

THE VETERAN

September 2014



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National Association for the 40 year old and over racing cyclist

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THE VETERAN

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of the

VETERANS TIME TRIALS ASSOCIATION

*Founded in 1943 to promote cycle time trialling
for those aged 40 and over*

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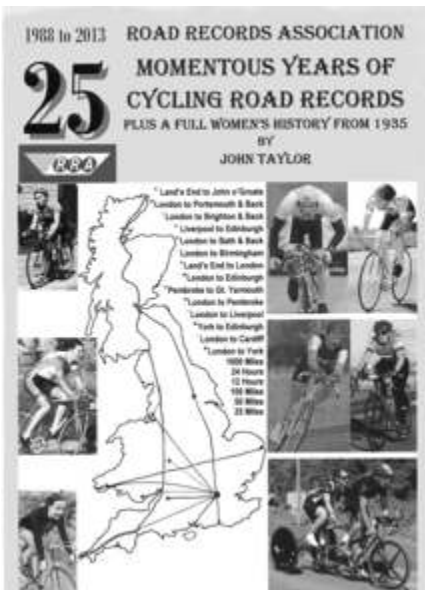
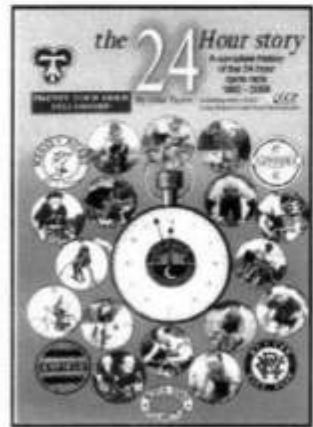
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PRESIDENT

It has been said that the only things certain in Life – are Death and Taxes.

One of the inevitable consequences of death is the sorting out of years of paperwork accumulated on behalf of personal, business or leisure activities.

When our Group Recorder, Les Lowe, passed the Timekeeper on his last circuit, it became my task to help with this tidy up. The sight of six large cardboard boxes filled with files was a little daunting but on examination it soon became evident that a lot of the content had been committed to computer so it was just a question of working my way through the boxes to ensure that no other matter had been misplaced.

One of the smaller but well remembered items was a copy of *Cycling*.

Speed Tables available at the modest price of seven shillings and sixpence. I'm not sure of the date but there is an introduction from the

editor, Alan Gayfer, with advertisements from Viking, Reynolds 531, Moulton Speedsix, Barum Tubulars and GB Cycle Components. All the standard distances are covered plus a Table for roller racing set at one mile.

Some of us will remember that this invaluable tome was compiled by the legendary Tommy Barlow although when I was glancing through the 82 page booklet I found a hand-written amendment by Les on page 60 which covers the 12 hour speeds. He had carefully noted in the margin that the average speed for 225.76 miles is 18.813 mph not 18.113 mph! I'm sure I can imagine the quiet smile of satisfaction that would have spread over his face – I wonder if he wrote to Tommy to put him right. (No – he wouldn't have e-mailed him).

My other thought is how did Les pin-point that inaccuracy? There are over 19,000 calculations in the book – did he sit down one rainy Saturday afternoon and think to himself,

“I'll just work through Tommy's figures and see if everything is O.K. “

Well, I wouldn't bet against it. Bless you, Les

The other item which was really interesting was a carrier-bag filled with memorabilia of the Speedwell BC of which Les was a long time member.

Most Vets will recall Runs Lists which detailed the destinations of the Club Runs throughout the year but these were very upmarket – professionally printed in the form of small booklets going back into the 1930s. Of particular interest to me was a large envelope filled with photographs of club members and events with one or two going back to the turn of the century. I had a skim through this fascinating glimpse into a previous life and then turned them over to Jeff Matthews who is one of the few remaining members of the Speedwell.

The last item is of great historical interest for the Association – two large leather-bound books listing records/times for members mostly handwritten in beautiful script. These are being scanned to complement our existing computer data and then will be archived with the Association's trophies at the Coventry Transport Museum. I'll have to do a bit more detective work on these because the books are imprinted on the front with VTTA but the records go back to 1925.

Enjoy the coming social season, stay safe on the road and don't try texting while you're riding.

Alan Colburn

SECRETARY



(and

and emotional eulogy at the ceremony yesterday which served as a beautiful synopsis of an incredible man's life.

I cannot do anything else but start this report with a great degree of sadness. Just two weeks ago I was conversing with the National Treasurer, Cliff Grant, about the Association's financial matters. Yesterday, I attended his funeral. To lose someone is always devastating for those around that person, but to lose someone so suddenly with the vibrancy and tenacity of Cliff also adds the emotion of shock to the equation. Cliff dealt diligently with the Association's financial affairs, and his silent assurance and competence in balancing the P&L was something which also transferred into cycling and his race preparation. Cliff was an excellent road racer in his time, and proved to be an excellent time triallist in his later years; only narrowly missing breaking the hour in the API 25 in June. Cliff will certainly never be forgotten, and I will never forget his best friend (and President of High Wycombe CC) Gordon Wright's extremely thoughtful

After a run of ill health this year, I was pleased to be able to ride my first time trial for nearly 18 months this week. I had two months completely off the bike until recently, and have been a slave to my turbo trainer since I was allowed to ride again. In fact, my only outside ride (Brompton commuting excepted) was on Sunday. I was surprised to ride a course best in my first race back, something I hadn't been expecting, particularly because I am aware that I am still not back to full fitness. Perhaps the mental strain of racing had taken its toll, and a more relaxed outlook led to a better performance. Whatever the reason, it was great to be back – and I look forward to a season of racing in 2015 (and I continue to subscribe to the fact you can be more empathetic to the membership if you are a racer yourself).

Our bodies are strange things: they can surprise and deliver results beyond our wildest dreams or, as in Cliff's case, decide far too early that it is our time to go. The only thing we can do with certainty is live every day as if it were your last and relish and enjoy every moment – even if that might be a tall order in rainy, sub-zero conditions on the Sunday morning club run in late November.

Rachael Elliott



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Chairman and Editor



This issue is very late, for which I apologise. The final production has tended to be held until after the quarterly meeting of the National Committee and the September get-together was later than usual. The idea is to mention last-minute information emanating from the meetings. As the minutes cannot be quoted until approved by the Committee, any news reported has to be indisputable so perhaps there's little point in waiting!

Of course, added to the delay has been the tragedy of Cliff Grant's passing. How sad that was. It's one thing to witness the approach of old age and the inevitable ending of a life but such an early and unexpected departure by someone fit and active with the possibility of decades still to come is heart-breaking.

The minutes, after approval via a 'Round-Robin' of the Committee, are distributed to Group Secretaries and Chairmen which does at least keep the administrators informed and provide them with the opportunity of taking issue where it is thought necessary. However, it should be borne in mind that the December meeting has to decide on the C W Cooke and Ted Bricknell awards; the content of the AGM Agenda and Annual Report and much else in addition so it is certain that the December issue will be late also.

The Championship dates for 2015, under the new arrangement where four are promoted by the National Committee, have been applied for and all are subject to approval of the CTT District Committees concerned. A draft of the list is printed on page 50.



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GROUP REPORTS

EAST ANGLIA

Well it's been a strange summer; we have gone from baking hot to autumnal cold, wet and windy. That hasn't stopped people knocking out some great rides though. I will try and pick up where Mary ended the last report.

I'm pleased to say that Barbara Law is now back in action after her nasty fall.

Yet another name joins the ranks of Honorary Life Member, that of Keith Lancaster who was the Chelmer junior champion back in 1951 and 52 when domiciled in Chelmsford; he later gave up cycling in favour of football and building his own house: then he started time trialling again for the Kings Lynn CC and still rides regularly.

So onto the results, I will start with the ECCA 100 on the E2 on June 22nd. Some days the E2 can be a mare and on this particular day it was almost at its best. Although the SW wind did rise, it wasn't enough to stop some very fast times - there were 22 riders under four hours.

The East Anglian Group use this for our championship and the fastest vet was Ian Cox of the North Lancs RC with a cracking 3:39:21, though our evergreen Pete Horsnell (84) won the event on standard, his 4:55:36 (another National age record) gave him a massive plus of 102.27! Group members in the top 10, Steve Irwin 5th 3:39:34, Jim Burgess 9th 3:47:38, Ken Platts 10th 3:47:39. Although Ken hit the deck with 2½ miles to go, catching a pothole just before Littlebury at the wrong angle, he smashed his rear mechanism and could only use his top gear. He finished then realised that something was hurting; he was taken to hospital where they found he had a broken pelvis and ribs! I am pleased to say that Ken is back on his feet and recovering well, he was seen out on his bike at the ECCA 12 and he helped marshal the National VTTA 25 championship, so watch this space for some cracking end of season results.

Other group riders, Dave Lazenby 3:51:27, Tony May 3:56:40, Julian Pegg 4:01:04, John Golder

4:03:41, Damon Day 4:08:48, Richard Mellor 4:09:59, Steve Shore 4:20:23, Tricia Goulden 4:24:11, Clayton Knight 4:32:25 and Ann Shuttleworth 4:34:50.

Chelmer CC won the best team on standard with Pete Horsnell, Ann Shuttleworth and John Golder.

So move on just six days to the National VTTA 25 championships, also on the E2 and promoted by the Group. The weather forecast indicated light showers; was that Michael Fish doing the forecast?

Driving to the HQ the sky was overcast, but the course was dry, riders turned up to sign in and everything was going swimmingly. Still dry outside when I left to go to the start and then around the course, stood chatting with the pushers-off and timekeepers at the start and a few spots appeared, but nothing significant. A ladies BBAR 25 is run with this event, so the first 20 riders are all ladies, first rider off, and hardly any rain that anyone would consider cancelling for, I drove down the course, got to the turn at Four Went Ways and just had the intermittent wipers on, still no sign of what was to come.

On the return, just after the A11 blends into the A14, the heavens opened, I have never seen rain like it. I pulled into a layby to try and contact the timekeepers, but no signal, traffic on the usually fast moving A14 dual carriageway was moving at about 20mph, other cars had joined me in the layby, either too scared to drive or just pulling over until it abated; nevertheless, riders were still moving on the other side and had just started coming through on my side.

I had to move and get in contact with the start to abandon, I very carefully pulled out of the layby, and the last thing I wanted was for the organiser to take a rider out. I finally got in touch with the start and they stopped riders leaving, apparently the rain wasn't as bad there.

The ladies finished amazingly with some very

good times, Helen Reynolds fastest with 56:35, Katja Rietdorf 57:07, Tricia Goulden 58:34, Ann Shuttleworth 58:52, Danuta Tinn 59:35 and Teresa Goddard 59:57. Other East Anglian ladies were Mary Twitchett 1:00:14 and Cathy Wood 1:00:20. Their times stood, but those of the 30 or so male vets that had been sent off didn't.

Everyone got back safely although looking as if they had been for a swim rather than a bike ride! Those so inclined may click on the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2qsFtL8jxw> to get some idea of how it was.

The E2 is our Group's favourite course, although members do struggle to get on it sometimes. One of these events is the Shaftesbury 50, which closed this year on a 1:57. Now this event is mid-July. Over the past month on E2 we have had float conditions in the 100, sub aqua conditions in the National VTTA 25, but for this event we were going tropical

All week leading up to it, we had hot, dry conditions, OK – it's summer, but to try and race a 50 in 32 degrees is difficult, and of course we did try and some were better at coping with the heat than others.

The event was won by Matt Smith with a very fast 1:39:45, our Group vets that did very well were Dave Green 8th 1:45:50, Dave Lazenby 9th 1:46:06, Bob Watson 1:51:08, Tony May 1:52:40, Howard Staunton 1:55:50, Rob Dulson 1:57:20, Chris Nudds 1:59:44, John Golder 1:59:51, Geoff Martin 2:02:14, Bob Quarton 2:03:56, Mary Twitchett 2:06:23 and Ann Shuttleworth 2:07:45.

So for those competing for the VTTA BAR the next step was the ECCA 12hr, which this year combined the VTTA National championships. Well we have had all kinds of weather as you can see, but 20mph westerly winds gusting to 40mph we hadn't had yet!

Yep you have guessed it, low and behold the forecast that everybody that had entered and been looking at all week was true, right from the start, so the leg from the start at Great Chesterford to the first turn at Red Lodge was on, you've guessed it, the E2: this was super-fast and then a grovel back to Four Went Ways to then repeat, in fact it was a blessing to get off the dual carriageway (never thought you would hear me say that) into the lanes of Cambridgeshire to get some respite from the wind which

occasionally hid behind hedges.

Dave Lazenby came out on top, which, considering the conditions, was an incredible 270.9 miles. Other Group members were Rob Dulson 8th, 246.5m, John Golder 10th, 244.5m, Cathy Wood 1st Lady 218m. Cathy was riding her first 12 and she hasn't even done a 100 yet. Clayton Knight 207m, Pete Horsnell 192.4m (another National record) and Ian Mackenzie on his barrow doing 161.9m, I think all 30 finishers deserve a medal for riding in conditions that were described as brutal.

So onto the following week, the re-run of the National VTTA 25 championship. The E2 rarely gets a visit on a Sunday morning for the shorter events, so the Group was interested in who would enter; well 137 solos and one tandem entered, from as far away as Aberdeen and Bath, so all we needed was the weather to behave - and it did, a beautiful summer's morning, hardly any traffic on what is usually a busy stretch of road, but a bit chilly, riders started at 6:14 with the temperature at 7 degrees.

