Newsletter – July 2026

Ladies and Gentlemen

Let's start with some great news regarding the club's fund raising efforts in support of The Brain Tumour Charity. The following sums were raised:

Goodwood event - £2,031

Steve Summers Edinburgh bike packing trip - £2,020

Sophie Downham's half marathon - £1,291

This adds up to a fantastic total of £5,342, so congratulations to everyone who took part or contributed.

Sporting Cups 2026

Here are the top 3 places up until the end of June for the various cups we are looking to award this year.

CX Cup

1. Karen McGrath 15pts
2. James Amy 11pts
3. Ben Toovey 4pts

Road Sportive

1. Ben Cooper 18pts
2. Steve Summers 13pts
3. John McGrath 13pts

Road Race

1. Matt Chapman 12pts
2. Dom Maxwell 9pts
3. Ben Cooper 8pts

Gravel Sportive/Race

1. Dom Maxwell 14pts
2. Matt Chapman 14pts
3. Chris White 9pts

Don Lock Cup (male)

1. Dom Maxwell 19pts
2. Matt Chapman 19pts
3. Steve Summers 15pts

Don Lock Cup (female)

1. Karen McGrath 10pts

BAR TT & Hill Climb Competitions – No entries yet received

Club Runs Trophy

1. Phil Frean 77pts
2. Ian Thomas 69pts
3. Mark Roberts 63pts

Club kit

Thanks to some really good work by Ben Cooper you'll shortly receive an email inviting orders for new club kit. Following the demise of the Castelli importers we have found a new supplier who can supply quality kit at extremely competitive prices. Watch this space and prepare to be impressed.

New Gravel bike?

And to go with your swanky new kit surely you need a new bike or maybe you want to get a slice of the new kid on the block, gravel biking, but don't have a suitable steed? Well your prayers have been answered because Kinesis bike are selling their G2 gravel bike for a mere £1200, which is £500 off the usual price. And if you are wondering whether this bike is any good check out Guy Kesteven's YouTube review https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FdkqYSdjSGY

and all your questions will be answered. Better still you can collect the bike yourself from Upgrade Bikes in Partridge Green and ride home via the best bit of local gravel - the Downslink!

Hill Climbing

Traditionally the Hill Climb season starts around autumn time and to prepare you for forthcoming events, Hunt Wheels and Cadence Cycling Cafes have teamed up with one of the country's best climbers, Andrew Feather, to present The Art of Hill Climbing. Taking place on Sunday 19th July at Cadence Litlington it promises guided hill climb training, climbing tips, coffee and cake, a goody bag and a Q & A session. Register your interest at https://www.grouprides.cc/rides/the-art-of-climbing-with-andy-feather-hunt-x-cadence-2026-07-19

Tour de France

I'm sure you've already worked out that unless you pay for TNT Sports your best chance of watching this year's tour is the 7pm nightly highlights on Channel 5. Whilst that certainly suits me if you want to see some live coverage then you need to go to SC4, which is available via BBC iPlayer. They are showing 7 stages (or at least they were because the first three have already gone) but the final stages 18, 19, 20 & 21 are still to come. Did I mention though that the commentary is only in Welsh?

Tour of the Hills Audax

I plugged this event last year (and probably the year before too) because it is a fantastic opportunity to ride all of the Surrey Hills climbs in one go. The Tour of the Hills is organised by West Surrey Cycling Club and is a 120km route which takes in some 2,300 metres of steep ascent on 14 major climbs including Box Hill, White Down, Coombe Bottom, Winterfold Hill, Leith Hill and finishing off with the infamous Barhatch Lane. Entry is only £15 plus £3 is you aren't a member of Cycling UK or Audax UK, but that does include home prepared food served at the HQ at Shere Village Hall.

Full details can be found at https://www.audax.uk/event-details/calendar/14064-tour_of_the_hills

And finally

If all this talk of competitions or riding up endless hills isn't to your liking, then you may like to enquire about Pedals & Pints? Promoted by Firebird Brewery in Rudgwick, this is a non competitive ride along the Downslink from Guildford to Brighton on Saturday 15th August. Sounds like a winner

PEDALS & PINTS

DOWNS LINK TO BRIGHTON

Saturday
15th
August

Ride at Your Own Pace

A relaxed social cycling event with planned café, pub and brewery stops along the way.

Not Timed | **Not Competitive** | **No Club Pressure**

Gravel bikes, hybrids, mountain bikes and suitable e-bikes welcome.

Tickets
£12.50

Limited spaces available!

Scan to book