

THE

VETERAN

June 2014



Rob Pears and Derek Stewart
Joint 10 Mile Champions



The Winning Team in the Championship 100

John Lacey

Sarah Williamson

David Rogers

Hemel Hempstead CC



National Association for the 40 year old and over racing cyclist

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THE VETERAN

The quarterly magazine
of the

VETERANS TIME TRIALS ASSOCIATION

*Founded in 1943 to promote cycle time trialling
for the 40 years old and over*

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June 2014

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The Old Forge B and B and Holiday Barn, which is run by Wendy and Colin Pearce, is located in the village of Knockin, half-way between Shrewsbury and Oswestry in Shropshire, which lies about two miles from the A5 which is the main road that links the South of England to North Wales. Knockin is a central point for horse-riding, golf, fishing, walking, cycling and visiting National Trust Properties. In the village is a local pub which serves good food. Nearby there are also numerous eating pubs and restaurants.

THE PRESIDENT'S OFFERING

Let's face it; nobody likes change and even when it seems desirable or inevitable there is always that element of doubt that the change is going to be for the best – that it will succeed in improving the situation. Following the introduction of the revised standards, the first full season gave very strong indications that we were on the right track and the results of the Championship 10 this year confirm the validity of the new tables. Full results will be published elsewhere in the magazine but a quick look at the "top Ten" shows the ages range across 41 years and the exciting tie for first place with a plus of 7.57 (Rob Pears and Derek Stewart) showed a difference of 25 years.

This leads me nicely on to ITV (keep up – explanation follows). At the end of last year I had an e-mail from an ITV producer who was putting together a programme involving competition between a team of Senior Citizens and a team of much younger hopefuls. I contacted about 30 VTTA riders who I considered fitted the bill and the programme "Amazing Greys" came to air over the last few weeks with some of the disciplines including power lifting, tennis, football, table tennis, dartsand cycling! Now you're starting to see where I'm going with this, the cycling exponent was Derek Stewart – he of the silver locks and twinkling feet. The show series was typically ITV being a bit bright, brash and populist but nevertheless showing Senior Citizens can maintain fitness and mental agility well into their 70s and 80s.. Well done, Derek!

No sooner has the racing season started than the social season is getting organised as well. I have already received a very friendly invitation from Helen Gresty to speak at the Manchester & NW Group Lunch in November – an occasion to enjoy and meet old friends, a few I have known for over 60 years.

And talking of 60 years plus I wonder if the Editor would like to publish my first photograph as a proper racer? 1949 – 10 miles – 24.35 – 81" fixed - first ride on bamboo sprints – and how did I get talked into buying a 21" frame?

Aaah! Happy days – and they were too!

Alan Colburn



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CHAIRMAN

We older veterans have a lot of memories and we make the most of them when we get together. I have friends who tell me stories from sixty years ago who forget that I was there with them at the time, or that they reminded me of the story last week and times without number previously. My involvement in so much of the present precludes me from much of the nostalgia; the current cycling scene provides me with plenty of interest, even drama.

So far, 2014 will go down in my personal archive as perhaps the most interesting, if sometimes most stressful of a long cycling career. The use of the 'C' word is perhaps a misnomer for riding a bike doesn't come into it; which is sad for how can one be a cyclist who doesn't ride a bike? So out of touch am I from the 'nuts and bolts' of my chosen sport that I hardly recognise what a bike is. At a recent start line, I commented on what looked like a Sturmey Archer hub gear on a sleek machine, only to be told that it was some sort of mechanism which measured how much power the rider was exerting. Another rider mentioned that his efforts were recorded on his computer so that others could go on line to see how many watts he had produced (at least I think that's what he said).



Those of us concerned with the organisation and administration of the sport have much to interest us in providing the facilities for all the endeavour, for there is plenty of scope for technical wizardry in the compilation of a web site, the production of start sheets and the management of a database. Some exposure to the open air at an event at the week-end even if only, with watch in hand, one is a witness, provides what passes for us as physical activity in the cycling world which is, after all, much greater than claiming to be a sportsman when all it involves is following the fortunes of a football club.

The stress comes from making mistakes when ones actions are under scrutiny by the scores of critics, who, between spending hours on a turbo and downloading the results, take time off to pour scorn via a forum or perhaps twitter.

Press on for they know not of what they speak.

The composition of the National Committee has changed a lot over the past couple of years; not so long ago its members comprised a majority from Groups in the northern part of the country but the trend of late has been southerly, so much so that the venue for NEC meetings has been moved from Warwickshire to Oxfordshire, resulting in a considerable reduction of travelling time and mileage.

At its first meeting in this new venue on the 7 June, some quite impressive changes were made. The summary of those has not been finally agreed but what has been decided is the NEC will promote the National Championships at 10, 25, 30 and 50 in 2015. It is planned that the events will be distributed from north to south, east and west with the help of members who have proved to be able and experienced organisers.

This means that the NEC has to affiliate to Cycling Time Trials in addition to all its member Groups, and it will be sending an application to the London West District Council accordingly. Details are being formulated and will be publicised in the near future.

Other changes include the much discussed method of joining and renewal via the web site; they too are being enacted so that further details will be in place in time to be announced in the next issue of the magazine.

As this issue goes to press, as they say in the trade, five of the Championships have taken place with two others in the offing—all this within the space of two months. Now that's a sizeable load for those involved

SECRETARY



A stay in hospital doesn't stop the Secretary from working!

I have now been in my role for nearly half a year, and continue to thoroughly enjoy my work with the Association. Along with the run-of-the-mill tasks which come with the role of general secretary such as typing up minutes and amending rules in handbooks, there are also the jobs which give immense pleasure – it is always wonderful to get a new request for an

Honorary Life Membership certificate, and seeing the sheer joy on the faces of championship winners.

In fact, one of the best experiences in my role so far has been being the VTTA representative at the 10 Mile Championship. When 77-year old Derek Stewart (Deeside Thistle CC) rode a time of 22:43 for a plus of +7.57 quite early on in the day, it looked unbeatable. However, when 51-year old Rob Pears (Bath CC) put in a stunningly fast time of 18:53, Derek's disappointment was palpable – he was convinced he had lost the win. To learn the result was a tie transformed his mood into sheer elation – and I do wonder if he kept it on to ride his club's time trial near Aberdeen the next evening (which, incidentally, he won by over two minutes on standard).

What was noticeable about the two winners was the difference in age: two riders of completely different ages, both breathtaking performances were rewarded with the joint win. In fact, the top 10 finishers ranged in age from 43 to 84; testament to the accuracy of the fairness of the new standards. This was further cemented by the results from the National 100 championship, with 45-year old High Wycombe's Adam Topham's 3:40:05 only being good enough for second place (+1:11:26). 69-year old Shay Giles (VC Elan) stole the win by just 14 seconds (+1:11:40) with a time of 4:14:53. I am looking forward to some equally good performances in the upcoming championships, with the 25 championship in particular set to be an extremely competitive event.

Sadly, my own efforts to get back to time trialling have become somewhat thwarted by hospital visits of late. However, the advent of mobile connectivity means I have been able to work from the Royal Berks as effectively as I could do from my own home; perhaps even more so. There is no Giro footage to distract me, and I can't even sneak in a turbo session.

I would like to thank the NEC and Group Secretaries for their support as I continue to find my feet in the role, and I look forward to watching the remaining half of the racing season unfold.

John Lee, famous track record holder from the Icknield Road Club, is anxious to locate a photograph of the winning team from the National Championship 30 in 2009—is there anyone who can oblige? If so, please contact the Editor.



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GROUP REPORTS

MERSEYSIDE

I have a confession to make. I have left writing this edition for the Veteran until the last minute. I know you have heard this excuse before, but not from me. However, I have been too preoccupied, and dare I say a little bit excited, with a cycling holiday in the Western Isles of Scotland. My first experience of crossing the border north proved most worthwhile. Visits to Mull, Skye and a quick dash onto Iona on the last day were good. A beautiful part of the country and well worth the visit.

In the last magazine I was remarking that the Vets dinner signified the end of Christmas and now at just what seemed a fleeting moment of time, winter has been replaced by spring. That is if we can consider it as a proper winter. Whilst it was obviously wet, it was quite mild; in fact hardly a frost in our neck of the woods. After last year's start to the season, with sub zero temperatures and races cancelled, it was a real contrast to race in the first group event of the season, the West Cheshire 10 mile time trial. Held on a sunny morning with light winds, nineteen group members made it to the start line with good early season times recorded. Tony Harvey of the Mid Shropshire Wheelers was fastest with a time of 21.41 (+5.18) for which he wins the Leo Madden Trophy. Arthur Winstanley of the Liverpool Phoenix was second group member home recording 21.48, but claimed best on standard with a plus of 5.32 for which he wins the Ron Yates Trophy. Kevin Larmer of Port Sunlight Wheelers also put in a good shift recording 22.06 (+4.07). Newcomer to the vets Tim Rex of North Shropshire Wheelers was next rider home in 23.05 (+1.01) with team mate Phil Guy recording 24.01 (+4.13). Jenny York of Mid Shropshire Wheelers was first lady in 24.31 (+4.55) edging out Oswestry Paragon's Helen Tudor's time of 25.28 (+3.01). Other Merseyside Vets competing were Dave York, MSW, 24.20. (+3.12), Phil

Warburton, Liverpool Phoenix, 24.29 (+2.30), Ian Casson, Birkenhead Vic., 24.56, (+2.48), George Aldridge, Birkenhead North End, 25.03 (+2.48), Geoff Edgerton, NSW, 25.46, (+2.37), Dave Nicholas, MSW, 26.24, (+2.50), David Smith, Deeside Olympic, 26.31, (+2.31), Steve Smout, Wrekin Sport, 27.12, (-00.54), Linda Flavel, Chester RC, 27.34, (+1.29), Pete Booth, Rhys-on-Sea, 30.03, (-00.49), Harry Crowley, Chester RC, 31.42, (-3.28).

Our second group event was another West Cheshire organised time trial, but this time at the longer distance of 30 miles. Eleven group members competed with Port Sunlight Wheelers' Kevin Larmer reigning supreme with a fastest time of 1.11.32 (+8.53). Again, Arthur Winstanley had to settle for second place in 1.11.41, but claimed best on standard with a plus of 11.41. Chester Road Club's Neil Southern was third vet in 1.16.26 (+5.26) with Phil Warburton next in 1.17.19, (+5.32). Tim Rex's time of 1.18.34 (+1.19) saw him finish ahead of North Shropshire Wheelers team mate and newcomer to the Vets' ranks, Mike Rigby (1.19.22) but Mike claimed bragging rights on standard with plus 4.36. Similarly, Dave York (1.21.03) just got the better of wife Jenny who recorded 1.21.32 but his standard of plus 3.33 was eclipsed by Jenny's plus 7.15. Other Vets competing included John Flynn, 1.22.46, (+1.31), Helen Tudor, 1.26.05, (+1.16), Ian Casson, 1.26.13, (-00.56). Apologies if I have missed anybody out or indeed if I have made any mistakes. And a quick reminder, if you receive the Veteran in time, that the Merseyside Vets are holding the VTTA National 50 Mile Championship incorporated in the West Cheshire Time Trial on Sunday 8th June. Members of the group will be saddened by the loss of Pat Milsom (nee Flanagan), wife of group member and prolific Multi National Champion Dennis. Pat passed away on 24th April after a

long battle with illness. A successful cyclist in her own right, Pat was in later years an integral member of 'Team Milsom'. Shrewsbury Crematorium was packed with those wishing to pay their final respects. A full tribute to Pat is contained in the Yorkshire Group report, her home county. By doing this, everybody who knew Pat will be made aware of her passing.

Geoff Edgerton

NORTH

I note that we still do not have a Standard Award System since a rider does not have to beat a Standard Time for his/her age, any time will do. In the new Regulations for Standard Awards, nowhere is it stated whether a rider is to claim using Best Performance or any old ride, surely this should be made clear!

Please make a note in your diary that the Group Annual Luncheon & Prize Presentation is already booked for Sunday 11 January at our usual venue, the Hardwick Hall Hotel. Tickets to cost £20.50. Booking Forms will be available from Ruth Crossley, our Social Secretary.

Three items to report on the accident front. Peter Iffland who crashed in February sustaining multiple injuries from which he is thankfully slowly recovering, is planning to catch a few late season events, and Joe Short (now 78) who fell (resulting in hospitalisation), whilst walking in the mountains in Norway in December; he just started gentle cycling again in March. Also John Parr hit a pothole up near Wooller, fracturing his pelvis. He has been finding it difficult get on/off both his Bike and Trike so is trying a step through frame. We wish all a full recovery.

At this time our Group membership is holding up; we have 67 paid members compared with 65 in 2013, this despite there being 11 who have not yet rejoined.

G Les Dawson

NORTH MIDLANDS

Since the last issue we have held our annual 18k event at Ranby, which attracted a field of 58 plus two tandems. BOS was **Brian Sunter** of Condor

RC with 26.23 (+6.09). **Alex Deck** was first lady, with 26.51 (+5.09). Actual fastest was **Kevin Dawson**, his 23.16 just two seconds faster than **Dan Barnett**. Dan's just turned 40 and I suspect there will be a few young vets quaking in their cycling shoes. Great times considering the tough headwind on the last leg.

Possibly due in part to the southern location, the Group had one entrant in the VTTA National Championship 10. **Keith Ainsworth** was 13th on standard with his 20.22 and 5th in the V50 age category - brilliant result Keith.

Congratulations to member **Paul Heggie** (Birdwell Wheelers) for already achieving the most course PBs in the shortest space of time: already this year Paul has added a 29.06 in the 18k, 26.15 for Hatfield Woodhouse and 1.17.27 for the mighty Buxton Mountain TT. Paul also won his age category in the Sheffrec CC 29k North Midlands TT Championships, with 48.30. Congratulations Paul!



