, passing in front of Goodwood House and golf course, "watch out for the golf balls!" the route sheet advised us.

Leaving the estate and returning to public roads we then had stretched out before us the long climb of the Trundle to the top of Goodwood racecourse. This climb was covered eleven times in the 1982 World Championships. For me it was exhausting just once into the wind, and in the hot temperatures we were now experiencing. I had decided that even before the slope was in sight that I would ride at my own pace and in bottom gear as I find riding in hot temperatures most uncomfortable. Passing the commemorative plaque to the 1982 event the summit was insight. Guiseppe Sarronni climbed this hill much quicker than any Audax rider when he won the Championship (seem to remember he was on about 53 x 14 approaching the finish, and changed up for the last bit - Ed.)

Then we were onto the check point manned by Mike Mansell, Jane and family, who provided drinks and snacks for the riders.

With cards stamped we moved off and descended the back of Goodwood hill - a very bumpy lane to Charlton. Turning east now through to East Dean, Colin Miller collected a rear wheel puncture, with John Lucas "helping" and verbal barracking from Sheila Lucas the pair completed the task of replacing the tubular.

Dirty hands were washed in a nearby horse trough, and John dipped his head into the water for good measure, in an effort to cool down in the mid-day sun. Continuing on through pleasant Downland lanes soon brought us to the junction with the A285 and now it was the long drag up to the top of Duncton Hill. a 72km/hr (45mph) descent followed by a right turn at the foot of the hill sent us into the wooded lanes to Coates, and past the old Church of St. Agatha's to the A29 just to the south of Fittleworth. Left onto the main road over the River Rother and past The Swan, where a number of cyclists were already enjoying a liquid lunch, to climb up to the A283, where right and then left again to undertake the long climb to Bedham.

The sheltered wooded lane kept us out of the wind but the sun was high and with the gradient and general fatigue this climb became the most difficult of the course so far. In an effort to release some of the heat from my scalp I removed my pressure cooker of a helmet and rode bare-headed for the first time for many years.

On reaching the top I rejoined the others and rested for a while, emptying our feeding bottles knowing that they could be replenished at the Wisborough Green checkpoint now only a few miles away. The descent was welcome,

although the surface could have been better and as we passed the sign warning us of low-flying owls we regrouped to enter Wisborough Green together. A welcome sight, with plenty of drink and biscuits etc., available, and knowing that Dave would be along shortly with a promise of more food we rested on the grass under the shade of the trees. We did not need to wait for long when the van and trailer arrived to unload a whole array of food, chairs and equipment to cover almost every need of the Audax rider. This refreshment facility provided by Dave, and those who slave in the background to help him, is certainly an incentive to ride these events.

Suitably fed and watered it was now the home stretch, with the ride returning on more familiar lanes through Adversane, Broadford Bridge, the long slope into West Chiltington, Juggs Lane and Hampers Lane. Talk in the group referred to ice creams, ice lollies, cold beers etc., as we pedalled home hoping that a shop would be open to serve our needs and cool us down, but we found nothing until we eventually got to the Franklands arms at Washington. It was mutually agreed that we should at least have a look at the bar even if we did not buy anything! Most of us gave in, and well I did eventually, to a small shandy. Now we had a drink inside us, prospects of climbing the Bostal were not nearly as bad. A steady climb and then we were soon riding down the A24 to Worthing just taking in the usual Findon Village detour.

Our group finished at 3.30pm, for the 104km total distance, our elapsed time was 6hrs 30 minutes. With stops at checkpoints and at the Franklands Arms watering hole our actual riding time was approximately 5 hours, giving an average speed of 20kph (13mph).

Dave's organising includes a superb easy-to-follow route sheet, adequate refreshments before, during and after the event. A variety of cooked meals and snacks were available

at the Heene centre for those who were hungry or thirsty, for many it was pleasant enough just to sit in a chair in a cool room and reflect on the day's ride. Thanks, Dave.

Tony Palmer.

The Press Secretary.

Perhaps it's a bit late this year as the season is nearly over, but we once again have the complaint from our Press Secretary that he is getting no reports from riders.

It is a difficult job to get much coverage with the local press, but the more we can give them the more space we obtain. So don't be modest or indeed ashamed of your efforts: please telephone the Press Secretary (telephone number on page 1) as soon as you can and give him the details.

If you can, tell him;

Date, name and distance of event.

Times of Worthing riders.

Winner's name and time.

Best positions (approximate will do).

Any team or other award wins.

