



Issue 21 –January 2009

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**The Official Monthly Newsletter of the Eastbourne Rovers Cycling Club**

### ***EDITORIAL***

Welcome to 2009. It has been a cold start to the year and riding can be hazardous. This weekend some of us are doing the Hills and Mills 100km Audax on the morning of the Club Dinner in the evening! Hope it warms up a bit!

The Club's AGM was held on 1 December 2008. All Club Officials were re-elected and Ann Human has joined the Committee as Recorder as Charles Robson has relinquished the job after many years. Our thanks go to Charles for his many years of hard work serving the Club in this capacity.

Life member Graham Cox has donated his Dursley Peterson cycle to the Club, see Report in this issue.

We are looking for nominations for the position of "Club Captain" to co-ordinate race entries. With an objective to maximise the potential for team wins by targeting specific events and ensuring that our riders with the best chance of success are aware and enter. Please E mail me with your suggestions for "Club Captain".

Richard

### ***Useful Contact Info:***

<b>Brian Holt:</b>	<b>Secretary : 01323 520646 / 07767 666393</b>
<b>Graham Lade:</b>	<b>Chairman: 01323 509408</b>
<b>Peter Moon:</b>	<b>Treasurer and Club Kit: 01323 485180</b>
<b>Harry Featherstone:</b>	<b>Time Trials Secretary - 01323 841034</b>
<b>Dave Cox:</b>	<b>Evening Time Trial Series and Sunday Rides - 01323 507916</b>
<b>Press Secretary</b>	<b>Richard Thomas</b>

### **WHAT'S ON – ON AND OFF THE BIKE**

**Club Night:** Every Monday evening from 8.00pm – 10.30pm (excluding bank holidays) at the Stone Cross Memorial Hall (opposite the Red Lion Public House). Chance to meet and socialise, catch up with recent news and gossip. Refreshments available.

**Coached Turbo Sessions:** Stone Cross Memorial Hall on “winter” Monday evenings (during the club night) from 8.30pm to 9.30pm (set up at 8pm). **A structured turbo session is held throughout the “winter” months (November to April).** Free to club members, only £2 for non –members. All welcome, its getting really popular, - come and give it a go! Bring your own turbo and bike.

Any queries please contact Graham Lade who will co-ordinate these sessions. Richard Thomas has the complete set of programmes from Theresa if you want to try it at home!

**Winter Club Runs:** Meet at the Horse and Groom Public House at Polegate crossroads at 9.15am each Sunday. Variations to the type and length of ride will be made to suit the ability of the riders. For any further information please contact Dave Cox : tel: 01323 507916 or any other members of the committee.

**Club Clothing:** Peter Moon has the order forms for your kit, including bib shorts. Money with order please.

**PRESS REPORT: RICHARD THOMAS**

Peter Moon featured in our latest press coverage as shown below. Ann E mailed me to say that relatives and friends who have no real interest in Cycling have commented on it to Peter.

58 Herald, Friday, December 5, 2008 e-mail: ea

HERALD  
SPORT

**SPORTS DESK:**  
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Eastbourne BN21 3XQ

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**CALL US WITH YOUR STORY**



**Deputy Sports Editor**  
Derren Howard

FOR THE VERY LATEST LOCAL SPORTS NEWS & RESULTS VISIT WWW.EASTBOURNEHERALD.CO.UK

# Peter over Moon

**PETER Moon is Eastbourne Rovers Cycling Club champion for 2008.**

He won the season-long competition with rides of 25 miles in 58mins 47 secs, 50 in 1hr 57min 49secs and 100 miles in 4hrs 16min 53secs, giving him an average speed of 24.779mph.

Peter also won the East Sussex Cycling Association senior best all-rounder competition with an average speed of 24.26mph, based on 25 mile (59:22), 50 mile (2:03:32) and 100 mile (4:18:19) time trials on roads in East Sussex.

He also competed in the Sussex Cyclists Association long distance best all-rounder competition, being placed third with an average speed of 24.52mph and times of 59:22 for 25 miles, 2:00:19 (50 miles) and 4:16:53 (100 miles), as well as being placed eighth in the similar competition organised by the Southern Counties Cycling Union with an average speed of 24.242mph.

