



Issue No 29 –February 2010

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The Official Newsletter of the Eastbourne Rovers Cycling Club

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<b>URGENT/VERY IMPORTANT</b> from Iain Brodgen <b>Eastbourne Sports &amp; Activities Show</b>	
I am talking with Clive Copeland about a joint ERCC/British Cycling stand at next week's Eastbourne Sports & Activities Show. This is very last minute as we only learned about it from the organiser last week, but is potentially very good promotion for the club. Please spread the word to everyone you know! There will be mountain bike racing for kids and adults and WattBike racing. <b>See attached pdf dc.</b>	
<a href="http://www.eastbournerovers.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=9&amp;t=94&amp;p=177#p177">http://www.eastbournerovers.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=9&amp;t=94&amp;p=177#p177</a>	

## EDITORIAL

The weather continues to be a challenge. However our intrepid riders did participate in the 1066 Audax and Lewes Wanderers Reliability Trial.

There is a tribute to Stan Nash, from Gavin Smith, and an insight into Club life in the 1950's via a letter to Graham Lade penned in 1992.

Tony Murphy succeeded in getting a Report of the Dinner into the Herald.

I have included the provisional results from the early season 10 mile TT held on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February in far from ideal conditions, well done to all who braved the elements, both riders and helpers (some pics next month). The "25" last Sunday (28<sup>th</sup> Feb.) was cancelled due to the weather, being heavy rain and wind, 3 turned up! Iain has reported on the Hillingdon Winter Circuit races

For the technically minded Iain has done a piece on the updates to the Website.

Courtesy of Alan Symonds, there are some photos of both the SCA and VTТА (Surrey & Sussex) Prize presentations

Alan Symonds is looking at updating our rollers so we can promote roller racing during the winter months next year.

Although I was unable to attend the last Committee meeting due to my continued "unwellness" an item of good news is that the Club has been chosen by British Cycling (BC) to be the local feeder club for their Juniors. I hope we can make a success of it if it comes off.

Richard

### Useful Contact Info:

**Brian Holt:** Secretary : 01323 520646 / 07767 666393  
**Graham Lade:** Chairman: 01323 509408  
**Peter Moon:** Treasurer and Club Kit: 01323 485180  
**Harry Featherstone:** Time Trials Secretary - 01323 841034  
**Iain Brogden** Road Race Secretary 01323 520590  
**Dave Cox:** Club Captain, Evening Time Trial Series and Sunday Rides - 01323 507916  
**Tony Murphy** Press Secretary: 01323 410376

### 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.

**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.

### CLUB NEWS

#### EULOGY FOR STAN NASH by Gavin Smith

I met Stan in 1977 when I moved from London and joined Eastbourne Rovers Cycling Club. He at once made me feel welcome and we shared cycling, table-tennis, snooker, crosswords and Scrabble – and he introduced me to the delights of Indian food! Our age difference of 27 years made no difference to our friendship.

Born in 1925, Stan had a traditional upbringing in a loving family in Eastbourne where he lived all his life. He was a very caring son and brother. Stan and his brother Sid were fondly devoted to each other, living together until – alas - Sid died in 2004. Stan often mentioned how much he missed his brother.

Stan’s working life was travel-related, with jobs on the railways at Eastbourne, Redhill and Hellingly, before he worked as a van-driver for various companies.

Stan was quiet, modest, friendly, young-at-heart and genuine. He was also truly happy – he could often be heard humming one of his favourite tunes to himself.

He was a man of simple pleasures, who enjoyed Nature, the Downs and cycling holidays. He loved travelling: he went on two round-the-world trips and most of his holidays were to sunny places.

Indeed, one of Stan’s favourite pastimes was sun-bathing. If the weather was sunny, Stan was contented. You could always spot Stan in a group of cyclists. In cold weather, he was the only one wearing shorts. And in warm weather, he was the one wearing the shortest shorts!

And it was as a cyclist that many of us will remember Stan. He had the honour of being elected a fellow of the Kent & Sussex Fellowship. He was a devoted member of East Sussex Cycling Association, and a Life Member of Eastbourne Rovers Cycling Club, which he joined in 1948.

At one time or another, Stan took nearly every committee post in the Rovers. He promoted several time-trials, most notably the Golden Jubilee “50” in 1954, and he resurrected the club’s Open “25” in the 1960s, which is still a very successful annual event.

He also organised Sunday clubruns, which were notorious. This job involved drawing up – well in advance – the list of destinations for each weekend, then ensuring that the ride took place. If a destination was on the runs-list, the Club had to get there!!!

Stan told me about one particular Sunday. He woke up to find the rain pouring down, and the clubrun destination was Canterbury, a round-trip of 130 miles. Stan thought: “Surely no-one will turn up for the clubrun today?”, but he dutifully cycled to the meeting-point just in case, and was relieved to find no-one there. Just as Stan was about to leave the meeting-point and go straight home, one club member turned up. Without a word between the two of them, they duly set off for Canterbury as the rain thundered down. They reached Canterbury and cycled back to Eastbourne, with no let-up from the rain. Then, as they parted company, Stan’s clubmate said to him: “This morning, when I rode to the meeting-point, I really hoped no-one would be there, so I could go straight home!”