Group BAR champion **Trevor Mayne** (Birdwell Wheelers). above, has been on a roll too, with a run of great results in the 18k, the Birdwell Wheelers 10 and 25 events, and the brutal Buxton Mountain TT, an event, for reasons unknown to us lesser mortals, he loves. Well done Trev. There is huge excitement in our region about the Tour de France, which arrives in Sheffield on 6 July. The area is gradually taking on a yellow hue as flowers are planted, posters appear and buildings are painted; 'Yorkshire Grand Départ' kit can be spotted regularly on local climbs, most of which are being resurfaced for the occasion (not before time). Apparently 'Ay up TdF' has already been painted on one stretch of road...

Please note these changes to events:

Barnsley RC 10 on the 14th June, course O10/2. Please now send entries to Gary Laight, 18 Redcliffe Close, Redbrook, Barnsley S75 2RU. Tel 0777 073 3403.

Due to roadworks on the A1 our 25 on June 21st will now be a 10 mile on the O10/2 (Ranby, Blyth Normay, Ranby).

John Martin's 25 on August 9th will also move - new course tbc.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank our committee, especially Gordon and Barbara Scott, for all their hard work and support, without whom the entire North Midlands time trialling scene would probably collapse. They don't get nearly enough recognition.

Our revamped website continues to flourish and is the place to go for the most up to date info for the Group. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter too!

Alex Deck

<http://vttanorthmidlands.co.uk>

<https://twitter.com/VTTANorthMids>

NOTTINGHAM & EAST MIDLANDS

It was good to see Norman Portess helping out at the VTTA 25 on 17 May 2014. Whilst he is a long way from full recovery after his accident in December 2012, he is getting out on his bike covering on average 60 miles a week. We all hope you continue to improve Norman.

As a departure from racing news I can report that Kath and David Smith, Sleaford Wheelers CC, are continuing on their 'Round the Coast' ride. The couple intend to raise money for Asthma UK and Cancer Research. Their start was delayed due to Saharan Desert storms which could have affected Kath's asthma following a precautionary warning on air quality by Defra. They set off from their daughter's home in Suffolk, and travelled via London along the South coast, up through the West Country, over the Severn Bridge into Wales. At the time of writing they are travelling through Caernarfon which they estimate is one third the way round. Anyone wishing to follow their progress can go online to www.sleafordwheelers.co.uk/KathsBlog.

Bourne Wheelers 14.3 mile early season Hilly held on 09 March 2014 was well contested with Jason Burrill from the promoting club setting the

fastest time of 33:44 just pipping Brett Harwood, Terry Wright Cycles RC, into second with 33:48. Most of the NEM veteran members were from Witham Wheelers CC; Martin Hedley was fastest 36:53, Anthony Hardenberg 39:11, Martin Lister 40:06 and Peter Holland Lincoln Wheelers CC 51:47.

Lincolnshire RRA Middle Markers 25 mile TT on 16 March 2014 had to be run on a shortened 14.5 mile course due to road works. Andy Broxholme, Lincoln Wheelers CC, set the fastest time at 31:55 with Ian Pike Fenland RC at 34:38. Steven Howgill, Leicestershire RC, came in on 35:49, Martin Hedley, Witham Wheelers, 36:58, David Smith, Sleaford Wheelers CC, 38:26, Peter Holland, Lincoln Wheelers, 43:52 and finally another solid ride by David Pike of Sleaford Wheelers on 44:08.

The traditional early season 27 mile Spalding Hilly which runs from Edenham near Bourne via Corby Glen to Grantham and returns, attracted fewer riders this year. Senior, Adam Gascoigne proved a clear winner and the only rider to go under the hour - 58:23 on what is a challenging course.

Anthony Hardenberg, Witham Wheelers, headed the NEM group of riders with 1:13:54, his team mate Martin Lister came in on 1:17:06 and Peter Holland, Lincoln Wheelers CC, on 1:38:16.

Coalville Wheelers 10 held 29 March 2014 on the Griffydham course proved no problem for Matt Bottrill, www.drag2zero.co, he went round in 20:50 with second place rider Nick Cave, Lutterworth CRT, at 23:23. Mick Wills, Hinckley CRC, was placed 10th fastest with 25:05 and promoting club's Peter Lavine recorded 25:26. Steve Howgill, Leicestershire RC, 25:49 and then a cluster of NEM riders on 26 minutes starting with Nigel Finch, Mercia CC, 26:01, Steve Welsh, Welland Valley CC and his team mate Steve Boat, 26:03, Dave Bates, South Pennine RC, 26:19, Neil Holden, Ratae RC, 26:36, Jeff Bowler, South Pennine RC, 27:11, Nev Bray Coalville Wheelers, 28:46, Chris Wilcox, Ratae RC, 29:49, Alan Morris, Hinckley CRC, 30:11, Ken Stevens, South Pennine RC, 30:35, Ron Hallam of the same club 33:19 and Jill Morris Hinckley CRC 38:17.

The top two places in Skegness Wheelers 25, held on 6 April, were fiercely contested with Adam Gascoigne, Team Pedal Power, on 56:14 with

Joel Wainman of Team Swift on 56:24. Two NEM riders took part; Anthony Hardenberg, Witham Wheelers CC, 1:11:11 and Peter Holland, Lincoln Wheelers, 1:38:58.

Jo Corbett, Team Swift, topped the veteran women's section in BDCA 25 on 12 April 2014 with a 01:01:12 which was second fastest to senior rider Lynn Hamel, Trainsharp RT, 58:51. In the Men's event the first 58 riders went under the hour, headed by senior Brett Harwood of Terry Wright Cycles in 50:30 - 27 seconds faster than Adam Gascoigne, Team Pedal Power, 50:57. Stephen Howgill, Leicestershire RC, was the fastest NEM rider on 56:24 and Peter Lavine, Coalville Wheelers CC, 56:28, Mark McCartney, Nott's Clarion, 57:31, Dave Bates, South Pennine RC, 58:15. Jeff Bowler was unlucky not to go under the hour on 1:00:36 as was Russell Gent of Melton Olympic CC on the same time. Other times included Michael Wilkinson, North Nott's Olympic RC, 1:01:21, Garry Lee, Mapperley CC, 1:02:35, Brian Wills, Hinckley CRC, 1:05:10, Ken Stevens, South Pennine RC, 1:07:46, Ken's teammate, Ron Hallam 1:10:28 with David York, Ratae RC, on the same time.

Sleaford Wheelers CC Charity 10 on 19 April attracted a large number of entries. Senior rider Andy Broxbourne of Lincoln Wheelers CC was fastest with 21:01 and I make no excuse for reporting a Witham Wheeler home grown talent, 18 year old Peter Cocker was second fastest with 21:14. Jim Boyle, Cherry Valley RT, was the fastest NEM rider on 22:08, Martin Hedley, Witham Wheelers CC, 24:23, Clare Ella, Cherry Valley RT, 25:25 and then four Witham Wheelers riders: Anthony Hardenberg 53:53, Paul Fairey 26:08, Martin Lister 26:32, David Herd 27:07. Chris Close, Sleaford Wheelers CC recorded 27:16 and his team mate Dave Pike continued his successful comeback with 27:40. Bryan Fenwick of Melton Olympic CC did 27:56 and Peter Holland, Lincoln Wheelers CC, 28:35.

The Northampton and District Cycling Association 10 on 26 April using the N1/10 course between the villages of Sawtry and Stilton also attracted a high number of entries on a warm but windy day. The fastest time set was by Simon Norman, Bedfordshire Road CC in 21:14, with NEM group member Nick Cave, Lutterworth Cycle Centre, 3rd fastest overall 21:34.

A familiar name in the East Midlands, Geoff Platts brother of Ken Platts, Cambridge CC finished with 22:25, Ian Pike, Fenland Road Club, 23:15, John Royle, Fenland Clarion CC, 25:21 and David Herd Witham Wheelers CC 26:49.

VC Long Eaton 25 mile TT 3 May, A25/16 Griffydram course: fastest on the day was Ben Wimporoy PMR@ toachimhouse 57:27 with the first NEM member Stephen Howgill Leicestershire RC 12th 1:01:56 +06:06, Steve Boat Welland Valley CC 1:04:57 +04:08, Nev Bray Coalville Wheelers 1:10:52 +02:18, Brian Wills Hinckley CRC not quite achieving his standard on 1:13:23: -00:59 and similarly David York Ratae RC 1:13 54 -03:16. By the look of those results it must have been a hard day on a hard course.

Matt Bottrill was the clear winner of South Pennines RC 25 held on 10 May when he recorded 48:04. The A25/11 Etwell course again helped produce some fast times. Stephen Howgill, Leicestershire RC, appears to be continuing last season's success with a splendid 55:27, whilst Graham Green, MG Décor, and Russell Gent, Melton Olympic CC, were unfortunate not to go under the hour on 1:00:13 and 1:00:39 respectively. Finally, Michael Wilkinson, North Nott's Olympic RC, crossed the line in 1:01:11 and Brian Wills, Hinckley CRC, 1:07:20. Tandem pair Jeff Bowler and Dave Bates South Pennine RC achieved a time of 55:06 and unfortunately were the only team in this section.

A number of NEM members rode round four of RTTC TT series up at Braithwaite. On target time Geoff Platts was fastest on 34:24 +08:42 and 3rd in the Vets actual, with teammate Graham Green 5th on target time with 40:36 +06:27 and 26th on Vets actual, Jeff Bowler was 7th on target time 40:04 +06:18 and 24th on Vets Actual. Peter Lavine, Coalville Wheelers, was 10th on target time with 37:53 +05:13 and 16th on Vets actual and finally Ian Dalton, Cherry Valley RT, came in 14th on Target Time with 35:07 +04:39 and 7th Vets Actual.

The Notts and East Midlands VTTA 25 on 17 May at Six Hills proved an exciting affair as riders were greeted with news that the event promoter and Group Secretary Russell Gent had been involved in a road accident two days before and was lying in traction in Coventry Hospital. I am pleased to inform you all that I have spoken to Russell today,

the 22 May, and he is now out of hospital and back home. The good news is that there is no damage to his spine as first thought; however he is badly bruised, has cuts and lacerations from head to toe. Russell was grateful that he was wearing a cycling helmet, if not he fears that his injuries would have been a lot worse. Back to the event, Russell was pleased that everyone from his club Melton Olympic CC pulled together, particularly his wife Wendy and Bill Stanley. The results are provisional but Phil Hunt of Mapperly CC was fastest overall in 55:31 and the fastest three NEM Vets were Jim Boyle, Cherry Valley, 55:44, Colin Parkinson, South Western RC, 58:10 and Stephen Howgill, Leicestershire RC 59:09. Please ride safely and enjoy the rest of the season.

David Herd

MANCHESTER & NORTH WEST

I think veterans know, on a personal level, what a difference a year makes, but it does have wider connotations. For instance, last year Easter came early and brought with it snow, resulting in cancelled events. This year Easter was late and Spring was in the air for the Buxton Mountain Time Trial – now part of the RTTC series – and held on Good Friday, 18 April. Paul Robinson (Lyme RC) 58:05, Steve l'Anson (Buxton CC) 1:06:26 and Chris Wilcox (Lyme RC) 1:06:41 were all in the top 20 on target time.

The more local J course events were well under way before Easter and the annual series of three 10-mile events promoted by the M&DTTA in March attracted near full fields. It has to be accepted that road surfaces have deteriorated and potholes are a particular hazard to cyclists. Our super-vet Derek Hodgins (Stockport Clarion) was a victim when out with the vets Wednesday run, only weeks after we had helped celebrate his 80th birthday. His injuries were to keep him housebound but failed to curb his enthusiasm, and he rode the M&DTTA 10 on 29 March where his 30:05 was possibly his first time ever outside evens. Showing early season form in the same event were Paul Robinson (Lyme RC) 22:48, Dave Fearon (Weaver Valley CC) 23:30, Nige

Wood (Wills Wheels) 23:31 and Martin Bowers (Stone Wheelers CC) 23:46.

On the same day, a special awards ceremony was held at the Stonehouse Hotel, Stone, where Dot Tilbury received the 2013 Bidlake award for her work with junior riders on the Isle of Man. Group member Trevor Bracegirdle (Stretford Wheelers) is the Chairman of the Bidlake Trust. Dot described her work in building up junior cycling to the point where hundreds of young riders every week are taking part in races or fun rides, ensuring a strong future for the sport. The occasion was generously funded by Phil Griffiths, himself the Bidlake award winner in 1975. Among those attending, the two greatest links with the past were provided by two 1950s legends Eileen Sheridan and Brian Robinson. A list of the award winners over the past 80 years includes two of our late Group members: John Arnold and Johnny Helms.

The classic Nelson Wheelers 'Circuit of the Dales' 50, held on 6 April, attracted a full card. However, the headwind finish from Hawes to Ingleton via Ribbleshead ensured no sub-two-hour rides.

Simon Bridge (43) (Manchester Wheelers' Club), placed fifth, was the fastest veteran in 2:06:48. At the other end of the finishing sheet, hats off to 69-year-old Dave Joynson (Lyme RC) who completed his 'bucket-list' ride in 3:37:36 - and he wasn't last!

On the same day, for those not tempted by the Yorkshire scenery, the Withington Wheelers' 25 on J2/9 proved a bigger attraction. Adam Duggleby (Wheelbase Altura) had just four seconds advantage with his 52:05 over our regular visitor Andy Wilkinson (Port Sunlight Wheelers). Paul Shalliker (coveryourcar) was fastest Group member with 57:06, followed by Nige Wood 58:11, Roger Wrenn (Macclesfield Wheelers) 1:02:12 and Rod Brooks (Warrington RC) 1:02:31. Fastest lady was our new Group member Karen Popplewell (Seamons CC) in 1:00:44.

The first Group event was held on Tuesday 8 April: a 10 promoted by Roy Deakin on J2/1 and using Siddington Village Hall as event headquarters. Unfortunately, due to an accident on the M6, traffic was being diverted along the Kutsford/Chelford road, which is part of the course. Luckily, the event went ahead without

incident. Paul Shalliker (42) was again our fastest Group member in 22:47. Mike Cotgreave (70) (Westmead Team '88) was best on Standard 24:17 (+4:45) and led the winning team. (See the Results section.)