And what about our Audax riders, who quietly cover hundreds of miles at weekends and tell no one. The local press might well, and rightly so, be impressed by the fact that 200 kilometres were covered by X members of W.E.C.C., or that X of our members had just ridden to Chester and back, or whatever.

Paris-Brest-Paris.

1200 kilometres, or as Brian Howe put it "750 miles in old money". Whichever, that is one hell of a long journey and one not lightly undertaken. You cannot just enter the Paris-Brest-Paris, you have to be a Super Randonneur with at least one ride at 200, 300, 400 and 600km completed in the early part of the Audax season. You can take up to 90 hours and proceed at less than 9 miles per hour, sounds a piece of cake you say? Remember it's still 750 miles.

Brian Howe is one of our Super Randonneurs and he has prepared for Paris-Brest-Paris for some time. He didn't just train, he planned. He reckoned it would be best to get a good night's sleep every night, then ride each day refreshed and faster. It apparently worked out perfectly. He was finished in 85 hours but he had ridden for less than 50 hours and a average riding speed of about 15 m.p.h. had ensured adequate time for accommodation and civilised sleeping.

A remarkable ride, and we hope to have Brian's full report in a future issue.

Don

The "Twelve", Sunday, 6th August.

We shall refrain from prophecies in future, although an effort is being made to obtain the services of Mystic Meg. All that rubbish by our Ed. in the last issue nearly ruined it completely, still he just escaped having to ride it himself.

A top class open event was put on for the Sussex Cyclists' Association by George Taylor of Eastbourne Rovers, and much hard work was done by Earl, Field, sorry, Chief Marshall Ray Douglass.

The Bike Store of Worthing were again magnificently generous in their sponsorship and we doubt that there will have been a better prize list on offer in any other "12" this year. Unfortunately though, certain facts are clear: stuck on the coast we do not have the catchment area, we have more congested roads than in any other area of the country, sadly there are just not the takers for 12 hours any more, and finally, unless we can avoid the National Championship by at least two weeks and still somehow fit into the July/August period we are not going to attract the top riders. This year the national was just one week later, and right on our doorstep, being incorporated with the Kent C.A. event.

So we saw an entry of only 32, with 19 of these from Association clubs, and getting back to those prophecies, five were from Worthing - there were not entries from Jeremy Wootton or Richard Shipton, and no new names - well with one exception.

After the euphoria of Andrew Lock's record-breaking 252 in '94 the 1995 event saw an out-of-form rider struggle for 100 miles in a vain attempt to retain at least his club championship. It was not to be.

Our other '94 record breaker, Jan Scotchford, had surprised a number simply by entering, as she has raced very little this season. However she was known to have done plenty of riding, so we hoped this would see her through. To start with it looked good as she seemed to be going well. We didn't know that she could not eat and was able to take only a very little liquid. Although her legs remained O.K. her digestion was a problem, and feeling faint, and with worry about her safety on the road she was forced to stop after about 180 miles.

Two down, three left. Chris Bacon from No. 10 in the field was maintaining a steady pace and for a long while he looked capable of breaking the 20mph barrier. It was just the last couple of hours that he began to suffer, and despite the lift that riders get on reaching the finishing circuit his speed dropped away and he finished with 238.797. It was still an excellent ride on a hot and quite windy day, and it was a personal best. Congratulations Chris on taking your second club championship - the third if we can include the B.A.R.

Keith Gelder (that exception we referred to) - old enough to know better, but too old to care, was quietly pedalling his way around the roads of Sussex, like it was just a coincidence that he was following the same route as the S.C.A. "12". At around 25 miles a pot-hole came up and hit him and his equilibrium was momentarily disturbed as his shoulder hit the deck.

Tough nuts, these guys from Scunthorpe, and he was soon under way again. It must be all this continental training with wife Pamela for the revs remained steady - (what about a 24 hour next year Keith?) and he finished his time with a marvellous 225.781 and several nasty grazes.

Peter Baird does not look comfortable, even after 10 miles he does not look comfortable, but there was no doubt he would finish. His problem was his fiancée - no it wasn't her fault because she would not have realised what was required, but his helpers could have made sure that Peter did at least another ten miles. All they had to do was to move the fair lady around the course a bit quicker and you could see from his eyes - low over those tri-bars - he would have been there. An opportunity lost or perhaps a ploy to be used next year - he

clocked up 219.740.

Well done those three, and incidentally they only failed by about 15 miles to win the team, finishing second to Brighton Excelsior and well clear of third placed Lewes. Andy Seltzer of East Grinstead is the new champion with 261 miles, after a great fight with Bognor's Dave Shepherd, who was second on 260.60. Andy Payne of Brighton Excelsior finished 3rd on 256.6.