Nationally, Peter was placed 41st in the Veterans Best All Rounder (BAR) competition with rides that won him the club's BAR, to which he



had to add a 12hr race, where he covered a very creditable 243.50 miles on a hard windy day on the roads of Kent. This gave him an average speed of 23.657mph and a plus of 3.783mph.

Peter's best performances over the longer distances (50miles, 100 miles, and 12 hours) gave him an average speed of 23.037mph which placed him 60th in the National Best All Rounder competition.

Peter also led the winning Eastbourne Rovers Team on several occasions. He was a member of the winning team in the Surrey and

Sussex Veterans BAR competition, which was good enough to place the team fourth place nationally. Eastbourne Rovers also won the team prize, with Peter, Tony Murphy and Emma Richards, in the East Sussex Cycling Association Senior Best All Rounder Competition.

Peter will receive his trophies at the Eastbourne Rovers Cycling Club's Dinner at the Afton Hotel on Saturday, January 17, 2009.

Apart from the Sunday Club runs from the Horse and Groom Pub at Polegate (depart 9:15am, new members welcome) the next outing for Rovers riders will be on December 14 in the 100km (62-mile) 'Mince Pie and Stollen Cake' Audax event based on a circuit of East Sussex from Hailsham to Winchelsea and back.

Members also keep fit at Turbo (spinning) sessions each Monday night at 8pm at their clubroom at the Stone Cross Memorial Hall. New members and guests are welcome (there is a small charge for non members, see website [www.eastbournerovers.com](http://www.eastbournerovers.com))

## SUSSEX CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION EVENTS PROGRAMME FOR 2009 from Ann Human

Date	Event	Course	Promoter
Sun 01 Mar 2009	23 m Open Circuit Time Trial	GS/194	Steve Dennis (East Grinstead CC)
Sun 29 Mar 2009	28.5 m Open 2-Up Team Time Trial	GS/987	Dave Abbott (GS Stella)
Sat 02 May 2009	Open 10 Mile Time Trial *	G10/97	Mike Coyle (VC Etoile)
Sun 03 May 2009	Open 25 Mile Time Trial *	G25/93	Karl Robertson (Worthing Excelsior)

Sun 07 Jun 2009	Open 50 Mile Time Trial *	G50/10	Robin Johnson (Brighton Mitre)
Sat 31 Oct 2009	Open Hill Climb *	GH/92	Mel Robertson (Worthing Excelsior)

\* Signifies Sussex CA County Championship Event.

**The Association will not be promoting a 100 Mile Time Trial in 2009; The SCA 100 mile championship will be incorporated in the SCCU event.**

<b>Sun 26 Jul 2009</b>	<b>SCCU 100 Mile Time Trial</b>	<b>G100/59</b>
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## **SUSSEX CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION 2UP TTT ON SUNDAY 29th MARCH 2009 on GS/987**

*THIS IS A NEW COURSE OF ONE AND A HALF LAPS OF THE ASHURST CIRCUIT WITH THE HQ AT WASHINGTON VILLAGE HALL.*

*The start is on the B2135 North of Steyning, a picturesque village nestling in the shadow of the South Downs. The course runs North on the B2135 through the beautiful rolling Sussex countryside until it reaches the A24. A left turn takes you South on the A24 with every chance of a gentle cooling breeze. It continues south until you reach the Washington roundabout and a left turn on the A283 through the scenic countryside at the foot of the Downs until left at the junction with the B2135 to start the second lap. The finish is on the A24 half a mile before the Washington Roundabout*

**GOVERNMENT WEALTH WARNING**

**TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED TO ALL WINNERS IN EACH CATEGORY**

**PRIZEGIVING DIRECTLY AFTER THE RACE**

Event Secretary:	Dave Abbott 15 Longships Littlehampton Sussex BN17 6SL	Telephone: 01903 722682 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:biker.biker@hotmail.co.uk">biker.biker@hotmail.co.uk</a> Entry Fee: £16.00 per team
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Please send entries anytime before 18<sup>th</sup> March 2009

# Sussex Cyclists' Association SPOCO – What's the Point?

From Ann Human

The pioneering sporting courses points competition, known as SPOCO, was founded by Bill Norris in 1982 to encourage the use of courses where traffic was light and the terrain sporting. Standard distances were not necessary as the competition was decided on placings to give points, thus taking the emphasis away from fast times. The original SPOCO South East format still remains popular today, and its success has prompted the introduction of similar competitions throughout the country.