The Manchester & District Women's 10 on 26 April saw an outing for Sarah Story's (Pearl Izumi Sports Tours International) team, with Sarah providing fastest time 22:25, just two seconds ahead of her young Scottish team mate Katie Archibald. In fourth place, Karen Popplwell was fastest vet and best on Standard with her 22:51 (+4:11). Another Group member, Caroline Fearon (Weaver Valley CC) was a top-twenty finisher in 27:44. In the concurrently-run men's event, Roger Wrenn recorded 24:20, whilst the Group's consistent and oldest competitor Cyril Wynne (83) (Stretford Wheelers) recorded 29:34.

The Glossop Kinder Velo 25, held on the same day, saw Andy Wilkinson making quite sure this time, being fastest by almost a minute in 51:41, heading a trio of Manchester Wheelers. David Wright (Warrington RC) was fastest Group member 58:40, ahead of Peter Smith (Congleton CC) who recorded 58:58, Steve l'Anson 59:06 and Wayne Powell (Congleton CC) 1:00:26.

The VTTA National Championship 10, promoted by the London & Home Counties Group, will have been reported elsewhere. It must have resulted in a crop of personal bests and was possibly the fastest in depth vets' 10 ever. Our Group had just two entries: Brian Camfield (66) (Stone Wheelers) travelled south to some familiar roads and was placed in the top 20 with his 21:53 (+6:30). Our other representative was Tony Peach (52) (Crewe Clarion Wheelers) who recorded 22:00 (+4:54). Writing these notes usually consists of applauding achievements or sometimes commiserating with bad luck. Reporting the passing of a friend is different and always difficult, depending on the circumstances. Brian Tomlinson, universally known as Sam, was a Life Member of Stone Wheelers. Accepted by all as a pleasure to be with, Sam would brighten any company. His life came to an end when out with friends on a club-run. Not an accident – just a stop with no re-start. His funeral at Bradwell Chapel, Newcastle, Staffs, on Friday 14 March, provided a fitting tribute. It was standing room only long before the ceremony was due to start. The service, as well as individual

tributes, included a folk group performing a song specially written for Sam. His club-mate Greg Dancer has contributed the obituary for *The Veteran*.

The current popularity of cycling is mirrored by the increase in its Press and TV coverage and also by the growing number of S portives. The number of riders choosing local 10s and 25s has also increased. Let's hope the numbers won't fall off as the distances increase. News of the longer distances next time and there's still lots of the racing season left.

Jim Ogden

SCOTLAND

The following letter was received from multi champion Derek Stewart

Hello All,

I think it's about time to let you know what I have been up to for the past few months or so. Back in December ITV approached the VTTA with a programme they were making called Amazing Greys, which is about older athletes taking on younger challengers. Alan Colburn and Jim Burgin compiled a list of possibilities including me. ITV contacted me and invited me to London for an interview and games testing on a Wattbike. They then put me up against several fit young people on a Rollapaluzza setup to see if I could walk the walk, or rather turn the pedals for the first 1000 metres. After the competition the Amazing Team were confident enough to put me in the show along with several famous names as you will see in the series.

What an amazing experience it has been; in five visits Irene and I made to London Television Centre and Pinewood Studios ITV were utterly professional and fair, the challengers being of high calibre.

I cannot tell you how I got on, watch the show on ITV, spread the word and get the Vets watching. Best Regards
Derek Stewart.

The slightly slower Stewart - George Stewart, recently returned from his USA charity ride and provided the following report on his adventures. After two weeks cycling through Death Valley in Nevada, fund raising for the children's charity

Barnardos, I am back in Scotland and trying to decide if I have missed anything. What I miss normally is the Scottish weather. A dose of 33 degrees of sunshine, it may well be pleasant for a fortnight, but you soon tire of the 100 plus miles every day, the 200 factor sunscreen, having a red nose, burned legs and a numb bum. After the first week cycling from Las Vegas up over Blue Diamond Pass up again into Furnace Creek, I was lying awake at nights dreaming of being cold. We have no idea just how lucky we are in Scotland having weather we don't notice, weather that does not slap a blowtorch in your face. The perfect surfaced roads and drivers who do not regard cyclists as fair game is a breath of fresh air. Even though I struggled in blistering heat over to top of 4,901 feet Tounie Pass the descent looked like a cliff with tarmac, as my 20 year old wheels stressed, the speed reached 69 miles per hour. My helmet hard-shell blew off and the polystyrene splattered, brake blocks turned to ashes, and the rims smoked as I prayed for take off.

The technical application by Garmin had us vanishing up our posterior as I got lost, also everyone was fed up with my continuous moaning. By the end of this astounding Death Valley Challenge we, my son and I, had covered 808 miles, and since I got lost in Los Angles I covered 33 miles more. The total height climbed was 27,412 feet and our top speed was my 69 mph and his 71.17 mph.

Between all our friends and the public in the USA we actually raised £7,831. We all assume as I did, after two weeks away, that when we returned the country would have changed beyond all recognition. The doctor has informed me that my buttocks will eventually recover. I felt a certain sense of pride as I threw the bike into the shed Why not have a wee gander at the Death Valley cycle with Barnardos Facebook page.

Steve Beech came a cropper while out on a training ride in Girona at the latter end of February. Fortunately for Steve, and although having left quite a bit of his DNA on the Spanish tarmac, he did not suffer any breakages other than to his bike: All thanks to a dog! Thankfully Steve is making a good recovery. Jack McHugh, Glasgow RC was on holiday in Turkey with several friends and was hit by a nasty

bug. Both he and his friends were out of commission for three days due to this. So to get over this illness, he is now in Majorca for a 'recovery' period.

Not again was the chant from the members entered for the St Christopher 25 mile TT on the 27 April, having arrived at the strip to find another time trial cancelled at the last minute, this comes only three weeks after the Royal Albert 10 at Cambusbarron was cancelled in similar circumstances. The local authorities seem to be telling us one thing and doing another. Word was received from Roger Sewell - Caithness Cycling Club saying he is going back to England to live. For a few years, Roger organised the 12 hour championship alongside his other events up north. The Scottish Group wish him and his family well

Congratulations to Derek Stewart who on Bank Holiday Monday became (joint) VTTA National 10 Mile Champion at Tring in Hertfordshire.

In dry and sunny conditions with a 15 mph southerly wind on the boomerang shaped E/W course Derek rode 22:53 to tie on standard with 'young vet.' Rob Pears whose blistering 18:53 also came out at +7:57 on standard.

It was a relief to Derek to ride so well after his bad luck of last year when he was thwarted by mechanical problems.

For a comprehensive list of results and a diary of SVTTA Championships, please see later pages. NEW MEMBERS

The Scottish Group welcomes the following new members

Mark Heady – Deeside Thistle

Alan Redmond - SVTTA

Peter Ettles – Sandy Wallace Cycles

Brian Laffoley – Fife Century

Mhari Laffoley – Fife Century

If readers have any information, news, or gossip, get in touch at jamesmskinner@hotmail.com

James Skinner

SOUTH WALES

Springtime and "season 2014" is in full swing. Down here in South Wales, local time trials are fuelled by the popularity of our R25/3 Heads of

the Valley course. To date we have already promoted four 25 mile events in as many weeks, all except Acme Wheelers, 13 April, showing entry sheets of more than 120 riders. To the journeyman British time triallist these events have become something of a pilgrimage. Already this year, the spread of entries from our latter day sports enthusiasts includes all the English regions, the Channel Islands, Scotland, Ireland and as far away as Alicante, Spain. I pose the question – Is R25/3 in reality, a chance to seek “the Holy Grail”? – I guess many cyclists really think so.

Older riders, like your correspondent, fantasise about beating times they posted 50 years ago. Surprisingly, with improved equipment, time to train in retirement and courses with a downhill element, such wonders of nature can be achieved. It's the need for such training that found me enjoying Easter in Puerto Pollanca, to be more precise, the Pollensa Park Hotel, which was chock-a-block with British cyclists. It's an ideal set up, with special store rooms for the bikes etc. The weather was perfect, above 20c every day, great conditions for long rides either in the mountains or the flatter centre of the Island. The local cafes know what cyclists like by serving delicious fresh oranges to augment the usual coffee, bacon rolls and cakes.

I should mention our Good Friday ride. The weather was brilliant; en route to Sa Colabra we stopped for drinks at the garage café at top of “Selva Gorge” having completed some 30 kilometres mostly climbing. The place was already full of British riders eating and drinking, preparing to head up and down to Sa Colabra. The surrounding scenery is absolutely stunning, especially the 10 kilometre spiralling descent to the resort. Down there I thought about the long climb back, if Sir Bradley Wiggins, as rumour has it, did it in 23 minutes, it would take me over 50 minutes. At that moment the ferry from Soller arrived, the sea was calm the sun was shining, let's have a boat ride. A 45 minute cruise along the rugged north coast saw us in Puerto de Soller riding beside the historic tramway. We still had to ride up 3rd cat Col de Soller, then a refuel stop for coffee and cakes in Banyola, but from there it was downhill and flat all the way to our hotel. If you holiday in Alcudia or Puerto Pollenca, I would

recommend this enjoyable 120 kilometre outing. I clocked 370 miles in 5 days on the island and it took its toll. Since returning I have ridden two disastrous 25 mile events, very surprising to be so weak after all that training, perhaps I needed a rest. Happily, many of our South Wales members have been in action. The Bynea 30 on Easter Sunday saw David Evans, Worcester St Johns, produce an excellent 1.13.37 +10.21 on standard and 11th place in the event, while Paul Griffiths and John Shehan tied on 1.23.43; and it was good to see Sally Harmer also giving her best and enjoying the scenery on what must have been a hard day.

The Ogmere Valley 25 on Sunday 27 April was hit by mystery roadworks when the organisers found part of the dual carriageway coned off, bad news for all concerned. Whatever, the club shortened the course by 2.5 miles leaving the competitors enjoying some fancy finishing times. Our members performed well, David Brice posted 50 minutes 19 seconds, Hugh Davies 53.17, John Shehan 55.17, Pete Murrieri 55.48, Adrian Sullivan 56.45 and Nick Forbes 57.13. All put into perspective by Matt Bottrill passing the time keeper in 42.30.

The 3/5 May Day weekend was blessed with fine dry conditions. PTW 10 was the Saturday event held, I understand, on the slower back road which includes the Rock & Fountain climb. Dave Brice was once again our best performer with 23.59, I would, however, especially commend Marco Marletta, riding his first time trial in many years, for recording 25.47. Other finishers included John Shehan 26.10, Bob Jones 26.17, Paul Durrent 26.20 with standard +2.32, Paul Griffiths 28.22, Norman James 32.00, Ken Squibb 32.17 and Rob Ibell 33.45.

The following morning saw reasonable conditions for the WCA Welsh Champs 25, an event won by Kieron Davies in 48.42. There was a fine turn-out from our members posting the following times:- Hugh Davies 57.18, Paul Cannon 57.31, John Shehan 59.15, Paul Durrent 59.21, Pete Murrieri 1.1.35, Nick Forbes 1.2.55, Paul Griffiths 1.3.36, Clive Chappe 1.4.06, Ron Boast 1.6.19, Rob Ibell 1.14.35 and Jeff Chambers 1.15.44. It was also good to see our cheerful Irish friend, John Murphy, travelling from Gloucester and posting 1.2.00.

The Bank Holiday Monday witnessed the VTTA 10 Championship on the A5 in Hertfordshire. Four riders from South Wales entered and two actually started, I would commend Dave Evans, Worcester St Johns for posting 21.16 + 6.14 on standard and Paul Durrent, Alicante BC for recording 22.58 +5.54 on what was his third ride of the weekend while in UK on a brief visit from Spain. Conditions must have been good, Rob Pears 18.53 + 7.57 was joint winner with Derek Stewart from Scotland 22.43 + 7.57, both exceptional rides. Derek's performance was good news for all us in our late 70s, don't ever give up," it can be done"

Safe riding to all our readers – Best wishes

Barry Williams

SURREY-SUSSEX

It always surprises me how quickly the season starts and then how fast members go considering the weather.

Pete Tadros has won several events already and quite a few group riders have appeared in the top ten. Angus MacInnes, one of our new joiners, has the fastest ten time with a 20:13 at the VTTA National Championship. Pete Tadros has done a 51:52 for a 25 and David Shepherd has broken two hours for a 50 with 1:57:29.

By the time you read this we will have crowned our first Group Champion at our 10 mile event on 7 June. I hope to ride, although I am not expecting to appear in the top ten. Ray Dare is hoping to ride to set a new National 10 Mile Record for an 87 year old after he successfully got the 25 and 50 mile records last year.

We are hosting two consecutive VTTA Championships with Simon Yates organising the 30 the day after the ten and then Esther is organising the VTTA National Championship 24 Hour on 21/22 June. At this stage it looks like it will be the Ladies who will be making the news in the 24 as there are quite a few who have entered and if they all ride it could be a fine battle, and there is a possibility that one of them will see a new women's competition record.

The other events we have in the calendar are listed elsewhere in this issue.

Can I use this as a reminder for those in the Group interested in Standard Awards. At last

year's AGM, a proposal from the North Lancs and Lakes Group was accepted to replace the traditional 'Standards' claims with 'Performance Awards'. These seemed generally unpopular as we had one of the lowest applications for these types of award last year. At this year's AGM it was agreed to revert back to the traditional Standard Awards.

There are registration fees for standards which need to be paid to the Group Treasurer (Keith Wilkinson) and these are:

For any number of attempts at a single distance or time throughout a season £5.00

For any number of attempts at any distance or time throughout the season £10.00

Members who don't want to ride for "Standards" but who want to enter the National Competitions, simply click Forms on the Group website for the appropriate form in Word or pdf format.

Keith has been working his magic and I would like to welcome new members to the Group:

John Allen (Redmon CC); David Phillips (Old Portlians CC); Dave Worsfold (Tricycle Association SE); Rebecca Wilson (Rye & District Wheelers); Nick Wilson (Rye & District Wheelers); Andrew Clavell (Kingston Wheelers); John Isard (Hampshire RC); Peter Phipps (VC Godalming & Haslemere) and Richard Newey (Thames Turbo Triathlon Club)

Tim Carpenter

NORTH LANCs AND LAKES

The first counting event for the Group Championship Series for 2014 was scheduled as a 25 organised by Richard Taylor our Recorder on the two-lap L2521 in the lanes west of Garstang.