Now in 1996.....

Don.

A Team Win.

There haven't been many in a somewhat lean racing year, so it was good to see the club's name at the top of the list in the Festival Road Club 25-mile event (Sunday the 27th August).

Richard Bonner led the way with 59.15. Jeremy Wootton was also "under" with 59.55, and another personal best from Gavin Baylis, 1.00.38, sewed up a sub-three-hour aggregate (2.59.48), too good for anyone else. Not bad either for the sporty nature of the Kingsfold/Clemsfold/Southwater course.

Another Team Win.

This time in the Bognor 25 on Sunday 10th September, led by the man who spends his summer doing some mysterious kind of training called "bedding out", and who races twice in March and three times September/October, Nick Lelliott produced a sparkling 57.49 on a damp morning to upstage the rest of the club and most of the remainder of the 99 strong field.

It was good enough for fifth place. It took a quarter of a minute out of Jeremy Wootton, our second counter on 58.04, and these two were backed up by Richard Bonner who recorded 59.35. It was an aggregate of 1.55.28 which even Fareham led by event winter Rowan Horner on 54.24 could not match.

Other worthing times were;

Gavin Baylis	1.00.08	(Third personal best in consecutive rides)
Eric Bonner	1.00.53	
Mathew Gould	1.01.48	(Personal best)
Don Lock	1.02.21	
Nick Attawy	1.05.28	
Ken Retallick	1.05.38	
Mike Gibbs	1.05.50	
Reg Searle	1.13.55	(Best for several years)

Club Runs.

Tony Palmer will have published a club-runs list running from about mid-September, and there is one notable variation from the previous format - the meeting or start point has been changed.

The Sunday runs will now leave from the small car parking area just to the North of the Frankland Arms in Washington village (where the evening tens finish). The start time remains at 9 a.m., depart by 9.10. The idea is not only to take note that we have several members living North of the Downs, but also it will avoid some group riding on the busy A24 and A27 roads. Also from Washington it is easier to quickly attain the comfort of quiet and pleasant lanes.

It also gives us an extra range of say 5 to 10 miles in the Northern part of our county.

If the eleveses venue is, for example, Fontwell, well if you wish you can still go direct, and, of course, you would not have to return via Washington. It will be given a three months trial to see how it works.

Don.

S.C.A. Individual 25 mile Championship.

Steve Elms of East Grinstead proved not only that he was the fastest, if anyone needed proof, but also that he was the most versatile versatile racing cyclist in Sussex, when he added the 25mile time trial title to the Road Race Championship collected a couple of months earlier.

Despite other exceptionally good rides he remained over two minutes clear in this event on Sunday 3rd September on the Southwater/Crawley course.

His time of 53 minutes 20 seconds was probably a record, and it seems almost unjust that a ride by G.S. Stella's Mark Jones of 55.54 should have been so soundly beaten.

Steve Willis of Eastbourne was third on 56.23.

Worthing's efforts came from Jeremy Wootton 58.28, Richard Bonner 59.09, Chris Bacon 1.00.55, Mathew Gould 1.01.27, Charlie Parsons 1.03.50, and Peter Baird 1.05.44.

Pete Sidford.

To those of you who remember big Pete he sends his best wishes. He has lived in Chesterfield, Derbyshire, for many years now, but we've kept in touch, forcing the "Worthing Wheel" onto him and sending

him "begging" letters.

But let this be a warning to you, he tells us that he has not ridden his bike for several years. He is now mountain climbing and hill walking. He has made three ascents of Snowdon, one in a blizzard. This kind of thing could happen to any of you: you too could go mad if you don't keep riding your bike!

Don.

Saturday Morning Rides.

These start again on Saturday 21st October and depart as in previous years from the roundabout on the Littlehampton Road in Durrington, Worthing, (the London & Edinburgh offices are on the North-West corner).

Start time promptly at 08.30, return usually by 11-11.30. They will tend to increase in distance after the New Year.

They will be led (from the back) by our Ed. The idea is steady pace, up to about 45 miles, and back home for coffee.

The Hill Climb.

The annual ascent of Springhead between Storrington and Amberly was not so well supported, and yet the conditions were perfect. There was lots of rain and some dirt and grit, although it could have been windier and much colder - well, that's what you need for a hill climb, isn't it?

Richard Bonner was unable to ride, yet he entered

into the spirit of things brilliantly, staging no less than three punctures at the start.