On another Sunday, the destination was “Hampton Court”, another pleasant ride of some 130 miles, except that this was in the depths of winter, with snow falling as the riders came back, arriving home completely frozen. At least two people here today were with Stan on that ride. Fond memories!

But Stan wasn’t just an organiser, he was also a prolific competitor. Possibly his best ride came in a 24-hour time-trial in 1954. For those of you who are unfamiliar with such things, this involved starting around noon on the Saturday and riding alone virtually non-stop for 24 hours, cycling as far as you could. Stan notched up a fantastic total of 417 miles – and this was in the days before tri-bars and lightweight equipment.

Maybe Stan wasn’t a *champion* cyclist, but he had a champion brain, and he was the inventor of “index-linked personal bests”. The idea is that your own PB is compared with the national record at the time you did yours, then mathematically updated each time the record is improved. The 24-hour record has increased by 12% since Stan’s ride, so his new “index-linked” PB has magically improved to 467 miles. And, believe it or not, this mileage would have put him in 5<sup>th</sup> place in last year’s national championship. Well done, Stan!

Stan had a nice sense of humour and was never afraid to laugh at his own misfortunes. With a giggle, he would tell this true story. About 10 years ago, when he was cycling in the town centre, a gigantic sneeze overcame him and his dentures fell out on to the road. He braked to a halt, only to turn round and witness a sea-gull diving to pick up his dentures and take them away, never to be seen again!

Stan was very appreciative of people’s constant kindness. He was touched by the great care and attention he was given by his nurse over several years, and the thoughtfulness and kindness of his immediate neighbours on both sides.

Stan loved cricket. It would therefore be suitable to say that he had a long and enjoyable innings, reaching a score of 84 before being bowled out by a sudden, untimely delivery.

Finally, it is certainly true that Stan had a large number of very close friends, of whom he always spoke highly, and who were so important to him.

And to all of us, Stan himself was a truly wonderful friend. We shall all miss him greatly.

**Stan Nash's reminiscencies of Club life in the early fifties, as written to Graham Lade in 1992**

18, Harding Avenue  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN22 8PJ.  
2 Jan. 1992

Dear Graham,

Thanks for the card and a Happy New Year to you, the family and the Club. In response to your letter, enclosed herewith a few reminiscences of club life in the early fifties.

\* \* \* \* \*

My introduction into club life came in 1948, when, a year after “demob” I acquired a Dawes in “531” – (wow!) – plucked up courage, and presented myself at a CTC “teaplace” – (the “Cricketers” at Hawkhurst). Here we were joined by a group of gaudily dressed gentlemen – (they kept talking about something called “The League”). On the way home they appeared to find the pace too slow, suddenly accelerated, and I was ill-advised enough to join them. Hence I soon found the meaning of “suffering” – (well, 79 fixed on the hills around Battle is a bit much!) – and soon rapidly disappearing tail-lights were all that could be seen!

In spite of this cruel initiation I decided that I liked it, joined the Rovers, enjoyed a winter of club runs, and rode my first time trial, the Novices’ “10”, in Spring 1949. Some of the club courses started at Polegate in those days but the ESCA courses were centred on Magham Down with the Rosemary Café nearby as a venue for tea and gossip afterwards. The Club supported the SCA events based at Shoreham, and most people rode over on Saturday afternoon and stayed at Mrs. Took’s. After a late supper and a pint or two the nights were hilarious, without much sleep, and people were rising from 4 a.m. onwards to raid the larder for a pre-race snack! After the race came “second breakfast”, after which we were joined by the rest of the Club who had ridden over from Eastbourne, and everyone started out on the day’s clubrun.

Other popular racing centres were Chichester, where we used to stay at the Hollandia, and the Crawley area, though the name of the digs here escapes me. An annual blind in the 50’s was up to the Bath Road “100” west of Reading. We rarely had anyone qualified to ride but the atmosphere was great. Competition between clubs for barns for sleeping quarters was intense, but everyone was up by 6.0 to see the “heads” depart – Booty’s first sub 4-hour “hundred” was the climax for me! Another “annual” was the Southern Counties’ Good Friday track meeting at Herne Hill. This was a straightforward bash up the A22, standing freezing at the trackside for several hours, then a homeward grind in darkness, facing the glare of homegoing headlights and usually contending with a bunch of Uckfield “animals” intent on getting fit at our expense! However it was worth it, even if only for the memory of having seen Harris and Van Vliet at the peak of their careers!

The event of 1954 was the Jubilee “50” to mark the Club’s 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. The event was over the earliest course of which the Club had records, going from Polegate via Hailsham, twice over Cross-in-Hand, and back again via Hailsham. All finishers got certificates but the crown was won by Johnny Dutson, then of Uckfield, who turned in a 2-7 on a fixed wheel, an incredible ride considering the terrain. Certain riders, who shall be nameless, were observed walking Cross-in-Hand second time up!

Regular winter clubruns were a feature of those days and for some reason gained the reputation for being somewhat arduous. Distances often exceeded 100 miles but as leader I tried to keep speeds within bounds, and the reappearance of familiar faces week after week proved they couldn’t have been too bad! There was no shortage of suitable teaplaces in those days – usually pre-booked – and of these Buxted, Waldron, Hawkhurst, Whatlington, Dial Post, “Thelma’s” at Boreham Street, Dragon’s Green and Netherfield all spring to mind. All these places provided tables groaning with all kinds of goodies, together with unlimited supplies of tea, usually about 2/6 – (12.5p) – per head! Other places were the Gay Bowers at Mark Cross, the Elizabethan at Heathfield, the “Greek’s Café” at Shoreham, the Polar Bear at Lewes and the Terminus Café at Hailsham.