In its conventional form, SPOCO would consist only of hilly and or technically demanding courses generally described as sporting, however the SCA SPOCO has been tailored to support the philosophy of the Sussex Cyclists' Association: **to promote cycling in Sussex and encourage members to participate in competitions that include open events taking place partly or wholly in Sussex.** In accordance with this tradition we have included a mix of both sporting and standard courses, to widen the appeal, and extend the list of qualifying events throughout the racing season whilst still catering for the purists amongst you – hopefully there will be something for everyone.

The scoring system is simple: 120 points for 1st place down to 1 point for 120th place, just register and ride a minimum of 1 x short, 4 x medium (including 1 x Hilly) and 1 x long distance events. Any number of events can be ridden and your best placing(s) in each category will automatically count towards the competition. Separate awards are available for men, women, juniors and veterans, together with the best team of three from an affiliated club. Full details of the qualifying events and competition rules can be found on the SCA SPOCO registration form.

You may wonder why, if only one short distance event is necessary, you would bother with the Hilly 10 on GS/995 when you could do the G10/87 instead – well that's simple – times are of no consequence as it's your position on the day that matters. Where do you think you would come in large field of relatively fast riders at a more popular event, compared to a smaller field at a less popular event – you can work it out, but if you're not convinced, enter both events, it's your best placing that counts. Remember, starting at 120 points for the winner, and reducing by 1 point per position, means the fewer riders there are, the more points you are likely to get – that's the beauty of SPOCO; in the words of its founder "racing on tough courses in bad weather is no longer pointless!"

If you're a member of a Sussex CA affiliated club, and ready to get out the saddle and enjoy the challenge of a more technical course – **register now for free.** You can register at any time, but only those events ridden after registration are eligible. SCA SPOCO 2009 Registration forms can be downloaded from <http://www.eastbournerovers.com/links.php> or requested by phone from Ann Human on 01323 485180 or e-mail [ann.human@btinternet.com](mailto:ann.human@btinternet.com)

Many riders enjoy the more exciting terrain of a sporting course and the opportunity to compete against other riders over a series of events, rather than the fastest person on a rare float day on increasingly busy roads. However, it is worth pointing out that the qualifying events at standard distances may also count towards other regional competitions too. So whatever your focus, whether it's the SCA BARs, SCA Championship Points, ESCA BAR. ESCA Points, the SCCU BAR or all of them, you will probably be entering a significant number of SCA SPOCO qualifying events anyway! What have you got to lose?

The 2009 series starts with the GS Stella sporting weekend – if you haven't got your 2009 CTT handbook yet, entry details are as follows:

Sat 31 Jan 2009	18 km	GS/988	£8.00	14:00	GS Stella	Mark Jones, 55 Pulborough Road, Storrington, West Sussex RH20 4HJ, Telephone 01903 741248
Sun 01 Feb 2009	34 km	GS/989	£8.00	10:00	GS Stella	

Ann Human  
On behalf of Sussex Cyclists' Association

**[Note that SCA SPOCO Registration Forms and SCA BAR Claim Forms for the 2009 season are available in pdf format, just E mail me and I can send them to you.](#)**

## SEASONS BAR RESULTS

### EASTBOURNE ROVERS CYCLING CLUB – 2008 BAR

These results are based on the claims received from riders as at 11 November 2008. Please report any errors or omissions to [ann.human@btinternet.com](mailto:ann.human@btinternet.com)



