

FOUNDED 1887

APRIL 2005

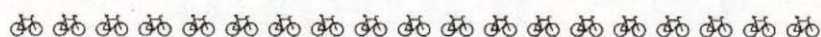
THE JOURNAL OF



THE WORTHING WHEEL

WORTHING EXCELSIOR CYCLING CLUB

Clubroom: Broadwater Parish Rooms
Broadwater Green, Worthing
Meeting every Tuesday 7.30 – 10.00p.m



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REMINDER

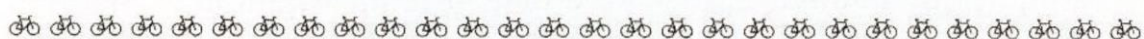
EVENING 10'S START 28th APRIL until 28th JULY

Every Thursday – Washington Village Green. Start 7p.m

Make sure you ride as many as you can – Best six count for the series.

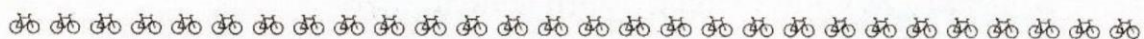
To assist organiser try and sign on by 6.45 if you can.

£2 a go includes Tea and Bickies – can't be bad.



NEW MEMBERS

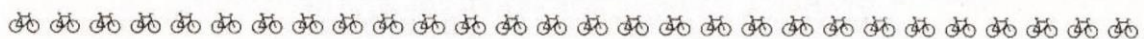
Welcome back Ian Cushway, 47 Marlborough Road, Goring, and Steve Custance, 6 Rosie Way, Billingshurst. Now let's see you getting involved in our competitions. A really new member is Peter Wilcock of 108a South Street, Tarring. Peter has raced a little in the past and turned out – all keen to go – for the then cancelled Long Furlong Circuit. Hope he will be back for the re-run and then get stuck in to some regular competition.



OTHER TIME TRIALS

It's not just club events, you can ride in Time Trials of practically any distance from 10 miles upwards which are promoted as 'Open' or 'Association' events. The Cycling Time Trials handbook (mentioned elsewhere in this mag) lists thousands throughout the country. The entry is a bit more formal (2 weeks before an event) and the fees are higher (still cheap at £5/6).

If you want to know more about these and to find out if other Worthing riders plan to ride, speak to Mel or Karl Roberton. Three riders make a team and there's always an additional prize for that.



CLUB 10 - 13th MARCH

Held on a very cold but sunny morning, this event was held on the usual evening ten's 'Washington' course, and for most was 'the pipe opener' for the new season. From some of the times it looks as though some pipes were, as yet, a bit unwilling to open fully.

Karl gets what could be the first of many club wins this season but he will be looking for at least another 2 minutes off in the warmer months. Dad Robertson (never far behind) was second. The new slim line Robert Downham (what a lot of Roberts in this report!) was comfortably home in 3rd place and despite the meanness of the handicapper took that award ahead of Mel.

FULL RESULT :-

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Actual Time</u>	<u>H'cap</u>	<u>H'cap Time</u>
1	Karl Robertson	24.33	0.30	24.03
2	Mel Robertson	25.00	1.10	23.50
3	Robert Downham	26.23	3.00	23.23
4	Nick Attaway	28.05	3.00	25.05
5	Colin Miller	29.06	2.40	26.26
6	Ted Wixon	29.53	4.30	25.23
7	Diana Trafford	30.06	5.00	25.06
8	Peter Eldridge	30.49	5.30	25.19
9	Mike Poland	35.40	7.30	28.10

Paul Major and Pete Weston rode private time trials and recorded 29.09 and 32.41 respectively. Try and get entries in, in future if you can. It makes all the effort put in to run the event so much more worth while.

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### HELP!!!

A request from the 'typist of this mag! So that I do not have to try and read the Ed's terrible scrawl all the time, could some of you out there provide me with some 'copy'. Any cycling event or happening or link, comment, criticism would be welcome. We are looking for variety, so please help us out – keep it short enough to do ½ to 1 page. May not use it straight away, but promise to use it ASAP.



SUSSEX CYCLISTS ASSOCIATION  
2-UP Team Time Trial – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March

It was a bit grey and misty but not dangerous. The wind was from the south east and described as 'slight' by the guy hanging on the back. The one up front who did 'most' 'some' 'all' 'a good share' of the towing (you get different versions depending who you speak to) reckons it was a bit stronger than that!. Never mind, from the Storrington start they were soon into the climb of Houghton followed by a fast descent towards Fontwell. Then it was A27 to Clapham and over Long Furlong to Findon. Old man believes son eased off for him on this one – the last climb, before dropping back to Washington and finishing on the east side of Storrington.