The last-named saw some dramatic arrivals before the one-way system was instituted; it was approachable down North Street with a halt-sign immediately opposite, so of course we always used the halt-sign as the prime point! Who said cyclists were mad!

The ultimate in day-runs came when the Brighton Excelsior promoted its 200-in-6 Reliability Trial in February one year. This started from Brighton at 4 a.m., the course going via Petersfield, (breakfast stop), Winchester, Salisbury (lunch), Bournemouth, Portchester (tea), with arrival back in Brighton at 8 p.m. All we had to do then was ride home! If my memory serves me right five out of an entry from the Club of eight left Horace's at 2 a.m., three successfully completed the course and arrived home at 10 p.m., having completed a 250 in 20. For the record I seem to remember us being joined by one Dave Marsh, the fast man of his day, near Lewes, and he accompanied us as far as Petersfield. Presumably he had nothing else to do at 3.0 in the morning! The following year, I remember, a group from the Club entered again, but I developed a cold and cried off. As it turned out this was just as well as the event was called off due to snow half way round, the surviving stalwarts being conveyed home from near Southampton by sag wagon.

Characters of the 50's are numerous. I remember in my first "12" being caught and dropped by Tommy McAll, the Club BAR of the day, khaki shorts flapping in the breeze, bike all over the road, but on his way to beating me by twenty miles or so. And the first ESCA "25" I ever saw, ex-Club Secretary and Sussex Pursuit Champion, screaming in, covered in spume, to win the event with a 1-6! There was Pam Wickham, my first "minute-man" – well, she was "one of the boys" in those days – since to bear the illustrious names of Stokes and Dutson. And Harry Griffiths, a hard worker on committees and a real "grinder" on the road, with whom I had many a hard battle. Timekeepers of the period included Tommy Russell, Vic Cusdin, Edgar Battye and Ted Godden, all of whom could always be relied on to turn out any time, day or night, whatever the weather.

On the social side the Club had various venues. Clubrooms from time to time were at The Red House, Beamsley Road, downstairs at the British Legion, Langney Community Centre, St. Elizabeth's Church Hall and Stone Cross Village Hall – (twice). St. Elizabeth's was noted for a while for cricket out the back in the summer and rucker games of extreme violence in the winter from which members emerged more than once with cracked ribs! Violence was also in order at The Red House, where Bill Collins used to promote a game called, I believe, hi-cockalorum. In this members were invited to leap on the back of a bent-over victim during which time Bill recited some magic formula. If the heap did not collapse this proved something, quite what I don't know, unless Bill was trying to prove the theory of Natural Selection, or the survival of the fittest! More demure was our first stay at Stone Cross, which featured a full-size billiards table. On at least one occasion its lure caused Harry Heather and myself to remain behind "after hours", resulting in us being surprised by a visit from the local constabulary – well, I suppose it was 12.30 a.m.! For a long time Demarco's Café, (alas now no more), in Seaside was a popular meeting spot in the evenings and there used to be some hair-raising tear-ups thither from St. Elizabeth's after clubnight. Horace's cycle shop – (Heath's in Cavendish Place) – was the daytime venue and many times poor Horace had to fight his way across his own workshop through a dozen or so clubmates chewing over the prospects for the next weekend's racing!

Christmas Day was always the time for a "fun" event, usually a "10", when fancy dress and general eccentricity were encouraged. Father Christmas competed often and Arthur Cheshire would parade up and down on his boneshaker. One year we had a "25" in gorgeous weather and I rode an enormous policeman's bike of considerable antiquity and unbelievable dimensions. The fastest time I believe went to Denzil de Grey unashamedly taking pace the whole of the way round, and the rest of the prizes went into a hat. A stop for wine at the turn was compulsory! On another occasion when the Athletic Section had re-emerged the event was a Cyclists v. Harriers cross-country at Butts Brown. It was won, if I remember right, by a cyclist on foot!

\* \* \* \* \*

I have many start and result sheets of the early 50's and also an almost complete set of "Bonks" which you are welcome to borrow if you wish. However I imagine you will already have access to these. Afraid I haven't got much memorabilia and the photos are mostly of myself, which is rather boring – some

of the groups might be of more interest! If you want me to elaborate on any aspect I have mentioned I shall be pleased to do so.

With best wishes,  
Yours sincerely,  
Stan

## **WEBSITE UPDATE**

*From Iain Brogden*

The website now includes the very latest cycling news on the home page, road racing page, photos and videos and club TT fixtures for 2010. Anyone who would like a login on the **website forum** to post messages just needs to email me at [iain@ciscom.co.uk](mailto:iain@ciscom.co.uk). Keep your eye on the forum for latest information from all active members. LWCC copied our forum but theirs is much more active. We cannot allow LWCC to be better than ERCC at anything, so please use the forum regularly to post any cycling related info, advice, training tips and tell everyone what you are up to.