It was Colin Toppin who salvaged something from a rather subdued season, sprinting to the top for an altitude weather report and taking only 4 minutes 33.16 seconds: this handed out something of a thrashing to Jeremy Wootton, who was way down in second place on 4.34.18. A muffed gear-change cost him about 5 minutes, apparently.

Tim Stedman, who only joined us a few pages ago, rode straight into the record books, bagging third spot with 4.56.81. Mathew Gould dragged himself over the summit in 5.04.84, and Jonathan (I'm going to try everything) Ford-Dunn admitted to being very "Dunn" reaching the finish line in 5.17.84.

Timekeepers were Alan Langham and Ray Douglass, and pusher-off was Mel Robertson, of whom Jeremy was heard to complain "he let go too early - I was nowhere near the top".

Don.

Just a thought... with all the pushing-off he does, I hope Mel changes sides every fifty riders - he'll develop all lop-sided, otherwise!

John.

News reaches us of a John Mansell mishap. Mountain bike mania has managed to manipulate Mr. Mansell into a manoeuvre which propelled him base over apex - head over straight bars, into a ploughed field. We repeat this story without being able to check the authenticity, although it comes from a reliable source, but we knew it would give Ray Douglass a laugh.

200k Randonnee Saved.

The 1996 edition of this very popular and successful Worthing Excelsior promotion has been saved thanks to the stepping into the breach by our Hon.Gen.Sec. Paul Toppin.

"If you want a job done, ask a busy man". Unable to persuade any other club member to take over from Dave Hudson, once again it's a committee man who takes it on.

Paul has ridden several of these events but never before acted as an organiser. It was during a recent 200km that Dave himself talked Paul into it. With Paul's own reliability and Dave's catering and back-up we have no doubt that we shall see a continuation of the prestige that the event has achieved.

It is likely to be on Sunday 21st April 1996, which is just after the Dorset Coast event and a week before the club's open 25 mile time-trial promotion.

Watch out for more details in due course.

The "Clapshaw" 25, 16th July, Ashurst/Shoreham.

Pos.	Name.	Actual Time.	H'cap Allce	H'cap Time.
1	Alan Langham	1. 9.37	13.30	56.07
2	Adrian Roberts	1.10.20	12.30	57.50
3	Adrian Brown	1. 7.25	9.30	57.55
4	Chris Bacon	1. 2.21	4.00	58.21
5	Alan Stepney	1. 9 20	10 30	58 50
6	Matthew Gould	1. 6 36	7.30	59 06
7	Jeremy Wootton	1.00.40	0.30	1.00.10
8	Robert Downham	1.11.49	11.30	1.00.19

9	John Poland	1. 3.45	3.00	1.00.45
10	Eric Bonner	1. 3.40	2.30	1.01.10
11	Richard Bonner	1. 1.36	Scr	1. 1.36
12	Gavin Bayliss	1. 5.45	2.30	1.03.15

So this handicap-based trophy goes to Alan Langham, who has been able to race quite infrequently this year, and surprised himself and the handicapper with a good effort on a difficult morning. The scratch men clearly found it hard and were not able to live with the "meagre" allowances on offer.

A first trophy for our Treasurer's mantelpiece and quite delighted he was too. Adrian Roberts and Adrian Brown were the others who did faster rides than the handicapper reckoned on and picked up the second and third place awards.

Jeremy Wootton had the consolation of the fastest (actual time), but it was a morning when the middlemarkers came into their own.

Don.

Wedding Bells Again!

All these fine mature and available veterans are being snapped up. Peter Baird has fallen for Freda and gets wed on November 25th. Well he couldn't agree November 18th as that was the club dinner, and as he said, priorities have to be maintained. congratulations and best wishes to you both.

We had expressed the hope that we would get to know Freda better rather than just a quick intro before the 12-hour, but he said "Not if I can help it" - a shrewd judge of character, our Peter.

The Christ's Hospital Summer Cycle Tour.
Franconia & Thuringia, Germany.
July 24th - August 4th, 1995.

The polished Purbeck marble of Terminal 2 at Heathrow was the glossy departure point for seven cyclists bound for Germany accompanied by their foam-clad bikes, in all four touring bikes, one hybrid and two mountain bikes.

After a pleasant flight we arrived safely at Nuremberg airport. A frenzy of activity followed with the re-assembling of our bicycles after the flight carriage requirements.

We headed off for the youth hostel - one was in early trouble with only one crank due to a crossed thread on the pedal, and went straight to the nearest bike shop for efficient German repairs. The afternoon was spent exploring the local attractions before a meal in the evening.

Our first day of cycling took us into the limestone gorges of "Franconian Switzerland". After a brief visit at the Teufelshöhle cave we arrived in the town of Pottenstein with a significant climb to the youth hostel.