Our reporter was Mel Roberton with a lot of help from Karl. They got round this 25.8 mile hilly in 1hour 10 minutes 51 seconds; and were well pleased. Mel noted the words of encouragement from the marshall at Findon – it was President Tony Palmer. Mel regrets he was not able to make a formal acknowledgement at the time due to lack of breath!

Peter Eldridge and Diana Trafford also completed this one in a time of 1.31.07. Colin Miller (his Amphibians team mate didn't show) rode solo and was timed in at 1.27.52.

The winners were Pete Tadros and John Sharples, In Gear R.T with an incredible 59 mins 01 seconds.

A well organised event with an excellent prize list, courtesy of the Bike Store and good catering. Mel forgot to mention he and Karl won £16 for 14<sup>th</sup> place in the lottery.

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ASHURST CIRCUIT EVENT – 27th MARCH

You let the guy do the catering, and generally organise the event. You let him see to the signing on and you even give him an early number in the starting order – so that he can get back and put the kettle on – and does he thank you? No! he just wipes the board with you, and very nearly takes the handicap award as well.

We're not sure that we got the truth from Mel after that 2-up

he rode with Karl, (see earlier report) for he took over a minute out of him in this 16.5 mile trip. It wasn't as if he just beat a slow field, he was quicker than Tony Reeves effort in 2004 and we had to go back to 2000 and Jeremy Wootton's 40.43 to find a quicker time. So watch out for Robertson senior, this could be the year.

Karl was comfortably ahead of the rest but trailed Mel's 41.09 by a full minute and 7 seconds. Don Lock who spent 20 minutes coughing up something awful after he finished, offered no excuses, it was a lousy ride just giving him third place, but look where he was on handicap, can we get someone else to do this job? Colin Miller must have given him a decent back-hander though to get 8 minutes allowance, and won the handicap section.

FULL RESULT

<u>Pos</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Actual Time</u>	<u>H'cap</u>	<u>H'cap Time</u>
1	Mel Robertson	41.09	1.30	39.39
2	Karl Robertson	42.16	Scr	42.16
3	Don Lock	46.04	3.00	43.04
4	Robert Downham	46.20	5.00	41.20
5	Colin Miller	46.54	8.00	38.54
6	Nick Attaway	47.23	7.30	39.53
7	Ted Wixon	50.20	9.30	40.50
8	Peter Eldridge	51.48	10.30	41.18

Mike Irons held the watch this morning and some were happier than others with his performance!

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#### BRIGHTON MITRE (Very Hilly) 24.7 EASTER MONDAY

Karl Robertson rode this and recorded 1.13.57. A really tough course along the back of the Downs, and the time seemed OK. To tell you that the winner Peter Tadros 'In Gear RT' finished in 59 mins 41 secs rather spoils things though. It's his third win and each time he's been under the hour.

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IN THE WORTHING HERALD (THE SENTINEL)

"1900: More than 100 members of Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club pedalled to the Frankland Arms, Washington, for a Strawberry Tea, and other festivities that went on until long after dark. They then returned to Worthing in procession, illuminated by Chinese Lanterns"

Enquiries made of members since this article appeared reveals that only Mike Poland still has his lantern!

ALSO IN WORTHING HERALD

A letter from Barbara Bate of 'Michael's Cycles' of South Farm road. She is trying to find out more about 'The Worthing Milk Race 1967', does anyone have any memories or photos of this?

If my recollection is correct it was the year that Worthing hosted the start of 'The Tour of Britain Milk Race'. Foreign teams were in all the town's hotels some days before the start and all the team vehicles were seen running around with all the spare bikes and wheels.

Worthing Excelsior made contact with the Polish and Norwegian teams and invited them to have a ride in our evening ten which that year was using a course starting and finishing at Ferring on the A259, and with the turn being just short of the A27 on the road from Angmering.

The Poles hadn't it seemed understood that we were offering them a 'mildly competitive' ride so all sauntered round in about 23 minutes without drawing a deep breath. The Norwegians tried – a bit – and did 22/23. Nice to say our fast man then was Nick Lelliott and he beat them all. They were quite impressed.

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## LONG FURLONG CIRCUIT – 17 MILES 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL

Postponed from the previous date because of road works, we finally got this one off on a warm and bright morning, but with a strong wind from the south east. It was touch and go, actually because a malfunctioning (it didn't work!) alarm clock meant that Mike Irons



did not arrive to do the timekeeping. Fortunately our Ed. was there and he managed to hold up, start off, keep times and even take photos. As to his reasons for not also riding- well something about still feeling weak after the flu.