Having said that, some fast times were recorded. Rob Pears was the fastest with a 49:56, but 84 year old 'local lad' Eric Marsh took the championship with a stunning 1:03:21 giving him a plus of 22:11, Derek Stewart's trip from Scotland was not in vain, he was 2nd posting a time of 58:22, a plus of 20:52, and Brian Sunter 3rd, 54:33 and a plus of 20:03.

The Chelmer trio of Pete Horsnell, plus 18:48 (1:06:44) (4th on Standard), Antony Stapleton, plus 14:48 (4th fastest with a 52:50) and John Golder, plus 13:43 (56:55), took the team award, Kevin Stokes and Geoff Perry took the tandem championship with plus 10:07 (51:40) and Helen Reynolds was the fastest lady with 58:05.

Well the season is almost winding up, the East Anglian VTTA still have two more promotions left: the 10 on the E2/10 on Saturday 6th September and the Leo 30 also on the E2 on Saturday 4th October, that's all from me, be fast, but be safe out there.

John Golder

KENT

The Group's 50 mile championship was held on 20 July on Q50/11. Kevin Tye (Velorefined

Aerosmith) took the honours, and also the Peter Phillpot cup, with +34.09. Andrew Meilak (same club) was second with +28.55 and Richard Birtwhistle (Sydenham Wheelers) third with +27.01. Kevin and Andrew took the team prize for Velorefined Aerosmiths with +63.04.

The Group's third 10 of the season was held on Q10/22 on 2 August and was won by Shay Giles (VC Elan) with +5.08, with Simon Henderson (Thanet RC) second with +4.46 and Martin Dickinson (Deal Tri) third with +4.07. The team prize went to PMR (Chris Bax and Robert Giles) with +7.17.

The Group piggy backed on the Kent Cycling Association's 100 on Q100 on 15 June for its 100 mile championship. Shay Giles took the Championship with +68.03, with Kevin Tye (Velorefined Aerosmith) coming second with +67.08 winning the event on scratch with 3.51.35 in the process. Andrew Meilak (Velorefined Aerosmith) was third with +62.49.

The Group's 25 mile Championship event scheduled for 20 June was cancelled due to road works. This championship will now be contested at the Group's 21 September promotion.

The Group's Wednesday 10 series organised by Duncan Leith, which adopts old VTTA standards, has now had four events in April, May, July and August. The June event was rained off and will be replaced by an additional event in October. Robert Giles (PMR) currently holds first place with +23.46 accumulated over four rides. Chris Bax (PMR) is second with +17.39 (three rides), and Shay Giles (VC Elan) third with +15.15 (two rides). Given that it's the best four rides that count, this looks like going to the wire if Shay and Chris complete the maximum four events.

The Committee met on 20 July and heard from Carole Gandy, the Secretary, that membership now stands at 181 which is now slightly up on last year, new members joining this year having exceeded the rather large number who left over the previous two years. Carole also reported that we have three new Honorary Life Members: Arthur Heath, Beryl Holdstock and Les Hayman. Tom Morton reported on arrangements for the Annual Lunch, which will be at Weald of Kent Golf Club on 15 February 2015, and are well in hand.

Oh dear, I feel the season is again drawing to a

close and I have not done as well as I would have liked - the sub-hour 25 remains a dream! Now, where's that training bible...? Safe training and racing out there.

Ian Turner

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES

What a great Commonwealth Games and in particular the road and track cycling, the British riders all did so well in getting so many medals - well done to them all. This now leads me on to something to think about, not just cycling but all sports, what if on 15th Sept the Scottish people decide to vote yes for independence; does this mean that their cyclists cannot be part of the British Cycling set up as they are now an separate country, will the Scottish Cycling Union have to apply to become members of UCI so that their riders can compete at International events and what about the Scottish VTTA Group, will they be allowed to ride in our events and can we ride their events as the country is no longer part of the UK? I hope all the politicians and the law makers have given thought to these sorts of problems in addition to all the other things we read and hear about.

What can I say about the TdeF, it was superb, weather, organisation and crowds, well done to all who organised and attended the three days of top class racing; however, for me, who has seen it in France many times, the atmosphere was not quite the same.

Now what have the Group's racing men and ladies been up to in the last three months?

At the end of May in the Hitchin Nomads 25

Richard Hutt	59.41
Allan Simmonds	59.55
Geoff Perry	1.01.27
Helen Boatman	1.02.48
Richard Moule	1.03.15

1st June in the Icknield 100 on F1 course

Stephen Campbell	3.52.25
Howard Waller	3.56.10
Grant Osborn	4.06.31
Peter Harridge	4.08.40
Adrian Feek	4.16.06
Katja Rietdorf	4.27.38

Peter Cockbain 4.45.31
 There were other group members riding.
 Later that week up in Yorkshire in the Team Swift
 10 event

Greg Lewis 20.11

On weekend 7th/8th June we had the Beds R.C
 10

Dave Johnson 22.14
 Richard Hutt 22.38
 John Markham 23.00
 Alan Crane 23.09
 Gill Reynolds 26.14
 Colin Holmes 26.18

Next day in the Finsbury Park 50

John Lacey 1.50.47
 Andy Halliday 1.54.36
 Richard Moule 1.58.52
 Richard Hutt 1.59.05
 Alan Crane 1.57.42
 David Rogers 2.07.39

On the same Sunday in the West London CA 25

Peter Lawrence 51.06+15.20
 Geoff Powell 52.28+16.01
 Ian Greenstreet 53.31+14.13
 Paul Holdsworth 55.22+12.40
 Jeff Roberts 55.45+12.05
 John Dowling 55.46+13.48
 John Sullivan 56.26+11.36
 Richard Williams 57.19+10.43
 Simon Greenland 57.21+13.17
 Danuta Tinn 59.09+14.06

In the Hemel 10 on 14th June

Steve Golla 20.05
 Geoff Powell 20.24
 John Lacey 20.45
 Danuta Tinn 22.55
 Richard Moule 22.57
 Pete Cookson 23.25

The following weekend in the Herts Wheelers 10

Howard Waller 20.43
 Richard Hutt 20.55
 John Markham 21.09
 Alan Crane 22.05
 Peter Cockbain 24.04
 Gill Reynolds 24.43
 Jill Bartlett 25.03

In the ECCA 100 on 21st June

John Lacey 3.49.00+67.36
 Tim Davies 3.51.01+61.31
 Peter Harridge 4.13.23+52.18

On the same day in the Newbury RC10

Ian Greenstreet 21.06+5.39
 John Dowling 22.19+5.01
 Les Morris 26.35+2.39

On the last weekend in June in the BDCA 50 in
 Derbyshire in which the Comp Record was
 broken:

Tim Davies 1.49.21
 Paul Holdsworth 1.50.22
 John Dowling 1.52.06

As we moved into July on the first weekend in the
 Belper 25 in the Midlands:

Ian Greenstreet 51.42
 Tim Davies 52.55
 Katja Rietdorf 59.59

Over to the west in the Coventry RC 25

Roger Sewell 1.01.33

On the following weekend down in Wales in the
 Realtime event:

Jim Moffatt 51.24
 Stephen Campbell 51.55
 Geoff Powell 53.45
 Colin Holmes 54.31
 Andrew Wright 56.20
 Gill Reynolds 56.36

Still in Wales in the Ross on Wye CC 25

Peter Harridge 57.41

On 16th July in the Group 10 on the Aston
 Clinton Bypass course there was a full field of
 150 with the group fielding 56 riders who all
 finished. Top of the leader board was:

Jim Moffatt 19.52+7.28
 Roger Porter 21.12+7.20
 Helen Reynolds 21.28+7.15
 Geoff Powell 19.54+7.05
 John Dowling 20.19+7.01
 Richard Williams 22.18+6.44
 John Lacey 20.02+6.43
 Peter Lawrence 19.31+6.38
 Richard Hutt 20.45+6.35
 Jason Gurney 19.43+6.35
 Chas Jepson 28.45+4.04
 Geoff Perry and Kevin Stokes 19.44

On the weekend of 19/20th July, firstly in the Sat

event of Team Cambridge 10

Richard Hutt	21.51
Roger Porter	22.21
Alan Crane	22.43
John Markham	22.47
Adrian Briers	25.05

Next day Sunday 20th in the Verulam CC 25 on

F1, top of the results was

Peter Lawrence	50.45+12.40
John Lacey	54.55+12.20
Richard Hutt	55.46+15.01
Roger Porter	57.15+18.55
Alan Crane	57.32+07.18
John Markham	58.20+06.30
Richard Moule	58.33+12.14.

On the last weekend of the month in the RTTC /

CTT Championship 12hour event in Yorkshire

John Lacey	263.49
Stephen Campbell	251.28

On the same day in the Colchester Rovers

47miler event

Tim Davies	1.55.59.
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We are now into August and on the first weekend we had the LBCRC 10 on F12/10 and in torrential rain and from a field of 48 only half started

Tim Davies	21.55
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Next day in the Finsbury Park 25 on F1 from a smaller field than normal:

Tim Davies	55.55
Richard Hutt	56.58
Geoff Perry	58.21
Alan Crane	58.55
Richard Moule	59.07
John Markham	59.18

On the same day in the RTTC/CTT Ladies

National Championship 25 in Lancashire

On the 21 August, at Reading Track, Bob Gilmour of the Hounslow and District Wheelers, created a new set of Outdoor Solo Records for a 63 year old.

5km	07:22.68	5 Miles	11:45.84
10km	14:34.71	10 Miles	23:27.07
20km	29:08.68	25 Miles	58.33.11
1 hour	25.612 miles	50km	72:56.25

Katja Reitdorf	1.03.31
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Finally in the Group 10 on 7th Aug on the H10/2

Peter Lawrence	20.29+5.40
Danuta Tinn	23.10+5.38
Roger Sewell	22.59+5.33
Simon Greenland	22.51+4.53
Richard Williams	24.21+4.53
Paul Holdsworth	22.06+4.39
Peter Cookson	23.30+4.29
Gill Reynolds	26.06+4.25
Geoff Perry	22.39+4.25
Andrew Wright	23.13+3.14
Jill Bartlett	26.45+2.29
Len Benton	24.32+5.51

Twenty new members have joined the Group since the publication of the last magazine:

Geoff Bunyan; Adrian Mason; Richard Bennett Paul Robinson; David Guy; Lawrence Lawry Sarah Butterworth; Benjamin Burgher Richard Partington; Scott Taylor; Peter Oliver Nicholas Pitt; Jan Newman; Paul Woodham Richard Phipps; Philip Brown; Frank Rawlins John Bridgman; Simon Burrell; Chris Parsons Welcome to them all.

Roy May became the Group's latest octogenarian when he was presented with his certificate of Honorary Life Membership at a party held in his honour on the 21 September.

Group members are still reeling from the shock of the sudden passing of the National Treasurer, Cliff Grant. Cliff, a Group member since 2008 was a member of the High Wycombe CC and was gradually emerging as one of the Group's promoters, having run the National Championship 10 last May and putting his name forward to run the Don Byham Memorial in 2015.

A replacement has been found from the Group in the person of Bill Gladwin. Bill, a Chartered Certified Accountant (FCCA) is a reserved person as was Cliff but he is certainly more idiosyncratic.

The AGM will be held at The Memorial Hall, Great Missenden on Sunday 9 November commencing at 10:30am. Items for the Agenda to be sent to the Secretary, Jim Burgin, not later than 23 October.

The Group Luncheon and Prize Presentation

will be held at Aldenham Golf Club on Sunday 25 January 2015 commencing at 12:00 for 13:00. Guest of Honour will be RRA Record Holder Jane Moore.

Pete Tasker and Jim Burgin

MANCHESTER

Looking back from mid-August we have certainly had a good summer. The sunny days throughout July have been ideal for cycling and proved perfect for the visit of the Tour de France. I was at the roadside with my daughter Louise, able to watch the riders go through Oxenhope where I was born. It was an unforgettable day. Thinking back to 17 May for a moment, the Stone Wheelers event held that day just missed the last edition of *The Veteran*. It was won by Scott Burns (Manchester Wheelers' Club) in 50:18 and some fast times were also posted by our Group members. They were led by Nige Wood (Wills Wheels) in 54:02, followed by Dave Fearon (Weaver Valley) who, although in training for the 24Hr, had lost none of his speed, posting 54:22. Others 'inside' were Robbie Harcourt (Stretford Wheelers) 56:27; Roger Wrenn (Macclesfield Wheelers) 56:45 (BoS +17:21) Rod Brooks (Warrington RC) 57:05; Paul McAllister (Seamons CC) 57:21; Tony Farrell (Westmead Team '88) 57:24; and the family Fearon team was completed by mum Caroline 1:08:00 and son Jack 1:05:48.

A PS on Tony Farrell: as well as the 57 above, Tony had done a 21:10 when, on a wet Sunday club run on 15 June, his front wheel slipped and he went down, fracturing his femur. He was airlifted to hospital where it was decided he required a hip replacement. Two months after the accident, Tony has just got back on his turbo. The 8 June saw a clash of championships. The VTTA Championship 30, incorporated in the Lewes Wanderers CA event, the VTTA Championship 50, incorporated in the West Cheshire TTCA event and the RTTC National Championship 50 promoted by Bournemouth Jubilee Wheelers. Unfortunately, the only result I have is for the latter and, understandably, none of our members travelled for that one. So, like my readers, I am waiting for the reports of the other two to appear in *The Veteran*.

There was no Group 50 held this year, due to lack of a promoter, so the M&DTTA 50 on 21 June had a good number of our Group members taking part. I will mention the winner Charles Taylor (South Pennine RC) who is a regular visitor and winner on our J courses. He is in exceptional form this year. His winning time was 1:48:14. Nige Wood was again our fastest finisher in 1:54:34, with Paul Shallicker (coveryourcar.com) next in 1:58:36 then Dave Fearon 2:00:39, Brian Camfield (Stone Wheelers) 2:03:35 (2nd on Standard +25:54) and David Wright (Warrington RC) 2:04:12. Taking the Ladies prize was Karen Poplewell (Seamons CC) 2:07:24 and another Group Lady Veteran Joanne Harcourt (Stretford Wheelers) completed the course in 2:31:17.