*Club Champion 2008 Peter Moon*

#### *Senior Best All Rounder*

		<b>25m</b>	<b>50m</b>	<b>100m</b>	<b>av mph</b>
<b>1</b>	Peter Moon	0:58:47	1:57:49	4:16:53	24.779
<b>2</b>	Stuart Medhurst	0:57:23	2:09:29	4:26:13	23.949
<b>3</b>	Adam Ford	1:03:09	2:08:39	4:52:11	22.536
<b>4</b>	Tony Murphy	1:04:10	2:22:44	5:01:06	21.441
<b>5</b>	Emma Richards	1:07:50	2:26:39	5:21:56	20.402

#### *Veteran Best All Rounder*

		<b>10m +</b>	<b>25m +</b>	<b>50m +</b>	<b>Agg Plus</b>
<b>1</b>	Harry Featherstone Times	0:08:58 0:24:36	0:23:19 1:02:58	0:46:22 2:11:24	1:18:39
<b>2</b>	Vic Butler Times	0:06:02 0:24:58	0:20:32 0:58:58	0:40:56 2:04:07	1:07:30
<b>3</b>	David Cox Times	0:05:01 0:25:01	0:14:05 1:03:06	0:28:33 2:11:41	0:47:39
<b>4</b>	Peter Moon Times	0:04:15 0:22:39	0:10:46 0:58:47	0:26:34 1:57:49	0:41:35
<b>5</b>	Alan Symonds	0:05:54	0:13:28	0:22:10	0:41:32

	Times	0:26:36	1:09:39	2:30:23	
<b>6</b>	Steve Frame Times	0:03:55 0:21:59	0:07:48 0:59:12	0:19:02 2:00:03	0:30:45
<b>7</b>	Stuart Medhurst Times	0:03:50 0:22:52	0:11:39 0:57:23	0:13:50 2:09:29	0:29:19
<b>8</b>	Andrew Stobbart Times	0:02:42 0:24:12	0:08:33 1:01:00	0:12:21 2:12:02	0:23:36
<b>9</b>	Tony Murphy Times	0:01:50 0:24:28	0:04:21 1:04:10	-0:01:34 2:22:44	0:04:37

#### *Lady Best All Rounder*

		<b>10m</b>	<b>25m</b>	<b>50m</b>	<b>av mph</b>
<b>1</b>	Emma Richards	0:25:52	1:07:50	2:26:39	21.922

#### *Junior Best All Rounder*

		<b>10m</b>	<b>25m</b>	<b>50m</b>	<b>av mph</b>
<b>1</b>	Not awarded	-	-	-	-

#### *Best Eastbourne Rovers results by category this season*

These results for **1st claim members** of Eastbourne Rovers have been collated from the CTT website and information provided by individual members – special thanks to Harry Featherstone, Iain Brogden, Dave Cox and Richard Thomas for their assistance.

Please report any errors or omissions to [ann.human@btinternet.com](mailto:ann.human@btinternet.com)

#### *Fastest Senior on Actual this Season*

Steve Frame	Sat 31 May 2008	SCCU	10	G10/57	0:21:59
Iain Brogden	Sun 31 Aug 2008	VTTA (Kent)	25	Q25/10	0:56:41
Peter Moon	Sun 13 Jul 2008	www.agiskoviner.com	50	H50/8	1:57:49
Peter Moon	Sun 27 Jul 2008	SCCU	100	G100/59	4:16:53
Peter Moon	Sun 10 Aug 2008	KCA	12h	Q12/4	243.497

#### *Fastest Woman on Actual this Season*

Emma Richards	Sat 21 Jun 2008	Horsham Cycling	10	G10/57	0:25:52
Emma Richards	Sun 17 Aug 2008	Eastbourne Rovers	25	G25/89	1:07:50
Emma Richards	Sun 15 Jun 2008	ESCA	50	G50/89	2:26:39
Emma Richards	Sun 06 Jul 2008	ESCA	100	G100/86e	5:21:56

#### *Fastest Veteran on Actual this Season*

Steve Frame	Sat 31 May 2008	SCCU	10	G10/57	0:21:59
Stuart Medhurst	Sat 14 Jun 2008	Farnham RC	25	H25/8	0:57:23

Peter Moon	Sun 13 Jul 2008	www.agiskoviner.com	50	H50/8	1:57:49
Peter Moon	Sun 27 Jul 2008	SCCU	100	G100/59	4:16:53
Peter Moon	Sun 10 Aug 2008	KCA	12h	Q12/4	243.497