The following have been added/updated on the website:

Home Page: [www.eastbournerovers.com](http://www.eastbournerovers.com)

Updated and shows latest news + latest forum posts

Time Trials: <http://www.eastbournerovers.com/TT-Results.php>

- 2010 Club TT fixtures, SPOCO and more.

- The Club TT results will be posted here straight after each race (subject to post-race condition!)

- Once we add the Twitter feed (see below), open race results will be posted straight from the HQ

Photos & Videos: <http://www.eastbournerovers.com/gallery.php>

- SCA Dinner

- Videos

Results & Riders: <http://www.eastbournerovers.com/riders.php>

- 2009 Competition Results

Twitter

Yes, ERCC is on Twitter. Use @eastbournerover to send tweets. Follow eastbournerover on Twitter. We can tweet race results straight from HQ.

Editors note

If anyone is unclear about this, Iain suggests that you go to [www.twitter.com/eastbournerover](http://www.twitter.com/eastbournerover)

## **RELIABILITY TRIALS**

### **Lewes Wanderers Reliabilty Trial report from Kevin Burton via the Club's Forum**

Reports of Iain Brogden's attendance cannot be confirmed apart from various alleged sightings around the 55 mile course (see below for Iain's story)- the event was completed by Adam Ford and Kevin Burton, who reports as follows "finished in well under 4 hours ( 4 .15 time limit ) in perfect weather conditions for January - last eight miles from Plumpton turned into the usual road race - Adam and I finished in the top three - even better was seeing the faster group riding past us earlier lead by Felix English..... oh dear they looked like they were trying to hard ,.....not enjoyable".

Iain's story "I arrived late after cycling to HQ from Eastbourne and during my chase to catch the others I went off course. Not knowing the rest of the route I just rode hard for 50 miles and then went back to HQ for some cake and rode home. Quality miles but I don't think I rode much of the course! "

### **Hell of the Ashdown**

Iain did not ride Hell of the Ashdown. Iain says it was actually a blessing in disguise as he was supposed to be riding it with Rob and Nick from LWCC and they both reported the icy conditions as treacherous and neither enjoyed the experience.

Imperial Racing Team run races at the Hillingdon circuit every Saturday through the winter:  
5/12/09 to 13/02/10.

Races are categorised as follows:

E123 - 60 mins + 5 laps

3rd Cat - 50 mins + 5 laps

4th Cat - 40 mins + 5 laps.

The 4th Cat race goes off 40 seconds after the 3rd Cats. The first race on Sat 5th December was well attended and as a result the circuit was packed making for tight racing. A number of Lewes Wanderers were racing on Sat 5th, and yours truly in 4th Cat debut

### **Imperial Winter Series 2009/10 - Results 5th Dec 09**

#### **RACE 1 - 48 4th Cat Riders**

This first race in the series was very well attended and with a large number of riders packed onto the circuit, a crash occurred on the 1st lap. I had started near the back and so I moved up through the bunch thinking that it would be safer at the front. Unfortunately a 2nd crash occurred in front of me as I was mid-way through. After locking up the rear wheel I scrubbed off enough speed to hop over one of the fallen rider's front wheel, onto the grass and then back onto the track. I rejoined the main bunch and spent the next 40 mins riding around off the back to avoid any further mid-bunch crashes. Fortunately there was no further trouble and when the bell went for 5 laps I moved to the front and broke away. Although someone shouted 'break' I already had too much momentum for anyone to get on my wheel and I was on my own for 1/2 a lap until I caught an earlier break-away bunch of 5 or 6 riders. They had no idea I was there so I rode on past but not with enough power and they jumped on my wheel. We rode together to the finish straight at which point the bunch were not far behind. We started the sprint but we caught the back of the 3rd Cat bunch before the finish line and so our progress was impeded. As a result I didn't manage to get out of the saddle to sprint properly. Probably being too cautious I sat up to avoid contacting the back of the 3rd Cats and this did result in losing some positions.

#### **4th CAT** Results

1st 67 P. Radomski Gregarios

2nd 11 Robert Reid London Dynamo

3rd 54 Alex Pantelides Twickenham CC

**4th 59 Iain Brogden Eastbourne Rovers**

5th 38 David Webborn London Dynamo

6th 32 James Mickelburgh London Dynamo

7th 5 Andy Nash London Pheonix

8th 24 Chris Grange Hemel Hempstead

9th 52 Jacek Reder Private member

10th 3 Jon Sinclair Cycling Club Ashwell (CCA)

Final result 4th which gives me a handy 6 points toward my 3rd Cat. You can see the full results including other local riders here:

[http://www.imperialracingteam.com/imper ... s0910.html](http://www.imperialracingteam.com/imper...s0910.html)

and LWCC write up here: [http://www.leweswandererscc.co.uk/forum ... 1299#p1299](http://www.leweswandererscc.co.uk/forum...1299#p1299)

## Imperial Winter Series 2009/10 - Results 12th Dec 09

### RACE 2 - 57 4th Cat Riders

I tried the train this week as the car journey is right round the M25 to M4. Train from Polegate to Victoria then a nice ride up Kensington High Street past Harrods and Harvey Nicks, Holland Park then up the Uxbridge Rd. About 15 miles so a good warm-up. Lots of riders again this week but the commissaire told the 3rd Cats to get the hammer down so the 4ths don't catch them again. No incidents apart from one chap who went straight on at the end of the back straight. I don't know what caused him to go off the circuit but it's about 28-30mph where he went onto the grass and I just saw him engaged in human powered flight having hit a grassy bank. On the next lap he was walking back to HQ unhurt. Must have been a soft landing.

