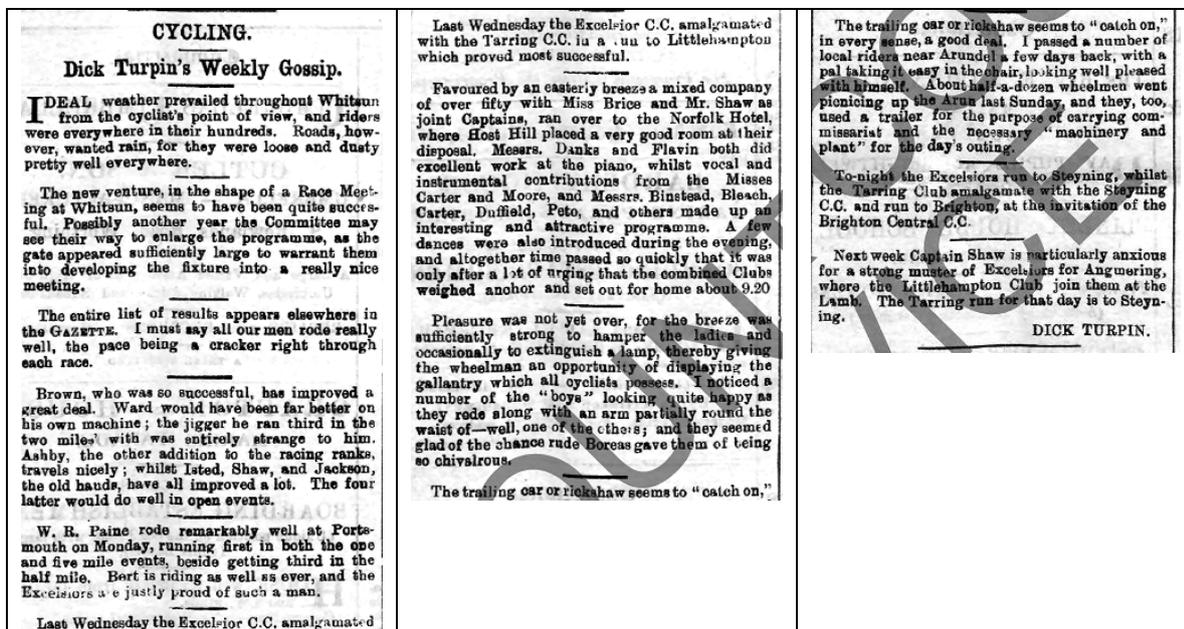


Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.
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 Turpin - 29.5.1901 P2C4.



CYCLING

Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.

IDEAL weather prevailed throughout Whitsun from the cyclist's point of view, and riders were everywhere in their hundreds. Roads, however, wanted rain, for they were loose and dusty pretty well everywhere.

The new venture, in the shape of a Race Meeting at Whitsun, seems to have been quite successful. Possibly another year the Committee may see their way to enlarge the programme, as the gate appeared sufficiently large to warrant them into developing the fixture into a really nice meeting.

The entire list of results appears elsewhere in the GAZETTE. I must say all our men rode really well, the pace being a cracker right through each race.

Brown, who was so successful, has improved a great deal. Ward would have been far better on his own machine; the jigger he ran third in the two miles' with was entirely strange to him. Ashby, the other addition to the racing ranks, travels nicely; whilst Isted, Shaw, and Jackson, the old hands, have all improved a lot. The four latter would do well in open events.

Last Wednesday the Excelsior C.C. amalgamated with the Tarring C.C. in a union to Littlehampton which proved most successful.

Favoured by an easterly breeze a mixed company of over fifty with Miss Brice and Mr. Shaw as joint Captains, ran over to the Norfolk Hotel, where Host Hill placed a very good room at their disposal. Messrs. Danks and Flavin both did excellent work at the piano, whilst vocal and instrumental contributions from the Misses Carter and Moore, and Messrs. Binstead, Bleach, Carter, Dafield, Peto, and others made up an interesting and attractive programme. A few dances were also introduced during the evening, and altogether time passed so quickly that it was only after a lot of urging that the combined Clubs weighed anchor and set out for home about 9.20.

Pleasure was not yet over, for the breeze was sufficiently strong to hamper the ladies and occasionally to extinguish a lamp, thereby giving the wheelman an opportunity of displaying the gallantry which all cyclists possess. I noticed a number of the "boys" looking quite happy as they rode along with an arm partially round the waist of—well, one of the others; and they seemed glad of the chance rude Boreas gave them of being so chivalrous.

The trailing car or rickshaw seems to "catch on,"

The trailing car or rickshaw seems to "catch on," in every sense, a good deal. I passed a number of local riders near Arundel a few days back, with a pal taking it easy in the chair, looking well pleased with himself. About half-a-dozen wheelmen went picnicing up the Arun last Sunday, and they, too, used a trailer for the purpose of carrying commissariat and the necessary "machinery and plant" for the day's outing.

To-night the Excelsiors run to Steyning, whilst the Tarring Club amalgamate with the Steyning C.C. and run to Brighton, at the invitation of the Brighton Central C.C.

Next week Captain Shaw is particularly anxious for a strong muster of Excelsiors for Angering, where the Littlehampton Club join them at the Lamb. The Tarring run for that day is to Steyning.

DICK TURPIN.

W.R. Paine rode remarkably well at Portsmouth on Monday, running first in both the one and five mile events, beside getting third in the half mile. Bert is riding as well as ever, and the Excelsiors are justly proud of such a man.

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