

SOUTH WESTERN ROAD CLUB

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ANNUAL REPORT

2000

The 1999 A.G.M. was attended by 45 members and produced no great changes. All the committee posts were filled and they have worked hard on the clubs behalf. As this is the 1st report of the new Millennium I will try and keep it as bright as possible. However, on the social front, club room attendance has been very poor resulting in a financial loss on the hiring of the hall and the cancelling of the roller comp. Club member Paul Carpenter put on a splendid slide show in April and it was embarrassing how few members turned up especially as there was a good attendance by other local clubs.

Our Annual Re-union and Prize Presentation at the Surrey Hills Hotel was a success with the live group getting nearly everyone up and dancing and guest of honour Fred Parsons reminding us of the clubs history before presenting the awards. Many thanks to Geoff Redhead for all the hard work organising and to Penny Wright for the lovely flowers.

As you all will have seen during the year Tony Sayers continues to produce, some times under a lot of pressure, a 1st class Newsletter for the club which is much appreciated by all.

Club President and Runs Sec Bob Maylin has organised the weekly club runs as usual and they still remain the clubs best avenue to new members. We have recruited 13 new members this year mostly due to this and we now have 160 + on the list. There have been various club outings during the year starting with club sponsor Gary Smith organising a training week to Majorca in April, Geoff Redhead a training weekend at Eastbourne in May, plus trips to the Tour De France and the Giro etc... and with over 20 members already booked for the Tour next year you can see that at least this aspect of club life is thriving.

The club randonnee in May was, as usual, a great success thanks to the "hard core" of club members who continue to do just about everything at this club and special thanks to Dave Wright who puts so much into this event each year.

Time Trialing remains a problem area due to a lack of support by members resulting in the event calendar having to be overhauled by T.T. Sec John Harris who, unfortunately, will not be able to stand for re-election in 2001. John has done a splendid job in computerising the whole T.T. set-up but he has to bow to work pressure and will be missed in this important club role. Senior club champion is Dave Bugden who was also fastest in 10, 25 and 50m events resulting in yet another clean sweep of the club trophies. The P.S. Parkinson Memorial Trophy was won by Mark

and Anna Fraser who have had an outstanding season breaking the 10 and 25 mixed tandem records resulting in their being awarded the F.W. Robinson Memorial Trophy. A full list of club award winners will be in the winter newsletter. The new events, ie: midsummer 2-up and hill climb both produced full fields and were clearly enjoyed by all who took part. This being the case we are looking at more of this type of event replacing the events that only attract very small participation. Dudley Samuels will be promoting an open 10 in 2001 and it will be on a fast course I'm told. Our Inter-Club points comp. has been won by the Epsom CC again but we did manage to field 4 teams in the Clarendon 4-up who all rode well. Several riders have set new personal bests this year so it would appear that there is some hope for T.T. in the club yet. We must not forget a huge vote of thanks to John Fraser who tirelessly holds the watch whatever the weather and without whom club T.T.'s would be in dire straits.

Road racing in the club still continues to attract more interest and several members have done well in both the Surrey League and the LVRC this season. Resulting in Alan Clarke becoming club champion with Paul Alderson taking the 3/4 cat. award and Paul Foster taking the vets prize. The Follicly Challenged LVRC event at Ellens Green, organised by Geoff Redhead, was a 1st class show and is already booked for 2001 and Ray Robinson's October Surrey League RR has become an annual stand-by for many road racers due to being such a superbly run event thanks to the help of Graham Bromley and the "hard core" of club helpers. You had probably all been expecting a town centre road race in Kingston this year but unfortunately after a huge amount of hard work and time taken off work by R.R. Sec. Ian Maylin this event had to be cancelled due to financial problems. Kingston Council's safety requirements etc. put the cost at £10,000.+ and way out of reach of common sense.

Club sponsorship is again with Evans Cycles and Tippetts Honda Ltd. and the club's finances are in excellent health due, as ever, to Paul Cannon holding the purse strings.

Now if as you read this report you find all these names familiar it is because it is always the same people who give their time so the rest of you can race etc.. I hope you all realise that this cannot go on indefinitely and some of you other members might like to find the time to do a job or two or the future of the club will not match it's past. We must have a good T.T. Sec. to replace John as this is one of the most important roles in the club. Some of the other post holders are also getting tired of the lack of anyone coming forward to take a turn if only for a year or so. Please give some thought to taking on a secretary's post, it is not that hard and there is always plenty of help from the previous sec. and many others, whatever the problem. If you come to the club room more often I know you will feel more in touch with what is going on in the club and feel that you are part of it all rather than being on the outside looking in. Remember it is your club just as much as it is others and not as some people like to think a clique of some individuals, perhaps with your help we can make it even better in this new Millennium.

Ray Watson

General Secretary.