The mid April day dawned with much better weather conditions than had been the norm this year, which gave hope that the double passage along the coastal road from Cockerham to Stakepool would be less arduous than is often the case on that invariably windy stretch. However, on checking out the circuit prior to the event a set of temporary traffic lights were up and running in Cockerham village - not a soul digging holes or otherwise working on the road - so what can an organiser do?

The decision was to complete just short of one lap

and at least ensure that the competition was fair for all 35 entrants and not affected by stopping for red lights.

Fastest in the outstanding time of 25:41 was 43 year old vet Nigel Haigh of Huddersfield and riding for the Strategic Lions squad. His time, if extrapolated, should have given him a time of a 'long 53' - and a course record for the 25 - that is according to the numerous Garmins in action on those modern time trial bicycles racing around the circuit that day which measured the course at a fraction over 12 miles!

Our own Group member Ian Cox of the North Lancashire Road Club took second fastest in 27-04 with new recruit to the same club Brian Fogarty third in 27-30. When it came to Standards, we also had a Yorkshire winner from non other than 70 year old Brian Sunter whose 'actual' of 29:05 gave him an unbeatable plus of 7:58 followed by Haigh's plus of 7:39 for second with Jocky Johnson of Team Icarus Racing third with plus 6:42 and Cox with plus 6:22 fourth. The North Lancs Road Club won the Team award on time thanks to Cox, Fogarty and their non-vet Austin Foy who had returned in 29-11.

The ten counting events for the 2014 Group Championship/Points Series were given in the previous *The Veteran* and although only four events are required to be ridden in order to qualify, it requires at least one of those four to be a 100 or a 50. This means that at least one event from the Border City Wheelers 50 on 15 June, the Manchester and District TTA 100 in Cheshire on Sunday 29 June or the Congleton Cycling Club 50 also in Cheshire on Saturday 16 August must be ridden. At the time of writing three of the qualifying events have been completed: VTTA 25 (reported above), the North Lancs. Road Club Easter 10 and the Wigan Wheelers 30. There are therefore also the VTTA/WPRC 25 on 18 June on the A59 at Clitheroe, Lancashire Road Club 25 on 27 July on the A6/A586 course at Garstang, VTTA 15 on 9 August over one lap of the old 12 hour finishing circuit and the Lancaster 25 on 7 September on the Levens/ A590 road still available for qualification.

An additional event has been scheduled which will be held on the super-fast Levens L1015 10

mile course in Cumbria and open only to VTTA members from all Groups.

Dave Shorrock will be organiser on behalf of our Group and the 10 will be held as a 'Club Event' on Sunday morning 14 September with an 8am start and a maximum of 60 riders on a first-come-first-served basis. Entries (£4), however, can be pre-booked - on the day before only - by phoning Dave on 07842141162; otherwise it is 'enter on the line' on the morning of the event. In any case signing on will be in the quiet road to Sizergh Castle on the north side of the A590 road about a half mile east of the Start. This is the usual HQ for events on this course.

The Group suffered another very sad loss in April with the death of VTTA Honorary Life Member Philip Stephenson and a lifelong member of Preston Wheelers. An obituary by his long term friend John Lewis will be found in the back of this *The Veteran*.

We have also lost two other well-known enthusiasts of our sport in our area although not members of our Group. Harry Law of Rawtenstall, who was instrumental in keeping the Rossendale Road Club alive through some difficult times not too long ago, and Malcolm Firth, who coached riders in our area and was an ever-present in the good old days when 100s and 12 hour events were part of the fabric of the sport in the Brock/Garstang area.

Treasurer Hazel Matthews reminds us that there are still a number of members who have not yet renewed their membership which is £12 for singles and £13 for couples.

We have three new members joining our Group and we welcome Mervyn Wilson of Burnley and a member of VC167, Stephen Costello of Preston of Bill Nickson Cycles RT and Alan Carrick of Brampton a member of Border City Wheelers.

Dave Brown



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WEST

It's half way through May and the weather is still rather unstable, although I have just heard that we are due for a few days of high pressure at the end of the week. Hopefully it will last awhile.

Last Friday night, 9th of May, the West Vets held a 10-mile time trial and then a get-together for some refreshments and our prize presentation. Actually that is far too simplistic, it wasn't like that at all. It was a magnificent attempt, by our secretary Gordon Scott and his dear lady wife Jemma, to re-establish an event which Janet Wilson used to organise so well just a few years ago to celebrate in the best possible way what the West Vets is really all about. Pity that only 26 of our members turned up to see what a splendid surprise was in store for us. Ray Retter drove up from deepest Devon, which certainly made a point to those who live nearby.

The time trial went off very well despite there being only six entries. This included our 80-year-old chairman Brian Barraclough who completed the course in a very respectable 31 minutes and won first on standard.

When we entered the village hall we soon realised what a really superb venue Gordon had chosen for the occasion. The new village hall at Upper Seagry was way beyond our expectations. All brand new and pristine with every possible facility laid on for us.

Jemma, with a little help from member's wives, had set out what can only be described as a mini banquet with a truly delightful selection of food for us all to sit and enjoy in the most convivial of company.

Then on to the prize presentation, which went off very smoothly, despite some of the most significant prizewinners being absent.

All in all a great success and one which I feel sure will be repeated next year, hopefully with many more members present to share our joy. Gordon and Jemma, you did a really great job and it was very much appreciated.

Mike Jupp turned up at the prize presentation with the latest edition of the West Vet and managed to save the group quite a bit of postage money in the process. Unfortunately most of the articles came from one person. Sorry about that but otherwise you wouldn't have had much of a

magazine. Anyway I hope you found my contributions interesting.

Everyone has a story to tell, a bit of news, a report or a few jokes, perhaps a gripe that they want to air. So come on, please put pen to paper with something to make Mike's job a little easier. Anyway we really want to hear from every one of you!

Cycling is receiving a massive boost this year so let's make the best of it. With the Women's Tour of Britain and the "Giro de Italia" on at the moment, lots of interest is being shown from within and indeed outside the sport, which has got to be good. The biggest boost will obviously be the Tour de France when it comes to Yorkshire this year. It was a brave move on their part but it certainly looks as though it will succeed in the way they would have hoped.

Accommodation is at a premium and very difficult to locate at this late stage. Few people realise just how many people will line the roadsides for a brief glimpse of the riders as they speed past.

Few people will have seen a spectacle to match it in any other sport. Just imagine more people will watch for free the world's greatest sporting event than watch the whole of the football league in a month and of course they (the soccer spectators) will be paying dearly for it.

Lots of people will watch the TV coverage delighting in the sight of familiar Yorkshire towns and villages as well as the vast moors and dale scenery, as shown from the height of the helicopter. I just hope that the weather is good for everyone, to really show off things to their best advantage. It has to be good for Yorkshire's economy both this year and well into the future. I didn't manage to record even the major prize winner's earlier in my report!

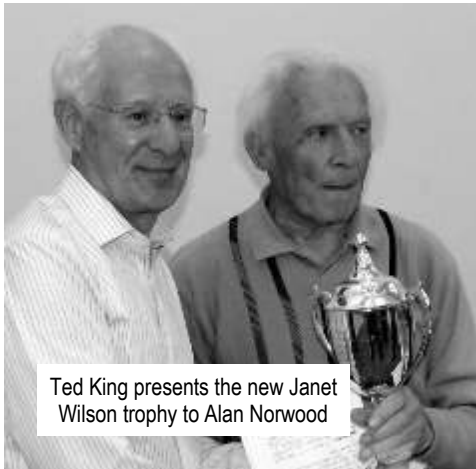
Needless to say Bob Pears mopped up most of the men's trophies and Mary Jane Hutchinson took care of a number of the ladies awards.

Congratulations to two of our members, Gordon Lee and George Keene who recently gained Honorary Life Membership, both well into their eighties and still actively riding their bikes. I reckon that there must be one or two more members who won't be too long before they get their names on the list.

Alan Norwood was the proud recipient of the new Bath CC. (Janet Wilson) trophy presented as

recognition of ten years as editor of the West Vet magazine.

I'm always prodding people to contribute to our Group so as a final round up, please remember that, we want your subscriptions if you haven't already paid them. We want your contributions for the magazine. Please support our events by either riding or helping with the organisation whenever you can and try to recruit a few new members especially from the younger end of the age scale. Let me have any news to help out with my contribution to the National magazine!



Ted King presents the new Janet Wilson trophy to Alan Norwood

Brian Griffiths

WESSEX

First my apology for the non-appearance of my piece in the last Veteran. I sent it off but somehow it went astray, seemingly adrift after leaving my laptop and before hitting its target. I picture some ephemeral spirit up there somewhere, bored to tears reading such missives and only allowing passage of those which make sense.

But hitting its target already without problem, has been the "Wessex Icke Missile", now at age 70 homing straight in on the National 25 age record on 4th May in the Port Talbot event with 53:11. This was a 70 seconds improvement on the time set by our John Woodburn in 2008. Terry is clearly also warming up the after-burners aiming at the men's 10 age record, having already twice

recorded 21:47 in opens this year. In the Port Talbot event Andy Langdown and Tom Cox also shone with 50:14 and 56:13 respectively.

The Group showed well in the VTTA Championship 10 with a clutch of +60 year olds shining:- Alan Emmott (67) 22:42, Allan Renyard (72) – all the way from Guernsey – 23:33, Barry Quick (67) 23:36, Dave England (70) (just back from wild-flower hunting in India, with only an elephant to train on), and the icing on the cake from Dick Poole (82) with new Group age record 28:02. Yes, the same Dick Poole who over 50 years ago beat the End to End bicycle record. The Group's fastest and most successful rider to date this year is Seb Ader with 2nd place on scratch in both the Hants RC 10 in 20:07 and 3rd in the a3crg 10 in 20:14.

Outdoing our lads in the Championship 10 were our men in the Championship 100. Here the Group had no less than 11 finishers (a record from the Group in recent years), with our new member Andy Topham – to whom welcome - taking 2nd place with + 1:11:26, and fastest actual time with 3:40:05. The Wessex trio of Andy Topham, High Wycombe CC, Phil Watts, North Hants RC and Tom Cox would have been clear winners of the team award had it not been for clubs and not groups.

Fingers crossed that this piece gets past that thing up there!

Peter Warhurst

MIDLAND

The season started well with the VTTA Midlands and Echelon Cycles Open 10 on April 12 2014. Many thanks to all officials and VTTA committee members plus their families for help leading up to the event and of course on the day.

A chilly and windy afternoon did not prevent fast times on the K11/10T, including some from the Midlands VTTA riders. Thanks also to timekeeper Charlie Barnett and Jan Ford for help with the catering.

On actual fastest there was an impressive win for Matt Clinton (19.25) with Jon Simpkins the only other rider getting under 20 minutes on the day (19.44). Jon Simpkins was also best on Standard

(+6.29) and winner of the VTTA's Strevens Cup, which was allocated to the best on Standard ride at this VTTA Midlands event.

In second position on Standard was Karl Moseley (+5.59), closely followed by Joe Costello, a newcomer to the Midlands group (+5.52). Joint fourth was shared by Mark Mullender and Neil Coventry (+5.32). The fastest team on Standard, as well as on actual was Walsall Road CC with Costello, Mullender and Scott Westwood (+5.25) making up the team. First female on Standard was Sue Smith (+2.39) with April Lewis second (+0.3). Overall 86 riders finished the course which was a great turn out for an early season race. The Midlands group are delighted that Echelon Cycles have agreed to sponsor the Rankings competition for another year and results will be published shortly for the current standings. Like last year, a minimum of six Midland events are needed to qualify. Prizes will be awarded to the top three in each category (combining the elite and 1st categories, then 2nd, 3rd and 4th categories) and there will be a prize for the most improved rider in each category as well, by comparing last year and this year's points. Any tie will be decided by the rider achieving the most points in the three VTTA/Echelon events. The group now has over 120 members and a new Secretary, Scott Westwood and Treasurer, Tim Wood, which is great news.



Miranda Harris

KENT

The Group's first open 10 was held on 8 March on the Q10/22 course from Harrietsham to Charing and back. This event, for the Mick Dansie Trophy and organised with the normal friendly efficiency

by Val Peachey, was won by Simon Henderson of Thanet RC with +3.33, which given the rather breezy conditions was excellent. Dave Stocker (Abelio SFA RT: +3.06), Ian Hodge (Southborough & District Wheelers: +3.05) and Chris Bax (PMR @ Toachim House: +2.54) filled the other medal slots. The team prize was taken by PMR @ Toachim House (Chris Bax and Mark Wright) with +4.45.

The Group's second open event of the season was the 30 held on Q30/2 on 11th May. This was scheduled to be run on Q30/2 on Romney Marsh, but it came to light that there was a triathlon using parts of the course and so the event was hastily moved to Harrietsham. The weather was once again windy and cool, and honours went to Simon Henderson (Thanet RC: +12.04), Ian Hodge (Southborough and District Wheelers: +9.31), Chris Bax (PMR Toachim House: +8.12) and Paul Smith (Catford CC: +6.25).

The Group's Wednesday 10 series, which continues to be arranged by Duncan Leith, has seen its first two events on each of the first Wednesdays of April and May. The April event on Q10/38 (Great Chart) was won by Mike Daniels (Southborough & District Wheelers) with +5.51 based on old age standards which this series has adopted as the events are not 'open'. Mike improves every year and it can't be long before he achieves a Kent Age Record for his efforts.

Second and third respectively were Bob Giles (+5.43) and Chris Bax (+5.40), both of PMR Toachim House. The May event was held on Q10/33 (Tenterden, Appledore, Woodchurch) and was won by Shay Giles - recently rejoined - with +7.36, followed by Bob Giles and Chris Bax once again, with +6.34 and +5.44 respectively.