***Highest Veteran Plus on Standard this Season***

Harry Featherstone	Sat 03 May 2008	SCA	10	G10/97	0:08:58
Harry Featherstone	Sun 19 Oct 2008	Hillingdon CC	25	H25/2	0:23:19
Harry Featherstone	Sun 27 Jul 2008	Bognor Regis CC	50	P901/50	0:46:22
Peter Moon	Sun 27 Jul 2008	SCCU	100	G100/59	0:52:58
Peter Moon	Sun 10 Aug 2008	KCA	12h	Q12/4	30.047

***Best Eastbourne Rovers team results by category this season***

***Fastest Team of 3 on Actual this Season***

Steve Frame Stuart Medhurst Peter Moon	Sat 31 May 2008	SCCU	10	G10/57	1:07:52
Tom Rossetter Iain Brogden Peter Moon	Sun 01 Jun 2008	South Eastern RC	25	G25/53	2:56:46
Iain Brogden Steve Frame Peter Moon	Sun 15 Jun 2008	ESCA	50	G50/89	6:09:58
Peter Moon Adam Ford Tony Murphy	Sun 06 Jul 2008	ESCA	100	G100/86e	14:11:36

***Fastest Veteran Team of 3 on Actual this Season***

Steve Frame Stuart Medhurst Peter Moon	Sat 31 May 2008	SCCU	10	G10/57	1:07:52
Stuart Medhurst Andrew Stobbart David Cox	Sat 14 Jun 2008	Farnham RC	25	H25/8	3:01:29
Steve Frame Peter Moon Harry Featherstone	Sun 29 Jun 2008	SCCU	50	G50/53	6:13:57

***Highest Veteran Plus on Standard Team of 3 this Season***

Harry Featherstone David Cox Peter Moon	Thu 19 Jun 2008	Bognor Regis CC	10	P901	0:18:04
Harry Featherstone Vic Butler Alan Symonds	Sun 21 Sep 2008	VTTA (Surrey/Sussex)	25	G25/89	0:52:00
Harry Featherstone Vic Butler Peter Moon	Sun 15 Jun 2008	ESCA	50	G50/89	1:36:26

## East Sussex Cycling Association 2008 BAR

<b>Senior BAR</b>			<b>25 m</b>	<b>50 m</b>	<b>100 m</b>	<b>Av mph</b>
1	<b>Peter MOON</b>	<b>Eastbourne Rovers</b>	0:59:22	2:03:32	4:18:19	24.260
2	Andy COX	Lewes Wanderers	1:00:04	2:05:47	4:36:49	23.499
3	Geoff SMITH	VC Etoile	1:01:01	2:07:38	4:29:07	23.461
4	Anthony REEVES	GS Stella	0:59:06	2:07:41	4:47:27	23.250
5	Peter BAKER	Lewes Wanderers	1:01:06	2:05:41	4:43:51	23.186
6	David EARL	Hastings & St L CC	1:00:47	2:08:29	4:43:06	23.074
7	Dan HENCHY	Hastings & St L CC	0:59:51	2:08:04	5:12:17	22.567
8	<b>Tony MURPHY</b>	<b>Eastbourne Rovers</b>	1:06:49	2:22:44	5:01:06	21.132
9	<b>Emma RICHARDS</b>	<b>Eastbourne Rovers</b>	1:09:10	2:26:39	5:21:56	20.260
10	Simon YATES	Lewes Wanderers	1:14:09	2:35:22	5:46:39	18.949
11	Chris PARKER	Hastings & St L CC	1:13:44	2:36:45	5:54:47	18.798

<b>Senior BAR Team</b>						<b>Av mph</b>
1	<b>Eastbourne Rovers</b>	<b>Peter MOON, Tony MURPHY &amp; Emma RICHARDS</b>				21.884
2	Lewes Wanderers	Andy COX, Peter BAKER & Simon YATES				21.878
3	Hastings & St L CC	David EARL, Dan HENCHY & Chris PARKER				21.480