### FULL RESULT

| <u>Pos</u> | <u>Name</u>    | <u>Actual<br/>Time</u> | <u>1<sup>st</sup><br/>Circuit</u> | <u>H'cap</u> | <u>H'cap<br/>Time</u> |
|------------|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1          | Jeremy Wootton | 44.51                  | 22.05                             | Scr          | 44.51                 |
| 2          | Mel Robertson  | 45.54                  | 22.09                             | 1.00         | 44.54                 |
| 3          | Karl Robertson | 46.06                  | 22.48                             | 1.30         | 44.36                 |
| 4          | Robert Downham | 51.15                  | 25.00                             | 5.30         | 45.45                 |
| 5          | Peter Eldridge | 55.28                  | 27.30                             | 14.00        | 41.28                 |
| 6          | Diana Trafford | 56.42                  | 27.55                             | 12.00        | 44.42                 |
| 7          | Mike Poland    | 66.55                  | 34.03                             | 18.00        | 48.55                 |
| -          | Nick Attaway   | DNF                    | 27.40                             | 6.30         | -                     |
| -          | Colin Miller   | DNF                    | 31.22                             | 6.00         | -                     |

Awards – 1<sup>st</sup> on Scratch, Jeremy and 1<sup>st</sup> on Handicap, Peter Eldridge. Mel's chain snarling up didn't help his second circuit, he might have run Jeremy very close but for that.

David Uncles, David Bowen and Paul Major, all club members rode privates, and there were five from other clubs including fastest of the morning from Roger Smith, Velo Club Etoile who recorded 44.00.

As a postscript to the event how about this for outstanding dedication. Robert Downham had the race down as his early season target, centred his training around it, even ensured that the domestic calendar at home was suitably arranged. The postponement was to throw this out the window, for on the new date he would be with his in-laws in Newcastle. So what did he do? Would you believe that after driving up on Thursday, he then flew back to Gatwick on Saturday evening so that he could ride on Sunday morning and fly back on Sunday afternoon. Now that's dedication and he didn't offer any jet lag excuses either!

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THE PULBOROUGH CIRCUIT – SUNDAY 10th APRIL

After a week of northerly gales and freezing temperatures, the weather took pity on us for once and the morning was fine. The wind had moderated to a 4/5 westerly and temperatures were up to 12/14 plus the sun was out. So all set for a quick dash (or for the majority a slow struggle) round this 16 mile circuit. Man of the moment Mel Robertson with chain staying on this week, was fastest, but number one son is closing in. Karl was only a few seconds back in 2nd spot.

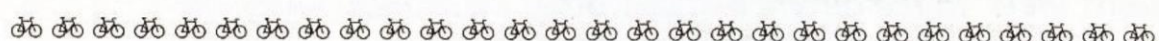
Nice to see some new names in these events, Jon Rogers in 3rd only 1 minute but 3 places ahead of son Adrian in 6th. Robert Downham grabbed the handicap and now features much higher in the scratch placings.

