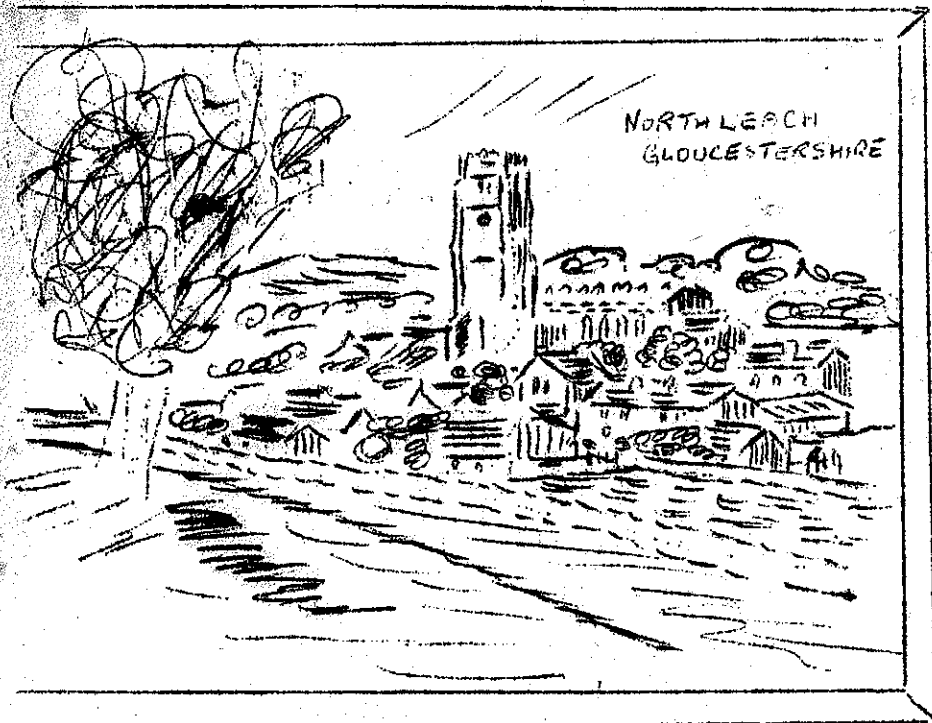


SOUTH WESTERN ROAD CLUB



A
MERRY
CHRISTMAS

AND

A
HAPPY
NEW YEAR

NEWS
LETTER

1958

Editor: H.F. Gould,
13 Kenilworth Avenue,
Wimbledon Park, S.W.19.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER
1958

Dear Fellow members,

It is with great regret that we learned of the death of our old friend and clubmate Owen Bryars.

Owen joined the club in the early days, he recognised and was attracted by its virile force, and over the many subsequent years, participated in all its activities.

Despite the fact that he had been riding in time trials before most of us, whenever he mentioned his rides it was always in jocular vein. Whenever possible he rode with us, 25's to 12 hours, tandem rides to Castle Combe and back, and one never to be forgotten journey across Ot Moor, and so he became and remained, one of us.

In debate, Owen would always give his frank and forthright opinion and so one always knew his views.

He always gave of his best in all he did, and through his cycling and cycle trade activities, has been a good friend down the years to many many riders. Because of this and his never failing enthusiasm for all things cycling, Owen will be remembered "down the road" by us all.

Also it is with regret that we learn of the death of Reg Crook. Reg rode in one of the first two open time trials the club participated in, the Kentish Wheelers Novices and supported our winning team. Reg never became an ardent cyclist, his natural bent lead him into the world of art and advertising, and his accomplishments with brush and paints were a pleasure. We would like to take this opportunity to tender our sincere regrets to his wife Oni.

E.O. Shead

CHRISTMAS MORNING.

25th. December, '58

Dig out that bicycle and work up an appetite for your Turkey and Plum Pudding, you may even then be able to manage that third helping you have always wanted.

Meet at Tibbett's Corner at 9 a.m. or

rendezvous at the Keystone Cafe, Staines Road, Sunbury (close to Kempton Park Racecourse) from 10.30 a.m. to 12 mid-day.