The Group 30, like our 50, almost disappeared until a volunteer, Louise Cuming, took on the promotion. It is the only local 30 and was held on Tuesday 15 July on course J4/11 which is an extended J2/9. Allostock Village hall was the headquarters. Actual fastest was Steve Daintith (Warrington RC) in 1:07:20. On Standard it was Mike Cotgreave (Westmead Team '88) (70) 1:11:52 (+17:39) ahead of Jim Gresty (North Shropshire Wheelers (69) 1:11:33 (+17:23) and Brian Camfield (66) 1:11:11 (+16:11). Karen Poplewell won the Lady's award 1:16:31 (+9:25). The Team on Standard went to Preston CC (33:10) with Robin Brennan (+12:47), Paul Johnstone (+11:03) and Mark Webb (+9:20). It is probable that, next year, the Group 30 will be replaced by a re-instated Group 50. Promoter Louise has noted the increased cost of hiring village halls: both Allostock and Gawsworth exceed £70.

The following Saturday, 19 July. Rain for the Warrington RC 25 on J2/9 resulted in four DNFs and 37 DNSs. Of the 62 who did ride, 24 got 'inside' with Simon Bridge fastest in 52:22. Our fastest Group members were again Nige Wood 55:46 and Paul Shallicker 55:53. Husband and wife Robbie and Joanne Harcourt recorded 59:48 and 1:11:24 respectively, together with Wayne Powell (Congleton CC) 1:01:41 and Neil Rothwell (Seamons CC) 1:02:36.

On the same weekend the Mersey Roads Club held their 24Hr event. The winner, Gregory Woodford (Reading CC) covered 482.92 miles,

just enough to beat Chris Hopkinson (API-Metro) 481.16. Riding her first 24Hr, Jill Wilkinson (Chester RC) won the Ladies award, being 11th overall with 432.50. The Group had two finishers: Dave Fearon covered 438.10 miles at his first attempt at a full day event, whilst Edgar Reynolds (Congleton CC), no stranger to riding 24 hours, covered 400.41 miles.

The Cheshire Roads Club held their 50 the following weekend on J4/16 and Charles Taylor paid us another visit, winning in 1:46:54. Nige Wood and Paul Shallicker were close in 1:54:34 and 1:54:49, Brian Camfield was 2nd on Standard in 2:02:36 (+26:53), with Rod Brooks 3rd on Standard 2:05:56 (+26:22). Robbie Harcourt recorded 2:06:28, Neil Rothwell 2:11:12 and Nev Ashman (Manchester Velo) 2:20:31. Our Group Secretary, Denise Hurst (Congleton CC) was fastest Lady in 2:28:15, ahead of Carole Sherrin (Westmead Team '88) 2:30:49.

Since turning 80, Derek Hodgins (Stockport Clarion) has managed to set new Group Age Records as follows: 10 miles 25:25; 25 miles 1:01:44; 30 miles 1:25:09; and 50 miles 2:22:06. The 25 was in the South Pennine event on A25/11, the 30 was in our Group event and the 50 in the VTTA National Championship. Derek's enthusiasm remains but is now centred on events nearer home.

Jim Gresty at 69 has never been averse to a bit of travelling. On 9 August he travelled to South Wales and returned with a 56:40 from the Cwmcarn Paragon. It was only his second 25 of the year.

Like last year, the MandDTTA 100 on 29 June required last minutes course alterations. Promoter Dave Fearon found out on the day before the event that a section of the course between Middlewich and the M6 island was to be closed on the Sunday. Midnight oil was burned and the modified course was followed successfully by riders next day, some more enthusiastically than others. It was yet another triumph for Charles Taylor. I was sitting with Timekeeper Phil Heaton, and seeing Charles finish and knowing the sporting nature of the course, his 3:48:49 seemed incredible. Another ride that would have been quite unpredictable was that of Rob Hayles (Manchester Wheelers Club). Having ridden only one previous 50 and

never before ridden a 100, he came second in 4:01:21. Paul Shallicker was the Group's best finisher with 4:09:23, whilst Dave Fearon was placed 9th in 4:13:12. Nige Wood did 4:19:10, Brian Camfield 4:22:35, Alan Chorley (Seamons CC) 4:24:21, David Wright 4:28:18, Karen Popplewell fastest Lady in 4:29:47, Neil Rothwell 4:54:52, Wayne Powell (Congleton CC) 4:58:42 and teammate Edgar Reynolds 4:59:01. A special mention for the perseverance of the last man to finish: Anthony Hutton (Welland Valley CC). He required six hours 22 minutes and 38 seconds! I should add that the winner had punctured during his ride and finished by using a back wheel provided by non-finisher Derek Hodgins.

After that performance, it was hardly a surprise when, a fortnight later in Norfolk, Charles Taylor became the RTTC 100 Mile Champion in 3:43:28. No Group member rode the event but, interestingly, Rob Hayles rode his second 100, being placed 12th in 4:03:12.

RTTC National Championship 25, Women and Juniors, was held on our local J2/9 course on 2 August, the popular winner being Sarah Storey (Pearl Izumi Sports Tours International BOBC) in 56:08. Sarah lives locally and is a regular entrant on J courses. Two Group members rode: Karen Popplewell placed 20th in 1:03:00 whilst consistent Joanne Harcourt recorded 1:11:10.

The following day was the RTTC National Men's Championship miles away in Cumbria on a course between Keswick and Cockermouth. We did have local interest in that Charles McCulloch (www.drag2zero.com) (52) is an ex-Group member. His 49:53 placed him third and he was also 2nd counter in the winning team. Mike Cotgreave (Westmead Team '88) (70) won his age category in 58:12, being a pointer to his form leading up to a planned attempt on the 70-74 hour track record. The attempt is booked for 14 September at the Newport Velodrome. The current record of 39.635 kms is held by a Dutchman Franz Braat. Mike is planning to ride a fixed gear of 53x15. On the same day, Charles McCulloch plans an attempt to improve on the 50-54 record which he currently holds at 57.900kms.

When no promoter stepped forward for the Group's last 25, usually held on a Tuesday in

August, the Committee decided that the two trophies for the event, Group member on Standard and on Handicap, will be awarded in the Altrincham Ravens 25 held on 9 August. Roadworks on King Street and a Traction Engine Rally meant that the hilly Gawsworth circuit was the only course available. The Ravens hold two consecutive events: a Medium Gear and an Open. Enthusiasm for racing on a 72" gear seems to have diminished by August and only six entries were received, including one trike: Vic Trigger (Crewe Clarion Wheelers) got round on three wheels in 1:20:50. The MG winner was Paul McAllister in 1:04:54. The weather kept fine but a strong wind, especially when coming from the side, caused Derek Hodgins to be DNF, saying he didn't feel safe. For the fast men it just meant 25 mph rather than 30 mph and Scott Burns justified his scratch mark in the Open event, winning in 55:26 ahead of Barry Charlton (Swinnerton Cycles) 57:42. The ES Ward Memorial Cup for first Group member on Standard was won by David Wright (55) 1:01:42 (+7:23). The Memorial Handicap Shield goes to Jeanette Barber (Seamons CC) 1:14:53 (50:31). Next morning in pouring rain Louise Cuming, promoter of these two events, started in the Prudential RideLondon. After only five miles, another woman competitor fell in front of her, bringing her down. Her head hit the guard-rail, closing her left eye and her right hand sustained a broken bone. Margaret Herety stayed with her and eventually drove her home on Tuesday. Louise was back at work on Wednesday. All awards will be presented at the Group Lunch at Middlewich Masonic Hall on Sunday 30 November. Tickets remain as last year at £21 and will be available from Helen Gresty on 01630 654943 or mh.gresty@gmail.com National VTTA President Alan Colburn is to be our Guest of Honour. Before that, the AGM reverts to Goostrey Village Hall on Sunday 9 November at 9.30am. Apologies to anyone I have missed out. Some results don't appear on the CTT website and even fewer appear in *Cycling Weekly*. News of the 12Hr next time.

URGENT PLEA: We are desperately in need of a Group Secretary to replace Denise Hurst who is anxious to relinquish her position at

the AGM in November 2014. We also need offers from potential promoters for the 2015 Group events.

Jim Ogden

MERSEYSIDE

Well, this has turned out a great summer so far. OK, August hasn't been a great start but there's still time for it to turn around. Training and racing in short sleeves and even wearing sunglasses, got to look the part! So good that I have been struggling to find excuses as to why I haven't performed to my potential. Too windy or too wet have been non-existent excuses this time. And it's not only me. At recent races, I have heard fellow competitors remarking that it's too hot to race. You don't hear that too often; I raced at Glynneath recently and after the finish, you are faced with a really tough climb back to the headquarters at Rhigos. So tough, it's used as the local hill climb. I was returning with a fellow vet who was particularly disappointed with his time, his worst recorded on that course. Halfway up what is really a tough grind, he came to the conclusion the reason for his poor performance was he hadn't been trying hard enough because the climb was much too easy.

It was good to see eight Merseyside vets taking on the Anfield 100. Arthur Winstanley of the Liverpool Phoenix was leading vet recording 4.19.36 (+45.01) edging out his club mate Phil Warburton 4.20.02 (+39.47). North Shropshire Wheelers Tim Rex was not far behind with 4.20.17 (+26.59). Mid Shropshire Wheelers Andy Clarke put in a good effort to finish in 4.26.48 (+34.09) with Port Sunlight Wheelers Kevin Larmer next man home in 4.35.45 (+13.41). Newcomer to the vet's ranks, Mike Rigby of North Shropshire Wheelers put in a good shift with 4.35.18 (+27.19). Birkenhead Vic's Ian Casson finished in 5.05.27 (+4.55) with Oswestry Paragon's Helen Tudor flying the flag for the ladies with a time of 5.15.04.

June was a busy time for the Mersey Vets with trophies for three races up for grabs. Arthur Winstanley dominated the Chester RC 25. A time of 56.34 (+13.15) won him both the fastest and best on standard for which he wins both the

Colin Rutter Cup and W J Smith Rose Bowl but he was pushed hard by Kevin Larmer who recorded 58.41 (+9.58) and Mid Shropshire Wheelers Tony Harvey finishing in 58.43 (+11.56). Phil Warburton and Tim Rex both had the satisfaction of breaking the hour with times of 58.39 (+10.00) and 58.50 (+7.17) respectively. Other vets times. Neil Southern 1.01.30 (+6.20) Phil Guy 1.02.43 (+9.15), John Flynn 1.02.54 (+7.55), Ian Casson 1.07.25 (+3.13), Dave Nicholas 1.09.11 (+5.58), Geoff Edgerton 1.09.28 (+2.52), Linda Flavell 1.12.46 (+1.09), Andy Durber 1.31.33 (-10.31).

The Mersey Vets hosted the National 50 mile Championship in association with the West Cheshire TTCA. Again, there was a good turnout of Mersey Vets with sixteen making it to the start line. It was a similar scenario with both cups for fastest and standard falling into the clutches of Arthur Winstanley, the only vet to get under the two hour barrier with a time of 1.59.32 (+24.22). Kevin Larmer was again the leading challenger for fastest with a time 2.00.39 (+16.20) Phil Warburton put in a good shift to record 2.01.03 (+19.24). North Shropshire Wheelers claimed the team prize with Tim Rex recording 2.06.34 (+9.30) and Phil Guy 2.09.14 (+19.24) but had to borrow Jim Gresty from the Manchester group 2.02.10 (+30.08) to complete the team.

Brian Sunter of Condor RC was championship winner with a plus of 34.00 (2.00.10), Jim Gresty claimed silver medal with plus 30.08 (2.02.10) with bronze medal going to Rod Brooks of Warrington RC with plus 28.23 2.03.55).

Other vets times. Stephen Glenwright 2.10.41 (+9.46), Mike Rigby 2.10.48 (+12.33), Neil Southern 2.11.52 (+7.42), Dave York 2.14.20 (+10.09), John Flynn 2.15.17 (+8.37), Neil Boyle 2.20.52 (+11.26), Ian Casson 2.22.00 (+3.43), Helen Tudor 2.24.58 (+3.53), Geoff Edgerton 2.27.01 (+2.28), Dave Short 2.34.30 (+0.38), Pat Haywood 2.40.02 (+1.24).

Finally, Kevin Larmer triumphed in the Rhos-on-Sea 10 as fastest vet. His time of 20.36 (+5.37) captured the Derek Ireland Memorial Trophy with Arthur Thomas of Holyhead CC claiming the Oscar Dover Shield for best on standard with a plus of 5.54, (23.20). Other vet times. Tony Harvey 21.11(+5.48), Neil Southern (+3.55), John Flynn 23.04(+4.20), George Aldridge 24.29

(+3.22), Ian Casson 24.32 (+3.12), Pete Booth 27.46 (+1.29).

NORTH LANCs AND LAKES

Our Group have only three events in the CTT handbook this season with two of them organised by our Recorder Richard Taylor. The second of these was a 25 on the relatively new course based on the A59 Clitheroe by-pass. Even though it was also combined with Richard's West Pennine Road Club's annual Open 25 he received a very disappointing total of 28 entries - even for an evening event - not one of our 6am starts of not so long ago!

