

Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.
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<p style="text-align: center;">CYCLING.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.</p> <p>THE long-wished-for rain has come at last, and with a vengeance, too! The Strawberry Feeds came a cropper last Sunday. Let us hope for smiling weather next Wednesday, when the combined attentions of the Excelsior C.C., the West Tarring Club, and their Littlehampton brethren will be focussed upon the delicious fruit at Washington.</p> <p>Ever and anon a local wheelman or two get away on tour. The latest is Harry Swain, of the Excelsior C.C., who left Worthing on Saturday. I journeyed through Guildford and Wokingham to Reading with him, and intending tourists may perhaps be interested to know we found the roads beyond Billingshurst in really magnificent order, more especially at the Berkshire end. The country, too, was remarkably pretty.</p> <p>On the following day my companion continued his journey, luckily escaping the heavy rain which we had—taking the road through Oxford, Banbury and Warwick to Birmingham. All the way he found the roads in good order and a pleasing contrast to good old Sussex.</p> <p>I was less fortunate on my return from Reading, rain commencing at my fortieth mile. After sheltering for two hours and a half I ploughed through the remaining twenty odd miles and got home in a somewhat moist state, with a lot of road making material on both self and machine.</p> <p>I had the hollow satisfaction, however, of coming</p>	<p>I had the hollow satisfaction, however, of coming across many another in a similar plight, and none of them looked a bit sad; one or two, I verily believe, enjoyed the fun of the thing.</p> <p>The Excelsior C.C. and the West Tarring Club are arranging to run an amalgamated parade for the benefit of the Worthing Infirmary some time later in the season.</p> <p>The Tarring Club show their appreciation of the work their old Captain, A. E. Peto, has done for them, by presenting him with a splendid standard lamp, with an old gold shade, as a wedding gift.</p> <p>Last Wednesday the Brighton Central C.C. brought off a big carnival at St. Ann's Well, which was attended by all the Cycling Clubs for some distance round who cultivate the "garden party" branch of cycling. That these are numerous is evidenced by the fact that the total attendance was about two thousand, the Tarring Club mustered over forty, and two or three others were almost as well represented.</p> <p>Though the Garden was very crowded dancing was indulged in, besides which a lengthy and attractive programme of songs, musical selections, and a humorous sketch was gone through.</p> <p>There were a considerable number of fancy dresses, and the affair went well from start to finish, the crowd breaking up at eleven o'clock after having a high old time of it.</p> <p>W. R. Paine still continues to make things hum</p>	<p>W. R. Paine still continues to make things hum on the path. At an evening race meeting at Portsmouth last Friday he brought home another prize in spite of being on a short mark. By the bye, he still holds the one-lap track record down there, having retained it since '96, though Portsmouth men keep on trying to annex it.</p> <p>Considerable interest is being taken in the Annual Evening Meeting which the Excelsior C.C. bring off to-night. A number of men have been putting in work both for the cycling events and the flat races.</p> <p>On Monday night a test race was run to select four Excelsior-ites to meet the Littlehampton team, the result being Bert Paine, Chilton, Shaw, and Ashby will ride for the Club. A pretty hot team, too!</p> <p>Next Wednesday the Captains of the two local Clubs hope to have a big turnout for the Strawberry Feed. It is the recognised "good old annual" and is well worth attending. Tickets for the feed and brake can be got from Captains and officers of either Club.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DICK TURPIN.</p>
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