After 30+ minutes riding in the bunch I went off the front and created a large gap. Nobody came with me (a team mate would be nice but now I'm really dreaming) and on my first pass of the start/finish line the bell went for 3 laps so I went for it. After 2 laps (2 miles) on my own I was doing OK but when I passed the board for 1 lap to go I was feeling it in the legs. Then my legs blew altogether. I really don't know why the sudden blow-up because my pace was no harder than a 10m TT so I should have been able to hold it for the final lap. I don't have any cyclist's excuses like man flu, or the wrong colour socks. My riding just sucked. The peleton caught me at the end of the back straight and I had nothing left as the others began to sprint so I was overhauled by 1/3 of the peleton. Ah well, at least I had a crack at it and there is always next week.

### Results

- 1st 85 Alex Pantelides Twickenham CC
- 2nd 106 Dan Maslin Hillingdon Slipstreamers
- 3rd 30 Richard Pryer private member
- 4th 47 Simon North Hemel Hempstead CC/TORQ
- 5th 29 Timothy Hector Cycle Club Ashwell (CCA)
- 6th 38 David Webborn London Dynamo CC
- 7th 69 Thomas Bell Twickenham CC
- 8th 87 Ben Smith Welwyn Wheelers
- 9th 98 Jonathan Moore Kingston Wheelers
- 10th 94 Stuart Lockyear London Phoenix
- 11th 42 Stephen Thompson Wyndy Milla
- 12th 32 James Mickelburgh London Dynamo
- 13th 17 Robert Luetchford
- 14th 77 Josh Maynard Welwyn Wheelers
- 15th 13 Richard Gearing London Dynamo
- 16th 53 stuart kistruck
- 17th 33 Marcelo Brodzinski Kingston Wheelers
- 18th 95 Phil Adams CC Ashwell
- 19th 24 Chris Grange Hemel Hempstead
- 20th 59 Iain Brogden Eastbourne Rovers**

From the Lewes Wanderers CC website:, another view of events By Martin P

A large turnout for the first of the Imperial winter series, would estimate around 30 for the 3rd's and nearer 50 for the 4ths, so busy that the start was delayed due to the long signing on queue.

The course was reasonably flat with a few slight rises and a stiff wind on the back straight, weather was pretty chilly.

The 3rd's were set off first followed by the 4th's a couple of mins later. It wasn't too long before the 3rd's caught the 4th's and this caused some problems in that they all rode together and it took the organisers shouting down a megaphone to get the 4th's to back off to create a gap again.

Unfortunately, they joined up again just at the 4th's were on there last lap, so when they crossed the finish line, no one could tell who was who or where they had positioned at the finish. It didn't help that someone forgot to press the button on the camera so even the organisers had no idea of final finishers in the 4th cat race.

There were a couple of crashes near the back of the 4th's (where I was) and although I passed it by, it brought **Iain Brogden** to a stop, he still managed to get back on, ride through the pack and finish in the top four, very impressive.

Both Dom and Bob managed to finish comfortably in the bunch and didn't look in too much trouble throughout the race.

The 3rd's was altogether a better race for the hardy spectators, Rob and Jamie were never out the front group for the whole race with Jamie going off the front alone for a period but the stiff headwind on the back straight was tough going for a solo rider and he got dragged back, I must say that Jamie just looked so comfortable the whole time and never seemed to be working too hard, very impressive.

Rob, was also riding so strongly, with the pair of them in the top 5-8 riders for the whole race.

Come the final lap, they were both riding hard at the front and at the bottom of the final turn with about 350yds to go, Jamie hit the front, in hindsight he went too early and in the final 150yds he was overcome but managed to stay in the points with a 9th place finish.

Rob, looking in very good form for the whole race came in just behind in 13th place. Fantastic riding from the pair of them and they are both definitely amongst the strongest riders on the third cats so should regularly score points this season.

As for me, bearing in mind I just gave you a spectators view of the race, means that things didn't go quite as planned in my first race, so I'll leave it at that for now

I'll be back though

## **PRESS REPORTS**

### **DINNER AND PRIZE PRESENTATION**

Tony Murphy submitted the report on the Dinner to the Herald, as shown below;

48 Eastbourne Herald, Friday, January 22, 2010 www.eastbourneherald.co.uk

**Sport**

# Rovers celebrate a successful year in the saddle



**EASTBOURNE ROVERS CYCLE CLUB**

EASTBOURNE Rovers Cycle Club celebrated a successful 2009 on Saturday night at the Afon Hotel with their annual dinner.

The local cycling club continues to be a dominating force in the area with notable victories from club champion Iain Brogden in senior events, Harry Featherstone and Vic Butler in the veterans as well many team competitions.

Also contributing to the successful season was second best all rounder Peter Moon, Ladies Club Champion and best all rounder Emma Richards and Richard Thomas who completed the London to Edinburgh 'and back again' totalling 1411 km in 109 hours and 10 minutes.

Eastbourne Rovers Cycling Club is predominantly involved in time trials ranging from 7.2 miles up and down Beachy Head to 10, 25, 50 and 100 miles.