On Standard there was no contest with Dave Hargreaves of our Group and a member of the North Lancashire Road Club returning an excellent 1:01:10 performance to give him an unbeatable plus of 11:34 for his 67 years. Second came Martin Kerry - recognise the surname? - who was just three seconds slower than Dave for a plus of 7:26 at a younger age with Kevin Shand (West Pennine RC) clocking 1:04:28 for third with plus 7:08. Harry Haseley (NLRC) took fourth with plus 3:42 from his 1:11:27 ride, Sue Cheetham fifth with plus 3:40 from 1:10:01 and, at first glance very surprisingly, George Nowland came sixth with what surely must be his first ever 'minus' - of 24 seconds - after passing the timekeeper in 1:12:22. This is probably George's slowest ever 25 but on his first visit to the course the ex VTTA National Chairman had missed encircling one of the roundabouts to add himself an extra X number of miles! The distance 'X' has yet to be measured! Talking of the Kerry family, Frank, son Martin and his son William, who is also racing, had an excellent three page spread in the August edition of Lancashire Magazine with a full page action shot in colour of the VTTA triple Three Distance National Champion.

The third Group event was our first ever 15 - a distance which now has VTTA Standards - and organised by our Group secretary Derek Black over one lap of the now sadly defunct Lancashire Road Club 12 hour finishing circuit. Again it was a low entry with just 24 on the start sheet to face

a decent if somewhat windy day. Teesdale CRC visitor Russell Richardson just came out top on Standard clocking 35:50 giving him a plus of 5:24 which was just one second better than Jocky Johnstone of Icarus with 39:05 with our own Simon Phillips of Pendle Forest third with a plus of 3:07 from his 40:49. Sue Cheetham was best lady with a plus of 0:57 from 42:45 whilst fastest ride on the day came from Jerry Cross of Manchester Wheelers with 34:18.

Less than a week after marshalling in that 15 at her regular Stakepool corner, Vera Rawlinson very sadly died shortly after an operation. Vera was such a lovely person and well-liked by all who knew her and a long term member of our Group. Along with her husband Ted, Vera was very much part of the Garstang based time trial scene which included representing her Fylde Road Club at CTT district AGMs and general meetings and also North Lancashire Time Trials Association meetings. We pass on our thoughts to Ted at this very difficult time.

We had another very sad loss to our Group when Jack Mellis of Preston Wheelers, and an Honorary Life Member of the VTTA, died at the wonderful age of 95 in July. An obituary from son David is included in this *Veteran*.

David Mellis also sent me this brilliant piece written by his father Jack around 10 years ago. I am sure it will be of great interest to other Group members.

'One Sunday Summer Morning in 1933' - (Brock' - Written by Jack Mellis 70 years later).

It's early morning approximately 6am and I am 14 years old and going to see my first bike race.

I only found out about the 25 mile race by going into Sam Williams' shop in Lancaster Road Preston. Bike races were kept secret from the general public, the riders dressed (inconspicuously was the word used) neck to toe in dark cloth clothing. Black Alpaca jacket and black tights. I digress, I am off to see the race. I am on my first bike, a lovely lightweight Merlin, actually my elder brother gave it to me, suddenly he had found girls were more interesting than a bike - I couldn't understand this at the time though I wasn't arguing, I had got the bike!

Now about the race- I arrived at the start which in those days was in the middle of the flat stretch of road before it dipped down to the Roebuck

Centre. The start and finish were in the same place just opposite sides of the road so you saw the riders starting and finishing.

I saw some of the top riders in the North West ie. Jimmy Walsh, big George Bradley, Johnny Palmer and Ronnie Cole. I didn't know their names then but found out later, but I was in awe of them. One incident stands out in my mind from that morning - in fact it is the incident that inspired me to write this article. One rider, Stan Worthington of Preston Wheelers (I didn't know his name then) even in his early days was a bit thin on top in fact he was a little bald at the front, I saw him flash past the timekeeper, stop up the road and slowly rode back. Then I saw that the front of his head was covered in dead flies and I thought gosh he must have gone fast - he must have won the race. I later found that he hadn't won but that did not stop me being in awe of him!

I am sure that other older riders also identify themselves with Jack's report - in my own case it is almost a carbon copy of my first visit to that superb 'Brock' course at a similar age to Jack albeit 20 years later with Norman Sheil and Brian Haskell the names that I was in awe of that morning and are recorded in my 1954 CTC diary! A wonderful era of Time Trialling which has changed beyond recognition. That stretch of A6 which held Competition Record in 1959 thanks to Alan Shackleton is now cluttered with three, if not four, sets of traffic lights -each way!

Two important dates are the Group AGM to be held on Sunday October 26th with venue and time in notification from Secretary Derek. The Annual Luncheon and Prize Presentation will be held on Sunday 4th January at The Crofters at Garstang. Tickets available at the AGM.

We have one new member and welcome Tony Workman a member of the Lancashire Road Club. We hope that you enjoy your time with the North Lincs and Lakes Group Tony..

Dave Brown



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NOTTINGHAM AND EAST MIDLANDS

In the June Veteran I reported that our secretary Russell Gent had suffered injuries due to a misadventure with a van, I am pleased to say that Russell has fully recovered and is more or less back to normal although not racing at the moment. At the time of Russell's accident he was in the middle of promoting the NEM Group's 25. The prize winners on standard were: Jim Boyle, Cherry Valley RT (B&C Express) with an actual of 55:44, +12:06 (with this fine ride Jim also receives the Ivan Mohan Memorial Trophy). 2nd, Colin Parkinson, South Western, 58:10, +10:16, 3rd, Steve Howgill, Leicestershire RC, 59:15, +8:53, 4th, Andrew Simpkins, Solihull CC 1:01:57, +8:24; 5th, Steve Boat, Welland Valley CC, 1:01:21, +7:44 and 6th, Mark McCartney, Notts's Clarion CC, just over the hour on 1:00:05, +7:21. Fastest on the day was Phil Hunt, Notts Clarion CC, 55:31; 2nd, Ben Wimpory, PMR@Toachim House, 55:42; 3rd, Ian King VC Long Eaton 55:43; 4th Jim Boyle Cherry Valley RT 55:44; 5th Gareth Pymm Coalville Wheelers CC 55:59, 6th Robert Morris Mapperley CC 56:06. Fastest Lady was Linda Hubbard Welland Valley CC 1:07:26 and Witham Wheelers took the team prize on standard with a collective +13:45 with Martin Hedley +5:14, Tony Hardenberg +5:07 and David Herd +3:24.

Joe Summerlin's Diamond Jubilee 25 on 24 May proved a wet affair for many of the riders with only half the field committing to ride. I was one of the riders who reluctantly declined with very heavy rain over towards the East of the region, I had made the journey as far as Nottingham, but I was driving on flooded roads and my appetite for racing was rapidly declining. However, the conditions didn't stop fastest rider on the day Brett Harwood Terry Wright Cycles doing a 48:52, fastest group member was Nick Cave Lutterworth Cycles 50:17 with Steve Howgill Leicester RC 54:01, Dave Bates South Pennine RC 57:50 and lady member Jo Corbett Team Swift with a very credible 58:51. Nottingham Clarion CC 50, 01 June held on the Vale of Belvoir A50/5 course produced some fast times with senior rider Scott Walker MG Décor fastest 01:47:33, with Nick Cave Lutterworth Cycles on 01:52:16, Colin Parkinson South Western RC 01:55:59 and Michael Wills Hinckley

CRC 01:58:07. Stephen Howgill Leicestershire RC just over the two hour mark on 01:01:18, Martin Hedley Witham Wheelers CC 02:09:23, Clare Ella Cherry Valley RC 02:14:00 and Brian Wills Hinckley CRC 02:17:59.

Spalding CC 22 June 25 mile held on the Donnington A52 – Sleaford A15 course proved quite a hard morning for most riders. Ian Pike Fenland RC going fastest with 57:09 just in front of senior Richard Hamblin Sleaford Wheelers CC and the promoting clubs Neil Palmer 57:59. Other group members results, Martin Hedley Witham Wheelers CC 01:02:54, Dave Ashley Sleaford Wheelers CC 01:06:39 with Witham Wheelers CC veterans Tony Hardenberg 01:07:15 David Herd 01:07:50 and Martin Lister 01:08:18.

Witham Wheelers CC Martin Hedley took the lead as event secretary in his clubs annual 10 mile TT for the first time, held on the A15 Sleaford Course 07 June with an encouraging 28 entries out a total number of 74 riders coming from the promoting club. It was Cherry Valley RC's Jim Boyle continuing a successful season posting the fastest time on the day with 21:36, his team mate Ian Dalton on 21:57 and Clare Ella making up the first three NEM group members on 24:51. Tony Hardenberg Witham Wheelers CC also continued a good season with 25:18, Paul Fairey with the same club on 25:53, Chris Close Sleaford Wheelers CC 26:19 just pippin Martin Lister Witham Wheelers CC 26:21, David Herd from the promoting club 26:31 and Dave Pike Sleaford Wheelers CC 27:06.

On the same day (07 June) Leicester Forest CC ran their 25 mile TT which appeared to be a good day for setting Vets Standards with the fastest time being set by 1st place Daniel Barnett www.Drag2Zero.co.uk at 52:42 +18:32, 2nd Nick Cave Lutterworth Cycles 53:26 with a magnificent +19:36 and 3rd David Ellis Mapperley CC 54:38 +18:11. In 7th place Colin Parkinson South Western RC 56:15 +17:40, Stephen Howgill Leicestershire RC 58:57 +15:20 and finally Steve Welch Welland Valley CC 01:01:08 +10:35.

Team Swift rider Joel Wainman set the fastest time in the Lincolnshire Road Racing (LRR) 50 mile TT 14 June promoted by Sleaford Wheelers with a blistering 01:48:10 giving him a

+28:51. Second fastest was local man Jim Boyle Cherry Valley RT 01:53:17 +33:15 just 4 seconds in front of David Ellis Mapperley CC who took third place 01:53:21 +31:02. Ian Dalton Cherry Valley RC was further down the order in seventh position 01:55:40 +29:48 with Ian Pike Fenland RC ninth 01:58:06 +25:13. Stephen Howgill Leicestershire RC was a couple of minutes over the two hour mark with 02:02:47 +24:51. Martin Hedley Witham Wheelers CC 02:13:51 +11:37 with Clare Ella Cherry Valley RT not far behind with 02:14:40 + 15:11, Tony Hardenberg Witham Wheelers CC had an excellent ride finishing on 02:17:26 + 25:11 and finally Dave Pike Sleaford Wheelers CC must be encouraged with a time of 02:19:42 giving him a massive +31:34.

In Hinckley CRC's 25 22 June Matt Clinton Mike Vaughan Cycles was clearly the fastest rider with a 50:54 over second fastest Scott Walker MG Décor 53:41. The promoting club had good representation at the top of result table with Alex Whitehead 55:23, David Mead 56:59, Richard Searle 56:57., Karl Weatherall 57:08 and Michael Wills 58:24 taking positions 4 to 8. Other NEM group members times: Colin Parkinson South Western RC 58:47, Christopher Wilcox 01:08:18 and Brian Wills 01:08:49.

In the BDCA 50 Association event Alan Cooke Matlock CC was fastest 01:47:46 with 71 year old Graham Green MG Décor just under 2 hour mark on 01:59:08 and 83 year old Ron Hallam South Pennine RC with an incredible time of 02:15:12.

In the open event Matt Bottrill www.drag2zero.com was overall fastest on the day 01:34:43 with David Ellis Mapperley CC 01:44:07 and Barry Charlton Swinington Cycles 01:44:28.

I was fortunate to get in the National VTTA 25 Championships on 28 June organised by East Anglian Group which unfortunately had to be abandoned because of torrential rain. The Ladies BBAR event had commenced in the dry, but most riders completed the event in the rain. The men's event had just started when the rain set in producing 'flash flood' conditions and there was little alternative but to abandon the event. I usually get little dismayed when events run without the use of previous times handicapping and/or veterans standards. However, event

secretary of Lincoln Wheelers CC Charity 10 12 July Paul Clarke came up with a novel set of categories including: First Yorkshire, Midlands, Lincolnshire, Lincoln Wheelers, Lady and Tandem riders. However, the most off the wall category was for riders with the forename 'Dave'. Needless to say I didn't win any of the prizes. The event this year was in aid of Age UK and raised £633.59. Fastest overall was Robby Krygsman Team Swift 21:30, Lincs Rider Jeremy Hargrave Fenland RC 22:26, Yorkshire rider Steve Hollowood Kiveton Park 22:56, Midlands Rider Robert Morris Mapperley CC 22:00, Lincoln Wheeler Sean Hunt 23:19, Fastest 'Dave' David Butler Lincoln Wheelers CC 23:47, Fastest Lady Clare Ella Cherry Valley RC 25:57 and first tandem Alan Tibble and Rob Brewer 24:14. In the RTTC National Championships 100 13 July Charles Taylor South Pennine RC held the NEM Group flag high with a winning time of 03:53:01, Richard Birkin Nottingham Clarion 04:49:30 and Martin Hedley Witham Wheelers CC 04:54:30.

I note that a number of Notts and East Midlands Group riders went up to ride Hull City RC 10 on 16 July, Senior Adam Gascoigne Team Pedal Power was fastest on 19:23, Neal Parkin North Notts Olympic 21:01, Mark McCartney Notts Clarion 21:27, Gary Kondor Sherwood Pines 21:53, Simon Inman Mapperley CC 22:15 and Jo Corbett Team Swift 23:03.