The good lady has offered to open up for us despite personal difficulties, thus it would help for volunteers to collect up the dirty cups and other empties.

We must also be out prompt at 12 mid-day.

Social Report for 1958

By L.C. Warner

The Club's major social promotions during 1958 have followed a similar pattern to those of recent previous years, having consisted of two colour-slide talks at our usual Battersea Town Hall venue and the annual reunion Dinner-Dance at the Fountain Hotel, Tooting.

The first of the talks - "Norwegian Roundelay" - was given by 'Nob' Fry on March 14th, and the income from the sale of tickets to our usual large crowd of some hundred or more supporters - together with the help we have from the catering sales - enabled us to show a clear profit of just over £8. More recently, Cyril Kermode of the C.T.C. launched our 1958/59 winter social season with his talk "Across the Pyrenees" on November 14th - again at Battersea. Once again we were fortunate in attracting a large audience, and although the income and expenditure figures for this latter function are not finalized at the time of writing this report, our profit should prove similar to that of the earlier talk. The importance and benefit to the Club of these colour-slide talks at Battersea cannot be too greatly emphasised. Besides providing us with a substantial source of income of course, one must, however, not forget their enormous success as occasions which bring many non-active and active members together for the evening, and also allow us to maintain our very good relations with our C.T.C. D.A. neighbours.

Our second annual re-union to be held at the Fountain Hotel had an attendance of 94 - including guests-

when it took place on February 15th. We were unable, however, to repeat the almost unique profit that was made on the previous year's function, and our expenditure exceeded income on this occasion by £8.8.6. Although we received a warm welcome and every consideration from the staff at the Fountain, there is apparently a continued feeling among some members that we should endeavour to find another venue. Repeated investigations during the past year have failed to produce a suitable alternative, and the next re-union will therefore take place at the Fountain.

Our "summer" social gathering - the reunion run - was revived this year, and was well supported with an attendance of over 70 people to tea at the Halt, Effingham Junction, on May 18th.

The attendance at the Club room on Wednesday evening each week throughout the year has maintained a fairly general level, but it is still not enough to prevent our showing a continued loss after the fees for the hall hire have been paid. I should like to express my thanks to my assistant Brenda Jones who has handled the Club room fees on my behalf throughout the year, and who - with the help of her friends - has also looked after the catering.

As - for the first time for many years - I was not able to attend the Annual General Meeting, therefore I expressed to the Secretary my willingness to accept the position of Social Secretary for 1959 provided of course that the Club members were satisfied with the rather small field of social activities that we at present promote. I say that because I personally feel that, under the guidance of somebody with more available time and more social "flair", our activities, facilities and promotions both at the Club room and "outside" could be considerably improved to the benefit of the Club as a whole. For a number of personal reasons I am unfortunately not able to undertake anything that would entail such an extension of our social activities.

In ending this report, I should like to thank very sincerely all those members who have assisted me so willingly during the year behind the scenes of our social promotions. I have particularly in mind those who relieve me of all the catering responsibilities at Battersea and who look after the preparation and clearing-up of that side of things each time. It is not often realised that the persons concerned miss a considerable amount of what is going on in the hall, and we should be most grateful to them.

Club members are advised that the Club Room will not be open on Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December and also New Years Eve, Wednesday 31st December.

Since the last issue of the "News Letter", George Bartlett has announced his intention to retire from the position of President of the South West London Combine. As a mark of esteem for his past services, he is being given a present which will incorporate a badge of all member clubs of the Combine.

The Runs Secretary continues to report good attendance on runs, and apparently most Sundays there are up to fourteen out. This is a very healthy sign and should mean more racing and better times next season.

This year the Committee decided unanimously to present the Most Meritorious Award to Bill Reed. Bill, as you all know has worked for the Club for many years in many different capacities, including "News Letter" Editor and Social Secretary. For two years now he has handled the 12 Hour Event, and the Committee thought it about time his efforts received a tangible reward. Bill's trouble is that he doesn't like saying "No", so no doubt he will continue to serve the Club.

