

THE ROAD CLUB NEWSLETTER.

Broadsheet of the South Western Road Club.

President :- E.O. Shead.

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December 1964.

EDITORIAL.

Big threat to British cycling circles recently was the ban "cyclists from the roads" outburst. This is in the best tradition of certain do-gooders, the proposed actions would have little effect on the lives and habits of those who propose them!!

Banning has become almost a national sport in recent years. I suppose it is a natural result of the continued overcrowding of our small island. It is strange that this cyclist ban should be suggested just when the cycling population on the roads, must be at its lowest. Is it that some motorists get so used to long stretches of cycle-less roads, that when they do meet a cyclist they are caught off guard. Their immediate reaction must be to ban these bars to their progress.

Happily these outbursts usually promote activity amongst the victims' representatives, and in the cycling paternity we are well served by people like Les. He has already taken appropriate action and has contacted the Ministry on the subject. He was of course acting as C.T.C. secretary, but knowing Les as we do, I'm sure that he was really acting as a cyclist for cyclists.

These observations immediately bring to mind the move in our club to include C.T.C. membership in S.W.R.C. membership fees and you will see notes on this on a later page.

QUOTES.

We are optimistic about the future of cycle sport but look to a recession (trade) for more to return to their bikes. - "Falcon Cycles."

I derive considerable personal pleasure from the performances of my team. - "Ryall - Raxar"

So far this year I've only had an extra SIX weeks off work for my racing. - Well known racing man.

Most disappointing race in 1964 was the Brodsworth "25" in which I did 56.12. - Peter Hill.

Smile in the rain. - Cycle capes manufacturer.

English style (?) time trialling is likely to continue its downhill progress. - Quinn-Everyman. (easier racing?)

I have had to move because the landlord keeps asking for rent. - Art Smith.

COMMITTEE CAPERS.

I was rather late arriving at the last club committee, when the secretary was making his report. Still there was plenty more to discuss before the end of the evening. Notice of the W.L.C.A. Colnbrook walk was noted, the day after our annual dinner, enough said. The Charlotteville informed us of their views regarding D.C. areas in the B.C.F. The North Road invited us to their dinner, same day as ours, but George and I were restrained from accepting!

A letter from Ted, suggesting a canvas of local schools to tap some enthusiasm and active riders. Also mention of another clubroom slide show, December 2nd. Ted thought that discussion of each slide by members a good idea, but the majority of the meeting were not agreeable. At the last slide show, 30 attended and a really good evening was had by all. C.T.C. membership was raised in Ted's letter and something no doubt be proposed at the A.G.M. December 13th. The meritorious award was next business and while most of us were considering it be withheld a proposal to award to the Farmers for their service to the club was accepted.

George gave a good finance report. £81. 9. 6d at bank, £2.12 0d in hand. He also had to raise the regular matter of subs. Still many outstanding and we have excluded two more from our list. Sign of the times when someone said that no standard medals had been attempted this year, this certainly indicates our poor situation.

Les Warners report announced dinner tickets printed at 22/6d each, same as last year. The menu, a new one which includes Gammon Hawaii as the main dish. (No grass skirts) Guests are settled and the Middx. R.C. team are included. Two speeches to be fixed nearer the day. Bill Reed has at last fixed a theatre evening to see the Black and White Minstrels on 21st December at 8.45p.m. And that was that.

J.N.B.

New Address :-

Mr. A.C. Smith is now at 660, Rotherhythe Street, S.E.16 and has promised some more literary matter soon so keep in touch.

C.T.C. MEMBERSHIP.

Ted Shead asks if we could reduce our subs, and consider making C.T.C. membership obligatory.

Object - to increase club membership and while we are at present low in numbers, there would be little hardship to members. He included the following figures below :-

Standard Sub.	£1. 5. 0d
Family (over 18)	10. 0d
Family (under 18)	7. 6d
Junior (under 18)	15. 0d
Associate (under 18)	7. 6d

(No entrance fees now.)

This I think gives you the pro's and cons. so when you come to the A.G.M. you will be able to make a good decision.

G.H.S.

It is good to read that the G.H.Stancer Memorial Fund is to benefit the sport and pastime. Details of its objects are :-

"To encourage participation in cycling, and to provide assistance for those prevented from following the pastime because of illness or injury."

The fund is to be recognised as a charity. Honary Sec., Les Warner, said at a recent Pedal Club meeting, that the fund was now at £1,100. Contributions are welcome at 3, Craven Hill, W.2.

Christmas Morning Run.

At the time of going to press I am afraid I have no actual data. I know the date, December 25th but if you check with Ted at the dinner or A.G.M. (Dec. 12th & 13th) you will get the gen.

AT THE CROSSROADS.

There is a lot of talk lately when members gather, about the future of the road club. In view of the lack of racing activity, some people reckon we should disband. Surely this idea is a last resort, when all else fails.

Why do we still keep contact? For instance with the club dinner, the town hall slide shows etc. Is it the original friendships formed when cycling, which do not break up easily when we slacken off on cycling activity? It must be so, and I see no real reason for ending these associations.

Our activities could take different forms, the club racing programme although reduced could still be kept going using Combine facilities.

Promoting open events could be our role, selecting types of events which are most popular, which seems to exclude the 12hr. The recent Kermesse at Earls Court surely points the way ahead, and there must be many venues which need only to be discovered. Another idea I hear is the inclusion of C.T.C. membership combined in club subs. I think this would not increase membership, but eventually lead to the transformation of the road club into a section of a local C.T.C. - D.A.

Finally we could become a purely social organisation and I think cycling clubs have gone this way in the past.

J.N.B.