The VTTA 10 (London and Home Counties) on 16 July was won by Jim Moffatt Virgin Active Cycling Team with 19:52 +07:28 with NEM Graham Green MG Décor on 22:38 +6:36. In one of the few events to be held on the A10/14a at Long Bennington on 19 July promoted by Sherwood CC attracted an unusual low number of entries. It was a wet stormy evening which meant that there was also a high number of non-starters. The event was won by Daniel Barnett www.drag2zero.com with 19:37, NEM group riders Ian Pike Fenland RC in 7th place 21:13, Martin Lister, Tony Hardenberg Witham Wheelers CC, 23:54, 24:06 respectively and David York Ratae RC 25:29.

The annual Nev Crane Memorial 25 promoted by Sleaford Wheelers CC 20 July was won by Matt Bottrill breaking his own course record set last year (50:04). Matt's time of 49:53 was 11

seconds faster in conditions that many said were slower than last year. Ian Pike Fenland RC was again the first NEM rider home with a 58:02, Steve Howgill Leicestershire RC just over the hour on 01:00:07. Peter Lavine Coalville Wheelers CC 01:00:59 and benefiting from his coastal tour of the Britain a stealth like David Smith from Sleaford Wheelers CC 01:02:18 and David also won his age group category. Martin Hedley Witham Wheelers CC came in on 01:03:56, with Clare Ella Cherry Valley RT 01:06:22 and Kate Smith Sleaford Wheelers CC again with long touring miles in her legs finished in 01:07:59. Other NEM times: Tony Hardenberg Witham Wheelers CC 01:07:27, Dave Pike Sleaford Wheelers CC 01:07:45, Martin Lister 01:08:48 and David Herd 01:09:30 Witham Wheelers CC.

Melton Olympic CC 25 middle markers event 26 July was held on a slightly revised course attracted a full field with all reserves having the



option ride on what was a very warm and sticky day. Fastest on the day was Adam Gascoigne Pedal Power Loughborough 50:15, NEM riders Michael Wills Hinckley CRC 54:40, Colin Parkinson South Western 55:02, Mark McCartney Nottingham Clarion CC, Geoff Platts

MG Décor 55:55 and Jeff Bowler South Pennine RC 59:47. Jo Corbett Team Swift 01:03:08, Tony Hardenberg Witham Wheelers CC 01:03:16 and my best time for four years David Herd Witham Wheelers CC 01:03:59. Dave Pike Sleaford Wheelers CC 01:05:24, David York Ratae RC 01:08:39 and finally 80 year old Gill Henshaw VC Long Eaton 01:13:59.

That's all for now, I am writing this report from Houston, Texas and the swimming pool looks inviting so see you all soon.

David Herd

SCOTLAND

Derek Stewart had a wasted journey all the way down to East Anglia for the VTTA 25 Championships. The race was abandoned due to a thunderstorm and torrential downpour and Derek didn't get to ride at all. By the time his start time came around the course was dry again. The Scottish group played its part in the Queen's baton relay as it toured it way through the country. Bob Gibson the group's recorder was nominated by Aberdeen Wheelers and ran with the Commonwealth Baton on a 200 metre uphill section in Stonehaven, later that day Sanday Lindsay, MBE, of Deeside Thistle carried the torch on its way to Peterhead.

As mentioned in the March 2014 *Veteran*, Isabel Campbell MBE celebrated her 100th birthday in November 2013. The Scotland group had hoped to mark the occasion at their annual prize presentation in January 2014 with a gift and a special cake. However, Isabel was spending the winter with her daughter in Mallorca. So, unfortunately Isabel did not get the chance to enjoy the cake, and it took a while to arrange presentation of the gift, a silver pendant. We are pleased to be able to say that the pendant was handed over to Isabel by our secretary George McLaughlan and Willie McLuskie during their annual holiday in Mallorca in May. We heard that Isabel was delighted with the pendant and pleased that her friends still remember her. George Skinner took a tumble in the VC Cumbria 25 in early June, on probably the wettest time trial of the season. He hit an odd shaped drain cover and lost a fair bit of skin. Fuelled by adrenaline he went on to finish, and only a

minute outside his standard. Not disheartened by this George was back across the border two months later riding the VTTA North Lancs and Lakes 15 at Garstang. Out of 24 starters four were Scottish, son James, the ever youthful Alex Munro, and the always fast Jocky Johnston who won on standard.

Jocky could have made it a double that weekend had he not stopped for some fast food on the way home. After an upset stomach and not a lot of sleep Jocky was nowhere to be seen at the next morning's Boomerang trophy, where some say he may have been favourite.

Dave Pritchard has been very busy of late organising our kit order with Endura. A full range of SVTTA kit will be available for purchase once the order is fulfilled. Please contact Dave on dhpritchard1@aol.com to arrange to buy items

Dates for your diary

16th November - SVTTA AGM – 1100hrs McQ's 45 Main St, Bannockburn, Stirling FK7 8LX

18th January 2015 - SVTTA Prize Presentation lunch – McQ's 45 Main St, Bannockburn, Stirling FK7 8LX

New Members

The Scottish Group welcomes the following new and returning members

Graham Barclay - Team Leslie BikeShop

Steve Cairns - Perth United

Fredrick Connor - VC Glasgow South

Mark Ewing - West Lothian Clarion

Martin Kane - SVTTA

Douglas Kirkham - Musselburgh RC

William Mcfarlane - Dooleys CRT

Robert Neil - SVTTA

Ian S Murray from Edinburgh transferring in from the North Group

and John Dobbie from Freuchie back from a broken collar bone last year.

Racing Results

Derek Stewart Deeside Thistle takes the Jim and Betty Train trophy for this year, his 24:34 gives him a +6:07

Congratulations to SVTTA member Iain Grant, Dooleys RT, who took the Scottish 25 Mile TT title at Ayrshire with a 50:46

Iain Grant also took home the Harry Roberts SVTTA 50 mile championship with 1:47.21 giving

him a +29:38. This event was the first Alistair Speed Memorial Time Trial. Of 89 starters 29 were members of the SVTTA, a good turn out and thanks go out to Mhari for a very well run event.

Congratulations to SVTTA member Andrea Pogson of Gala CC for taking the Scottish 50 Mile TT championship with a 2:02.45 first equal with Lynsey Curran, and to Christine McLean for her 4th place with 2:06.43 and to SVTTA member Tam Gordon Dooleys RT who took 3rd place in the Men's Scottish 50 Mile TT title at with a 1:50:35.

Derek Stewart won the Ben Smith 25 Mile Trophy on standard, his 1:03.01 giving him a + of 16.13 Derek also won the Pinky Williams 30 Mile Trophy on standard, his 1:50.35 giving him a + of 18.25, in this event Iain Grant's 1:02.53 was only six seconds off the Scottish record, and Iain was reported to have been at an almost standstill on at least one roundabout.

Many thanks go out to Aberdeen Wheelers, for taking on our John Cramb Handicap Trophy at short notice, after Granite City were presented with driving rain and misty conditions and had no option but to cancel a couple of weeks earlier. Malcolm Young, Deeside Thistle took the trophy on handicap ahead of teammate Stewart Mitchell.

Derek Stewart, Davie Miller, and Steve Nutley took the top three places on standard, with P Kelman 53:39, J Cusick 53:41 and Steve Nutley 54:37 taking the fastest 3 places.

The Reilly Trophy for the 100 mile TT on

Standard goes to Alasdair Washington of

Caitness CC his 4:47.23 gives him a +1:07.31.

Congratulation go out to Andrea Pogson of Gala CC for fastest lady 4:22.20 and 2nd overall on standard, 1:04.04; good results on what was near perfect conditions.

SOUTH WALES

VTTA South Wales Report August 2014

This article was written in prime Sunday morning cycling time. The "raison d'être" being torrential rain, as remnants of hurricane 'Bertha' battered South Wales. Definitely not a day for riding in the Welsh Championship 100 taking place that very day in a wet Abergavenny, an absolute must

finish for those looking for a slot in the BAR tables, they have to ride whatever the weather – that's the way it is in our sport. Later, came the result, from a field of 80 there were 32 starters and 26 finishers, congratulations to Sean Childs for posting 3.43.11 and 19 year old Daniel Coleman recording 3.50.55 they proved it's possible to go fast in the rain. For VTTA South Wales there was a lone finisher, Paul Griffiths, over 5 hours but deservedly good enough to win our 100 Miles Cup for 2014.

Fortunately, the past two months have seen plenty of good weather. On the weekend 21/22nd of June Bynea CC promoted events on popular Neath Valley courses. The Saturday 10 miler produced some commendable rides from our members – Dave Brice posted 21.31, +5.23, John Shehan rode with a sore back, but still managed 23.48, +4.54 closely followed by Paul Durrant 24.07, +4.45 and one of our new members, Chris Massey clocked 22.30, +3.39. Other members who rode were Paul Griffiths 26.13, Ron Boast, 26.18, Sally Harmer, 27.01 Richard Bowmer, 27.16, Norman James, 28.26, Rob Ibell, 28.32 and Jeff Chambers, 30.19. The Sunday 25 produced some fast rides, with Justin Cannon just shading Kieron Davies clocking 48.01 and 48.08 respectively, however, 53 year old Rob Pears excelled with 48.14 just six seconds back and posting a plus of 20.00 minutes on standard. Our members also recorded some fabulous times. Hugh Davies +16.19, Dave Brice +15.55, Paul Durrant +15.39 and John Shehan +15.00. Other members on the plus side of standards were Pete Murrieri, +7.46, Sally Harmer +6.16 and new member Fiona Davies made a great start clocking 1.09.09, +6.16.

The Cardiff 100 Miles 25 on 5 July clashed with the Tour de France in Yorkshire. In spite of this counter attraction, promoter, Bob Jones was pleased with a field of over 100 entries. Five of our members recorded times, Hugh Davies 59.06, +14.04 and Stuart Evans 1.00.35, +12.35 were the most competitive.

Your correspondent travelled to Yorkshire to follow "Le Tour" and has to say that it was an immensely impressive spectacle. On the Saturday we were on Grinton Moor in Swaledale, thousands lined the narrow road, it was

awesome to watch 200 riders climb that steep hill in the region of 25 mph. On day two we were in Holmfirth outside 'Nora Batty's wrinkly stocking shop. It was great see thousands of ordinary folk enjoying our sport at its most brilliant. Yorkshire can be proud of its tour contribution.

The VTTA South Wales 'Cambridge Cup' for 25 miles on 20 July was held in conjunction with Ross on Wye & District Open Event. Our winner for 2014 was Paul Durrant with an excellent 58.45, +14.52. Congratulations to Paul who flew in from his home in Alicante, Spain.

Other close challenges came from:- Hugh Davies 59.42, +13.55, Stuart Evans 59.36, +13.34, Jeff Adams 1.03.08, +9.32, Clive Chappe 1.06.18, +6.26, Pete Murrieri 1.01.33, Rob Ibell 1.19.06 and Derek Morgan 1.13.08. I would also include Pete Wilson Bath CC for posting 1.08.55, +10.37 at the age of 80, well done Pete! Hopefully, we will see you competing for many years to come. Unfortunately your correspondent failed to start in the 25 as he was suffering from a nasty virus caught from looking after our grandchildren, a disease they brought with them from USA.

The date chosen for our 2014 50 Mile Trophy was 3 August and the Cardiff 100 Miles 50. Congratulations on this occasion were with Hugh Davies, Port Talbot Wheelers for posting 2.05.36, +26.42, John Shehan, recovered from his back injury, recorded a competitive 2.07.55, +23.23. Other finishers were: Pete Murrieri 2.12.06, Clive Chappe 2.22.44 and Ron Boast 2.26.15.

At the time of writing we still have two trophies outstanding. The Pontypool Welsh Championship 10 mile to be decided on Sunday 17 August and the WCA 12 Hour Championship slated for Sunday 7 September – we look forward to full representation by our members in both of these events. Good luck and safe cycling.

Barry Williams
Secretary, Treasurer and Scribe

WESSEX

The period since my last notes has proved to be perhaps the most successful in my dozen or so years as Wessex recorder, with four national age records achieved by our riders with times that most of us could only dream about even when in

our prime. In addition many Group age records have fallen.

The two national record breakers are Terry Icke (70) and Andy Topham (45).

On the basis of age before beauty I will lead with Terry. In my last notes I mentioned that following his 25 success (53:11 at 70) he was chasing the 10 record. This he duly achieved

On 3rd August with 22:11. But deep down it was the 50 record for which Terry really yearned.

His first real attempt at this was in the CTT Championship 50 in which he disappointed himself with *only* 2:00:06. At the HQ afterwards he was overheard wondering if he should seek advice from Help the Aged! I am not privy to whether he actually did this but can say that a few weeks later in the Hants RC 50 he clocked 1:52:02 – just 1:34 short of Brian Haskell's long-standing epic record. But the icing on the cake came in the Shaftesbury 50 on

19th July with a record breaking 1:50:56. Maybe this will prompt queues of veterans seeking advice at Help the Aged centres.

But perhaps they might be better advised to obtain a copy of Andy Topham's book 'Time Trialling – Fly Through The Pain Barrier' (stocked by Amazon), because Andy's results prove that he knows of a training regime which works. His National age records are 50 in 1:38:27 in the BCA event on 28th June and 100 in 3:28:31 in the Icknield event on 1st June. To demonstrate that his training methods also inspire short distance prowess Andy has a 25 in 48:47 to show in June. On top of these results Andy took second place in both the CTT and VTTA National Championship 50s.

Group age records have been achieved by Bob West - still trundling his trike at 76 - and our oldest contestant Norman Harvey at 81. Norman has bicycle 10 in 26:25 and 50 in 2:28:57 to be proud of.

Two of our regulars putting up outstanding times are Barry Quick (69) 10 in 23:16, 25 in 59:35, 50 in 2:13:39 and 100 in 4:33:23, and Alan Emmott (67/68) 10 in 23:18, 25 in 59:57; 50 in 2:03:19 and 100 in 4:24:10. It is good to see Graeme Stirzaker back in regular action, with 10 in 20:30, 25 in 50:58 and 50 in 1:47:44 to show that he is still a force to be reckoned with.

