



Newsletter- April 2022

Chris Beckingham

I am most grateful to Tony Palmer who writes;

I have to report the sad death of Chris Beckingham, aged 82, who joined Worthing Excelsior CC in the early 1960's; he may well be remembered by the older club members. Chris started as a first claim member before leaving to join Brighton Excelsior CC but retained a continuing second claim membership with the Worthing and was ever present at the clubroom on a Tuesday night.

Although not a racing man, he only rode 2 events, his cycling passion was in touring and he completed many tours throughout the UK, visiting Scotland, Wales and the West Country. Many of his tours took him to the continent too; France, Belgium, Switzerland and Holland. He also climbed many of the major TDF Cols. He rode the Classic Brevet de Randonneur, a 260km day ride going over many of the Cols.

Chris lived in Lancing, became unwell with vascular dementia and then transferred to a nursing home in 2014/2015. He died on 17th March 2022 with his funeral held in Cromer on the 30th.



Monthly Club night

We held our first monthly Club night on Tuesday 5th April and I was very pleased to see 15 members attending. At the AGM it was suggested from the 'floor' that a change of venue for the Club night could be advantageous and to this end the Committee has visited the West Worthing Tennis Club in Titnore Way to check their facilities. Discussions are still taking place with the Tennis Club but the provisional view is that we should hold a number of meetings there to check its suitability whilst retaining the option of returning to the Parish Rooms.

Further details will follow in due course!

Centenary mugs

To mark the centenary year of Time Trialling, commemorative mugs are now for sale from the CTT website, priced £7.50 + £3.99 p&p. What better present to buy the cyclist in your life who already has everything? <https://www.cyclingtimetrials.org.uk/product/2>

Lights and helmets

With the Don Lock Evening Series due to get underway on Thursday 12th May a reminder that, "no competitor shall be permitted to start either a Type A or Type B event unless such competitor has affixed to the front of their machine a working white light and to the rear of their machine a working red light (either of which can be flashing or constant) that are illuminated and in a position that is clearly visible to other road users."

In addition, "all competitors must wear a properly affixed helmet, which must be of hard/soft shell construction."

Returning to the subject of front lights, if you can get hold of the 31st March edition of Cycling Weekly there is a group test of some of the options available. If you can't find the article then the lightest on test was the Knog Blinder Mini Cross at 17 grams, whilst the cheapest was the Cateye Orb at £10.99 but you'll have to carry some extra weight if you elect for that option as it weighs a portly 25 grams. Remember it's all about marginal gains!

Forthcoming events

A couple of alternative type events that may interest you?

How about the Isle of Wight Randonnee on Sunday 1 May? There are clockwise routes of 55km or 100km and you shouldn't get lost if you keep the sea on your left notwithstanding the route is marked thus;



I don't recall that signage necessarily helping us on the WECC 2021 IOW trip however!
www.cycleisland.co.uk/randonnee/event-details

Or, on the same day but closer to home, South London Orienteer's begin their mountain bike orienteering events season with one based at Puttenham Common in Surrey. You have to navigate solo or in pairs to a number of different control points within a time limit, which sounds a bit like a cross between our Tourist and Reliability Trials.
<https://slow.org.uk/events/puttenham-mbo-score-event-sunday-1st-may-2022/>

New Members

A very warm welcome to Dan Cobby and Michael Arbisi who have both recently joined WECC.

And finally

Remember, life's as unpredictable as the weather and that's why one should never be afraid to ride in the rain,

Ian Thomas, secretary@worthingexcelsior.co.uk