A growing interest is road racing with Iain Brogden and Kevin Burton leading the way to further successes for 2010.

Club members are currently preparing for the forthcoming season with turbo sessions on a Monday night at the Stone Cross Village Hall.

Recent weather conditions have hampered attempts to gain vital road miles needed for the start of the racing calendar which starts with the early 10 mile time trial based in Pevensey on the morning of the February 21. This is followed by the early 25 miles a week later.

New members are always welcome and encouraged to take part. Along with some improvement in the weather, the club looks forward to another successful year and some additional wins in road racing.

A full list of trophy winners is shown below

## EASTBOURNE ROVERS CC TROPHY WINNERS 2009

Senior Best All Rounder	IAIN BROGDEN
Veteran Best All Rounder	VIC BUTLER
Lady Best All Rounder	EMMA RICHARDS
10 Mile Championship	IAIN BROGDEN
25 Mile Championship	IAIN BROGDEN
50 Mile Championship	IAIN BROGDEN
100 Mile Championship	IAIN BROGDEN
Senior Track Championship	PHILIP SMITH
Veteran Road Race Championship	VIC BUTLER
Fastest 25 mile Cup	IAIN BROGDEN
Harold Manser Trophy best improvement 25 miles	STUART DAVIS
Cliff Sharp Memorial Trophy	IAIN BROGDEN
Ken Thompson 100 Mile Veteran Cup	VIC BUTLER
Tom McAll Long Distance Trophy	RICHARD THOMAS
1 st Senior Evening Series	IAIN BROGDEN
1 st Lady Evening Series	EMMA RICHARDS
1 st Veteran Evening Series	ALAN SYMONDS
Most Improved Novice	JEZ FALLON
The Bill Collins Trophy Most ESCA Points	IAIN BROGDEN
Charles Robson Workers Cup	ANN HUMAN

### CLUB EARLY SEASON 10 MILE

1	IAIN BROGDEN
2	PETER MOON
3	STUART DAVIS
Lady	EMMA RICHARDS
Vet on Std	ALAN SYMONDS

### CLUB EARLY SEASON 25 MILE

1	IAIN BROGDEN
2	PETER MOON
3	STUART DAVIS
Vet on Std.	PETER MOON

### EVENING SERIES

1	IAIN BROGDEN	Lady	EMMA RICHARDS
2	MICHAEL VALKS	Vet on Std.	ALAN SYMONDS
3	STUART MEDHURST		
=4	STUART DAVIS		
=4	PETER MOON		
6	ADAM ROGERS		

### CLUB 10 MILE CHAMPIONSHIP

1	IAIN BROGDEN
2	MATT SCOTT
3	PETER MOON

### CLUB 25 MILE CHAMPIONSHIP

1	IAIN BROGDEN
2	PETER MOON
3	MICHAEL VALKS

### CLUB 50 MILE CHAMPIONSHIP

1	IAIN BROGDEN
2	MICHAEL VALKS
3	PETER MOON

### CLUB 100 MILE CHAMPIONSHIP

1	IAIN BROGDEN
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## SCA PRIZE PRESENTATION

Alan Symonds has provided the following photos from the event



*I am sure you recognise these riders even if they are in "civvies"!*

*Ed*

See next page for more pics from Alan, this time from the VTTA (Surrey and Sussex) prize presentation.

**VTTA (Surrey and Sussex) PRIZE PRESENTATION**



Charles for making 80 and with his Sportsman Trophy



Harry with his "pots"



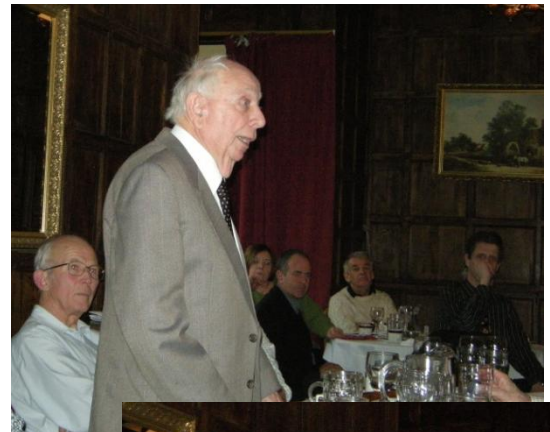
Jackie Dodd, Ladies BAR receives her award from Jean Hayler



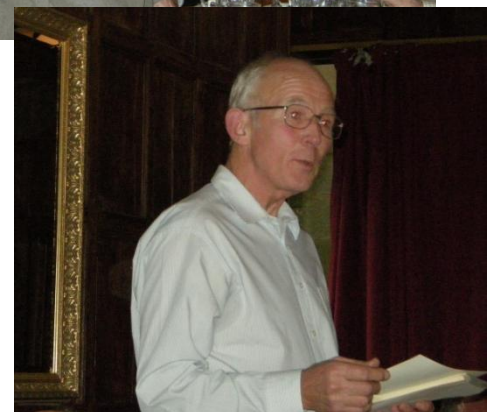
Ann Bath and Barbara Atkins, the "Raffle Ladies"



Bob Stapley (left)



Mike Hayler (right)



Keith Wilkinson (right)

Alan informs me that he had a successful VTТА season, gaining two Standard medals for 25 and 50 miles and winning a medal for 1<sup>st</sup> Team at 10 miles, 2 medals for 1<sup>st</sup> team at 25 miles and a medal for 1<sup>st</sup> Team at 50 miles. Well done to Alan and the other Team members, hiding their lights under bushels!