We set off Wednesday morning, (with half the group on the wrong side of the road!) to Bayreuth, where lunch was enjoyed before visiting Wagner's opera house. That evening in Kulmbach, the beer capital of Germany, we all trooped down into the town to sample the local speciality (thought this was a "school" trip Ed.).

Our first stop Thursday morning was at the fortress of Kronach where "Kaffee" and "Kuchen" (coffee and cake) were called for. A short visit to the near-

est bike shop enabled another of the group to replace the chain he had earlier snapped. We stopped for a picnic lunch in Frissen before climbing up into the Frankenwold Forest and over the old border between East and West Germany. More short climbs brought us to the remote town of Schönbrunn where we spent the night.

Friday was eventful for not ten minutes from the hostel Mr. Pattison (the tour leader) stopped due to there being "something amiss" with his bike. The remaining six continued in the rain leaving a very gloomy Mr. Pattison in Neustadt for lunch in a very welcoming cake shop. After the rain had stopped we left for Jena which was further and took longer than we had expected due to the various diversions and "helpful" directions from passers-by. We eventually rolled into Naumburg and up to the youth hostel to find a very relieved Mr. Pattison waiting. Our longest day, totalling 76 miles.

Saturday saw us re-united and after a brief look around the town of Naumburg we set off for Weimar. We passed through many pretty spa towns to Obertrebra, where we had lunch. Just outside Weimar we made a detour (a bit of off-roading - relished by the mountain-bikers but not by the rest of us!) in order to visit the concentration camp at Buchenwald. A sobering experience. For the evening entertainment we ate out followed by a round bought by Mr. Pattison (more drinking! Ed.)

Sunday started off badly as one had succumbed to the German pizza. He was put on a train. (and that's the last we hear of him!! Ed2)(Now why would they want to put a German pizza on a train?? Ed1.)

We headed off for Erfurt and after stopping for lunch in a wayside inn continued to Eienach.

The next morning we visited the Wartburg fortress where Luther had translated the bible. A day with lots of climbing led ultimately back up into the very beautiful Thuringian forest. Ruhia, a small remote village was our lunch-time stopping place before more climbing through Tabarz and Ohrdruf. The group was again split here: this time for my benefit. I was knackered. We all arrived at Ilmenau eventually.

Tuesday was the shortest day and the fewer miles suited everyone. A long gradual climb took us to Neuhaus, the highest point in the forest at 2,700 feet.

Wednesday morning started with a ten-mile downhill (now there's a course for you Ray) followed by flat roads. We passed Sonneburg and crossed the old border once again into "Franconian Switzerland". We had lunch in Burgkunstadt after 30 miles and then pressed on for Streitburg to clock 60 miles for the day.

Our last day of cycling took us out of Franconian Switzerland to the Schmitts, friends of Mr. Pattison in Lauf. There we enjoyed a barbecue (and a few more beers? Ed.) before leaving for Nuremburg. We celebrated an excellent tour that evening with a final meal before returning to the youth hostel.

The next morning we said goodbye to two of our number who were headed off to Berlin, and spent the day looking round the site of the Nuremburg rallies and then the town itself before cycling to the airport.

A final "Thank You" to Mr. Frank Pattison for all his organisation, which gave us a very enjoyable tour covering 532 miles with a score of only two

punctures, one broken spoke, a chain and a frame, not to mention the numerous pannier straps eaten by one particular back wheel.

Mark Edmunds.

Annual Dinner and Prize Presentation.
Saturday November 18th, 1995.
Windsor House Hotel, Windsor Road, Worthing.

This year, as in '94, we will have a superior buffet-type meal which proved very popular. There will be of course the presentation of the awards for the past season and just a couple of short and hopefully entertaining speeches. No boring monologues - definitely banned.

We are not having a disco or band, in response to those who have found this over noisy, and few have found their way onto the dance floor anyway. This means that ticket prices can be reduced and should be about £ 12.00 per head.

We may have a little self-organized fun and a raffle, but generally it will be a chance to socialise.

Please telephone Don Lock (our Ed.) to confirm your bookings as soon as possible. We hope very much that all prize winners will make the effort to attend.

It seems there were "Nutters" even in those days.

From the Argus of Monday September 11th, 1995.