Lastly I must mention a unique achievement

which is without doubt a record but one unlikely ever to be listed in our Handbook (but may be in the Guinness Book of Records?). It is that husband and wife Steve Walking (45) and Leslie Walking (48) have made fastest time in each of the last 13 open time trials in which they have finished. These have included two 2up 10s in which it is fair to say they routed the field. In the a3crg event they finished a minute and a quarter ahead of the 2nd pair in 19:35. Obviously they have not hung about in any of the events, with Steve's bests 10 in 19:35 and 25 in 50:17 and Lesley 10 in 22:41 and 25 in 57:27, both of the latter are Wessex ladies age records.

Peter Warhurst

SURREY/SUSSEX

I moan to myself when there is not much news and now I have so much I don't know where to start.

I suppose the best place is with ever young Ray Dare (I am tempted to call him the 'comeback kid') who finally got his 10 mile record after missing out by just two seconds in our Group 10 and he actually did it on his 88th birthday as well. He recorded a 27:57, which gave him a plus of 7:38. He was understandably delighted with this as it completes his set of 10/25/50 records.

Although done at different ages so I think Ray had better start training for next season so he can break all three in one go.

Going back to the Group 10 on 7 June, Ray won the Stan Harvey Trophy and Medal with a mediocre +6:19. The Wif How Trophy and Medals (Surrey/Sussex Club Veteran Team of three on Standard) went to the Eastbourne Rovers trio of Matthew Woods (+04:53), Geoff Smith (+03:22) and Peter Moon (+03:00). It was good to see Peter back in action after last year's problems.

We then hosted the VTTA National 30 Championship. Unfortunately on the day of the event Carl Richardson was awarded the National Championship jersey and cap and it subsequently came to light that Carl had gone off course and was therefore a DNF.

The VTTA National result saw Matthew Woods (Eastbourne Rovers) come out top with +12:58;

Tom Glandfield (Lewes Wanderers) second (+12:21) and Chris Dyason (Cambridge CC) (+12:16). The Group awards only differed with third place going to Adrian Blacker of the Norwood Paragon. The team award went to Lewes Wanderers' threesome of Tom Glandfield, Peter Baker and Dominic Lowden.

Having seen the short distances out of the way we were then almost immediately consumed by the RTTC and VTTA national 24 Hour. A slightly altered course and a car crash (no cyclists involved) meant distances were not as good as before and despite hopes of the Women's National Competition record going, all came to naught as Jill Wilkinson was slowed by the recurrence of an illness. Not to be outdone, Lynne Taylor (riding as Biddulph just to confuse us) managed to win the women's prize but she was at Eastbourne A&E with her husband on Friday night after some dodgy local cuisine. Jonathan Shubert, who had just finished riding around the world managed to see off Ultan Coyle. The VTTA Champion was Edgar Reynolds with a plus of 107.44 miles, second was our own group member Paul Jackson who lives in Guernsey with +103.34 miles and third was Lynne Biddulph with +102.37 miles

Unfortunately that was the last event not to be disrupted by road works. We lost the ESCA 100 and the 25 course because of major road works at East Hoathly. As Recorder I ought to know what has been going on but I am lost and confused. By the time we get to the AGM I hope I have worked out who has won which awards. I do know that we have cancelled our September Group 25 and that we are piggy backing on other events where possible to be able to award the major trophies. At this stage the KCA 12 hour is the only event from our original list still to be run. The AGM is on November 16th at Handcross Village Hall. The hall will be open from 10 o'clock for tea and the meeting will start promptly at 11 o'clock. Please do try and make the effort to come along.

The Group lunch and prize presentation won't be at Rowfant House because they have stopped doing food. Robin's firm will do the catering at a venue to be confirmed.

Assuming you have read this far - a request. As much as I hate email and the Internet and believe

that the only reliable form of communication is by letter, it is apparent that with the cost of a stamp we can no longer realistically keep in touch with everyone by sending out information by post. The couple of quid the group retains out of the subs pays for a couple of letters a year (postage, paper and envelopes), which is not much. Also it is much quicker by email. Over $\frac{3}{4}$ of members have an email address so **but** I am conscious that email addresses change quite frequently. It is surprising the number of undeliverable replies I get whenever I send out an email to the Group. Can I ask if you are happy to receive information from the Group that you email me and I will check that we have up to date information for you. I will also be sending out the usual claims for the various competitions and standard awards by email this year and will only use post for those that I don't have an email address or the email address does not work. For you it works the other way. I don't need paper copies of the result sheets and forms. I am happy for you to simply scan and email me your claims. Finally we only have one new member so welcome to Michael Draper (who has provided me with his email address).

Tim Carpenter

WEST

Where does all the time go to or is it a problem of ageing! There are never enough hours in the day for me and I know that many others of my age seem to have the same problem. It makes me wonder how I ever found time to go to work. This summer has kept all keen cyclists very interested and involved because of the increase in media cycling coverage and the general increase in cycling related matters. This has kept us busy and engaged both participating and watching on television.

The Tour de France showed the massive impact cycling can have on the public if presented in such a wonderful way. The whole nation was involved as never before and it was clear to see that everyone was genuinely excited and entertained with what they saw. The crowds in Yorkshire and London that actually watched this event live and free of charge, were probably

equivalent to the numbers that watch the whole of the football league in a complete season. People really are beginning to sit up and take notice at last and isn't it just great. We really must try to capitalise on these recent gains in interest. We must make every effort to get more people onto bikes and into becoming involved and dedicated cyclists like ourselves. In addition to the tour, the Commonwealth Games provided more cycling interest but I would have hoped to see more home success. Having said this, among the competitors that did appear there were many comparatively new faces like Ben Swift and Chris Blythe, so maybe there is hope for the future. We are told that there is new track talent waiting in the wings to replace the likes of Chris Hoy and Victoria Pendleton but I get the feeling that at the moment we are standing still and other nations are improving rapidly.

The women's Tour of Britain also showed an encouraging increase in interest for women's racing but I feel that it will be a while yet before they can attract as much sponsorship as men and start to earn as much money. Best of luck to them anyway.

On the 6th of August I had the pleasure of helping to direct Jane Moore, riding her tricycle, safely through Bristol on her way to Jon o 'Groats. What a marvellous display of courage and determination she showed when she experienced bad weather in Scotland. She has set a new standard for this classic route, providing a tough target for someone else to challenge in the future. I must also report that on the way she set a new standard for the Western Counties RRA, Lands End to Bristol women's tricycle record, and so another feather in her cap. What a marvellous summer we have had weather wise, apart from the isolated severe conditions that we are now learning to expect due we are told to climate change. No excuses for not getting in the miles this year. I have only some rather scant information available at the moment about some very creditable rides done by West Vets, and as I am late with this report I don't have time to check them out properly. Hopefully these will all be recognised and reported in my end of season report. However I do know that Ray Retter, at 68

years of age, has done a truly amazing ride in the Mersey Roads 24 and I certainly intend to speak to him and get some form of story about this event.

The latest edition of the WestVet magazine was packed with interest and loads of information, so let's keep things on a roll and see what contributions you can make to ease the task of Mike Jupp in compiling the next edition. With the nights drawing in rapidly, many of us are making last minute efforts to improve this season's performances. Good luck to you all! Don't forget that this is the time when we make plans for next year, so please be sure you get plenty of events into the handbook and keep our sport alive and attractive, despite the pressure in finding suitable courses.

Brian Griffiths

YORKSHIRE

As I write this piece, the sun is shining and we are being warned of the dire consequences! Only in this country could fine weather be seen as a threat. But enough of that, Yorkshire has just enjoyed a remarkable week in July. Le Grand Depart of The Tour de France from Leeds will long be remembered in the minds of those who witnessed it; it was a magical week-end. I saw both stages and am only sorry I wasn't quick enough to give Jens Voigt and Chris Horner a VTTA membership form; then again, we would probably have had to amend the standard tables again!

Now for more sombre news: Colin Simpson passed away in June; he had been out on a run and was found at the roadside by Police. He was 74 and had been a member of the Calder Clarion and Clifton CC. Up until a few years ago he was a good Yorkshire Group rider. His funeral at York Crematorium was attended by well over 100 people. Our condolences go to his wife Betty and their family.

The 83rd running of the classic Andy Wilson 50 in July saw some fast times recorded for the second year running. The winner was Andy Jackson, Team Swift, with a rapid 1:41:16, just short of Mark Atkinson's ten year old event record of 1:41:00. Joel Wainman, also Team



Malcolm sets the scene for the day the TdeF came to Yorkshire

Swift, was second with 1:42:16 and along with Mark Wolstenholm in fourth place with 1:45:03, Team Swift took the team prize. Also worth a mention was Brian Sunter (70), Condor RC, in seventeenth place with 1:52:13. Congratulations are also due to Brian, who this year won the VTTA National 50 for the fifth time. He was also third in the National 10. Members were up for the 'Andy' with 79 finishers as opposed to 60 last year.

On now to special events: Our Rideout Lunch will be on 26 October, a week later than usual. It will be at Old Othiensians RUFC Clubroom at Otley 12.15 – 3 pm, tickets £12 (pay on the day). Book with John Churchman (Tel: 01274 564234). Do give this function your support; falling numbers could lead to its demise, which would be a shame as it is a good do.

Our July 25, promoted by Andrew Vaughan, escaped the torrential rain that stopped some events over this week-end. In the absence of a full result, I think this is what happened - my apologies for any mistakes. The winner on standard and on actual time was Joel Wainman (40), Team Swift, with a very rapid 49:25 +16:25.

In second place was Peter Manners (76), Barnsbury CC 1:02:14 +15:27. Just a second slower in third place was Rob Brooks (69), Warrington RC, 58:11 +15:26. Team Swift took the team prize, Joel Wainman leading Blair Buss (40), 52:37 +15:13 and Tim Humphries (50) 53:53 +14:09. The best woman on standard was Heather Greening (51), Border City Wheelers, 1:01:18 +12:23. Thanks are due to Andrew for promoting and to all the marshals and helpers. Once again my apologies if any of the above is wrong.

Our August meeting, held this year in Collingham, was attended by the usual group of officials. There were just **ten** present, down one from last year. Sadly, our Treasurer George Young was absent; George has been mown down and as a result is suffering from broken bones. I'm sure we all wish George a speedy recovery. Despite the so-called rising image of cycling, we remain on the same level as hedgehogs as far as the motoring fraternity are concerned.

It was also reported that Peter Gamble, Yorkshire RC, had died after a long illness. Condolences go

to his family.

Our membership continues to shrink down now to 161, which includes 21 Life Members and 13 Honorary Life Members, Our Secretary, Tony Stott, who had attended the National AGM, reported that the performance awards had been scrapped. Our Group never used them anyway. Now to our events for next season: Mike Williams will run his 10 probably for the last time. Next season it will be the VTTA National Championship and the date will change from our usual April slot. Andrew Vaughan will continue to promote the 15, but Steve Gaunt is to step down from promoting the September 10 after this year. Thanks are due to Steve for promoting for the last eight years. So the Championship 10 will probably be in May, Andrew Vaughn will run the 25 on 19 July on V236, and Mike Penrice has stepped in to run the September 10 on 5 September on V718; our thanks to Mike for stepping in. Our entry fees for next season will be £10.

On the social side, our Rideout Lunch hangs in the balance; its continuation will hinge on the attendance this October. Mickie Hornby will continue to run our Annual Lunch and Prize Presentation in 2015 and 2016 and will then step down. Mickie has done a great job over the last number of years and deserves our thanks. Our Guest of Honour for our Lunch on 25 January 2015 will be Ken Russell. Our older members will remember that Ken won the Tour of Britain as an

individual rider with no team, something not done before or since. So come along and meet a Yorkshire legend. Tickets will be £22, available from Mickie in due course.

Dissatisfaction was expressed regarding entry forms. It was pointed out that the CTT were going to produce yet another new entry form.

A suggestion was made that we award our 25, 50, 100 and 12 trophies for best performances on standard in nominated events at these distances and not anywhere in the country. This will be discussed at our AGM, which is on Saturday 8 November at 10 30 am at Collingham Memorial Hall.

So that was our August meeting and provided plenty for you to think about. We will always need to find new event promoters and in two years we will be looking for somebody to take over from Mickie in promoting the lunch.

Well, that's the news. The laughable affair that is the football season has started. Manchester United has paid £30 million for a teenager who isn't fit. It's a good job Alexandre Vinokourov isn't his manager. Even Nibali got a threatening letter from him in June telling him that his results were not commensurate with his salary! You could say that to the entire England team! Will Sky win a place again?

See you up the road.

Malcolm T Cowgill.

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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.

For a copy of
In My Time
send a cheque for £7.50
(which will cover the cost of the book
and the postage)
to
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NORTH MIDLANDS

Age records

It's been a very good year for age records in the North Midlands, with the following all achieving new ones or breaking existing ones at 10, 15, 25, 30 and 50 miles: Keith Ainsworth (Sheffrec CC), Trevor Mayne (Birdwell Whs), Alex Deck (Langsett Cycles RT), Alan Cooke (Matlock CC), Mick Allen (Belper BC), Tony Keyworth (Kiveton Park) and John Smith (VTTA).



