

Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.
Source: Worthing Gazette copies at
 Worthing Local Studies Library.
 Turpin: 16.4.1902 P2C4 - 01

<p style="text-align: center;">CYCLING.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.</p> <p>A WEATHER prophet on a London paper, thrown off his balance by the recent meteorological vagaries, was on Saturday copying the prophet Zadkiel, who once predicted snow in June. The London man promised snow on Sunday, but, fortunately for wheelmen, his tip did not come off, as Zadkiel's did. On the other hand, Sunday's weather was all that could be wished for, and numbers of riders were out.</p> <p>In a run round West Grinstead, Billingshurst, and Pulborough, I came across quite a lot; one Worthing man with his better half was out Storrington way with the family in a trailer. At Washington a stranger had gone one better, having a motor bike with a trailer on behind—a very handy arrangement, I thought.</p> <p>Last Thursday, in company with Mr. Durant, the new Excelsior Delegate, I attended the National Cyclists' Union meeting at Brighton.</p> <p>A big muster of delegates was there, and we were soon busy with a long agenda. Our Chairman, Councillor F. G. Halliwell, sent a guinea to the funds, with the modest request "don't make a song about it!" We passed a vote of thanks instead.</p> <p>Sam Clark had written asking the Centre to</p>	<p>Sam Clark had written asking the Centre to arrange a Veterans' Challenge Trophy. Though this could not be done, it was agreed that if any Club will run the race the Centre will permit licensed and unlicensed men to race together.</p> <p>The Brighton Town Council are getting up a Cycle and Motor meeting in Preston Park on Coronation Day. The Corporation knows its Brighton, and will make no charge for admission, so the Centre gave a free permit.</p> <p>The Henfield man, Mr. Waghorn, wanted a caution board, and Councillor Uridge, of Lewes, asked for nine similar warnings for use on hills in East Sussex.</p> <p>Delegate Durant knew some of the ground, and was able to convince the Centre that three of the boards were unnecessary, thus saving £3. A feather in his cap!</p> <p>At ten o'clock we had finished the business. The Licensing Committee then met and issued nine licences to racing men, the veteran Sam's "brief" being among the number.</p> <p>The Excelsior Club is going strong for system now, and a complete list has been drawn up setting forth the duties of the General Scribe and the Racing Secretary. In</p>	<p>addition, a Finance Committee has been constituted to deal with the accounts.</p> <p>Indeed, so systematic is the Club that a Sub-Committee has been appointed to prepare plans, etc., of the new notice board which Mr. W. A. Hower is giving in exchange for "the old original" which helped to make local cycling history years ago. I shall look for something really good.</p> <p>The Club have arranged a really fine programme for the Whit Monday meeting.</p> <p>The event of the day is to be the Five Miles' Invitation Scratch Race, whilst a Motor Cycle Race over a similar distance will doubtless create a lot of interest.</p> <p>In addition to these there will be a couple of open cycle handicaps and one for Clubmen; the Club running men are provided with a mile flat handicap and a three-legged race. The latter should cause some fun, as the men have to draw for partners.</p> <p>There is also to be a two hundred and twenty yards' race for boys under sixteen, and a novelty in the shape of a Coronation Derby. I understand the latter is to be a very comical affair.</p> <p>Altogether there should be enough for the keenest sportsman, and as the Excelsior quality is always excellent, the event should be a big success if we get a fine Whit Monday.</p> <p>The Excelsior Captain, Harry Shaw, has</p>	<p>The Excelsior Captain, Harry Shaw, has gone away for a change since his illness. Bert Paine will act for him during his absence, and is now arranging a list of runs.</p> <p>The Tarring Club had a muster of thirty-eight last Wednesday for their spin to Washington.</p> <p>At the Frankland Arms they enjoyed one of their usual jolly little programmes of songs and dances, the vocalists being Mrs. Betts, Messrs. Carter, Greenfield, Peto, and Rockall.</p> <p>Nowadays the Club run in dead heat the Club has a sprinkling of musicians. The Argives are very fortunate in this respect, and with their hard-working officers they infuse a lot of enjoyment into their runs.</p> <p>"Direct Spoke" remarks that "Wicked Hints Worthing" in general and the Excelsior Club in particular have been breaking the rules of the N.C.U. by indulging in road racing.</p> <p>The "road race" was, of course, the running event last Saturday week, which naturally has nothing whatever to do with the Union.</p> <p>But worst of all, "Direct Spoke" gives the time of the winner and the distance of the race, which show the speed to be about ten miles an hour.</p> <p>Evidently he is no scribe himself, or he would not accuse us of cycling at ten miles an hour! We thought the time a bit slow even for running.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DICK TURPIN.</p>
--	--	---	---

CYCLING.