The Group's second committee meeting this year was held immediately following the 30 on 11th May. It was reported by Carole Gandy, our Secretary, that the Group now had a total of 170 members which is down on last year, 18 members having lapsed. The committee felt that the continuing decline in numbers was due to the change in the standards which whilst not impacting on older riders in National VTTA events does affect riders who ride the local Kent events. Lower standard results, which in some cases record a negative, do not encourage members to continue racing or even apply to obtain their

standards over the course of the season. Indeed, the Recorder reported that only three members had registered for Standards so far this season. We learnt with sadness of the passing of Norman Anderson, who had been an active member of the Group over many years and had achieved a number of good results. A full obituary will be published in the Group's own Kent Vets News. Safe training and racing out there – let's hope for a really nice summer.

lan Turner

LONDON & HOME COUNTIES

The winter months, rain but no snow or iced up roads, has seen a large number of cyclists out on their bikes during the early months of the year. We all know that many of the riders we see out at weekends or weekdays are not members of clubs let alone racing people or members of the VTTA. The question we have to ask is why do so many of these riders not join a club, we all know they will pay their high entry fee for a Sportive ride which in most cases is organised by a company who sells bikes and that they ride hard over various distances to enable them to say on a Monday to colleagues at work what they had done. We believe the sport of cycling has to find a way of attracting these people into our clubs as many could be future champions with some encouragement from the likes of ourselves. Now to what have the racing men and ladies of the London group been doing since the start of the season way back in February?

On the 23rd, in the North Road Hard riders 25, Tim Davies clocked 1.04.04, Richard Moule 1.1.20 and woman rider for Team MK, Katja Rietdorf, 1.16.15.

A month later in the Hemel Hempstead CC Hilly 21.5 mile event, which included some quite difficult climbs - in particular Bison Hill near Whipsnade Zoo which has 1 in 5 in places - we had Tim Davies finishing with 54.56, Richard Moule 1.01.09, Geoff Bunyan 1.01.21, Katja Rietdorf 1.07.19 and Colin Holmes 1.12.47.

On the following weekend in the VTTA East 25, Roger Porter clocked 1.00.45 and Tim Davies won the Norlond TTC 10 up in Northamptonshire with 22.15 +4.12.

In the Beds Road CC 25 on the F1/25 north bound course on the Sunday before Easter, Pete Lawrence recorded 52.45, Alan Crane 59.02, Ian Markham 59.55, Richard Moule 1.00.21 and Dave Rogers 1.05.36.

A week later, on Good Friday in the Welwyn Wheelers Hilly 50Km event on the lanes around Hitchin, Tim Davies recorded 1.19.17, John Lacey 1.22.46, Roger Porter 1.25.25, Alan Crane 1.25.46, Ian Markham 1.26.08, Helen Boatman 1.28.27, Richard Moule 1.30.21, Richard Hutt 1.31.29 and Tim Burrows 1.32.15.

On the following Sunday morning, in the Finsbury Park sporting 10, Richard Hutt clocked 27.20 (+2.26), Helen Boatman 27.51 (+2.41) and Richard Moule 28.24 (+2.37). Back to Good Friday and with the High Wycombe CC 10 there were a string of group members riding, led by Adam Topham with a brilliant 19:19 which gave him a plus of 7:04 and first place in both categories. Then Ian Greenstreet recording 20.31 (+6.14), Geoff Powell 20.51 (+6.08), John Roberts 21.12 (+5.29), John Sullivan 21.45 (+5.00), Sean Holmes 22.10 (+4.40), Alan Simmonds 22.13 (+4.56), Pete Cookson 22.39 (+5.20) and Danuta Tinn 23.12 (+5.36).

Moving on to the early May Bank Holiday weekend on the Sunday in the Norlond TTC 30 on the F1/30 northbound course, Andrew Halliday clocked 1.06.21, Harold Waller 1.09.04, Geoff Bunyan 1.09.46, Geoff Pery 1.11.32, Alan Crane 1.12.01, Richard Moule 1.13.13 and Dave Rogers 1.17.18.

On the Monday we had the Championship 10 which is reported elsewhere in the Magazine and two days later on 7 May on the same Tring/ Aylesbury course Dave Matthews organised the first of the Group afternoon 10s. By changing to this course from the old F12/10, the entries went from about 40 to 100, all the riders chasing a fast time. Group results are published within the *Results* pages.

Later in the week on the F15/10 course in the Bossard Wheelers 10, Peter Lawrence clocked 21.44 (+4.25), Tim Davies 22.42 (+3.45), Alan Simmonds 23.15 (+3.54), Geoff Bunyan 23.22 (+3.37), Richard Hutt 23.33 (+3.41), John Dowling 23.53 (+3.27).

Came the 11 May and Adam Topham decided to ride the Wessex 50 which he won with 1:49:59.

On the same week-end in the Norlond TTC 50 on F1/50, Peter Harridge clocked 2.03.00 and the Group joined forces with West and formed a trio of promoters in the West London CA 30, held on part of the hallowed portion of the Bath Road between Theale and Thatcham.

It was a day to remember, with road works traffic lights erected as the event was in progress and two steam rollers moving at about one mph. It was cold and it was wet! An entry of 18 was reduced to six finishers plus two on a tandem. Ian Greenstreet was best on standard with a plus of 12:50

On the weekend of 17/18May we had group riders in numerous events. On the Saturday in the Newbury RC 25, top of the Leader Board again Ian Greenstreet demonstrating the potential of Course H25/1 with a splendid 52.49 (+15.13). Others taking part were John Dowling 56.05 (+13.29), Steve Davies 1.00.09 (+10.29), Rob Gilmour 1.00.24 (+10.33), Peter Cockbain 1.07.15 (+8.28), Gill Reynolds 1.07.38 (+10.09), Les Morris 1.08.01 (+6.05) and group treasurer, 83 year old Chas Jepson, clocking 1.19.21 (+4.55).

On Sunday in the ECCA 50, Tim Davies recorded 1.50.10 and down on the H25/2 course in the High Wycombe 25 on a lovely morning, Adam Topham broke the course record with a stunning 48:47 and a plus of 18:16; again first in both categories. Peter Lawrence finished with 51.03 (+15.23), Geoff Powell 53.27 (+15.12), Alan Simmonds 55.09 (+13.56), Harold Waller 55.14 (+12.36), John Lacey 55.15 (+12.47), John Sullivan 55.56 (+12.06), Andrew Halliday 56.10 - which included a 54 seconds late start - (+10.16), Peter Harridge 56.29 (+13.20) and Rob Gilmour 56.34 (+14.23).

The National Championship 100 was incorporated in the traditional Hounslow 100 and again Ian Greenstreet shone – just outside the prizes in fourth place with a ride of 3:54:06 and a plus of 62:30. Full result in later pages.

Just four days later another of the weekday 10s got under way. A rare Thursday afternoon event on course H10/2 promoted by Chas Jepson. The Hounslow's Bob Gilmour was third with a plus of 4:47 and he joined Nic Staggy to take the team award (two being the requirement on this occasion).

Most of the Group's promotions are reported on

the VTTA website www.vtta.org.uk.

The Group has collected 39 new members so far this year, plus the transfer of Ian Greenstreet from West Group, Roger Sewell from Scotland, Chris Beales and Teresa Goddard from Surrey-Sussex.

The new members are:

Andrew Clements; Mark Jones; Richard Baskerville; Pete Smith; Adrian Feek; Paul Allday; Alan Murchinson; Keith Griffin; Richard Hutt; Rob Young; Ian Crosby; Steve Golla; Damian Poulter; Ian Baynes; Michael Garvey; Stuart Wright; Peter Weir; Nick McCullough; Lez Young; Paul Warburton; Steve Robinson; Rhys Jones; Jonathan Unsworth; Paul Beck; Stephen Morrell; Simon Norman; Geir Robinson, Robert Luff, Grant Orsborn, Paul Innes, Jeff King; Adrian Briers; Colin Hodges; Matt Molloy, Tommy Lawrence, Richard Hancock, Michael Webb and Mark Ellis. Final notices have gone out to ten members who have not renewed, hopefully they will realise the oversight and be back with us once they notice the absence of the magazine.

Keep the pedals turning whether in anger racing or just riding the country lanes.



Peter Tasker and Jim Burgin

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YORKSHIRE

As I write this piece in late April, we have just had a few dry days although still freezing; any more and there would have been the threat of standpipes! In recent weeks there have been visits by leading riders from the Pro Peleton looking over the stages of the Tour to be held in Yorkshire. They were probably under the illusion that it would be warmer in July, and dry. They could be in for a shock.

Now for more sombre news: Malcolm Davidson, Seacroft Wheelers, has died after a long battle with illness. He will be sadly missed from our Tuesday run to Angela's. A full obituary appears elsewhere.

Our first event of the season, Mike Williams' 10, had 131 solos and four tandems. On a breezy afternoon some fast rides were done. The winner on standard was Michael Ellerton (52), Team Swift, with +7:04; he was also second on actual time with a scorching 19:50. In second place on standard was Adam Topham (45), High Wycombe CC with +6:53 and an actual time of 19:30. In third place was Michael Allen (67), M I Racing with +6:47, actual 21:45. The 19:30 of Adam Topham was the fastest ride of the day. The Team Prize was taken by Team Swift, Michael Ellerton being supported by Andre Dyason (53) +6:11, 20:48, and Phil Barnes (59) +5:35, 21:57. Winner of the women's event was Jo Corbett (58), Team Swift, +5:39, 23:59. The fastest ride of the day among the women – unsurprisingly – was set by World Pursuit Champion Joanna Rowsell (25), Wiggle Honda, with 20:59, an interesting point for our younger readers. This is just 26 seconds faster than Beryl's comp record set 41 years ago in 1973 without all today's technology. The gap then between the men's and women's 10 record was 49 seconds. Now it is 2:02 – food for thought. Fastest tandem on the day was Scott Burns and Jerry Cross, Manchester Wheelers, with 19:00. Once again Stan Chadwick, Scarborough Paragon, made a generous donation to the prize fund. Many thanks, Stan, you are a gentleman. I just hope that the riders appreciate this gesture by one of our eldest members. So that was it, our first event over. Thanks are due to Mike Williams for promoting once again, and the good news is

that Mike has had a change of heart and will continue to promote this event next season.

Thanks also to Mike's team of helpers, without whom the event couldn't go ahead.

A reminder that our Half Yearly Meeting will be on 4 August at a new venue, Collingham Memorial Hall, at 7 30 pm and, as usual, next season's events will be decided. Also looking ahead, our next events will be Andrew Vaughan's 25 on 20 July and Steve Gaunt's 10 on 6 September; helpers for both events will be welcome.

More sad news: our older members may remember Pat Flanagan of the Yorkshire Century RC. Pat passed away, aged 80, after a long illness. Pat's first club was Halifax Imperial Wheelers, She said the first time she went out with them they took her 120 miles on a ladies bike with plain shoes and no toe-clips! She joined the Yorkshire Century RC and in 1956, with clubmates Pam Hodson and Dot Grayson, they broke the Ladies 15 national team competition record. In the same year, she won the West Yorkshire Ladies 3000m Individual Pursuit Championship on the grass track at Roundhay Park, Leeds. In 1957, she finished 7th in the Women's British Best All Rounder Competition with 1:04:57 at 25 miles, 2:16:02 at 50 miles and 4:42:24 at 100 miles, Before you think times like these are nothing special, bear in mind this was 57 years ago with equipment far different from today. In the same year, she finished 4th in the Women's National 50 Championship and 6th in the Women's National 100 Championship in 1990. She joined the Mid-Shropshire Wheelers CC as a family member. She was married to Dennis Milsom, Mid-Shropshire Wheelers CC, and a Merseyside Group member to whom we extend our deepest sympathy along with their sons Timothy, Anthony and Jason.

Yet more bad news, I'm afraid: I have learned that Peter Macklam, Leeds St Christopher's CC, has been knocked off his bike and is in hospital; although I don't know the extent of his injuries, I'm sure we wish him a speedy recovery.

By the time you read this, the Tour will be almost here in Yorkshire. If the first stage is a flat sprinters stage, why are the 'Mountain Rescue A teams practising on the route?

Fabian Cancellara has put his hour record attempt

on hold while the UCI decide what the record is he should attack. For a fee I could tell them; it's the 56.375km by Chris Boardman. They say they want to restore the prestige of the record, but the whole thing has become a farce.... and talking of a farce, the World Cup, with the rolling on the grass in agony brigade, is about to start. Thank heaven for the Giro D'Italia.

See you up the road/
Malcolm T Cowgill

EAST ANGLIAN GROUP

First for the good news: another crop of new recruits, making 33 so far in 2014:

Gray Turner, Finsbury Park CC
Douglas Reilly, Godric CC
Giles Sharp, Stowmarket & District CC
Nigel Walsh, North Norfolk Wheelers
James McKenzie, CC Ashwell
Jim Erith, Private Member
Antony Brown, Kettering CC
Richard Reade, Norwich ABC
Michael Coulter, Gravesend CC
Alan Reade, Private Member
Jeff Wharton, Velochils Interbike RT
Mick White, East London Velo
Sean Taylor, RAF CC
Malcolm Sadler, Chelmer CC
Darren Baker, West Suffolk Wheelers
Len Benton, Colchester Rovers CC
Ian Short, API-Metro
Roger Chappell, East London Velo
Michael Pheasant, Ipswich BC

Sadly, this has to be balanced against several resignations and others who have failed to respond to more than one reminder; all costing money, especially considering the increased postal charges. Therefore total membership is down to just over 300 (289 individuals and 22 doubles).

It is always pleasing to record a comeback by former top men; this time it's Colchester Rovers' Len Benton. He and Jim Reed now need to get more of the veteran Rovers into our ranks by reminding them that their Stan Raby and Jack

King were original officers of the Group and gave many years of loyal service, which is not forgotten. Jack is remembered, along with another trike-man, who did much work for the TA, by the King/Fisher Trophy.

Wolsey RC have welcomed Ted Saunderson's upgrading from second to first claim membership after his long-time adherence to the Ipswich BC. The latter is obviously not the "same club" that Group founder Herbie Neville knew during his years as President.

