

**Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.**  
**Source:** Worthing Gazette copies at  
 Worthing Local Studies Library.  
 Turpin: 29.10.1902 P2C5

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CYCLING.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dick Turpin's Weekly Gossip.</p> <p><b>T</b>HE atmosphere of sport which surrounds the medal rides has at length proved an irresistible attraction to the veteran, Sam Clark. I quite thought he had overcome the temptation to go for the hundred this year, but Sam gave way in the end. Starting from the Railway Bridge, he tackled the tiresome ride to Westhampnett and back first, covering this hilly thirty-three miles in two hours and seventeen minutes.</p> <p>Going up from Offington Corner through Horsham to Woodhatch Sam encountered some mud, as road-mending was in full swing. But he moved very well, and checked at Woodhatch four and three-quarter hours from the start.</p> <p>With thirty-five miles to go, Sam was still riding very gamely, and, although a gold medal ride was not possible, he meant having a decoration of some sort.</p> <p>So he pegged away down through Crawley and Horsham to Broadwater in two hours and thirty-seven minutes, making his total time for the hundred miles seven hours and twenty-two minutes, which qualifies him for a silver medal.</p> <p>Not a bad ride for a man of forty-six, especially on the give-and-take course used by the Excelsior Club!</p> <p>A day or two after Sam's ride, A. E. Peto</p>	<p>A day or two after Sam's ride, A. E. Peto once again entered the lists against Father Time.</p> <p>The Tarring Scribe was not satisfied with the gold-centre medal won by him last week; he wanted a gold one—and he got it!</p> <p>Taking the western part of the journey first, he went comfortably to Westhampnett in an hour and ten minutes. He had a puncture on the way, which necessitated a change on to Bert Paine's machine.</p> <p>This was geared to eighty-eight, and—there being a favouring breeze for about fifty miles—he retained the speed instrument, leaving W. R. Paine to twirl the seventy-four geared mount after him.</p> <p>Peto covered the forty-nine miles from Westhampnett to Woodhatch in two hours and fifty-five minutes—his fastest bit on the ride.</p> <p>It rained heavily while he was on his way up, and, beside getting drenched, both he and Paine were smothered in mud.</p> <p>But he was nicely inside gold medal time, and stuck to the road as determinedly as the liquid samples of that road stuck to him.</p> <p>There was trouble on the final run home. A side-slip at Crawley brought about a nasty fall, and Peto got bruised a bit.</p> <p>He didn't stop to pity himself, or to clean the mud off, but ploughed along home at a good speed, and checked in at Broadwater six hours and thirty-seven minutes from the start, winning one of the much-coveted gold medals with thirteen minutes to spare.</p> <p>Grit was wanted to go on the hundred that day, and grit accumulated grit! Paine, who followed and fed Peto, looked almost as gritty as Peto himself.</p> <p>At Shoreham Railway Station last week I</p>	<p>At Shoreham Railway Station last week I saw a porter handling a bicycle whose outline was familiar to me. I recognised it as one of the earliest pneumatic-tyred bikes in Worthing.</p> <p>Something about the old war-horse attracted my notice, and on going nearer I found there had been an accident of a serious nature.</p> <p>The bottom main tube had snapped in two, and allowed the frame to completely collapse.</p> <p>The ingenious rider had, however, used a stick to plug the two broken ends of tube together, and by lashing some cord from the bottom bracket to the head he had completed the temporary repair which enabled him to reach the friendly aid of the Railway.</p> <p>But the faithful steed looked sadly battered and bent. I fear the ride in the guard's van from Shoreham to Worthing was the funeral of the smart little jigger I remember admiring a dozen years ago, as I clattered along on my solid-tyred roadster.</p> <p>Medals are now offered to the Harriers section of the Excelsior Club for running ten miles on the road without pacemakers.</p> <p>Those covering the distance in an hour qualify for gold-centre medals, whilst silver medalists are allowed another five minutes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DICK TURPIN.</p>
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