See next page for VTТА report (from their website)

Ed



**Robin Johnson who welcomed the visitors at the Surrey Sussex Gp Lunch**

**The following is a report from the VTTA (Surrey & Sussex) website.**

**Surrey Sussex Group Lunch and Prize Presentation**

Once again members of the Surrey Sussex Group sat down at Rowfant House near Crawley for our lunch and prize presentation. Rowfant House provides one of the best lunches, a single starter is followed by a choice of steak pie or chicken. Or Steak pie and chicken in some cases. Desert is Apple Crumble or Pavlova, or indeed Apple Crumble and Pavlova. Val Hemsley seemed to spend an inordinate amount of time popping over to see the Group Recorder, and checking if he had enough Pavlova. It was not clear whether she preferred her men with a bit more meat on them or keen to try and bribe him so Horry would win all the Trophies in 2010. Obviously Tim won't be worrying about racing as he seemed to eat the whole creamy concoction himself, and Val was hunting down any Pavlovas that had not been eaten. There may be a story here as it appears this was not his first encounter with Val and Pavlova!

Robin Johnson made an eloquent speech, although regretfully not many heard as most had fallen asleep due to the volume of food eaten, heat of the room and age. Or they may have been feigning sleep as the Group are hosting the VTTA National 24 hour in June 2011 and it appears that if you are not helping then you are riding. Robin, Esther Carpenter, Charlie Robson and the guest of honour, Mike Hayler were promoting the event for all they were worth. Mike talked about the event, and his hopes for another successful race. He organized the last southern 24 hour in 1999, and has high hopes for next year's.

Mike's wife Jean presented the awards to the prizewinners who were present. This is the only slightly disappointing aspect of the afternoon as only about half of those who could receive an award attended the event. Part of the problem is that the dinner clashes with the first event of the season, and next year the dinner will be a week earlier to avoid the clash.



**Charles Robson receiving his certificate for over 80 years old VTTA member**

Ever youthful Harry Featherstone had not had a good year only winning a handful of prizes and only breaking three Group records as he had suffered with a bad leg early in the season. His secret at 77 appears to be steak pie, and apple crumble. Jackie Dodd won the ladies BAR, Juliette Clark the Robson Trophy for the short distance BAR, Mel Robertson the 3 distance competition and Geoff Smith the Men's BAR. They seem to have agreed who will win which award as they pick up the same trophies each year.

There were two special awards to Charlie Robson. He received a certificate for being a member of the VTTA over 80, and was awarded the Sportsman's Trophy. Charlie had served the Group as Recorder for many years and continues as a valued member of the committee. He is now though putting all his energies in to producing a course worthy of the National 24 hour in 2011.

An excellent afternoon and the dinner will be the second most important thing to look forward to for 2011.



**Geoff Smith receiving his Award from Jean Hayler**



**Jackie Dodd receiving her Award from Jean Hayler**

## RACING RESULTS

## TIME TRIALS

### EARLY SEASON 10 MILE TT

### Pevensy course

Here are the provisional results as posted by Iain on 21 February 2010

Position	Name		Race Number	Time
1	Iain	Brogden	15	23.50
2	Rob	Pelham	14	23.52
3	Ross	Birkett	7	25.53
4	James	Ryan	11	26.22
5	Peter	Moon	13	27.08
6	Jez	Fallon	9	29.24
7	Paul	Hanratty	1	29.46
8	Jack	Priddle	2	29.54
9	Jay	Miles	12	30.44
10	Mark	Jobbins	4	30.59
11	Nigel	Godin	6	32.02
12	Rob	Rickson	3	32.03
13	Jim	Hennessy	5	33.02
14	Ross	Weedon	8	35.52
15	Tom	Weedon	10	36.02

So it appears to be a close run thing between Iain and Rob, both exceptional rides for this time of year and in those poor conditions. Congratulations to all who rode and all who helped, without whom there would be no event. *Note that maybe not all of the above are Club Members*

## AUDAX NEWS

### 6 Feb Hailsham The 1066

Due to my continuing lack of wellness which has prevented me riding I have no personal experiences of this ride. However, looking at the results on the Audax website Clive Richardson and Julian Sykes completed the event as well as non members of Audax who are not listed, did anyone else ride?

The roads in places appeared flooded if the pics on the Lewes Wanderers web site are anything to go by!

### 100 13 Feb Ashington, NE of Worthing Worthing Winter Warmer

We had no riders this year

### 120 20 Feb Hailsham Mad Jack's- John Seviour Memorial

Kevin Burton rode and completed the event. The roads were very icy in places yet the day was also sunny, according to Tony Gale, Lewes Wanderers. He said he went round slower than usual due to having to walk the icy bits.