After a good start to the season. Peter Baumber met his Waterloo when seeking SPOCO points in the Stowmarket & District Hilly. He gave everyone a fright by coming off on gravel on a fast bend, sustaining severe grazing down one side, five shoulder fractures and three broken ribs which punctured his lung. The top tube on his ORBEA was severed - but even worse, according to Peter, was that the medics cut his skinsuit off: it was only its second outing! As Peter is a full-time helper for his wife Rosemary, he has decided to hang up his wheels in order to avoid a possible further incident curtailing his home duties. Bad luck for this popular couple. However, all is not lost as Peter has become a cheerful spectator at events, along with his timekeeper son - and with a timekeeper granddaughter already in training!

Notwithstanding the loss of such a prolific prize-winner, Cambridge CC succeeded in retaining their team championship title in the National VTTA 10 with Ken Platts team leader in fourth place and Martin Reynolds third man. They have been joined by Chris Dyason who, although resident in the district, had up to now faithfully retained membership of Viking RC, the family connections reaching back some years. Sadly the club now lacks racing members. Chris is a useful rider, holding group record with 54:15 at 64. The Dyason name will forever be bracketed with that of Ozzo.

There was an unusual tie for BoS in this event when the darling of Aberdeen (did you see him on the TV programme Amazing Greys?), Derek Stewart, after his long journey south, just failed to displace the all-conquering Rob Pears from the top of the tree. Eric Marsh was in sixth place with 25:59, a good beating of Tom Blanchflower's



The Winning Team in the Championship 10

28:33 at 84 in 2011, and looks set to improve Tom's 25 for another group record.

No result yet for the ECCA 50, which was reported to have had a hard finish on a very rare warm day. Mary Twitchett was delighted with her big improvement, as was Ron Back with his age group record and even more so by beating club-mate Tricia

Goulden, who is thrashing her way through the women's over 50 records. These female tri-athletes and bi-athletes often go for a run after a time trial - no, I have not noticed any men doing so!

Not so lucky was Barbara Law, to whom the above also applies, who was found beside the road after finishing an ECCA Festival event, necessitating a quick visit to hospital and found to be suffering from multi-bruising, thus missing a trip to Spain for the World Biathlon Championships, where she had a good chance of winning her age group; but worse was to come: her husband Terry suffered a brain haemorrhage and, at the time of writing, is a patient in Queen's Hospital, Romford, The Group send their good wishes to all victims of

accident and incident for their full recovery, hoping to see them up the road again soon.

On a lighter note, President Terry Anderson, aka Big Tel, lost some dignity by falling off in an ECCA event but was said to be in remarkably good humour at the finish, in spite of writing off his Zipp front wheel and suffering minor injuries. It was suggested he would be safer to stay on three wheels!

Generally speaking, this season to date has been a mixed one with cancellations due to weather, road works, floods etc. Gone are the days when everyone started and carried on regardless - it's now a different world - and after course changes due to road works, the first 10 of the Victoria/VTTA series fell victim to flooded roads, necessitating more work for Christine and Dougie Yareham, who are hoping that nothing happens to the rest of the series, although other events seem threatened.

Here's to plenty of good times in the remaining season.

Mary Horsnell



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The National Championship Ten

Report by the National Secretary, Rachael Elliott

This year's 10 mile championship was promoted by the London & Home Counties group on the F11/10 course with the VTTA National Treasurer, Cliff Grant, as Event Secretary. The relatively new course on the Aston Clinton & Tring bypass has earned itself a reputation for having the speed potential of the V718 on a good day, and it was therefore of little surprise that the event started with a full field of 150 riders.

It was clear from the start of the event that the blustery wind was going put an end to any hopes of superfast performances. When Derek Stewart (Deeside Thistle) of Scotland Group rode an incredibly impressive 22:43 equating to a plus of +7:57, it seemed unlikely it would be beaten. Derek had an exceptionally nervous wait of some 90 minutes before the result of last year's champion, Rob Pears (Bath CC) of the West Group reached headquarters.

Incredibly, 51-year-old Rob's fast time of 18:53 equated to exactly the same plus as Derek's (+7:57) meaning we had the rare situation of the win being a tie.

70-year-old Brian Sunter (Condor RC) of the Yorkshire Group's plus of 7:47 for a time of 21:15 also represented a truly exceptional ride and saw him awarded third place. In fact, such was the standard of the Championship field, no fewer than eight riders scored a plus greater than +7:00 in the event – and it was only due to unfortunate late starts which stopped the entire field being rewarded with pluses on standard.

Ken Platts (Cambridge CC) of the East Anglia Group missed a podium spot by just three seconds (+7:44), but hopefully this was more than made up for by winning the team prize together with clubmates Chris Dyson (+6:37) and Martin Reynolds (+5:59) equating to a combined plus of 20:03. The tandem prize went to Geoff Perry and Kevin Stokes (Team Milton Keynes) of the London & Home Counties Group with a time of 19:54 equating to a plus of +4:11.

A special mention must also go to the first placed woman rider, Danuta Tinn (Maidenhead & District CC) of the London & Home Counties Group. Forty-nine year old Danuta's time equated to a plus of +6:57 and, as second placed London & Home Counties Group rider, meant she was awarded the Don Byham Trophy.

Another point of note was the wide range of ages in the top 10 riders. The span of ages for the first ten riders was no less than 41 years: perhaps the perfect display of the effectiveness of the new standards.

Each rider in the Championship was provided with a complimentary digital photograph taken by Kimroy, the VTTA official photographer.

Not content with the promotion of the Championship containing a field of 150 riders, the Group ran a second event comprising a mixture of ages with an entry of 96.

Both events were extremely successful and made for a highly enjoyable way to spend a May Day Bank Holiday – testament to the hard work of Event Secretary Clifford Grant and his devoted team of helpers.

Photographs can be viewed at VTTA 10 Mile Championship Photographs by Kimroy Photography.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 10

Promoted by London and Home Counties Group on 5 May 2014

Derek Stewart	Deeside Thistle CC	Scotland	77	22:43	07:57
Rob Pears	Bath CC	West	51	18:53	07:57
Brian Sunter	Condor RC	Yorkshire	70	21:15	07:47
Ken Platts	Cambridge CC	East Anglia	62	20:07	07:44
Jon Simpkins	Drag2zero	Midlands	43	18:53	07:20
Eric Marsh	PCA Ciclos UNO	East Anglian	84	25:59	07:18
Jim Moffatt	Virgin Active Cycling Team	London & Home Counties	57	20:05	07:15
Reg Smith	Velo Refined	Kent	67	21:27	07:05
Danuta Tinn (W)	Maidenhead & District CC	London	49	21:51	06:57
Ian Greenstreet	Newbury RC	London & Home Counties	50	19:53	06:52
Sean Childs	Royal Navy & Royal Marines CA	West	43	19:21	06:52
Roger Porter	Verulam CC	London & Home Counties	67	21:43	06:49
Keith Ainsworth	Sheffrec CC	North Midlands	55	20:22	06:47
Steve Irwin	Kingston Wheelers CC	East Anglia	43	19:34	06:39
Andre Dyason	Team Swift	East Anglia	53	20:22	06:37
Helen Reynolds (W)	Hemel Hempstead CC	London & Home Counties	48	22:08	06:35
Jim Reed	Colchester Rovers CC	East Anglia	65	21:41	06:33
Ken Stevens	South Pennine RC	Nottingham and East Mids	83	26:19	06:30
Brian Camfield	Stone Wheelers CC	Manchester & NW	66	21:53	06:30
Angus MacInnes	RAF CA	Surrey-Sussex	49	20:13	06:28
Dave Green	RAF CA	East Anglia	50	20:19	06:26
Steve Golla	High Wycombe CC	London & Home Counties	40	19:34	06:25
John Dowling	Hemel Hempstead CC	London & Home Counties	57	20:56	06:24
Jason Gurney	Arbis-Colbert Cycles RT	London & Home Counties	44	19:56	06:22
Chris Dyason	Cambridge CC	East Anglian	66	22:03	06:20
Chris Roberts	Anglia Velo	East Anglia	69	22:32	06:20
Neil Coventry	Rugby CC	Midlands	56	20:55	06:19
Scott Westwood	Walsall Roads Cycling Club	Midlands	42	19:51	06:18
Richard Birtwhistle	Sydenham Wheelers	Kent	58	21:19	06:07
Andy Langdown	Hampshire RC	Wessex	45	20:18	06:05
Richard Williams	Farnham RC	London	69	22:37	06:05
David Evans	Worcester St. Johns CC	South Wales	57	21:16	06:04
Richard Gifford	In-Gear Quickvit Trainsharp RT	Surrey-Sussex	51	20:48	06:02
Richard Newey	Thames Turbo Triathlon Club	Surrey-Sussex	48	20:35	06:01
Andy Tyler	CC Breckland	East Anglia	44	20:18	06:00
Tony Stott	VTTA (Yorkshire)	Yorkshire	69	22:52	06:00
Michael Gowan	Festival RC	Surrey/Sussex	70	23:03	05:59
Merv Player	Hertfordshire Wheelers	East Anglian	80	25:38	05:59

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 10

Promoted by London and Home Counties Group on 5 May 2014

Tony May	TMG Horizon Cycling Team	East Anglia	56	21:15	05:59
Allan Simmonds	VC 10	London & Home Counties	55	21:10	05:59
Martin Reynolds	Cambridge CC	East Anglia	51	20:51	05:59
Simon Wix	Worcester St John's CC	Midlands	51	20:51	05:59
Howard Staunton	Hainault RC	East Anglia	60	21:41	05:57
John Lacey	Hemel Hempstead CC	London & Home Counties	50	20:48	05:57
Stu Wright	Planet X Racing Team	London & Home Counties	46	20:31	05:56
Pete Smith	Team Jewson, MI Racing, Polypipe	London	56	21:18	05:56
Gillian Reynolds (W)	Willesden CC	London	65	24:36	05:55
Paul Durrant	Club Ciclista Albatara	South Wales	69	22:58	05:54
Simon Henderson	Thanet RC	Kent	51	20:56	05:54
Allan Renyard	Guernsey Velo Club	Wessex	72	23:33	05:53
Stephen Campbell	Twickenham CC	London & Home Counties	44	20:25	05:53
Richard Hutt	Harp RC	London & Home Counties	56	21:22	05:52
Geoff Powell	High Wycombe CC	London & Home Counties	53	21:07	05:52
Alan Emmott	Fareham Wheelers	Wessex	67	22:42	05:50
Peter Weir	Banjo Cycles.com	London & Home Counties	40	20:10	05:49
John J Murphy	Gloucester City CC	West	74	24:05	05:48
Robert Watson	Newmarket Cycling & Triathlon Club	East Anglia	53	21:11	05:48
Jeff Roberts	High Wycombe CC	London & Home Counties	49	20:54	05:47
Keith Dorling	Bishop's Stortford CC	East Anglia	55	21:28	05:41
John Adams	Stowmarket & District CC	East Anglian	69	23:11	05:41
Tony Harvey	Mid Shropshire Wheelers	Merseyside	53	21:20	05:39
Carl Whitwell	St Ives CC	East Anglia	42	20:30	05:39
John Francis	High Wycombe CC	London & Home Counties	64	22:28	05:38
Helen Boatman (W)	Team Milton Keynes	London & Home Counties	43	22:42	05:37
Adrian Humpage	Lyme Racing Club	London	51	21:13	05:37
John Sullivan	Westerley Cycling Club	London & Home Counties	50	21:10	05:35
Alan Lang	VTTA (North)	North	56	21:40	05:34
Alan Murchison	Banjo Cycles.com	London & Home Counties	43	20:43	05:30
Steve Clarke	TMG Horizon Cycling Team	East Anglia	59	22:02	05:30
Philip Young	Hertfordshire Wheelers	East Anglian	64	22:38	05:28
Gavin Hinxman	Kettering A CC	East Anglia	46	20:59	05:28
Andrew Ferry	Bigfoot CC	East Anglia	46	21:00	05:27
John Golder	Chelmer CC	East Anglia	60	22:11	05:27
Katja Rietdorf (W)	Team Milton Keynes	London & Home Counties	43	22:53	05:26
Martin Winter	Twickenham CC	London & Home Counties	49	21:16	05:25
Daryl Godden	Gloucester City CC	West	55	21:47	05:22

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 10

Promoted by London and Home Counties Group on 5 May 2014

Tom Boulton	Finsbury Park CC	East Anglian	42	20:47	05:22
Andrew Clarke	Mid Shropshire Wheelers	Merseyside	54	21:43	05:21
Richard Williams	Bigfoot CC	Kent	50	21:24	05:21
Paul Clarkson	Kingston Wheelers CC	Surrey-Sussex	49	21:23	05:18
Richard Burton	Westerley CC	London	58	22:08	05:18
Steve Davies	Addiscombe CC	London	61	22:28	05:16
Barry Quick	Reading CC	Wessex	69	23:36	05:16
Richard Moule	Bossard Wheelers	London & Home Counties	57	22:05	05:15
Den Tapping	Hampshire RC	Wessex	57	22:05	05:15
Peter Cockbain	South Bucks RC	London	73	24:24	05:15
Stuart Martingale	Sotonia CC	Wessex	46	21:12	05:15
Tim Childs	Westerley Cycling Club	London & Home Counties	51	21:39	05:11
Keith Griffin	Kingston Wheelers CC	London	49	21:31	05:10
Mike Williams	Team Swift	Yorkshire	68	23:33	05:09
Roger Foster	Club Corley Cycles	Midlands	54	21:55	05:09
Mark Woolford	Chippenham & Dist. Wheelers	West	48	21:28	05:08
Peter Cookson	Willesden CC	London	63	22:53	05:06
David England	Crabwood CC	Wessex	70	23:56	05:06
Michael Hennessey	Southen Wheelers	East Anglian	73	24:33	05:06
Cliff Voller	Newbury RC	West	63	22:55	05:04
Andrew Halliday	Westerley Cycling Club	London & Home Counties	42	21:05	05:04
Martin Dickinson	Deal Tri	Kent	43	21:11	05:02
Dave Wentworth	Team Salesengine.co.uk	London & Home Counties	60	22:37	05:01
Kevin Grimshaw	Bigfoot CC	North Midlands	47	21:32	05:00
Geoffrey Reynolds	Hemel Hempstead CC	London & Home Counties	48	21:39	04:57
Tony Peach	Crewe Clarion Wheelers	Manchester & NW	52	22:00	04:54
Yvonne Gurney (W)	Team Milton Keynes	London & Home Counties	41	23:17	04:51
Ian Baynes	Hemel Hempstead CC	London & Home Counties	40	21:09	04:50
Andrew Jones	Charlotteville CC	Surrey-Sussex	51	22:00	04:50
Simon Greenland	Maidenhead & District CC	London	61	22:55	04:49
Steve Peck	Newmarket Cycling & Triathlon Club	East Anglia	56	22:26	04:48
Robert Barrett	High Wycombe CC	London & Home Counties	63	23:12	04:47
Colin Holmes	Icknield RC	London & Home Counties	71	24:33	04:41
Mike Appleyard	Lancashire RC	London	48	22:00	04:36
Alan Allcock	Didcot Phoenix CC	London & Home Counties	59	22:57	04:35
Neil Wood	Lichfield City CC	Midlands	42	21:37	04:32
Andy Morgan	Corinium CC	West	45	21:52	04:31
Paul Barnes	Newmarket Cycling and Tri Club	East Anglian	43	21:42	04:31