<b>Women Senior BAR</b>			<b>10 m</b>	<b>25 m</b>	<b>50 m</b>	<b>Av mph</b>
1	<b>Emma RICHARDS</b>	<b>Eastbourne Rovers</b>	0:26:44	1:09:10	2:26:39	21.529
2	Debbie EVERS	Lewes Wanderers	0:28:36	1:12:38	2:31:58	20.457

<b>Veteran BAR</b>			<b>25 m +</b>	<b>50 m +</b>	<b>100 m +</b>	<b>Av +mph</b>
1	Geoff SMITH	VC Etoile	0:14:14	0:27:54	1:07:10	4.429
2	<b>Peter MOON</b>	<b>Eastbourne Rovers</b>	0:10:11	0:20:51	0:51:32	3.690
3	Peter BAKER	Lewes Wanderers	0:10:01	0:21:57	0:32:58	3.069
4	David EARL	Hastings & St L CC	0:05:13	0:08:32	0:10:56	1.398
5	<b>Tony MURPHY</b>	<b>Eastbourne Rovers</b>	0:01:42	-0:01:34	0:04:09	0.198
6	Simon YATES	Lewes Wanderers	0:00:13	-0:00:59	-0:15:21	-0.289
7	Chris PARKER	Hastings & St L CC	-0:01:33	-0:06:54	-0:33:12	-1.021

<b>Woman Veteran BAR</b>			<b>10 m +</b>	<b>25 m +</b>	<b>50 m +</b>	<b>Av +mph</b>
1	Debbie EVERS	Lewes Wanderers	0:00:16	0:01:44	0:02:25	0.328

<b>Junior BAR</b>			<b>10 m</b>	<b>25 m</b>	<b>Av mph</b>
1	Elliot TABRAHAM-DOWERS	Hastings & St L CC	0:26:45	1:09:31	22.004

### **ESCA Individual Points for Eastbourne Rovers CC**

Club	Rider	Gender	Age Cat	No. Entered	DNF DNS DNQ	No. Finished	Individual Points
Eastbourne Rovers	Iain BROGDEN	M	S	7	0	7	84
	Peter MOON	M	V	7	1	6	58
	Steve FRAME	M	V	4	1	3	47
	Adam FORD	M	S	7	0	7	23
	Tom ROSSETTER	M	S	5	2	3	18
	Tony MURPHY	M	V	4	0	4	11
	Emma RICHARDS	W	S	4	0	4	8
	Vic BUTLER	M	V	4	2	2	6
Stuart DAVIS	M	S	2	1	1	2	

## Town welcomes family of legendary inventor

by Steve Richards



THE people of Dursley have been thanked for the warm welcome they gave descendants of inventor Mikael Pedersen last weekend.

Dursley Heritage Centre hosted an exhibition of photographs and Pedersen bicycles on Saturday to mark the 150th anniversary of the birth of the Danish inventor who set up shop in the town in 1890.

A total of 15 relatives came across from Denmark to view the exhibition and lay wreaths at Pedersen's grave in Dursley cemetery.

Cath Pierce, chairman of the Dursley Heritage Centre committee, said the day was a great success.

She told the Gazette: "The weather was very kind to us. There was a lot of interest from cyclists around the country - lots of examples of Pedersen cycles turned up.

"The centre was able to stay open longer than usual attracting a lot of interest from local people and visitors to the town."

Mrs Pierce said relatives of the inventor who had travelled to mark Pedersen's anniversary had all commented on what a welcoming reception they had received from Dursley people.

She said: "It is a credit to the town."

When Pedersen came to Dursley in 1890 he brought with him plans for a new style of bicycle later to become known as the Dursley Pedersen.

Pedersen's engineering inventiveness stretched far beyond bicycles and included designs for gears, musical instruments, engineering machinery, toys and early motorcycles.

Pedersen established close connections with Dursley-based engineering company RA Lister Petter. The company later manufactured one of Pedersen's designs for a cream separator, the Alexandra, giving it world-wide success.

Dursley Heritage Centre will be keeping the Mikael Pedersen exhibition open for two more weeks for visitors to see.