FROM THE ARGUS OF 1895

Cyclists are apt to be careless of their machines in country districts. Just now there are nuts to be gathered, and the temptation to leave the wheel at the roadside, to penetrate on foot into the leafy intricacies of the woods, in search of the favourite clusters, is strong. At Ansty, the other day, a cyclist went nutting, and when he returned to the road his cycle seemed to have gone nutting on its own account. Certainly it had disappeared. A hue and cry was raised, and the police were requisitioned. The cycle was found some miles further south. The incident should suggest to cyclists the lesson that when they go a-nutting they should so fix their machines that neither jokers nor thieves shall be able to ride off on them.

We do not understand why our Worthing club-runs organiser has not continued the Nutting Runs. Enquiries of the Argus and a perusal of police reports on the incident do not however confirm that Tony Palmer was personally involved.

A Novices' Award will be introduced into next year's evening ten-mile series and will be awarded annually in memory of Tony Weeks, who tragically died in an accident in May of this year. His wife Carol has been consulted and she expressed her pleasure that Tony, who was himself in his first season of racing, would be remembered in this way.

It would be awarded to the rider entered in the series who has not raced prior to the start of the current season and who records the fastest performance during the series.

The Club Committee will be considering the type of award, either a plaque suitably inscribed or a perpetual trophy awarded and inscribed annually.

Worthing Cycling and Athletic Club.

Proposal - "That the Club be reconstituted for the purpose of admitting an athletic section, and to be called the Worthing Cycling and Athletic Club, with the word "Excelsior" as the motto of the Club".

No, the committee have not gone raving mad - this dramatic part of Excelsior history re-surfaced recently when a nice lady, Mrs Pat Phillips, asked what I knew about Boxing Day walks in the early 1900's, and her ancestors' roles in them.

Luckily I had the information, and Mrs. Phillips allowed me to copy photographs taken at the 1902 and 1903 events. Those copies, and the print she gave us, will have a place of honour in the club album.

But back to the drama! It seems that after the end of the 1901 racing season the committee went into a huddle to discuss changing to a combined club, and by November were set on

winding up the Excelsior and forming a new club, the "Worthing Cycling and Athletics Club", even down to the detail of dealing with the funds "of the old club" and appointing a rules sub-committee for the new one.¹

In January 1902 a lengthy Worthing Gazette editorial prepared the ground, stating the committee view that interest in cycling was declining, "due to the death of Queen Victoria and to the South African war", and that "growing interest in athletics has forced them to the conclusion that it was desirable to enlarge the scope of the club's aims and operations". It announced an Annual General Meeting on the 12th of February, and closed by "trusting that the proposal will meet with the unanimous support of the members" - my word, they were confident!

The meeting (I imagine it was noisy!) took place in the "commodious new assembly room" above the Rose and Crown in Montague Street. Routine stuff like the committee report and the accounts went through without discussion, president Captain A.B.S. Fraser rose to propose the motion - and battle was joined!

Mr. Hewer, a founder, expressed the heartfelt concern of many present - "the club had always done its best for athletes, there were plenty of organisations to cater for them in the town - all that was wanted was a Harrier's Club".

Mr. Duffield knew of a move to form such a club, and counselled quick action if we were not to lose a lot of (some said about 50) potential members. Bert Paine² also supported change - "the club had always catered for athletes, and many were enjoying the benefits of the club without paying a subscription".

Mr. E. Laker³, another old member, could not be there, but his letter, read to the meeting, warned that it would be suicidal to change. Others feared that athletes would dominate the club (a committee ratio of 6-3 was proposed to preclude this), and that to leave "Excelsior" out of the name would invite another organisation to usurp our position as the town's premier sporting club.

Argument swung to and fro until finally Mr. Hewer quietly pointed

out that the present meeting was unconstitutional, - the rule-book laid down that the A.G.M. be held in March. More argument, a despairing "March is an idiotic time to have the A.G.M. anyway", and the meeting foundered.⁴

The committee met directly to beat the proposals into an acceptable form ready for the A.G.M. This was held on the 5th of March, within the rules. A number of athletes of repute had joined the club since February, and when the overhauled proposal was put, again there was argument, lots of it! Finally Mr. Jackson proposed that the club be re-named "The Worthing Excelsior Cycling and Athletic Club". This met with general approval, and from that day until after the end of the first World War, the Worthing Excelsior Cycling and Athletic Club is what we were!

But why was change needed? There was keen interest in athletics - athletics meetings in Beach House Park since 1865, and cycling and athletic sports at Teville Field since 1882, later in the People's Park. Yet despite George Duffield's claim, Worthing seems never to have boasted an athletics club,⁵ so it fell to us, the town's premier sporting club, to provide one.

