

WORTHING EXCELSIOR CYCLING CLUB

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT 1981

Charlie Lednor and Theo Puttick, two of our longest serving and most stalwart members both died during the year. These are facts of which I am sure you are aware but which, nevertheless, I feel should be recorded here. Eulogies are superfluous beyond the simple statement "They are both missed".

After that sombre beginning, it is more pleasing to be able to report that the general flow of the club's activities has been somewhat happier.

The reliability trials in February, over distances of 50 km and 100 km, attracted a total entry of 83, of whom 55 completed the course within their selected time.

The open 25, again sponsored by Ron Mills Cycles, not only had a full field, but also gave promotor Tony Palmer the task of returning some 20 excess entries.

We did not run an open road race this year, our efforts in this direction instead being channelled behind Roy Holden in his successful staging of the B.C.F. Divisional Championships. 1982 however, will see the return of our open road race to the local calendar.

The open 10 was again held on a Thursday evening and was again cursed with abysmal weather - the only blot on an otherwise fine event. Dave Hudson's services have been retained for '82, with the event to be held, for the first time, on a Saturday afternoon.

The Kermesse races, due to the very large efforts of a very few members, obtained complete sponsorship and just over 100 entrants, a proportion of whom, as usual, failed, either to start or to apologise for their absence.

Also promoted, on behalf of the S.C.A. were events at 10, 25, 50 and 100 miles. Next season should see a repeat of this, with the addition of, yet another, Ray Douglass spectacular - the Open Sussex 12 hr. on August 8th. So, please keep this date free, either to help or even to ride.

Although five club records were broken, including the ladies' 10 (this being the first new ladies' record for 19 years) only one Sussex Championship was won by a club rider - Greg Hill landing the 500 metre schoolboy title. He also gained the premier award in the season long S.C.R.L. (Schoolboy) competition.

The majority of the club championships were taken by Richard Shipton, in fact, he reigned supreme at all distances from 25 miles to 100 miles, and for good measure, also took the senior B.A.R. award.

A new end-of-season event, perhaps designed to bridge the gap between the racing and the social seasons, was the 2-up family 10, which received an entry of 11 pairs and was successfully held in October.

Newly elected club coach, Mike Gibbs arranged a series of weight training sessions, which have run throughout the winter months and have had the enthusiastic (and masochistic) support of about a dozen keen racers.

Seventy seven different members are recorded as having attended at least one of the club runs held during the year, with the all-night ride in August attracting some 14 riders for a 130 mile potter!! through the lanes around Midhurst, Hindhead and Chichester.

A mixture of tourists and fast men visited Mallorca in April for a week's riding and although the weather was somewhat pluvial, two of the group were sufficiently bitten by the Mediterranean islands' bug to venture to Corsica for a further week's touring in October.

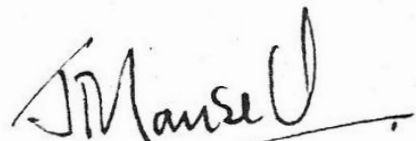
The usual facilities continued to be available every Tuesday at the club room and extra activities ranged from a highly enjoyable, Hudson-organised slideshow to a, not quite so successful, evening of R.T.T.C. films.

The Annual Dinner was held at the Windmill in Littlehampton, further from Worthing than we have been previously, but almost unanimously voted a great improvement over last year's venue, and now rebooked for 1982.

At 31st December the total membership stood at 116. This figure (two less than 12 months ago) includes 11 associate, 19 junior and 12 life members. Approximately 40 of these members raced during 1981 and 52 of them attended last year's A.G.M.

In closing this report, I will repeat two pleas, both of which you will find attached.

1. Should you have any inputs which you think may be of interest to John Grant in his compilation of the club's history, please don't keep them to yourself.
2. If you are thinking of joining, or of rejoining, the fund raising scheme, but just haven't got round to it, please do so without any further delay. Do remember that we are no longer able to collect the waste paper which has been a major source of additional income in recent years.



John Mansell
General Secretary