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 10

Promoted by London and Home Counties Group on 5 May 2014

Mike Zuill	Reading CC	London & Home Counties	67	24:04	04:28
Clive Faine	Team Milton Keynes	London & Home Counties	67	24:05	04:27
Tony Day	Bigfoot CC	East Anglian	43	21:47	04:26
Peter Tantrum	Didcot Phoenix CC	West	49	22:16	04:25
Bernard Lamb (Trike)	Hemel Hempstead CC	London & Home Counties	71	26:41	04:22
Richard Poole	Farnborough & Camberley CC	Wessex	82	28:02	04:21
Jill Bartlett (W)	Hounslow & District Wheelers	London	53	25:05	04:04
Hamish Walker	Hampshire RC	Wessex	42	22:08	04:01
Steve Robinson	Team Salesengine	London	41	22:06	03:58
Colin Crocker	Sotonia CC	Wessex	64	24:09	03:57
Tim Burrows	VTTA (London and Home Counties)	London	55	23:18	03:51
Mark Fairhead	Cycling Club Breckland	East Anglian	50	23:02	03:43
Paul Allday	Oxonian CC	London & Home Counties	41	22:26	03:38
Chris Lowe	Swindon RC	West	54	23:28	03:36
Andrew Wright	High Wycombe CC	London & Home Counties	46	22:58	03:29
Robin Shedden	Wrekinsport	Merseyside	53	24:01	02:58
David Lancaster	VC10	London	48	24:00	02:36
Mick Fountain	Didcot Phoenix CC	West	73	27:30	02:09
Dave Pitt	Charlotteville CC	Wessex	64	37:38	-09:32
Bill Broadfield	Chelmer CC	East Anglian	73	41:07	-11:28
Ron Back	West Suffolk Wheelers	East Anglian	75		DNF
Alan Steward	Team Swift	North Midlands	69		DNS
David Robinson	Tyneside Vagabonds CC	North	53		DNS
Paul Cannon	Porth and District CC	South Wales	61		DNS
Courtney Rowe	Cardiff Jif	South Wales	53		DNS
Julian Bray	Dulwich Paragon	Kent	50		DNS
John Smith	Thurcroft CC	North Midlands	76		DNS
Lee Turner	Sigma Sport UK	East Anglian	45		DNS
Ian Heming	Team Echelon Rotor	Midlands	40		DNS
Lee Chaplin	RT 316	London & Home Counties	41		DNS
John French	Oxford City RC	West	60		DNS
Liam Maybank	Twickenham CC	London & Home Counties	42		DNS
Rob Young	Team Vision Racing	London	40		DNS
Andrew Barnes	Hillingdon CC	London & Home Counties	52		DNS
Andrew Vaughan	City RC (Hull)	Yorkshire	48		DNS
Richard Davies	VC10	Merseyside	41		DNS

In My Time



**Memoirs of a Sporting Cyclist
by Mick Coward**

I have been a cyclist for over 60 years, starting as a novice club rider with '34 Nomads CC on through my amateur days to become a professional road racer, then finally re-instated back to amateur again where I am still at it as a veteran time triallist. Within the 203 pages of this book, you will find stories of my racing days, my working days, mostly in the cycle trade, plus other segments of my life.

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and the postage)
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NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 100

Jim Burgin

The 2014 National Championship 100 was included within the Hounslow and District Wheelers' 100; a decision deposited upon a somewhat bemused Trevor Gilbert at the London West AGM and date fixing meeting in October 2013.

Graciously, Trevor and the Hounslow accepted the modification to their plans and the event entry of 140 indicated that perhaps the inclusion of the Championship had some significance. As with most time trials in the modern era, the majority of entrants were veterans and 65 of them were members of the VTTA. It was a blustery morning but the rain of the preceding days held off and the event was completed in sunshine from start to finish.

As with the 10 mile championship 20 days earlier, the result produced a close result between the age groups with 69 year old Shay Giles narrowly beating current BAR champion, 45 year old Adam Topham by 14 seconds on standard. Some distance back in third place was David Shepherd.

The trio of John Lacey, Sarah Williamson and David Rogers formed the winning Hemel Hempstead CC team whilst the promoting club's tandem pair, Jill Bartlett and Paul Holdsworth became tandem champions.

Due to the delay in completing the result, the customary presentation did not take place and alternative arrangements are being considered.

The VTTA extends its sincere thanks to the Hounslow and to Trevor Gilbert for including the championship within its event and, in doing so, providing the many helpers required for such a promotion.

Name	Club	Group	Age	Actual	Standard
Jill Bartlett and Paul Holdsworth	Hounslow & District Wheelers (Tandem)	London & Home Counties	50 54	4:16:35	0:15:51
Shay Giles	VC Elan	Kent	69	4:14:53	1:11:40:
Adam Topham	High Wycombe CC	Wessex	45	3:40:05	1:11:26:
David Shepherd	GS Stella	Surrey-Sussex	53	3:54:42	1:05:07:
Ian Greenstreet	Newbury RC	London & Home Counties	50	3:54:06	1:02:30:
Steve Irwin	Kingston Wheelers CC	East Anglian	43	3:46:57	1:02:29:
Phil Watts	North Hampshire RC	Wessex	54	4:04:35	0:56:22:
Tom Glandfield	Lewes Wanderers CC	Surrey-Sussex	41	3:51:49	0:55:27:
Tom Cox	Northover Vets Team	Wessex	60	4:15:04	0:53:45:
John Lacey	Hemel Hempstead CC	London & Home Counties	50	4:03:22	0:53:14:
Robert Royston	Sydenham Wheelers	Kent	59	4:15:11	0:52:10:
Andy Langdown	Hampshire RC	Wessex	45	4:00:45	0:50:46:
Nic Stagg	Hounslow & District Wheelers	London & Home Counties	43	3:58:42	0:50:44:
Richard Birtwhistle	Sydenham Wheelers	Kent	58	4:16:04	0:49:53:
John Golder	Chelmer CC	East Anglian	60	4:19:53	0:48:56:
Cliff Rowe	Bournemouth Jubilee Wheelers	Wessex	55	4:13:14	0:48:54:
Simon Wix	Worcester St Johns	Midlands	51	4:08:51	0:48:48:
Martin Brown	7 Oaks Triathlon Club	Kent	53	4:11:33	0:48:16:
Paul Jackson	Guernsey Velo Club	Surrey-Sussex	48	4:06:19	0:48:14:

National Championship 100 (continued)

Name	Club	Group	Age	Actual	Standard
Adrian Blacker	Norwood Paragon CC	Surrey-Sussex	50	4:08:28	0:48:08:
Lynne Biddulph	Born To Bike	Midlands	45	4:27:19	0:47:26:
Andy Payne	GS Stella	Surrey-Sussex	53	4:13:15	0:46:34:
Mark Sanders	Mid Devon CC	West	55	4:16:38	0:45:30:
Roger Taylor	Frome & District Wheelers	West	68	4:38:44	0:45:20:
Stuart Martingale	Sotonia CC	Wessex	46	4:08:46	0:43:46:
Julian Pegg	CC Ashwell	East Anglian	50	4:13:45	0:42:51:
Barry Quick	Reading CC	Wessex	69	4:44:52	0:41:41:
Martin Dickenson	Deal Tri	Kent	43	4:07:53	0:41:33:
Jerry Bromyard	Royal Navy & Royal Marines	Wessex	59	4:27:20	0:40:01:
Rick Froud	Alton CC	London & Home Counties	45	4:12:01	0:39:30:
Sarah Williamson	Hemel Hempstead CC	East Anglian	46	4:36:52	0:39:00:
Stephen Cook	Lindsey Roads CC	Nottingham & East Midlands	51	4:19:21	0:38:18:
Daniel Kempe	Bristol South CC	West	48	4:16:29	0:38:04:
Andrew Phipps	Royal Navy & Royal Marines	Wessex	52	4:21:29	0:37:14:
Jonathan Hobby	North Hampshire RC	Wessex	49	4:17:54	0:37:40:
Stuart Stow	Hounslow & District Wheelers	London & Home Counties	49	4:24:53	0:30:41:
Richard Claxton	VC Elan	Kent	70	4:58:59	0:30:14:
Andrew Halliday	Westerley CC	London & Home Counties	42	4:18:34	0:29:48:
Michael Turner	Lewes Wanderers CC	Surrey-Sussex	46	4:23:55	0:28:37:
John Murphy	Gloucester City CC	West	74	5:13:36	0:28:15:
Steve Davies	Addiscombe CC	London & Home Counties	61	4:45:29	0:24:53:
David Rogers	Hemel Hempstead CC	London & Home Counties	56	4:41:03	0:22:18:
Ralph Dadswell (Tr)	Antelope RT	London & Home Counties	49	4:51:55	0:21:38:
Hamish Walker	Hampshire RC	Wessex	42	4:31:04	0:17:18:
Gordon Scott	Chippenham & District Wheelers	West	53	4:44:56	0:14:53:
Fred Newton	Wessex RC	Wessex	66	5:04:41	0:14:52:
Kevin Ridge	Bournemouth Jubilee Wheelers	Wessex	51	4:45:13	0:12:26:
Chris Lowe	Swindon RC	West	55	4:50:43	0:11:25:
John Howells	Corinium CC	West	72	5:26:26	0:08:40:
Philip Evans	Bournemouth Jubilee Wheelers	Wessex	47	4:47:56	0:05:37:
Peter Horsfield	Redmon CC	Surrey-Sussex	63	5:08:30	0:05:13:
Mark Gidney	De Laune CC	Kent	52	4:54:09	0:04:34:
Mick Fountain	Didcot Phoenix CC	West	73	5:46:13	-07:52
Gurpal Panesar	Maidenhead & District CC	London & Home Counties	53	5:41:39	-41:50

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The National Championship 50

Report by Alan Colburn



Brian Sunter—50 Mile Champion for the fifth time!

In contrast to the previous day's torrential downpour, the morning of the 8th. June was bright, sunny and warm with a light southerly breeze. A minor glitch with a missing marshal was quickly and efficiently dealt with by the organising team and good times were predicted. The event was promoted by the West Cheshire TTCA in the capable hands of Peter Davies and his team with the Race HQ at Tilstock Village Hall – modern, light and with all the facilities needed for an excellent event.

As the initial times started to appear on the result board it certainly seemed to confirm that this would be a good day. One of the first riders back was J. Breakey of the Rhos-on-Sea CC but not because of a quick ride – unfortunately he hit a pot-hole and punctured!

Although some good times were being posted it turned out that the favourable breeze was steadily increasing so early starters certainly seemed to benefit.

Off number 20, Dave Jones of the Fibrax-Wrexham was pleased with his effort, finishing with a 1:55 ride. Seasoned veteran, Derek Hodgins of the Stockport Clarion came in to the HQ, ably looked after by his son acting as unpaid soigneur, just about satisfied with a 2.22.06 (+26.56).

With the last few times coming through the result board was surrounded by a crowd of riders and helpers who had taken full advantage of the excellent cakes and sandwiches provided by the catering crew. Last time on the board, consultation with the time keepers as they double checked their figures and the results were completed quickly with the individual and team times.

The winner, with a gold medal, cap and Championship jersey, was Brian Sunter of the Condor RC with a +34.00 (2.00.30). In second, and silver medal position, was former National Treasurer, Jim Gresty +30.08 (2.02.10) and the Bronze medal went to Rod Brooks of the Warrington RC who finished with a +28.23 (2.03.55). The Team medals were awarded to the North Shropshire Wheelers whose team of Jim Gresty, Phil Guy and Tim Rex accumulated a plus of 59.02

On behalf of the NEC I would like to offer sincere congratulations to the winners and a big thank you and well done to the West Cheshire TTCA for promoting on behalf of the VTТА.

The National Championship 30

Report by Steve Lockwood



The VTTA National 30 mile championship was run on Sunday, 8th June by Lewes Wanderers CC.

The G30/88 course doesn't have much flat road in it so it's perhaps best described as "challenging". It was a pretty close result between the top three. The winner was Matthew Woods, aged 43, of Eastbourne Rovers with a plus of 12:58. Second was Tom Glandfield, 41, Lewes Wanderers, with plus 12:21 and third was Chris Dyason of Cambridge CC with plus 12:16. The winning team was Lewes Wanderers, Tom Glandfield, Peter Baker and Dominic Lowden. The scratch event was won by Peter Morris, Team ASL360, with a time of 1:05:18.

Prizes were presented by Sean Yates who also rode the event, finishing with 01:23:07.

Our thanks go to event organiser, Simon Yates, and Lewes Wanderers for their hard work in putting the event on.