**Nick Clayton, Editor of Boneshaker Magazine with his 1903 Pedersen Track bike GSR962V05**



**Members of the Pedersen family form Denmark who were in Dursley on Saturday to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Mikaal Pedersens birth GSR963H05**



**One of Pedersen's bikes outside Dursley Town Hall on Saturday GSR964H05**

# AUDAX NEWS

*From Richard Thomas*

*MINCE PIE AND STOLLEN 100KM 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2008*

The day was very cold and ice was prevalent, as was the mist along the Heathfield to Etchingham ridge. However, eight of us assembled at Hailsham Leisure Centre Car Park for the 8:30am start, Alan Symonds was also there as a DNS, as he and Julian Sykes (also a DNS) had fallen off on the ice the previous Wednesday, Alan damaging his shoulder. Rob Rickson was also a DNS due to a chest infection.

So at the appointed start time of 8:30am the eight of us, Peter Moon, Kevin Burton, Stuart Medhurst, Clive Richardson, Adam Ford, Andy Stobbart, Dave Cox and I set off through Hailsham and up to Horam via Grove Hill. We then proceeded in an orderly fashion (or longish line if you prefer) towards Waldron and on towards Cross in Hand, and the main road, before turning left down Sheepsetting Lane.

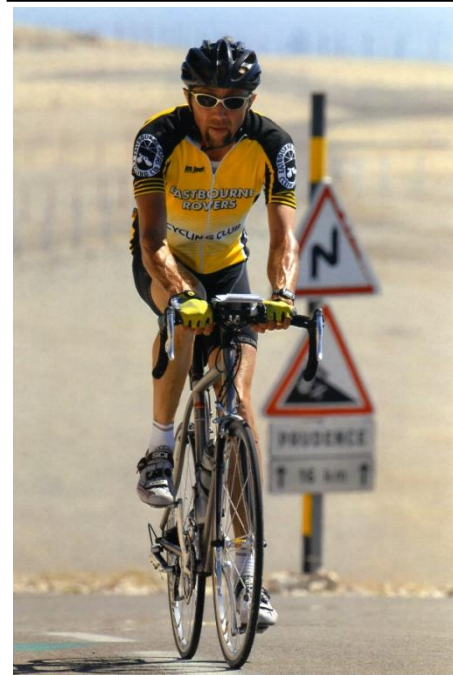
Near the bottom of the hill disaster struck as Andy's bike slipped sideways in an instant on black ice and dumped Andy onto the road very hard. He was in serious trouble, being unable to move without significant pain. We phoned for an ambulance and for medical assistance. Fortunately other riders slowed down and stopped to enquire and we let them go on as we were staying with Andy. Someone gave Andy a survival blanket and this was very welcome as it was very cold and Andy was sitting on the cold road. Peter was using his leg to hold Andy support his back. After 30 minutes a paramedic arrived and gave first aid assistance and something for Andy to breath in to ease the pain. Adam Ford's wife and family came out to pick up Andy's bike before the ambulance arrived. The ambulance finally arrived about one hour after the accident. The diagnosis was that Andy had probably broken his hip.

Having seen Andy safely into the ambulance we set off again, taking it easy on the turn into Riverside which was still icy, as was its junction with Nursery Lane, where we had to stop at an information to answer the question on the Brevet Card (what is the time of the weekday postal collection on the post box at the junction). These information controls are put by the organizer of the event to prevent short cuts, as in this case we could have gone straight up the main road. The route verification team at Audax UK require it to authorize the event and ensure that it is at least the distance claimed ie equal to or more than 100km in this case.