At a recent B.L.R.C. special general meeting the proposed new federation with the N.C.U. was agreed and it should come into being early in 1959.

The Committee has agreed that the Open 12 Hour and Open Mass Start Road Race, should be self-supporting as possible, for this reason therefore in 1959 the fees will go up to 13/6d and 5/-d respectively.

George Oliver has managed to sell the old set of training rollers, which were at the Clubroom, for 10/-d, plus a 10/-d tip for himself (which George has given to club funds). We didn't think we would get 10d for them, so anyone wishing to get rid of a 'white elephant' should see our Honorable Treasurer.

Treasurer's Report

from S.G.Oliver

At the close of our financial year in October, we had a membership of 96, composed of our President, 6 Vice-presidents, 4 Honourary members, 29 full members, 9 full members under 21, 20 male Associates, 22 Ladies and 5 Juniors. I thank all members in answering my appeals for subscriptions, and am happy to state that there are consequently no members with outstanding subs. These subs amounted to £39.14.9, a 9/-d increase over last year when our membership was 97, 13 names have been deleted from the list of members, 3 resignations and the others have been wedded out for non-payment of subs as is the usual practice.

Though our Clubroom hire was raised to 15/-d per evening last year, our income from attendances and the sale of tea and cakes amounted to £31.4.4. a fine response to the sum of £38.5.0 needed. We are greatly indebted to Brenda Jones and her little band of helpers when it is realised that the sale of tea and cakes came to £14.6.4, nearly half the total raised.

There were 61 subscribers to the "Newsletter" bringing in £7.12.6. and the expenses are shown as £13.5.5. we hold stocks of material to the value of £5 or so. It would be appreciated if there were more articles on your cycling experiences, particularly of Club runs and members out on the run.

On the racing side greater activity is shown in the receipts for club events, £3.15.6 up on last year, but few riders attempted standards, as income from these shows at only £1.2.0 as against £1.13.0 last season. The 12 Hour was again efficiently run by Bill Reed and having a full entry, the event will have cost the Club approx £4.10.0 a modest sum for an all-day effort. The Open Massed Start Road Race being of somewhat different calibre, but of extremely wide interest, was organised by Jim Dabbs who did a fine job of work chasing the trade for support in prize vouchers. By the time the medals have been bought for the winning teams the event will have cost in the region of £4.

Our promotion of colour slide talks are now an established feature at Battersea, and from these we continue to raise much of our income from a very wide public. The sum this season was approx £18 after deducting payment for the hall, and grateful thanks are also tendered to the donors of the various items of "scoff".

Our great annual "scoff", the dinner, did not show a profit this year, but the loss of £8.8.6 on the evening compares well with the previous year's, and is mainly incurred by invitations and incidentals to make it a worthwhile "do".

Medals and engraving costs are £2.10.0 less than 1957, printing and postage about the same at £17.

In winding up the report I again take the opportunity of thanking those staunch supporters who donated £12.15.0 to the funds, and I am sure they will be pleased to know that their contributions will help to purchase the much needed 12 Hour equipment which needs replacing.

With cash in hand and at the bank of £79.10.6 and increased activities in all spheres, the Club can look forward to a very good year in 1959.

Time Trial Report

from P.S.Parkinson

Having been out all day, on the bike, for the first time in 6 weeks, I was inspired on returning home to do a bit of catching up on my writing. Knowing that I have been very remiss in my "News Letter" stuff this year I had to look up the various issues to see just how long ago I made a report and of course I ended up reading the lot again, very interesting.

If you refer to the March/April issue you will find my previous effort and below you will find the remaining results for the rest of the year. Between then and now we have enjoyed a relatively quiet season, with George Gilleland having it all his own way in Club events. Most of the boys having been riding events as training for the clubruns that have been going all the summer, something new to most of us. With Graham Collins in the army, Jim Dabbs and myself too busy to train, and Brian Morrison on the continent most of the year, it has fallen to the new boys to show us how it is done. Though the times have not been fantastic they all seemed to be enjoying themselves. We have no Club Champion for the first time in our history, though two ex-members, Dave Laws and Reg Smith were fighting it out in their respective new clubs, neither of them successful, though in Dave's case only a few seconds off his 25 time would have won him the South Eastern Road Club B.A.R.

