

THE WHEELING WORLD

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<p>THE WHEELING WORLD. A Weekly Survey. DICK TURPIN'S RANDOM RECORDS.</p> <p>Up With the Lark. THE welcome arrival of a good supply of fine and clear autumn weather has greatly increased the interest in time trials on the road, and the voice of the speedman is heard in the land at pretty frequent intervals by the wheelman who is up betimes. Things are quieter later in the day, for the speedman is an early bird; he will be awheel before sunrise, and ere mid-day the Fates have usually decided for him either that the coveted Club medal is to be his, or that his fifty or one hundred miles ride has proved fruitless—fruitless, that is, except for “the knock” or a crop of punctures!</p> <p>Hooker and Mungeam, of the Excelsior Club, were up with the lark a day or two back, in quest of road medals, being timed from the Railway Bridge at six o'clock and six-fifteen respectively.</p> <p>Both rode through Arundel to Westhampnett before tackling the longer section of the journey, Hooker covering this hilly seventeen miles in an hour; whilst Mungeam gained a minute upon this time.</p> <p>Hooker, however, travelled better on the ride back to Offington Corner, his time being fifty-seven minutes and his Club-mate's sixty-one minutes.</p> <p>In rounding the Corner Mungeam fell, his follower also coming down. A similar mishap occurred to Hooker near Southwater, but fortunately no one suffered more than an assortment of bruises and abrasions.</p> <p>Ryecroft, of the Horsham Club, was awaiting</p>	<p>Ryecroft, of the Horsham Club, was awaiting Hooker at Horsham with speed food, and the pair were both travelling well when Woodhatch was reached. Hooker's time for the thirty-six miles from Offington was two hours and eighteen minutes; Mungeam's was eight minutes less.</p> <p>On the Return. Only the return journey through Crawley and Horsham to Broadwater now remained, and the wind that had hindered on the outward ride now proved handy. Although it was the final thirty-seven miles of a stiff hundred, Hooker rattled through it in two hours and eight minutes.</p> <p>Mungeam, however, lost time at West Grinstead, having to dismount through cramp; but he was only two minutes longer than Hooker on this section.</p> <p>W. R. Paine and Edgar Henson, together with a group of interested Club-mates, were awaiting the riders at the finish, where Hooker was checked in six hours and twenty-three and a half minutes after the start, and Mungeam in six hours and twenty minutes.</p> <p>Both men, therefore, secure the valued Club century gold, and are henceforth hall-marked in the speed world as men of class. I congratulate them!</p> <p>I have also to congratulate Edgar Henson, who on Monday covered a very troublesome fifty miles course in the smart time of two hours and forty two and a half minutes.</p> <p>Edgar is a member of the Chichester C.C., and was desirous of securing the gold medal offered by the Club to members who succeed in riding from Chichester via Offington Corner to Ashington and back in three hours and twenty minutes.</p> <p>So the dawn of day on Monday found him</p>	<p>So the dawn of day on Monday found him leisurely pedalling down to Chichester in order to commence the attack. Not many men ride twenty miles and forthwith set out on a speed jaunt, but the journey through keen air had merely freshened up the Tarring wheelman, and at thirty-six minutes past six he was started from the Cathedral City by two Club officials, Messrs. Grainger and Napper. z</p> <p>Less than an Hour. Three minutes under the hour he had ridden the eighteen miles to Offington Corner. Here C. T. Wells, of the Excelsior C.C., hitched on to follow him, leaving Stoner to sign his hurriedly dropped checking sheet and hand it to Greenfield, whose speedy motor enabled him to restore the document to Edgar.</p> <p>Ashington—half distance—was reached seventy-two minutes from the start. The pace now grew even hotter, and twenty-two minutes sufficed for Henson to return to Offington Corner, Sam Clark joining in following near this point.</p> <p>A rare bat was maintained right* away to the finish at Chichester, Henson's time for the distance being, as already stated, two hours and forty two and a half minutes. Previous best in the Chichester Club was by Mant, whose time was fifteen minutes slower than Edgar's.</p> <p>The ride compares most favourably with those at the same distance on a much easier course which the Brighton C.C. have been carrying out this year.</p> <p>The best of these performances so far is the ride this week by J. Phillipps, who was eleven and a half minutes slower than Henson, despite the easier course. Other Brighton men have done times varying up to three and a quarter hours.</p> <p>Shades of Frowd, Turner, Chilton, Foulger, and Sammy Upton! Where are the Brighton speed men of to-day, when fifteen miles an hour is all a man does in a “speed” fifty?</p> <p>DICK TURPIN.</p>
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