The National Championship 30 Result

Matthew Woods	Eastbourne Rovers	Surrey/Sussex	1:07:27	12:58
Tom Glandfield	Lewes Wanderers	Surrey/Sussex	1:07:32	12:21
Chris Dyason	Cambridge	East Anglia	1:15:06	12:16
Adrian Blacker	Norwood Paragon	Surrey/Sussex	1:10:45	11:21
Peter Baker	Lewes Wanderers	Surrey/Sussex	1:12:47	10:54
Simon Newell	Hastings & St Leonards	Surrey/Sussex	1:18:27	09:27
Peter Moon	Eastbourne Rovers	Surrey/Sussex	1:14:01	08:50
Geoff Smith	Eastbourne Rovers	Surrey/Sussex	1:17:22	08:41
Dominic Lowden	Lewes Wanderers	Surrey/Sussex	1:15:03	08:38
Michael Turner	Lewes Wanderers	Surrey/Sussex	1:14:06	07:03
Andy Payne	G S Stella	Surrey/Sussex	1:13:21	06:45
Sam Ramsey	Lewes Wanderers	Surrey/Sussex	1:13:55	06:11
Michael Valks	Lewes Wanderers	Surrey/Sussex	1:14:15	06:10
Oliver Tuckley	Lewes Wanderers	Surrey/Sussex	1:18:15	06:02
Gina McGeever	Brighton Mitre	Surrey/Sussex	1:20:32	05:59
Sergio Henriques	Guernsey Velo Club	Wessex	1:15:10	05:15
Nigel Stevens	VTTA Surrey/Sussex	Surrey/Sussex	1:19:50	03:34
Robin Johnson	Brighton Mitre	Surrey/Sussex	1:25:30	01:52
Horry Hemsley	Lewes Wanderers	Surrey/Sussex	1:53:17	-16:23

SVTTA CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

<p>Sunday 22 June Alastair Speed H Roberts Trophy</p>	<p>50 Miles Start 08:00 Cost £12.00 Closing date 8 June</p>	<p>Course Freichie Lumsden Hall</p>	<p>Cheques payable to: Mrs Mhairi Laffoley 22 Frankfield Place Dalgely Bay Fife KY11 9LR</p>
<p>Sunday 6 July Ben Smith Trophy Entry on line available</p>	<p>25 Miles Start 08:00 Cost £10.00 Closing date 29 June</p>	<p>Course M1 25/8 Blair Drummond</p>	<p>Law Wheelers/SVTTA Cheques payable to Mr R Clements 18 Holmwood Avenue Uddington G71 7AJ</p>
<p>Sunday 13 July Pinky Williams Trophy Entry available on the day</p>	<p>30 Miles Start 08:00 Cost £10.00</p>	<p>Course M1/30/R</p>	<p>SVTTA Cheques payable to Mr M Devlin 36 Erskine Hill Polmont Stirlingshire FK2 0UQ</p>
<p>Sunday 10 August The Reilly & J Sharpe Trophies</p>	<p>100 Miles Start 07:00 Cost £12.00 Closing date 27 July</p>	<p>Course TBC</p>	<p>Forres/SCU/SVTTA Cheques payable to Forres CC P Robertson 16 Califer Road Moray IV36 1HY</p>
<p>Sunday 10 August Boomerang TTT Entry Via On-line system</p>	<p>14.5 Miles Start 09:00 Cost £25.00 per team Closing date TBC</p>	<p>Course A77 Fairweather Hall G77 6BB</p>	<p>VC Glasgow South J Davis 75 Moorhill Crescent Newton Mearns G77 6BQ</p>
<p>Sunday 5 October Bill Lennon Trophy Tour de Trossachs</p>	<p>28.5 MTT Aberfoyle Start 10:00 Cost TBC Closing date TBC</p>		<p>Ivy CC Cheques payable to Mrs J Hazlett 9 Jane Rae Gardens Clydebank West Dunbartonshire G81 1HR</p>

The J Connor and J Lyon Road Race Trophies have still to be arranged

A very comprehensive list of Scottish results has been compiled by J J Harris—
too many for inclusion in the magazine—they can be found on the VTTA website
thanks to Webmaster Jim Gibb

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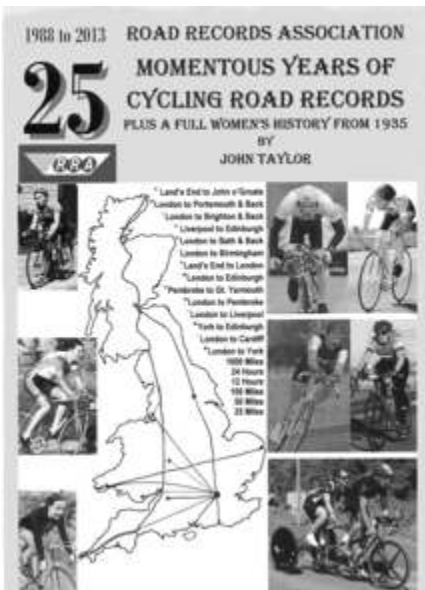
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OBITUARIES

Brian Tomlinson

It is with deep regret that I report the death of Brian Tomlinson, known to many of us as 'Sam'. Sam had a great appetite for life; this came over every time you had the pleasure of being in his company. The love of his family and his great passion for life seemed to spill over you. This enthusiasm encouraged all who followed in his footsteps, was enjoyed by those who shared his friendship and was easily felt by anyone who had the pleasure of simply being with Sam.

Sam was born into a cycling family. His father raced, as did Sam as soon as he could ride a bike. I remember Dave Handy telling me how Sam's dad got a little irritated with Sam, having come home to find that Sam had stripped his bike to the bare bones to shed weight so he could ride the cycle speedway which, ironically, was only a few yards from the church where over a hundred cyclists from Staffordshire and Cheshire led Sam on his final journey. It was both spectacular and emotional for everyone, such was the feeling of loss.

Sam as a young man was an enthusiastic member of the CTC, but they did not have a racing section. In 1958 he joined Stone Wheelers to pursue his racing career. He remained with the club until his untimely death on 24 February aged 73 years whilst out riding with the vets in the Cheshire lanes that he so loved.

His first event was the North Staffs CA 25. It was a freezing day in March and he was disappointed with the ride, coming 80th with a 1:18. However, his next event turned out to be a success, winning a trophy in the Withington Wheelers 25 with a 1:07:46 taking 5th place from a field of 120. He also won the North Staffs Junior 25 and was a member of the winning team. The following ten years saw many achievements: a Club record at 10 miles of 22:54, the first club rider inside 23 minutes, also the first Stone Wheeler to beat two hours for 50 miles with 1:59:08 back in 1968. The same year showed Sam doing 246 miles in a 12 hour and winning the BCF Divisional Road Race after finishing second in the previous two years. He was 3rd in the M&DTTA BAR, 1st in the North Staffs BAR and North Staffs Champion at 10 miles. He never stopped racing. If not riding, you would see Sam at the events. He could simply look at his wrist watch and estimate the finishing time of riders accurately. His memory for records and times was just fantastic.

Sam was proud of his membership of Stone Wheelers. Stone Wheelers were proud to have Sam Tomlinson's loyalty and dedication to the Club. All who knew him will carry a part of Sam – that part of his life he shared with us all. Our thoughts are with Pauline and with Sam's family.

Greg Dancer

OBITUARIES

Malcolm Davidson (1941-2014)

Malcolm Davidson, Seacroft Wheelers, passed away on 16 April; he was 73. Malcolm rode for a number of clubs over his career, including Yorkshire RC. In his early years, he had brief spells with Morley CC and Airedale Olympic. His final club was Seacroft Wheelers.

Malcolm competed in all disciplines. He rode the track in his youth, competing against the likes of Barry Hoban. He was a member of the Yorkshire RC winning Divisional Team Pursuit team. His main speciality was time trialling, a twenty minute 10, fifty-three minute 25 and a one hour fifty-three minute 50. All done on a steel bike with dropped bars and toe-clips and straps. A far cry from today's carbon world!

In later years, he did a 62 minute 30, which at the time was a National VTTA age record. To say Malcolm was a tough nut is an under-statement, In later years, he rode many Sportives; anything that went up, Malcolm climbed it: Alpe Huez, the

Ventoux, which incidentally he climbed from all three directions in the same day! The Stelvio, Galibier – they were all meat and drink for Malcolm.

He had a three and a half year fight with mesothelioma and remained positive until the end.

He will be greatly missed by his many friends. The Tuesday run to Angela's will not be the same. Malcolm wasn't just about racing; he did his fair share of marshalling etc. Seacroft Wheelers have lost a great member.

His funeral at Cottingley Crematorium at the end of April was attended by well over 100 people. Proof of the esteem in which Malcolm was held. Our sympathies go to his family, wife Norma, who he was married to for 49 years, daughter Joanne and Son Iain. He will be greatly missed by his many friends in Yorkshire cycling.

Malcolm T Cowgill

Philip Stevenson 1930 - 2014

Phil Stevenson, long time member of the Preston Wheelers and Honorary Life Member of the North Lancashire and Lakes Group VTTA, died on 15 of April. He would have been 84 in July.

Phil, who had not been well for some time was, quite simply, a lovely, likeable man who never had a bad word said about him. He was a cyclist in the full sense of the word. He was a successful time triallist, particularly at the longer distances, both as a young man and as a Veteran and he was a dedicated Clubman whose only club was his beloved Preston Wheelers.

In September 1999 Phil and his friend and Clubmate, Dave Goodenough, with a combined age of 130 rode Phil's ancient Chater-Lea tandem

tricycle from Land's End to John O'Groats on a 61 inch single fixed gear! This was a monumental achievement for two elderly gentlemen and they raised over £4,000 for The Back-Up Trust which is a spinal injuries charity. This was particularly appropriate as Phil's daughter, Michelle, had been totally paraplegic following a motor cycle accident in 1996.

Phil was an inspiration to all who had the privilege of knowing him, we shall not see his like again.

Our thoughts should be with Phil's Wife, Hannah and with his daughter Michelle, and his younger brother Gerry.

John Lewis

OBITUARIES

Renny Stirling

07:02:53 – 31:03:14

Renny grew up in east London and joined the local Glade Cycling Club at the age of 17. It was a club that enjoyed all forms of cycling and Renny never missed anything – youth hostel weekends, touring holidays, straight-out record attempts, racing on road and track - bicycles, tricycles and tandems.

Renny soon established himself as a key member and frequent leader of the Glade's successful timetrial squad. Like so many of the Glade, Renny acquired a tricycle and a tandem. He rose to national prominence in 1975 with both tandem and tricycle competition records. His 59:28 to win the Tricycle Association championship not only set a new individual record, but led a team whose time has since been improved by less than a minute in the ensuing 38 years. Further tandem and tricycle team competition records followed in 1976.

Renny always thrived in good teams. In 1977 he moved from the Glade to the Unity CC, where he was a member of their BBAR-winning team in 1978. He subsequently rode for Edgware RC and Redbridge CC.

In 1986, he moved to a rejuvenated Leo Road Club, where he was instrumental in their choice of racing strip with plenty of stars! Here, he achieved most of his personal bests, especially in 1987 when he finished 7th in the BBAR. In 1989 he and Antony Stapleton set the current RRA straight out tandem record of 41:04.

After moving to Suffolk, Renny joined the Stowmarket & District CC, enjoying occasional timetrials until he was 50. He was a regular on clubruns and always ensured the pace was high. He rode 100 miles in the weekend before he died.

Renny's passion for cycling took him into the cycle trade, firstly as a representative then national sales manager for Dawes Cycles. He subsequently worked for Saracen Cycles, Schwinn/GT and East Coast Distribution before working with Spanish manufacturer Orbea. He and Christine were responsible for successfully developing their presence in the UK market. Renny was at home, working on the computer, when he suffered a heart attack. Christine found him shortly afterwards, but it was too late.



Cycling around Copenhagen

*(Published with the kind permission
of the I Newspaper)*

From the I Newspaper; Monday 24 March 2014

Cycling around Copenhagen is a stark reminder of how brutal things can be in London. As cyclists in the UK capital weave between buses and articulated Lorries in a daily battle for survival, their Danish counter-parts cycle around like kings.

This Copenhagen biking paradise takes place on a 1,000-km network of totally separated cycle lanes, some of them next to the main road, often with two lanes.

Many have their own traffic lights and, in places, a "green wave" traffic system enabling cyclists to travel through a stream of green lights. Surveying the scene just outside the City Hall, it all seems a bit too good to be true. In the throng of cyclists - I am the 2,658th to pass by that morning, according to a roadside monitor, and it's still only 9am. If that wasn't comfortable enough, they can use footrests at traffic lights and use the laneside bins tilted at a 45-degree angle for easy access. Indeed this last accommodation may be a bit too much even for Copenhagen, says Marie Kastrup, head of the city's cycling scheme, who suggests that the five of these angled receptacles currently in place might be enough.

Looking without envy at the London cycling experience, she says Boris bikes have been good for the city because they have got many people pedalling after a long absence. Ultimately, she says cycling needs to become so much part of the culture that people don't define themselves as cyclists. "We don't call ourselves cyclists, it's like brushing your teeth. Cycling is not a religion here, it is just part of life," she said.

Tom Bawden

London
**Evening
Standard**



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Bits and Pieces

Football, Tennis, Rowing, Horse Racing, they all fade into insignificance as July approaches and with it the Tour de France.

For a great video created by a Yorkshireman about what should be expected when the Tour de France arrives in Yorkshire, click on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xidmgvk5iOI>

(K)nit wits

A town in the Yorkshire Dales has been ordered to remove lengths of knitted bunting by the local council because of health and safety fears.

Residents of Masham were told to take down the decoration, which was put in place to celebrate the Tour de France, in case the wool gets wet in the rain and 'bends' the lamp posts.

LVRC

Talking of Road Racing, the enterprising President has instigated a liaison with the League of Racing Cyclists. No strangers to many of the VTTA, it is proposed that an inter-club event be held in 2015: the revered Alan Colburn is the man to speak to on the subject.

The League's event programme is to be published on the VTTA web site and, in return, the LVRC will publish details of the VTTA's list of events.

<http://www.lvrc.org.uk/>

Avocados

A wife asks her husband, "Could you please go shopping for me and buy one carton of milk and if they have avocados, get 6.

A short time later the husband comes back with 6 cartons of milk.

The wife asks him, "Why did you buy 6 cartons of milk?"

He replied, "They had avocados."

If you're a woman, I'm sure you're going back to read it again! Men will get it the first time.



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Shay Giles— 100 Mile Champion
(Picture by Kimroy)