In the inter-club events, well taking the one I know most about these days, the Old Members were a great success in more ways than one, as we managed to do it on the 'Belle Vue' on this occasion. It was a terrible morning with high winds and heavy rain reminding most of us of similar conditions prevailing in years gone by "up the road". In the 50 with the Veg and North Road we had no entries, and the event was easily taken by the North Road, Winfield doing a 2-2-54 to win by 8 minutes, a fantastic ride. The 25 was more interesting, George Gilleland had been doing a run of fours and we were trying for a three in this event. I decided to do the turn and took George, Bill Clements and Brian Davidson camping in the van. I believe most of you have heard a somewhat exaggerated account of what transpired, but it ended up with the two of them being our only starters, and of course Bill timed it all. It was quite good really in spite of us having to all climb into the van in the early hours to escape the rain, anyway we had a good feed after it was all over. The result was in dispute owing to the winner Sharpe being only a second claim member of the Charlotteville, this has now been settled and the Westersley awarded the team race medals.

We had a couple of "spare" events that proved popular, two riders times being added together to form a team time, the antics prior to the event to find out who was paired with who, were something. The boys prefer to chance being lucky in their coupling, to riding up to their own handicap, though in fact the teams are calculated to end up with similar times anyway. The last two club events were well supported John Thacker winning the 25 and Mick Cole at last "getting round" to do a six in his first complete 25, we are anxiously awaiting the day when Nobby Clark does likewise.

The hill-climb was a turn up for the books, Bob Maylin proving once again that if you want to succeed you must take a bit of trouble, he went down on the Saturday to try out different gears for Rammore.

The following are the events for the 1958 season.

March 30th - Club 25

G. Gilleland 1. 6.39 1st Hcp.
 R. Maylin 1.10.32
 B. Morrison 1.13.12
 B. Davison 1.15.45 TT.
 Tined by F. Parsons.

April 13th - Combine 25

G. Gilleland 1.12.56
 D. Kewell 1.13. 2
 W. Squirrell 1.14.50
 W. Morgan 1.16.28
 R. Maylin 1.18. 6

May 4th - Combine 30

G. Gilleland
 W. Squirrell
 D. Kewell
 R. Maylin

May 18th - Interclub 50

G. Wingfield 2. 2.54 North
 A. Blackburn 2.10. 1 Road
 D. Keeler 2.11. 2 Veg
 1st Team-North Road-17 Pts.
 2nd Team-Vegetarian-27 Pts.
 South Western-no entries
 Tined by W. Quemby

June 8th - Club 25

G. Gilleland 1. 5.06 1st Fst.
 P. Parkinson 1. 5.29
 W. Squirell 1.8. 38
 W. Morgan 1.10. 0
 W. Reed 1.11. 3 1st Hcp.
 B. Davison 1.11.38
 R. Maylin 1.11.57
 Tined by F. Parsons

June 22nd - Club 50

G. Gilleland 2.14.58
 J. Thacker 2.19.50
 R. Maylin 2.25.44 1st Hcp
 W. Morgan 2.27.18
 P. Parkinson 2.21.59 (late start)
 Tined by F. Parsons.

July 6th - Junior 15

J. Bromley 41. 0
 M. McDonald 41.22
 D. Peevers 44.21
 Tined by W. Clements

July 6th - Club Team 25

W.Squirell	1. 6.43	}	2.17.32
W.Reed	1.10.49		
B.Davison	1.10.57	}	2.19.20
W.Morgan	1. 8.23		
F.Parsons	1.11.24	}	2.21.29
J.Dabbs	1.10. 5		
G.Gilleland	1. 4.46	}	-
R.Clark	DNF		
R.Maylin	1. 7.12	}	-
M.Cole	DNF		
Timed by W.Clements			

August 17th - Club Team 25

K.Vercoe	1. 7.12	}	2.17.55
R.Edwards	1;10.43		
G.Gilleland	1.4. 47	}	2.22. 6
D.Peevers	1.17.19		
B.Davison	1.10.17	}	-
W.Squirrel	DNF		
Timed by F.Parsons			

August 31st - 29th Wheelers 25

G.Gilleland	1.3.36
K.Vercoe	1.7.