As we had spent some time with Andy we had to press on to get to the control at Broad Oak before it closed at 12:21. We had 32km to do and about 90 minutes to do it. Sounds easy but .... Anyway the main road stretch down to Etchingham from Heathfield enabled us to make good headway before turning down Oxenbridge Lane and into the short sharp climbs before Robertsbridge. Things got a bit strung out here so we regrouped after the left turn just outside Robertsbridge. We were soon through the environs of the village and into Poppinghole Lane, a nice undulating affair about 4km in length bringing us to the B2089 and onto Cripps Corner. Another regrouping allowed the stragglers (strugglers!) to catch up as we lined out



*Your Editor departing Holland on Sea, Essex for Colindale, North West London 80 miles away, mostly on the A12! April 1964. Dig those socks!*



*Your Editor 44 ½ years later, September 2008 at the top of Mt Ventoux, on 109km Mt Ventoux Audax. Life's a lot more colourful these days.*

on our way to the Control in the lay by 3 km beyond Broad Oak on the B road. Arriving at the control at 11:55, where Dave was ably helped by Sabine Williams and Chris Tracy, gave us plenty of time for Mince Pies and Stollen Cake all round. Surprisingly there were still some riders there, I thought all would be long gone. Tim Wainwright the Audax "Arrivee" magazine Editor was there snapping away with his camera, any of us I wonder, will look in the next edition of Arrivee. Tim asked me where we had been as I am usually well up the field of riders in an Audax event (a likely story, I thought to myself!) and I explained about Andy's accident.

The "Magnificent Seven" got going after a short stop as we were getting cold. We soon passed the tail enders as we sped along the main road before turning down Float Lane. I wondered whether this was a magical time trial course by virtue of its name but nothing could have been further from the truth. It was narrow twisty and very muddy, glad for the mudguards on my bike but not the spray from others in the group, spotted Dick anyone!

We soon reached Winchelsea Beach and the run along the road adjacent to the sea wall was fast (for me anyway) and onwards to the dreaded climb out of Pett up to Fairlight. Stuart and Adam went on ahead on the climb as I dumped the chain onto the granny ring and others struggled on their 42 rings. The strange thing was that we thought it flattened out where the lane used on Mad Jack's joins the main road yet when on Mad Jack's it seems to go up hill. Such is the steepness of the lower slopes of this climb!

We regrouped at the summit, in the mist, and then descended to Fairlight Avenue where I picked up an unmentionable. I hung my bike on the gate at the corner of the Avenue and changed the tube so we were off in about 10 minutes. The run into Hastings took us through the Old Town and along the sea front where we became embroiled in the Hastings marathon, which Tony and Emma did although we did not see them.

As we went through Cooden we had to ride through the turn control of the Marathon. Apparently, reports Dave Hudson, a couple of tail end riders were offered drinks here by the Marshalls as they looked the worse for wear.

An uneventful ride along the coast road (Cycle Route 2) after Cooden Beach had us lined out again and I went to the front (for about 50 metres before hitting my own personal wall) then crossing the Pevensy Bypass and into the road to Rickney before arriving in Hailsham at about 2:50pm, a total time of 5hrs 20 mins. We had a riding time of 4hrs 24 minutes for the 108.5km, 24.6km/hr average riding speed.

After a coffee I left to ride back down the Cuckoo Trail to home. Another ride completed, my 169<sup>th</sup> Audax event. I have now ridden over 30,000 miles in Audax events, with no DNF's.

## OFF THE BACK

I thought I would just cheer us all up by including a photo of the victorious Lewes Wanderers Team after the ESCA Reliability Trial this year. Although there are 22 riders in the photo, I am advised by Ian Landless (3<sup>rd</sup> from left in front row) that Mick Kilby (2<sup>nd</sup> row immediately behind Ian, to the right of “Lotto” man) only did the first half of the ride.

Picture and words below are courtesy of the Lewes Wanderers website;

Below is a photo of 22 Wanderers taken after the ESCA Reliability Trial on 23rd November 2008. The club won the competition with 22 counters out of the 39 riders who had entered the event. On a truly horrendous day that started with snow, ice, cold and wind, with the snow being replaced by torrential rain, the Wanderer's challengers were decimated, with just 15 riders from other clubs completing qualifying rides. For a full report see our December (224) 2008 mag.



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*Please continue to support Adam at your local bike shop. He's ready and waiting to tune up your bike so you can go even faster as the season progresses!*

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The Newsletter will be out **in mid February 2009. Please send in lots of articles.**

The success of the newsletter depends on you. Closing date for articles for next issue is **10<sup>th</sup> February 2009.**

Please contribute something for members to read and enjoy!

My contact details are:

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**Richard T.**