The new constitution proved to be good for the Excelsior. The modern gulf between cyclist and athlete was unheard of then - they competed at the same grass-track meetings, changed in the same tent, and many, like Sam Clark and Edgar Henson could abandon their bikes to run a good "half". Now the Excelsior had athletes in the team which ran the club's two annual epics at Homefield, and organised the massive Worthing Annual Sports, whose running the town had awarded to the club in the 1890's.

We had had road medal competitions since 1900 - (100 miles or 12 hours - no place for cissies in the Excelsior!!) and immediately added road distance medals for the athletes. These are yet another story, but they do allow me a (contrived?) link to the start of this tale, Pat Phillips' enquiry and her photograph of the 1903 Boxing Day walking race.

For the record, the route, covering 16 miles 1330 yards,

(26.84775km if you must!!) was - Marine Parade, South Street, Chapel Road, Broadwater, Offington Hill, West Tarring, Heene, finish on Marine Parade. The weather was fine as Sam Clark (dapper as always, that's Sam, in the bowler-hat, extreme left) started proceedings -

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Prize</u>
1.	John Miles	2.46.20	Tea/coffee service, china accessories.
2.	Norman Miles	2.43.21	Marble striking clock.
3.	A. Hards	2.47.55	Flowered epergne ⁶ .
4.	J. Tyler	2.43.53	Clock and vases.
5.	E. Jay (scr)	2.40.15	Fastest actual*
6.	Edwin Miles	2.47.11	

(Sorry, can't tell you what happened to the other five).

These are actual times, but the result was determined purely on handicap. John Miles, for example, had 17 minutes start on scratch-man Jay, who received a special prize for fastest time - cyclist Ted "The Irrepressible" Durant awarded him his own treasured 1902 gold-centre 12 hour medal.

Thanks Pat!

John Grant

¹ The funds of the old club, including its shares in the Sports Ground, were to be "held in trust by the present committee, to be dealt with as the majority may decide".

² Bert's opinion was worth listening to - many times track champion of Sussex, he had close contact with opinion among the county's athletes.

³ Laker introduced 'cycle polo to this country - first played by British soldiers in India, the first games ever were played in this country happened in the People's Park at an "Excelsior Cycle Tournament" in August 1896 - yet another story!.

⁴ The minute book makes interesting reading - it gives the text of the motion, but no detail of what followed!

⁵ In the Worthing Gazettes of the period 1883 to 1902, I have so far found only a Worthing Athletic (a football club) and a short-lived Worthing Harriers, formed in 1894.

⁶ If you have an epergne, please bring it to the '96 auction - we'd all like to know what it is!

Cycling Paraphernalia, 23rd January, 1996.

In the clubroom as before. Our Ed. will be the organiser, Andrew Lock will be the auctioneer, and we haven't asked him yet, but we will probably rope in Dave Hudson as treasurer for the evening.

Please everyone, look out something, cycling connected, and either bring it along on the evening or let Don know about it beforehand.

If you want half the sale price, put your name on it. If you feel it must achieve a certain price, put that on it as well, but be generous.

More details in due course, but make a note of the date. Sale will start at 8 p.m.

Bring back what you bought last year and didn't really want!

Calling all you with mountain bikes.

Jeremy Wootton has been asked to organise a ride of the South Downs Way. It would probably be over two days. No dates yet. It will no doubt be possible just to do one day's ride if you can't get a two-day pass. Big attraction is that Dave Hudson has offered to organise the catering.

Please let us know if you would be interested.

We have said "mountain bikes", and we think that is probably essential, but if you feel that you would like to try it on a more traditional-type touring machine, that's up to you.

As they say, "watch this space" for further information, or keep in touch at the clubroom.

1995 Evening "10" Series.
Event 12, 3rd August, 1995.

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Name.</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>Time.</u>	<u>H'cap</u> <u>All'ce</u>	<u>H'cap</u> <u>Time.</u>
1.	Paul Toppin	22.09	Scr.	22.09
2.	Richard Bonner	22.16	0.30	21.46
3.	Chris Bacon	23.06	1.15	21.51
4.	Eric Bonner	23.29	1.15	22.14
5.	Charlie Parsons	23.31	2.00	21.31
6.	Don Lock	23.33	1.15	22.18
7.	Adrian Brown	24.08	2.15	21.53
8.	Peter Baird	24.53	2.45	22.07
9.	Mike Gibbs	24.56	2.30	22.26
10.	Robert Downham	26.08	3.30	22.38
11.	Adrian Roberts	26.25	3.30	22.55
12.	Paul Terry	27.04	4.00	23.04
13.	Reg Searle	28.44	5.45	22.59

Event 13, 10th August, 1995.