Dick Turpin's Cycling Gossip.

A WEATHER prophet on a London paper, thrown off his balance by the recent meteorological vagaries, was on Saturday copying the prophet Zadkiel, who once predicted snow in June. The London man promised snow on Sunday, but, fortunately for wheelmen, his tip did not come off, as Zadkiel's did. On the other hand, Sunday's weather was all that could be wished for, and numbers of riders were out.

In a run round West Grinstead, Billingshurst, and Pulborough, I came across quite a lot; one Worthing man with his better half was out Storrington way with the family in a trailer. At Washington a stranger had gone one better, having a motor bike with a trailer on behind - a very handy arrangement, I thought.

Last Thursday, in company with Mr. Durant, the new Excelsior Delegate, I attended the National Cyclists' Union meeting at Brighton.

A big muster of delegates was there, and we were soon busy with a long agenda. Our Chairman, Councillor P.G. Halliwell, sent a guinea to the funds, with the modest request "don't make a song about it!" We passed a vote of thanks instead.

Sam Clark had written asking the Centre to arrange a Veterans' Challenge Trophy. Though this could not be done, it was agreed that if any Club will run the race the Centre will permit licensed and unlicensed men to race

together.

The Brighton Town Council are getting up a Cycle and Motor meeting in Preston Park on Coronation Day. The Corporation knows its Brighton, and will make no charge for admission, so the Centre gave a free permit.

The Henfield man, Mr. Waghorn, wanted a caution board, and Councillor Bridge, of Lewes, asked for nine similar warnings for use on hills in East Sussex.

Delegate Durant knew some of the ground, and was able to convince the Centre that three of the boards were unnecessary, thus saving £3. A feather in his cap!

At ten o'clock we had finished the business. The Licensing Committee then met and issued nine licences to racing men, the veteran Sam's "brief" being among the number.

The Excelsior Club is going strong for system now, and a complete list has been drawn up setting forth the duties of the General Scribe and the Racing Secretary. In addition a Finance Committee has been constituted to deal with the accounts

Indeed, so systematic is the Club that a Sub-Committee has been appointed to prepare plans, etc., of the new notice board which Mr. W.A. Hewer is giving in exchange for "the old original" which helped to make local cycling history years ago. I shall look for something really good.

The Club have arranged a really fine programme for the Whit Monday meeting.

The event of the day is to be the Five Miles' Invitation Scratch Race, whilst a Motor Cycle Race over a similar distance will doubtless create a lot of interest.

In addition to these there will be a couple of open cycle handicaps and one for Clubmen; the Club running men are provided with a mile flat handicap and a three-legged race. The latter should cause some fun, as the men have to draw for partners.

There is also to be a two hundred and twenty yards race for boys under sixteen, and a novelty in the shape of a Coronation Derby. I understand the latter is to be a very comical affair.

The Excelsior Captain, Harry Shaw, has gone away for a change after his illness. Bert Paine will act for him during absence, and is now arranging a list of runs.

The Tarring club had a muster of thirty-eight last Wednesday for their spin to Washington.

At the Frankland Arms they enjoyed one of their usual jolly little programmes of songs and dances, the vocalists being Mrs. Peto, Messrs. Carter, Greenfield, Peto, and Rockall.

Nowadays the club run is dead unless the Club has a sprinkling of musicians. The Fig-Leaves are very fortunate in this respect, and with their hard-working officers they infuse a lot of enjoyment into their runs.

“Direct Spoke” remarks that “Wicked little Worthing” in general and the Excelsior Club in particular have been breaking the rules of the N.C.U. by indulging in road racing.

The “road race” was, of course, the running event last Saturday week, which naturally has nothing whatever to do with the Union.

But worst of all, “Direct Spoke” gives the time of the winner and the distance of the race, which show the speed to be about ten miles an hour.

Evidently he is no scorcher himself, or he would not accuse us of cycle-racing at ten miles an hour! We thought the time a bit slow even for running.

DICK TURPIN.