



NEWSLETTER



The Don Lock Memorial

Many of you will know that the Club has offered to make a contribution toward the memorial for Don Lock. The latest update is that Worthing Council now propose that it be erected on the sea front in Worthing rather than opposite the Clubroom as was previously suggested. Andrew has another meeting with the Council later this month so we should know more then.

Missing trophy

Last month I commented on Geraint Thomas' missing TdF trophy. More important than that is that one of our own trophies is missing. If anyone has a glass double-handed tankard suitably engraved, can we have it back, please?

British Cycling membership

Last month the Newsletter had details of membership of 'Cycling UK' (formerly CTC) and mentioned that 'other cycling organisations are available'. Well the postman has just delivered a bundle of leaflets regarding 'British Cycling' and, as a special offer, they are offering discounted membership for those joining for the first time. There are different levels of membership dependent upon whether you want to race; a 'Ride Only' category, or just a 'fan'. You'll have to read the small print yourself but I suspect that the discount is for the first year only but, by way of example, 'Ride Only' for anyone born before 1999 is discounted from £39 down to £19.50 whilst 'Race Gold' is cut from £76 to £52. If you're interested, have a look at their website to check out the benefits. If you want to sign up, and you're a new member wanting to race, then use the promotion code NEWCMRA. If you're looking for 'Ride Only' membership, use the promotion code NEWCMRD. I have passed the leaflets on to Mick Irons if you need a copy.

Sports Direct

Now, I don't go into Sports Direct every day so I never check on what stock they have or have not. I only know that they sell umbrellas at two for £6. Now that they have taken over the running of Evans Cycles, are we going to see a change in what they sell? This low-cost retailer was recently advertising some older Zipp clincher wheels on it's website at a discounted rate. A Zipp 404 Firecrest front wheel was reduced from £849.99 down to £599.99 and a set of Shimano Dura-Ace C50 9000 clincher wheels were available at £999.99 down from £1,499.99. It might be worth popping in there every so often just to see what they have. Their website has lots of bits and pieces marked as 'must go' so perhaps they're clearing existing stock to make way for 'proper' cycling kit?

Power Meters.

Have we seen the last of power meters on professional road bikes? The UCI President and ASO, together with Tour de France director, Christian Prudhomme wants to outlaw power meters as they 'annihilate the glorious uncertainty of the sport.' He then stated that, without the use of a power meter, a rider would be blind to their effort, therefore bringing back the element of uncertainty. There's also talk of ditching radios for the riders. Is this just another attempt to de-rail the successes of Team Sky?

Derailleur gears

Henri Desgrange, the originator of the Tour de France, didn't like derailleur gears. He reckoned that 'variable gears are only for people over forty-five.'

Paris – Roubaix

Andrea Tafi won the Paris Roubaix way back in 1999. Now, at the age of 52 he wants to have another go at it. He reckons that he has a pro-team lined up ready to sign him.

Perhaps I should my name down for it..... Perhaps not!!!

Giro d'Italia

As the defending champion, I bet Chris Froome already has the dates in his diary but, if you're on holiday in Italy between 11th May and 2nd June, 2019, you'll need to check out the route of the Giro. There is to be an interesting mix of three time trials and five summit finishes which should suit Chris Froome. Do you think he looks good in pink?

New members

We have two new members!!!! A great big official Worthing Excelsior welcome to Catherine Hewitt and Nick Adams They've been out with club rides a few times and obviously enjoy our company so have decided that we're worth a go. Welcome to you both.

Maserati

In recent Newsletters I have made reference to Aston Martin and other high-end luxury car makers turning their skills into making bikes. Now it's the turn of Maserati who have produced a nice looking road bike with what is described as traditional road performance. It has just won a German Industry Award..... but you would never buy one because it's an e-bike.

Worthing Winter Warmer

Did you mark the date on your calendar? No? Then here's a reminder. 9th February, 2019. Joan Lennon and Ken Newton are promoting the event and, if you're not riding, perhaps you would like to help out. Joan will be pleased to hear from willing volunteers.

ESCA Reliability Trial

The good news is that the Club had a 100% result in the East Sussex Reliability Trial. Both of our riders finished within the allotted time. Well done Rob and Pete!

CTT

The AGM of the CTT (Cycling Time Trials) took place on 2nd December, 2018. I don't yet know the outcome but there were some interesting things on the agenda. Things like compulsory back AND front lights/crash helmets/course measurement/setting the field/equal prizes etc..... If the Rules do change, I'll let you know.

You don't have to but perhaps you should

Following a Gov't review of cycling safety, they have decided that the wearing of helmets and hi-viz clothing should remain an individual choice. Perhaps because it's just too difficult to enforce, but any sensible cyclists (an oxymoron???) should make themselves visible so that idiot motorists can see them and, for those occasions when the idiot motorists don't see them, the wearing of a helmet would seem advisable. The Gov't has also decided that they will not pursue the idea of bike licensing and number plates. Now that would have been interesting.

Who says you can never have too many bikes?

The National Cycle Museum based in Llandrindod Wells has too many bikes. Now that may seem a bit of a contradiction but, on 6th April 2019 they will be holding Cycle Jumble/Auction of surplus cycles. If you would like a stall, or have unwanted good condition cycle spares to donate to the museum's own charity stall, then contact Steve Griffith on 077740 923 630 or e-mail griffith531@hotmail.com More details of stores cycles to be auctioned will be on www.cyclemuseum.org.uk nearer the time.

Coming to a theatre near you

Well not actually near to you, but Horsham. **Mark Beaumont**, who cycled around the World in 80 days, will be talking about his experiences at The Capitol Theatre, Horsham, on Tuesday 7th May, 2019.

You know you're a cyclist when.....

You wear your heart-rate monitor to bed to make sure you're within your target zone during 'extra-curricular' activities.

Festive 'You know you're a cyclist when.....'

You have more pairs of tights than Peter Pan, Dick Whittington and Robin Hood and all his Merry Men.

Ride East Africa

I have just had an e-mail from a John Douglas who is organising a charity ride starting from Nairobi in November 2019 for the benefit of the children of East Africa. I know no further details other than the start date and location.

If you're interested then contact John on john@charitylinks.org.uk

Happy Christmas

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of you, and your families and nearest and dearest, a very Happy Christmas and good fortune throughout the New Year

That's saved me a few bob on Christmas cards and stamps. Phew!!!

The opinions expressed above are not necessarily those of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club, but could be the ramblings of a senile old duffer.

adrianp.wecc@tiscali.co.uk