August 31st - Clarence 25

W.Squirrel	1. 6.43
B.Davison	1;10.38
R.Edwards	DNF

October 26th - Club Hill Climb

(RANDOM)

	m	s
R.Maylin	2	55 1/2
J.Thacker	2	57 1/2
G.Gilleland	2	58 1/2
J.Bromley	3	22
R.Clarke	3	22 1/2
W.Morgan	3	26
Jepp	3	38
Allaker	3	41
B.Morrison	3	42

August 10th - Oval 25

G.Gilleland	1. 4.54
R.Maylin	1. 8. 6
H.Edwards	DNF

July 27th - Dunlop 50

G.Gilleland	2.16. 4
J.Thacker	2.17.31
W.Morgan	2.21.54
R.Maylin	2.22.34
J.Dabbs	2.24.35
R.Edwards	DNF
W.Squirrel	DNF

August 23rd - Interclub 25

G.Gilleland	1. 3.40	1st Hcp
B.Davison	1.10. 0	
Timed by W.Clements		
(6 other entries DNF)		
Team result:-		
Westerley R.C.	3.9.12	
Charlotteville	3.9.45	

September 14th - Club 25

J.Thacker	1. 4.20	1st Fst.
M.Cole	1. 6.22	1st Hcp
W.Squirrel	1. 7.41	
R.Maylin	1. 8.21	
W.Morgan	1. 9.20	
B.Davison	1. 9.53	
R.Edwards	1;12. 2	
D.Peevers	DNF	
R.Clarke	DNF	
P.Parkinson	DNF	
Timed by F.Parsons		

July 13th - Belle Vue v South Western "Old Members"

Team Times (after the usual handicap adjustments)

1st: South Western 5.57.25
2nd: Belle Vue 6.20.25

South Western

P.Parkinson 1. 6. 0.
L.Warner 1. 7. 6
W.Reed 1;10. 9
F.Parsons 1.12. 7
W.Clements 1.13. 1

Belle Vue

E.Storey 1. 5.49
G.Boyles 1.13.22
E.Barnard 1.15. 6
R.Amos 1.17.16
G.Yellowlees 1.23.57

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CLUB OFFICIALS FOR 1959

President - E.O.Shead
Vice-presidents - W.H.Quemby; J.Dawsons; A.Stevens
W.Reed; S.Parkinson; R.F.Gould.
General Secretary - F.Parsons.
Time Trials - J.Thacker.
Track & Mass Start - B.Davison.
Social - L.C.Warner.
Assistant Social - Miss Brenda Jones
Runs - W.Morgan
Treasurer - S.G.Oliver
Auditors - J.Thacker; J.R.Page.
Timekeepers - F.Parsons; E.O.Shead; W.H.Quemby;
W.Clements; and W.Reed-(Assistant)
Press - H.Maylin
Handicappers - W.Reed; P.Parkinson; S.Parkinson;
B.Morrison.
Editor - R.F.Gould
Committee members - P.Parkinson; J.Dabbs; K.Vercoe;
G.Gilleland; W.Clements; B.Morrison

At the Annual General Meeting on December 14th
Item No:8 on the Agenda was carried and therefore the
Club Time Trial Rule No:9 has now been amended to read
as follows:- (Second paragraph only, para 1 and 3
remain as previous)

"The Road Champion shall be the member
who, at the close of the season shall have accomplished
the highest average m.p.h. in three out and home events
of 25, 50 and 100 miles while riding in Open, Association,
Combine, Inter-club or Club events. The average m.p.h.
shall be calculated to as many places of decimals as is
accurately possible".

An interesting letter has been received from Art Smith who is now residing in Cheltenham. Now living on the doorstep of the Cotswolds, a wonderful place to live, but he does feel that from living so close they do not hold the same "glamour" as when it needed a week-end bash to visit them. It is apparent that a lot of the "glamour" was situated in the tea place at Lower Slaughter.