1.	Richard Bonner	21.31	0.30	21.01
2.	Paul Toppin	22.09	Scr.	22.09
3.	John Poland	23.01	1.15	21.46
4.	Charlie Parsons	23.13	2.15	20.58
5.	Chris Bacon	23.16	1.15	22.01
6.	Mike Gibbs	24.10	2.30	21.40
7.	Peter Baird	24.12	2.45	21.27
8.	Ken Retallick	24.13	1.45	22.28
9.	Keith Gelder	24.54	3.15	21.39
10.	Robert Downham	25.06	3.45	21.21
11.	Adrian Roberts	25.16	3.30	21.46
12.	Paul Terry	25.52	4.00	21.52
13.	Reg Searle	27.24	5.15	22.09

The 1995 Evening Ten-mile Series.
Result - Scratch.

1st Paul Toppin 9 points.

2nd	Richard Bonner	12 points.
3rd	Eric Bonner}	23 points.
	John Poland}	23 points.
5th	Chris Bacon	29 points.
6th	Charlie Parsons	42 points.
7th	Mike Gibbs	58 points.
8th	Adrian Brown	66 points.
9th	Peter Baird	68 points.
10th	Paul Terry	89 points.
	Adrian Roberts	89 points.
12th	Robert Downham	93 points.

These are the aggregate of their best eight placings in the series, and although Paul has retained his hold on the trophy it was much less emphatic than for the last couple of years.

Handicap.

1st	Charlie Parsons	40 points.
2nd	Reg Searle	35 points.
3rd	Richard Bonner	26 points.
4th	Neil Hedley	24 points.
5th	Alan Cooper	18 points.
6th	Adrian Brown	17 points.
7th	Robert Downham	15 points.
	Philip Saunders	15 points.
9th	Adrian Roberts	11 points.
10th	Paul Terry	9 points.

This section is based on the points awarded for the first six handicap places in each race. Charlie deservedly heads the list as he seemed to be improving with nearly every ride, and Reg having one of his best seasons for a long while continued to score points off the handicapper. The handicapper for the whole series was Colin Miller.

Veterans.

1st	Mike Gibbs	8 points.
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2nd	Eric Bonner	12 points.
3rd	Reg Searle	22 points.
	Peter Baird	22 points.

Placings over eight best rides on standard.

Thanks...

A very big "Thank-You" to Jan Scotchford for all the work in running these events, which were perhaps the most successful ever. We enjoyed good weather and a new course that provided fast times, and many other clubs' riders were also catered for. On a couple of evenings we had more wishing to ride than could be accommodated.

New Members.

Jonathan Ford-Dunn.

Now we know that he is Martin Ford-Dunn's "little brother". His 40th birthday present it seems was membership of W.E.C.C., an old Gerry Atterbury bike which must be all of 35 years vintage, and an entry to our Club 25 on 21st May. He managed a 1.9.21 and since then is trying his hand at everything - cyclo cross - finished up in hospital! evening tens, hill climbs, you name it. To all our readers who do not go back that far we would explain that Martin F.D., and Gerry Atterbury were W.E.C.C. members for many years.

Kathryn McClelland.

Daughter of Vern and sister to Sean. Only nine but has already ridden at Preston Park and at Goodwood, and how many of you can say that. Oh yes! Nearly forgot, she's done a couple of those triathlon things as well!

Tim Stedman.

Age 20 and from Goring, Tim was signed in at our

August meeting and has ridden a couple of tens, including one of our evening events and turning in some very creditable times.

Simon Markwick.

Joined at the insistence of his wife - what a sensible lady. He has now tried his speed over 10 miles and plans to improve his efforts next year. He has also tested his stamina in the 100km Audax and "enjoyed it immensely". Simon is from Lancing - but we mustn't hold that against him!!

Welcome aboard.

British Cycling Federation.

In 1996 the Federation introduces the "Elite" category, and ex-Excelsior member Paul West, now B.C.F. racing secretary, says that next season this category could be about 120 strong. They will be able to compete in events for first-category riders.

The Federation is examining the grading arrangements for the various categories, and some "First-cats" may be re-graded to "Second" for 1996. This could mean approximately; "Elite" 120, First 450, Second 1,000, and Third-cat 4,000.

Overheard at the October Committee Meeting.

Jeremy Wootton's got tickets for the Postman Pat show in Worthing, and he and Paul Toppin are going on the Bluebell Line's special Christmas train ride.

They've both been promised a bag of goodies, a funny hat and a cracker if they behave themselves!

Knocked off your bike?

We can help you . . .

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