JE James North Midlands series

Although not a vet's series per se, we have many members competing. The series is based on the best 6 results out of 16 events and the women's trophy has developed into a battle between reigning champion Alex Deck and new member Karen Ledger (pictured, on her fantastic Cervelo P5). With only a handful of points between them at the time of going to press it may well come down to the last event. Find out more at <http://www.sheffrec-cc.org.uk/jejamestcomp/>

New Hill Climb

The inaugural Etape d'acier (steel stage) hill climb took place on Friday 5th July, as part of the region's Tour de France celebrations. The 800m of pain started at Low Bradfield Post Office and wound its way up via a solid stretch of 20% to the Old Horns pub at High Bradfield. Several North Mids vets took up the challenge, with Alex Deck taking 2nd woman with 3:24, and first year vet Daryl May finished with a great time of 2:44.

Hilly TTs

Our region is blessed with some great hills, and it's been a good year for sporting courses. In the Sheffrec CC 22m SpoCo, group members Trevor Mayne, Alan Cooke, Daryl May, Joe Le Sage, Alex Deck and Karen Ledger all did great rides on a tough and windy course from Chesterfield to Owl Bar and back to Chesterfield via Baslow. The (even tougher) Bolsover CC 17.6m hilly saw a good turnout from group members, with Trevor Mayne being the highest in 9th place with 46.38 (and first in his age group, despite a mechanical), Alan Cooke 11th with 46.53, Keith Ainsworth 15th with 47.14, Daryl May 16th with 47.31, Joe Le Sage =18th with 47.54, Alex Deck 23rd (1st woman) with 50.11 (course record) and Karen Ledger 34th (2nd woman) with 55.07.

Next event

Our next and final event of the year is a 10 on Saturday 4th October, on the 010/3 (Five Lane Ends - Blyth - Five Lane Ends). Entry fee is £9.00 (Tandems £18); send to Iain McColl, 16 Kelsey Gardens, Bessacar, Doncaster DN4 7QB, Tel 01302 533325. Deadline 23rd September.

Alex Deck

proofreading is trully a drying art Did I read that sign right?

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In an office:
AFTER TEA BREAK, STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD.

NORTH

Unfortunately for Ruth Crossley's 25 the weather did not co-operate and faced with heavy rain it was decided that safety being paramount the event did not get started. However, with the consent of the riders and after expenses, we were able contribute a sum in excess of £500.00 to the Great North Air Ambulance.

It may be a little late but the positions in the Points Competition as of August 10th after three completed events (with three more to go) is as follows:-

Standard	
C.E.Scurr	44 points
R.Booth	40 points
S.Fullerton	35 points
Actual	
C.E.Scurr	38 points
T.Humphries	37 Points
H.Heighton	35 points
Handicap	
C.E.Scurr	44 points
R.Booth	33 points
D.Bennett & H.Heighton	32 points

When is someone going to get organised and give Ted a run for his money?

I wish to remind you that the Group Luncheon in 2015 will once again be at the Hardwick Hall Hotel on Sunday the 11th. of January; bookings to Ruth Crossley cost £20.50.

I noticed that in the Stockton Wheelers' 100 on Teesside there were only four Group members entered and only three started and finished. In the Tyneside Vagabonds' 100 there were 31 entries 19 of whom finished, there were 13 veterans none of them VTTA members.

I think that the time has come to delete the handicap section from our "Points Series Competition", the information which is available on the new Entry Form and Internet Entry is so sparse that it is now virtually impossible to calculate a reasonable handicap allowance.

Les Dawson

MIDLANDS

Tour of the Abberleys

At our recent committee meeting, we welcomed a new Secretary, none other than the legend Scott Westwood, who some of you may remember featured in a rider profile a year or so ago. As if that wasn't exciting enough, we have also recruited Tim Wood, successful owner of Echelon Cycles and sponsor of the Rankings Series. Tim has kindly volunteered to represent the committee in the Treasurer's role which must be good news!! Maybe these appointments have injected some critical life back into the Midlands, as membership is up 20% and there are more riders than ever taking part in the Series (currently 71).

Before business began, I casually asked our Chairman, Andrew Simpkins, how his season was going and he beamed (quite unusual for him) and replied with a modest account of a recent victory in the LVRC's three day Tour of the Abberley's stage race at the beginning of May. Although we are a time trialling organisation, Midlands VTTA members can also be found competing in road races, as I discovered, with notable success as demonstrated by Andrew. After a bunch finish at the end of day one, Andrew was the only 60+ rider to get in the winning break on day two which finished three minutes up on the rest of the field. He also finished 3rd on the stage after launching a late attack against the remnants of the break and holding on to a gap on the long uphill finish. The race organiser, in awarding Andrew his prize for the stage rightly described it as the ride of his season—if not the ride of his life!

The final stage included two ascents of the punishing Stockton Bank climb. Andrew managed to hold onto the lead group which included only one other 60+ rider and so secured his overall race win in the 60+ category. An impressive trophy now adorns the fireplace at home. Andrew says he feels his name looks somewhat out of place on a trophy that includes such illustrious names as Roger Iddles but in road racing, as compared to time trialling, you can just get the lucky break! Needless to say, we are very proud to have such a hero in our midst.



On standard the results showed an interesting range of ages. Further evidence of how the new standards are providing a more level playing field. I should also point out that the VTTA Midlands committee managed to place three of its members in the top 10 (just!).

A particularly fine ride on the day was 'Best woman' – with Rosie Armitage winning this prize with an excellent 57:48. The best team prize went to Worcester St John's (Corbett, Wix and Bendelow).

Many thanks to all the helpers and marshals on the day for providing a safe and enjoyable event which also benefitted from the excellent cakes and refreshments provide by Jan Ford and her team.

*Andrew Simpkins
Event Organiser*

Race Report - VTTA Midlands and Echelon Cycles Open 25 : 23 August

This was the second VTTA Midlands open event of the season. We discovered a few weeks before the event that road works were notified on the K34/25 course which included traffic lights. The event therefore had to be switched, with the agreement of the CTT committee and the police, to the K33/25s course based on the A435 between Evesham and Alcester. This is quite a fast course but with the challenge of negotiating seven passages of roundabouts and the interminably long climb up to the Evesham bypass. We had an encouraging 74 entries for the event with 61 starters.

The Saturday afternoon turned out to be a mixture of sunshine and showers with one particularly heavy, if not too long, downpour about 50 minutes into the event. There was also quite a variable northerly wind which affected riders at different times. However the conditions did not prevent some fast times.

On actual fastest it was another fine win for Jon Simpkins but with Mark Corbett and Scott Westwood not far behind. Jon, Scott and Mark also finished in the top 5 on standard which shows we have some very talented younger vets in the Group. Congratulations to Vincent Jenkins who despite only recently returning to racing after illness was best on standard.

Name	Club	Age	Actual
Jon Simpkins	Drag 2 Zero	43	52:17
Mark Corbett	Worcester St. Johns CC	41	52:29
Scott Westwood	Walsall Roads CC	42	52:41
Paul Edwards	Walsall Roads CC	32	53:34
Ian Heming	Team Echelon - Rotor	40	54:32
Justin Walters	Wyre Forest CRC	43	54:50
Jeremy Pile	VC Sevale (Malvern)	40	54:54
Richard Searle	Hinckley CRC	43	55:30
Cameron Foster	Club Corley Cycles	20	55:40
Jon Howard	Wyre Forest CRC	45	55:51
Simon Wix	Worcester St. Johns CC	51	55:51

Name	Club	Age	Standard
Vincent Jenkins	LeisureLakesBikes.com	74	+14:38
Jon Simpkins	Drag 2 Zero	43	+14:22
Richard Coleman	Stourbridge Velo	60	+13:57
Scott Westwood	Walsall Roads CC	42	+13:45
Mark Corbett	Worcester St. Johns CC	41	+13:44
Liz Powell	Mike Vaughan Cycles	40	+12:56
Simon Wix	Worcester St. Johns CC	51	+12:23
David Wood	Stourbridge Velo	59	+12:02
Andrew Simpkins	Solihull CC	60	+11:54
Jeff Matthews	Team Echelon – Rotor	56	+11:47

Miranda Harris



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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.

National Championship 24

(NEC Representative Jim Burgin)

The East Sussex CA promoted the CTT National Championship on the 21/22 June and included the VTTA Championship within the event for the second time in two years. Surrey/Sussex Group were very evident with Esther Carpenter as Event Secretary.

Unfortunately the result was not available on the day and so there are no photographs of a presentation. Initially it was thought that there was a woman winner which would perhaps further validate the new Standard Tables but a further check showed that Edgar Reynolds was first, with Paul Jackson second and Lynne Biddulph a shade under two miles short of a VTTA record ride.

Edgar Reynolds	Congleton CC	391.56	107.44
Paul Jackson	Guernsey Velo Club	450.23	103.34
Lynne Biddulph	Born to Bike	424.61	102.37
Stuart Stow	Hounslow & District Wheelers	442.78	98.83
Michael Turner	Lewes Wanderers CC	438.09	85.24
Ishmael Burdeau	Twickenham CC	433.42	80.57
Martin Brown	7 Oaks Triathlon Club	410.81	78.75
Peter Baker	Lewes Wanderers CC	391.81	69.17
Neil Ridsdale	Bridlington CC	391.50	68.86
Martin Booker	Worthing Excelsior CC	417.99	62.08
Peter Holland	Lincoln Wheelers CC	320.71	59.71
Steve Davies	Addiscombe CC	344.42	39.36
Simon Yates	Lewes Wanderers CC	332.26	31.09
Bob Richards	Royal Navy & Royal Marines CA	345.81	23.17
Ian Hodge	Southborough & District Wheelers	327.59	1.74
Ann Bath	Kingston Phoenix RC	254.56	-9.17

The National Championship 30



Although unable to produce a photographic record of the winners of the 24 Hour Championship, advantage was taken of the opportunity to produce a picture of Matthew Woods receiving the Champion's jersey, medal and cap as the winner of the 30.

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The National Championship 12

NEC Representative Greg Lewis

After weeks of excellent weather for time trialling with many records broken both in VTTA and Open events August has been a wet and windy month.

So as Dave Knock event secretary left the house at 2am to put the signs up for the ECCA promoted 12 hour event including the VTTA National Championships he hoped for a dry day.

Odd showers were forecast but a moderate to fresh Westerly wind was going to be popping up from mid-morning onwards for sure. This was going to make the finish circuit tough for the riders. The road from Duxford to Great Chesterfield runs East West.

As forecast the wind did arrive and it was fresher than moderate which makes the mileages achieved even more impressive. Most riders also got completely soaked by a heavy shower mid-way through the race. Cathy Wood from Chelmer CC, riding in her first 12, hour posted a 218.3 giving a plus of 36.76. Cathy was in a podium position right to the end when the final scores arrived from the timekeepers. Cathy's ride, along with John Golder and Peter Horsnell secured Chelmer CC the team prize.

Chelmer CC Peter Hornell's ride of 191.4 giving a plus of 71.04 was also good enough for 3rd in the overall standings. Which was so close to being second but Dave Lazenby of Silverstone Cycle-Baines Racing literally pipping Peter to the post with a 270.9 giving a plus of 71.24. So very close after 12 hours of racing. Peter is 70 and Dave 50 so that must be a vindication of the standards. However, if we look at the winner Ray Retter he was literally several country miles further up the road with a 246.8 actual and a standard of 75.46. Still very close after 12 hours.

A bleary-eyed Dave Knock handed out the prizes to what looked like remarkably fresh riders. Perhaps the wonderful smelling bacon sandwiches being served at the excellent race HQ at Great Chesterfield had helped to rejuvenate people after what can only be described as very tough conditions.

As we approached 7.30pm Dave said "Just the signs left to collect now"

I am sure the riders and the VTTA would like to offer a big thank you to Dave and his helpers for hosting such a well organised event.



National Championship 12

Ray Retter	North Devon Wheelers	246.23	278.23	74.89
Dave Lazenby	Silverstone Cycle - Baines Racing	270.71	283.71	71.05
Peter Horsnell	Chelmer CC	192.10	262.10	70.74
John Golder	Chelmer CC	244.23	270.23	59.66
Rob Dulson	Hainault RC	246.33	250.33	50.38
Robert Royston	Sydenham Wheelers	236.52	267.52	48.81
Paul Jackson	Guernsey VC	250.56	260.56	48.48
Stephen Cook	Lindsey RCC	236.74	264.74	38.30
Jon Lewis	Charlotteville CC	245.01	275.01	36.66
Cathy Wood (W)	Chelmer CC	218.00	291.00	36.46
Grant Orsborn	Icknield RC	226.57	239.57	31.89
Neil Allonby	Chronos RT	238.90	281.90	31.85
Clayton Knight	Shaftesbury CC	205.92	247.92	9.97
Ian Mackenzie (Trike)	Southend Wheelers	161.90	267.90	2.46



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National 25 Mile Championship

NEC Representative Jim Burgin

There are not many unaware of the enforced cancellation of the scheduled running of the Championship on the 28th of June. The preceding women's event did start and finish. The Championship also started with some heroic performances that will not be recorded for posterity. However, there is one short film which all time triallists should watch. It demonstrates not only the horrendous precipitation but the mettle as the rider never wavers, in spite of the conditions – click to link to see yourself. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2qsFtL8jxw>

Event Secretary John Golder made a fresh application to run the event again and it took place on a cold but sunny Sunday morning on the 24th of August.

A total of 144 riders (including reserves) were listed for that wet day in June and, of those, 58 decided to try again. The second promotion had an entry of 137, thus 86 'newcomers' had a chance at taking the title of 25 mile champion. But it was the avuncular Eric Marsh, foiled in June, who, at the age of 84, was 'gifted' with the number 139 and so avoided the early morning chill into his mature bones, taking the title with his stunning time of 1:03:21 and a plus of 22:11. If the new standards are really as good as many now believe them to be, Eric's ride was equal to a 45:03. Has anyone achieved such a plus at 25 miles we may ask – and will it ever be repeated?