It would be nice if we could obtain a few stories from some of the old members on the 'delights' of some of their week-ends, they would make interesting reading.

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One Sunday morning early in November a fine body of men, approx 20 strong, together with one young lady pedalled their way through the fog, anxious to get to Kew Bridge, where they were to meet their leader, one Les Warner.

He had threatened to take them on a real club run to the Chilterns, which to some was apparently a far distant land of unknown quality. A pity it was so foggy, but it helped with the fun of dodging the puddles through Osterley Park. Nevertheless good progress was made, and by the time a puncture called a halt just before Ruislip, the sun was shining beautifully through a thinning mist.

But down Breakspear Lane the fog was as thick as ever, hiding a countryside which has not deteriorated from 'development' and so into Harefield for a well earned 11's.

Through the lanes then to Chalfont St:Peter, through a land of fog, mud and moisture, then it began to show a promise of sunshine once again, and through Seer Green, Knotty Green and Penn Street, and the sun was really lovely, the last tinges of autumn still on the woodlands. and so to Great Missenden for lunch.

A crowded lunch place with South Western, Oxford City and odds from other clubs. Here a few members of the party decided for home and left us, the remainder headed then for Great Hampden and the City, with the sun still shining. An exciting place the City, situated on the ridge at Bledlow where all roads run along the ridge except for one muddy footpath which the South Western knows so well.

Before reaching this spot however our worthy Treasurer punctured and I knowing the route stayed with him while Les pressed on with the rest of the club.

George and I eventually reached the City and descended the muddy footpath, almost like the steep roof of a house, in a gathering gloom, with a bloodred sun descending behind the hill the other side of the valley.

Guess our surprise when we reached the road at the end of the path, to find the rest of the Club just passing, they had decided not to use the muddy track and

had used the longer road round the ridge.

On then through the gathering dusk to Radnage Common, & Beacons Botton and Studley Green, and Horsleys Green which latter is much remembered by a winter week-end which some members spent at West Wycombe. Soon after this a puncture brought a halt once again, but at the request of Les, George and I pressed on to investigate a doubtful road from Fingest to Frieth, a road which on some maps is only shown as a footpath. We did not find the road, and so pressed on to the "Yew Tree" at Frieth, where tea had been booked, the club arriving shortly after us.

The "Yew Tree" at Frieth has been a C.T.C. place for generations, and yet I cannot ever remember going there before, and they served a jolly fine Tea, despite the two dead black beetles which came out of the spout of the tea pot when the first cup of tea was poured. The good lady of the house was most upset, the pot had not been used for a party for a considerable time, and apparently the beetles had nested for the winter. Soon we had a new pot of tea so everyone was satisfied.

Time to move on, and the night was dark with just a sickle of moon showing. What a fast ride it is from Frieth to Marlow, it was hardly necessary to touch the pedals.

Through Marlow to Bourne End, where on the "level" crossing one rider lost a front lamp and we had a halt to debate the whereabouts of a missing member, apparently this chappie had decided to find railway assistance home. And so down to the lights of Maidenhead and the main Bath Road.

At Cippenham Les punctured and rather than hold up the rest of the club we waved them on homewards, while George and I stayed with Les. The puncture mended, and on through Slough, then catastrophe, by Langley Cross Roads we had hit the thickest of London fog. Who would be a motorist on that kind of evening, a load of sheep, darting hither and thither, following any stray rear light in the hopes of getting home. Still the three of us made good progress, eyes on stalks, hands on brakes, ever watchful for the kerb and the stagnant motor cars. Mostly riding a few inches from the kerb, mostly on the inside of cars, we made good progress, although sometimes bewildered for a few moments when the kerb disappeared up a side street.

At the "Travellers Friend" it was chaos but we won through, and lo in a few yards the fog had thinned and we were travelling up the Great West Road without a motor vehicle in sight. So through the new road to Hammersmith and home, I just had strenght to walk up Putney Hill, but it had been a grand day.

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A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND BEST WISHES TO EVERYONE FOR THE NEW YEAR.