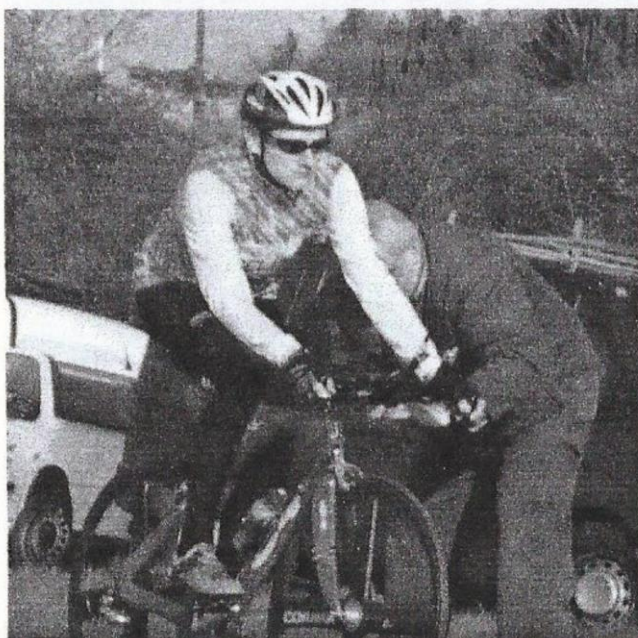
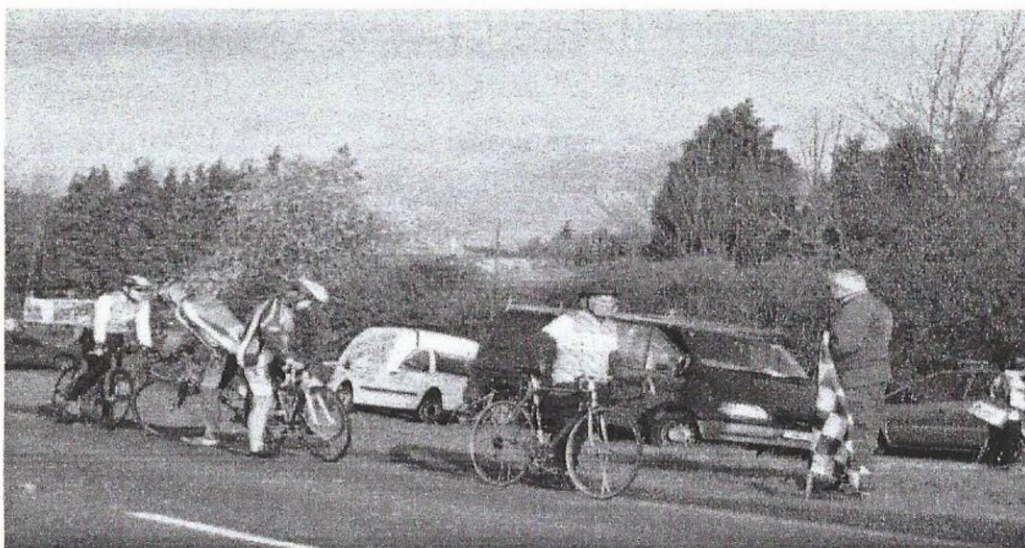
Oh yes! And Diana Trafford did not puncture (private joke!)

FULL RESULT

<u>Pos</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Actual Time</u>	<u>H'cap</u>	<u>H'cap Time</u>
1	Mel Robertson	44.32	1.00	43.32
2	Karl Robertson	44.49	1.00	43.49
3	Jon Rogers	49.23	4.30	44.53
4	Don Lock	49.38	4.00	45.38
5	Robert Downham	49.47	7.30	42.17
6	Adrian Rogers	50.26	5.00	45.26
7	Paul Major	52.25	9.30	42.55
8	Colin Miller	55.05	8.00	47.05
9	Ted Wixon	55.44	11.00	44.44
10	Peter Eldridge	57.05	11.30	45.35
11	Diana Trafford	58.02	12.30	45.32
12	Pete Weston	1.03.46	14.00	49.46
13	Mike Poland	1.08.44	18.00	50.44

There were 9 guest riders and with other members out in support this was a really good club event.





Photos taken at the
start of the
Pulborough Circuit
Sunday 10th April.
Mike Poland
Diana Trafford
Peter Eldridge &
Karl Roberton on
the start line.
Alan Langham
'pushes off'

INSURANCE

Continuing our investigation into required insurance cover, in the area of time trials, Mel Roberton pulled the following from Cycling Time Trials website – although you should have their annual handbook, great value at £5.50 and the note is set out on page 36.

'It is not always clear to both riders and officials involved in accidents involving a third party, just how to deal with claims made against them. In the absence of any other insurance policy the

Cycling Time Trials Commercial Combined Policy provides among other things, an indemnity in the event of a claim against the Company in respect of any rider or riders in an event falling under our jurisdiction. It also covers event secretaries, timekeepers, marshals, observers and volunteer helpers used in any capacity required to make the event possible.'

Quite interesting and reassuring don't you think? We are of course affiliated as a club to Cycling Time Trials and also pay to them a levy of £2 for all entrants in Open and Association events, in this way we pay our insurance premium! As to more general cover (not limited to time trials) the Club has decided to use the cover afforded by the Cyclists Touring Club and to let the other cover lapse and this should achieve a considerable saving to our finances.

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CLUB RUNS ATTENDANCE POINTS POSITION  
15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2005

|    |                |           |
|----|----------------|-----------|
| 1. | Robert Downham | 40 points |
| 2. | Mel Roberton   | 32 points |
| 3. | Karl Roberton  | 31 points |
| 4. | Don Lock       | 26 points |
| 5. | Mike Poland    | 20 points |

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HANDICAP POINTS COMPETITION
15th APRIL 2005

1.	Mel Roberton	12 points
2.	Robert Downham	14 points
3.	Karl Roberton	16 points
4.	Peter Eldridge	21 points
5.	Diana Trafford	26 points
	Ted Wixon	26 points
7.	Colin Miller	28 points

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