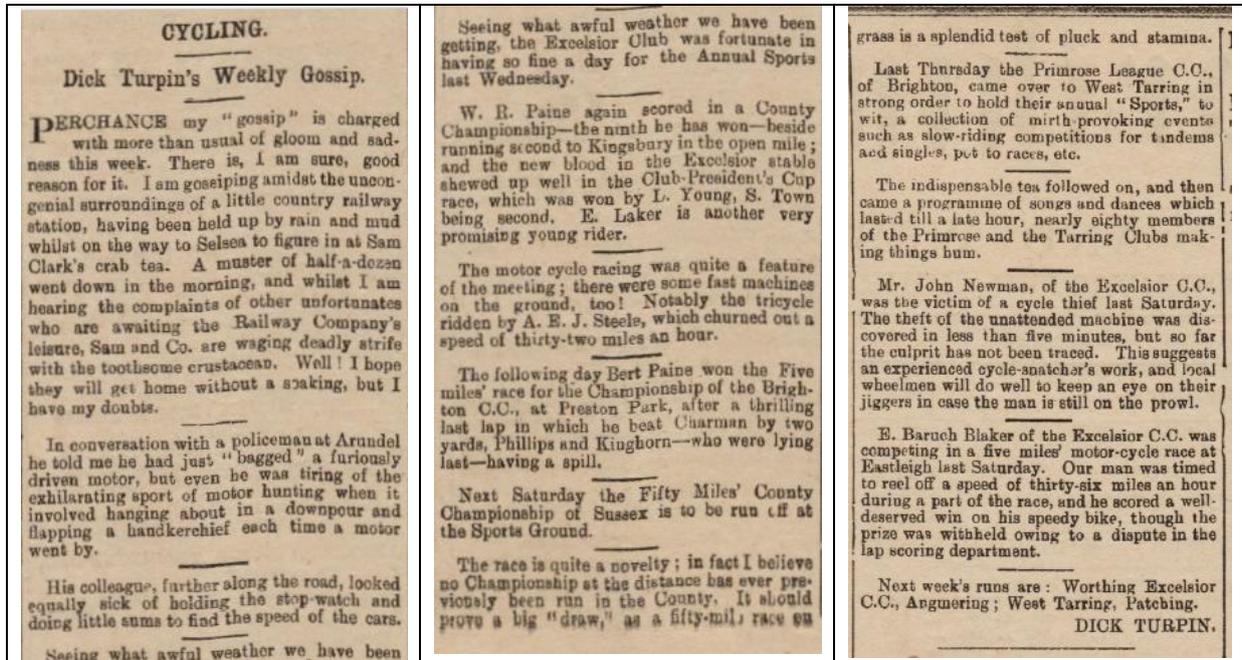


**Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.**  
**Source:** Worthing Gazette copies at  
 Worthing Local Studies Library.  
 Turpin: 27.8.1902 P2C4-5



**CYCLING.**

**Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.**

**P**ERCHANCE my "gossip" is charged with more than usual of gloom and sadness this week. There is, I am sure, good reason for it. I am gossiping amidst the uncongenial surroundings of a little country railway station, having been held up by rain and mud whilst on the way to Selsea to figure in at Sam Clark's crab tea. A muster of half-a-dozen went down in the morning, and whilst I am hearing the complaints of other unfortunates who are awaiting the Railway Company's leisure, Sam and Co. are waging deadly strife with the toothsome crustacean. Well! I hope they will get home without a soaking, but I have my doubts.

In conversation with a policeman at Arundel he told me he had just "bagged" a furiously driven motor, but even he was tiring of the exhilarating sport of motor hunting when it involved hanging about in a downpour and flapping a handkerchief each time a motor went by.

His colleague, further along the road, looked equally sick of holding the stop-watch and doing little sums to find the speed of the cars.

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Seeing what awful weather we have been getting, the Excelsior Club was fortunate in having so fine a day for the Annual Sports last Wednesday.

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W.R. Paine again scored in a County Championship - the ninth he has won - beside running second to Kingsbury in the open mile; and the new blood in the Excelsior stable shewed up well in the Club-President's Cup race, which was won by L. Young, S. Town being second. E. Laker is another very promising young rider.

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The motor cycle racing was quite a feature of the meeting; there were some fast machines on the ground, too! Notably the tricycle ridden by A.E.J. Steele, which churned out a speed of thirty-two miles an hour.

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The following day Bert Paine won the Five miles' race for the Championship of the Brighton C.C., at Preston Park, after a thrilling last lap in which he beat Charman by two yards, Phillips and Kinghorn - who were lying last - having a spill.

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Next Saturday the Fifty Miles' County Championship of Sussex is to be run off at the Sports Ground.

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The race is quite a novelty; in fact I believe no Championship at the distance has ever previously been run in the County. It should prove a bid "draw", as a fifty-mile race on grass is a splendid test of pluck and stamina.

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Last Thursday the Primrose League C.C., of Brighton, came over to West Tarring in strong order to hold their annual "Sports," to wit, a collection of mirth-provoking events such as slow-riding competitions for tandems and singles, pot to races, etc.

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The indispensable tea followed on, and then came a programme of songs and dances which lasted till a late hour, nearly eighty members of the Primrose and the Tarring Clubs making things hum.

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Mr. John Newman, of the Excelsior C.C., was the victim of a cycle thief last Saturday. The theft of the unattended machine was discovered in less than five minutes, but so far the culprit has not been traced. This suggests an experienced cycle-snatcher's work, and local

wheelmen will do well to keep an eye on their jiggers in case the man is still on the prowl.

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E. Baruch Blaker of the Excelsior C.C. was competing in a five miles' motor-cycle race at Eastleigh last Saturday. Our man was timed to reel off a speed of thirty-six miles an hour during a part of the race, and he scored a well-deserved win on his speedy bike, though the prize was withheld owing to a dispute in the lap scoring department.

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Next week's runs are: Worthing Excelsior C.C., Angmering; West Tarring, Patching.

**DICK TURPIN.**