

Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.
Source: Worthing Gazette archive
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<p style="text-align: center;">CYCLING.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DICK TURPIN'S WEEKLY GOSSIP.</p> <p>THE Sussex Centre Licensing Committee met for the first time this year on Thursday, to consider fourteen applications for licences from Sussex men.</p> <p>The whole of the licences were granted after some discussion; ex-Captain Chilton, of the Excelsior C.C., enjoying the distinction of having the first "brief" granted this year in Sussex.</p> <p>W. R. Paine was the only other Worthing applicant. Good luck to both of them this year, say I!</p> <p>The consideration of the weighty matters which the Licensing Laws are sure to bring up, together with the enjoyment of the dry humour of a brother cycle noter, "Direct Spoke"—who, amongst other funny things, endeavoured to persuade me, being a new member, to take an oath of secrecy and "kiss the book" (a cyclist's diary)—passed the time so quickly that I lost my train, and had it not been for the kindness of the Centre Hon. Sec., who lent me a "jigger" in the small hours—well, I hardly know what would have happened.</p> <p>However, I succeeded in reaching home two or</p>	<p>three hours before the morning's milk arrived, after a most enjoyable moonlight spin.</p> <p>A party of local cyclists were out for a spin the other day, when, rounding a corner near Littlehampton, one of them sustained a nasty spill through colliding with a dog. Little damage was done beyond a severe shaking and plentiful bruises, and after a rest and some stimulant the unfortunate rider proceeded.</p> <p>The incident goes to prove that it is hardly worth while to take corners at a high speed, which this party was guilty of. Until we are capable of seeing round corners we must be content to use caution, for any amount of bell-ringing will not cause a dog to move out of the way. The bell amuses but does not warn them; as I have found to my cost several times.</p> <p>On Good Friday morning the Excelsior C.C. will</p>	<p>On Good Friday morning the Excelsior C.C. will run a paper chase, starting from the Railway Bridge at ten o'clock sharp. The run will be to Augmering; it will be carried out in an orderly and decorous manner, and all good wheelmen are invited.</p> <p>The latest market price for furious riding is five shillings and costs, or seven days, no less than five cyclists being charged this figure at Brighton and Hove on Monday. Two lampluss ones were mulcted in the sum of nine shillings each, at the same time.</p> <p>A writer in the <i>Morning Herald</i> makes some fun out of the fact that, in the eyes of the law, a cycle is regarded as a carriage. He infers from this that a cyclist is practically a horse, though he informs his readers that a large section of the public regard him as a humbler animal of the same species. Well, we are all sorry for that large section of the public.</p> <p>The journalist's attention was drawn to the fact owing to a case coming under his notice where cyclists were objecting to be tolled as two-wheeled carriages over a bridge, the toll rights of which were owned by the Earl of Abingdon.</p> <p>The cyclists were endeavouring to establish the fact that they could not be carriages and were not foot passengers; therefore, being merely nonentities, were not liable for tolls. I need hardly add they still have to pay their twopences, the judicial mind hardly being equal to their logic.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DICK TURPIN.</p>
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The incident goes to prove that it is hardly worth while to take corners at a high speed, which this party was guilty of. Until we are capable of seeing round corners we must be content to use caution, for any amount of bell-ringing will not cause a dog to move out of the way. The bell amuses but does not harm them, as I have found to my cost several times.

On Good Friday morning the Excelsior C.C. will run a paper-chase, running from the Railway Bridge, at ten o'clock sharp. The run will be to Angmering, it will be carried out in an orderly and decorous manner, and all good wheelmen are invited.

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