### 200 07 Mar Hailsham, E Sussex The Upper Tea 200

Entries are now closed. I will not be riding this as I have not done the kilometrage this year, just 250km since 1 January!!!! Ed

### 110 04 Apr Hailsham The Triple H (Hudson's Heasy Hundred)

08:30 Sun [770m] BP £8 David Hudson

### 300 17 Apr Hailsham, E Sussex The Hailsham (Venta) 300

03:00 Sat [3760m] BRM £10.00 David Hudson

## OFF THE BACK NOSTALGIA CORNER

Over time we tend to forget how successful our long standing Club members have been. As I have an interest in the past history of cycling in general I have raided my archives and unearthed the following time trial results from 1963 featuring names which are known to many of us.

In the edition of "Cycling and Mopeds" cost 9d (about 4p) (for "younger" readers this was a proper cycling magazine for proper cyclists which has now morphed into the comic we currently call "Cycling Weekly" which manages to ignore the requirements of real cyclists-Ed.) dated 4 September 1963 we have the result of the East Sussex CA 50, as shown below;

### East Sussex CA 50

R.Marchant	East Grinstead CC	2:05:14
D.Hook	Hastings & St L.	2:08:12
<b>G.Lade</b>	<b>Tunbridge Wells RC</b>	<b>2:12:15</b>
<b>C. Snelling</b>	<b>Eastbourne Rovers CC</b>	<b>2:13:36</b>
P.Crowsley	Southborough Wh.	2:13:40
M.Carpenter	Hastings & St L.	2:14:20
D.Agg	Lewes Wanderers CC	2:14:36

M.Colburn, Lewes Wanderers CC won the handicap with a 13:45 allowance and a h'cap time of 2:02:02. Hastings & St Leonards CC won the team prize with 6:39:07.

The Rovers continued to compete in ESCA events that year and in the ESCA 25 (as shown in the Cycling and Mopeds edition of 11 September 1963) the results was;

### East Sussex CA 25

G. Atterbury	Brighton Mitre CC	1:00:13
<b>M. Watson</b>	<b>Eastbourne Rovers CC</b>	<b>1:03:10</b>
<b>K. Stevens</b>	<b>Eastbourne Rovers CC</b>	<b>1:03:40</b>
<b>C. Snelling</b>	<b>Eastbourne Rovers CC</b>	<b>1:04:01</b>

**M Watson won the handicap with a 3:45 allowance and we won the team prize with 3:10:51**

In those days the women's events were separately recorded, they may well have been a separate event, and the results for the ESCA 25 show that there were only 2 riders, the winner being M. Beeston of Brighton Mitre in a time of 1:12:23 and **Iris Stevens** (Ken's wife) of the Rovers was second in 1:14:49. M Beeston also won the handicap award, she may have been on scratch.

I would venture to suggest that most of these rides were done on fixed, has anyone any recollections of these rides?

In those days the East Sussex CA ran a tourist competition, and as reported in "Cycling & Mopeds" on 27<sup>th</sup> February 1963, it was "held in the snowbound Sussex lanes on February 10<sup>th</sup> was won by **K.Stevens** with 46 points to 1961 winner **Bruce Allcorn's** 44. Eastbourne Rovers C and AC (*was that so in 1963? Ed*) members filled the first four places. A record attendance of 80 supported the party and film show at Stonecross, Eastbourne which followed" Again for younger readers, the winter of 1963 had snow on the ground for 3 months from January to March seriously affecting early season training and subsequent racing performances.

However, the East Sussex CA Hardriders 12 was held in February 1963, as also reported in the edition of 27<sup>th</sup> February. The report stated "The event was won by R.French Hastings and St Leonards CC in 36:31 on

Sunday (so this was probably the Sunday before the week that included the 27<sup>th</sup> February-Ed). **Chris Snelling** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 37:15, a young **Graham Lade of the Tunbridge Wells RC** was third with 38:11.

**Ken Stevens** was 4<sup>th</sup> in 38:15, **M.Watson** 5<sup>th</sup> in 38:55 and Maurice Carpenter filled 8<sup>th</sup> place with 39:49. **Eastbourne Rovers** won the team prize with 1:54:25 with the 3 riders mentioned above.

And finally (for this month!)

In 1980 **Dave Dunbar** was really flying and came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the East Sussex CA 100 (on course G863) with a time of 4:34:24. **Rovers** also won the team (Dave, D.Kitching 4:38:47 and Simon Prior) and the handicap, which was won by a very young 15 year old **Simon Prior** with a handicap allowance of 40 minutes and an actual time of 4:44:43 (*this juvenile record still stands! Ed*). The event was won by Mark Jones of the Central Sussex CC in 4:30:40, and Peter Baker came 4<sup>th</sup> when riding for the Nat West Bank CC in a time of 4:36:08. **Dave** also won the long distance trophy that year with 240 miles in 12hrs, no mean feat!

I hope that the above invoked some memories.

#### Please support our friendly local bike shop

Adam is continuing to offer special discounts to members of Eastbourne Rovers on selected products during 2010, and he's ready and able to undertake all aspects of servicing and repairs in preparation for the season ahead – pop in or give him a call on 01323 482368.



# KONTOUR

## CYCLES



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The next Newsletter will be out **at the end of March 2010.**

Articles wanted, please don't be shy. The success of the newsletter depends on you. Closing date for articles for next issue is **25<sup>th</sup> March 2010.**

Please contribute something for members to read and enjoy!

My contact details are:

Tel: 01323 502615

Email any articles to : [RichThomas@btinternet.com](mailto:RichThomas@btinternet.com)

**Richard T.**