Still enjoying his luminosity as the Association's favourite TV star, Derek Stewart once again travelled the journey south from his home in Aberdeen, looking for another Championship trophy to add to his joint 10 mile win back in May. Derek gave six years to the triumphant Eric and recorded a brilliant plus of 20:52 (58:22).

Historians can look back years and still they will find the name Brian Sunter. He has figured in the top three at most distances time without number and the diffident 71 year old Yorkshireman was in the limelight yet again as he took the bronze medal with a plus of 20:03 (54:03).

Peter Horsnell, another famous octogenarian from the East Anglian Group, led the all-conquering Chelmer CC in taking the team award, backed up by Antony Stapleton and Event Secretary John Golder.

The revered Rob Pears settled for fifth place on this occasion. His 49:56 - although the only time inside the cherished 50 minutes - resulted in a plus of 18:18.

The – by now – regular tandem duo of Geoff Perry (National Records Secretary) and Kevin Stokes added to their medal collection; recording a plus of 10:07. Their actual 51:40 was well short of the record they are looking for to go with the 15 mile record already in their names.

Sitting in loneliness by the side of the dual carriageway, the riders might have noticed one or other of two intense individuals, peering alternately into the distance and then in the direction of their laps. These were the men who provided all those plusses. The riders, pounding the tarmac on their multi-pound machines, depended in the final analysis on the work of John Cottee and Eric Angell, Timekeepers returning again to the side of the road on course E2/25; this time on a cold but bright morning.

Others perhaps not noticed by those in search of a faster time than ever before were Dave Nock fixing and then retrieving signs. Christine Holmes spent her time in charge of signing-on, her presence, along with others, being duplicated by the wall-length mirror at the end of the room at Headquarters. Richard Newall and Ian Bibby pushed off – in the correct jargon that means helping the riders on their way, not

doing a runner. David Howes, Mick Trickett, Ken Platts and Vince Freeley were at Four Went Ways, waving and pointing whilst Cathy Wood and Paul Hirst acted as timekeepers' assistants. Bob Ward did a traffic count and Paul Thomson, the infamous 'Thomo' of Forum Fame, provided and operated the dual screen results board.

Prizes were presented by VTTA National Chairman, Jim Burgin, and the proceedings being photographed in their entirety by Brian Jones of Kimroy Photography.

Thus ended another bite of the cherry for the coffers of Cycling Time Trials as it copped another windfall of levies; not everyone is/was aware that, as the first event was only cancelled after it had begun, everyone had to pay again.

Those 58 riders who returned for more, from whom came the prizewinners, and the 86 who had a second chance of mixing in elite company with a first class promotion, undoubtedly are grateful to John Golder and his band of helpers who decided to again try to beat the elements. Certainly the NEC are indebted to him and to the East Anglian Group.



Shay Giles missed being presented with the Champion's Jersey at the 100 Mile Championship and was presented with it after his ride in the 25

The 25 Mile Championship

Eric Marsh	Ciclos Uno	84	EA	1:03:21	+ 22:11
Derek Stewart	Deeside Thistle CC	78	Scotland	58:22	+ 20:52
Brian Sunter	Condor RC	71	Yorkshire	54:33	+ 20:03
Peter Horsnell	Chelmer CC	84	EA	1:06:44	+ 18:48
Reg Smith	VeloRefined Aerosmiths	68	Kent	54:45	+ 18:25
Rob Pears	Procyding Magazine RT	51	West	49:56	+ 18:18
Shay Giles	VC Elan	69	Kent	55:59	+ 17:38
Len Benton	Colchester Rovers CC	76	EA	1:00:42	+ 16:59
Jim Moffatt	Virgin Active CT	57	L&HC	52:55	+ 16:39
Chris Nudds	CC Breckland	66	EA	56:54	+ 15:26
Simon Norman	Bedfordshire Road CC	43	L&HC	51:27	+ 15:12
Helen Reynolds (W)	Hemel Hempstead CC	49	L&HC	58:05	+ 15:10
Roger Sewell	Hounslow & Dist Wheelers	67	L&HC	57:36	+ 15:08
Geoff Powell	High Wycombe CC	53	L&HC	53:33	+ 15:06
Peter Manners	Barnesbury CC	77	North	1:03:25	+ 15:01
Colin Parkinson	South Western RC	52	Notts & E Mids	53:30	+ 14:56
Peter Wilson	Bath CC	80	West	1:06:11	+ 14:51
Dave Green	RAF CA	50	EA	53:12	+ 14:50
Antony Stapleton	Chelmer CC	48	EA	52:50	+ 14:48
Chris Roberts	Anglia Velo	69	EA	59:10	+ 14:27
Roger Porter	Verulam CC	67	L&HC	58:25	+ 14:19
Iain McLeod	Denny RC - SCU	76	Scotland	1:03:34	+ 14:07
Chris Dyason	Cambridge CC	66	EA	58:16	+ 14:04
Keith Dorling	Bishop's Stortford CC	55	EA	55:17	+ 13:48
Simon Greenland	Maidenhead & Dist CC	61	L&HC	56:50	+ 13:48
Matthew Rowley	Oxonian CC	46	Wessex	53:28	+ 13:47
John Golder	Chelmer CC	61	EA	56:55	+ 13:43
Nick Wilson	Rye & Dist Wheelers CC	51	Surrey-Sussex	54:32	+ 13:42
Chris Wornack	VC Barachi	67	EA	59:03	+ 13:41
Murray Kirton	A5 Rangers CC	73	Midlands	1:02:07	+ 13:36
Phil Brown	Didcot Phoenix CC	43	L&HC	53:04	+ 13:35
Howard Staunton	Hainault RC	60	EA	56:58	+ 13:23
Tony Harvey	Mid Shropshire Wheelers	53	Merseyside	55:17	+ 13:22
Matt Molloy	Finsbury Park CC	45	L&HC	53:45	+ 13:18
Simon Henderson	Thanet RC	51	Kent	54:58	+ 13:16
Mike O'Gorman	Worthing Excelsior CC	62	Surrey-Sussex	58:00	+ 12:57
Richard Hutt	Harp RC	57	L&HC	56:40	+ 12:54
Jim Burgess	Anglia Velo	41	EA	53:24	+ 12:49
Chris Lodge	Finsbury Park CC	59	EA	57:26	+ 12:38
Gray Turnock	Finsbury Park CC	46	EA	54:41	+ 12:34
Timothy Wood	Chelmer CC	54	EA	56:28	+ 12:24
Mike Appleyard	Lancashire RC	48	L&HC	55:15	+ 12:23
Steve Clarke	TMG Horizon CT	59	EA	57:50	+ 12:14
Grant Orsborn	Icknield RC	54	L&HC	56:56	+ 11:56
Mark Newton	Elite Cycling	47	EA	55:30	+ 11:56
Tony Boardman	Team Swift	58	Manch'r & NW	57:57	+ 11:52

The 25 Mile Championship (continued)

Lee Turner	Sigma Sport.co.uk	45	EA	55:14	+ 11:49
Christopher Bax	PMR @ Toachim House	62	Kent	59:11	+ 11:46
Barry Quick	Reading CC	69	Wessex	1:02:14	+ 11:23
John Iszatt	Team Vision Racing	55	EA	57:54	+ 11:11
Keith Clarke	Colchester Rovers CC	69	EA	1:02:37	+ 11:00
Katja Rietdorf (W)	Team Milton Keynes	43	L&HC	1:00:59	+ 10:57
Mary Twitchett (W)	Cambridge CC	54	EA	1:03:29	+ 10:54
Nicholas Pitt	Chronos RT	42	L&HC	55:35	+ 10:51
Kevin Grimshaw	Bigfoot CC	48	EA	56:49	+ 10:49
Sean Taylor	RAF CA	43	EA	55:57	+ 10:42
Robert Watson	Newmarket Cycling & Tri Club	53	EA	58:10	+ 10:29
Tony Workman	Lancashire RC	42	N Lancs&Lakes	56:01	+ 10:25
Frank Rawlins	North Road CC	51	L&HC	57:53	+ 10:21
Geoffrey Reynolds	Hemel Hempstead CC	48	L&HC	57:20	+ 10:18
Cliff Voller	Newbury RC	63	West	1:01:14	+ 10:02
Robert Giles	PMR @ Toachim House	67	Kent	1:02:52	+ 9:52
Richard Kemp	Redbridge CC	60	EA	1:00:31	+ 9:50
Richard Shel Drake	Lincoln Wheelers CC	40	North Mids	56:16	+ 9:44
Peter Harridge	Icknield RC	58	L&HC	1:00:08	+ 9:41
Ann Shuttleworth (W)	Chelmer CC	47	EA	1:03:09	+ 9:40
Leon Thompson	Ipswich BC	50	EA	58:40	+ 9:22
Karl Read	North Norfolk Wheelers	47	EA	58:13	+ 9:13
Alan Crane	Chronos RT	45	L&HC	57:53	+ 9:10
Stephen Cook	Lindsey Roads CC	51	North Mids	59:09	+ 9:05
Mark Newnham	Anglia Velo	46	EA	58:20	+ 8:55
Colin Hodges	Verulam CC	51	L&HC	59:36	+ 8:38
David Moore	VC Norwich	45	EA	58:28	+ 8:35
John Coles	West Suffolk Wheelers	71	EA	1:06:08	+ 8:28
Mark Arnold	CC Desiragear	40	EA	57:40	+ 8:20
Dave Hulatt	St Ives CC	48	EA	59:18	+ 8:20
Bob Quarton	Wolsey RC	60	EA	1:02:09	+ 8:12
Neil Holden	Lutterworth Cycle Centre RT	42	Notts & E Mids	58:23	+ 8:03
Joe Le Sage	Rutland CC	41	North Mids	58:18	+ 7:55
Richard Davies	VC10	41	L&HC	58:21	+ 7:52
Robert Askew	VTTA (Kent)	48	Kent	59:49	+ 7:49
Tony Day	Bigfoot CC	43	EA	58:55	+ 7:44
Sally Withey (W)	VC Norwich	45	EA	1:04:43	+ 7:40
Simon Inman	Mapperley CC	41	Notts & E Mids	58:36	+ 7:37
Paul Donegan	Chelmer CC	43	EA	59:06	+ 7:33
Ian Short	API-Metrow	41	EA	59:06	+ 7:07
David Rogers	Hemel Hempstead CC	56	L&HC	1:03:18	+ 6:01
Andrew Bright	Chronos RT	46	EA	1:01:29	+ 5:46
Jan Ertner	Cambridge CC	48	EA	1:02:36	+ 5:02
Dominic Whitehead	St Ives CC	55	EA	1:04:21	+ 4:44
Ian Damant	Becontree Whrs CC	54	EA	1:05:08	+ 3:44
Annette Lacey (W)	Hemel Hempstead CC	51	L&HC	1:10:09	+ 3:32
Douglas Williams	Colchester Rovers CC	51	EA	1:05:04	+ 3:10

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OBITUARIES

Clifford Grant

(1946 -2014)

Cliff Grant joined the High Wycombe CC in 1964 aged 20 after a short spell with a now defunct west London cycling club. Way back then it soon became clear that he was a strong rider, particularly over longer distances. He easily took to road racing and he gained a number of good placings, especially in the longer distance events. He would take off alone if the opportunity presented itself and the chasers would most often not see him again. The crowning glory in his relatively short road racing career came in 1965. In the BCF Berks Bucks and Oxon senior road race championship which was held on a tough 100 mile course out in Oxfordshire, Cliff took off alone with some 10 miles to go. He left the remnants of the field in his wake to win the event with nearly a minute to spare from the chasers. He also led the High Wycombe CC to the team win.



As the 1960s rolled on, and not surprisingly he then proved himself more than useful in this sphere of the sport. He attempted a 100 miles on a standard road bike back in 1966. But his chosen career in finance and part time studies for examinations curtailed his professional accountancy cycling activities. He then followed a demanding professional career as a finance director in the motor industry for many years and brought up a young family with wife Pauline. But cycle sport kept drawing him back to competitive riding. He made several successful returns to time trialling despite the heavy demands of his work, and during his more recent resurgence he produced near life-time personal bests over 10 and 25 miles in his mid 60s with a 57.20 for 25 miles and several very short 22s over 10 miles.

Cliff took more to time trialling soon proved himself more sphere of the sport. His first produced a 4 hours and 18 road bike back in 1966. But his and part time studies for examinations curtailed his followed a demanding finance director in the motor brought up a young family with wife drawing him back to competitive riding.

to time trialling despite the heavy demands of his work, and during his more recent resurgence he produced near life-time personal bests over 10 and 25 miles in his mid 60s with a 57.20 for 25 miles and several very short 22s over 10 miles.

Cliff was the National Treasurer of the VTTA which was a role he took on in 2011. He was also a long-standing club timekeeper for the High Wycombe CC and he was timekeeping on the Club's evening league time trial programme this year. He died of a heart attack during the early hours on September the 1st. The previous day he'd been out on the bike with a cycling friend and together they had covered some 60 miles. He leaves wife Pauline and son Martin and daughter Zoe and two grandchildren.

Cliff was my longest cycling friend, we went right back to those far off days in the 1960s. I will miss him so much.

Gordon Wright.

OBITUARIES

John (Jack) William Mellis

1919-2014

It is with deep regret that I record the passing of Jack Mellis, long-time member of Preston Wheelers and honorary member of the North Lancashire and Lakes Group VTTA. Jack died on 8th July 2014 after a short illness at the age of 95.

Jack was born in Preston in March 1919 and became a cyclist when aged about 14. His cycling was interrupted in 1939 when he was called up to the Army where he served in Belgium and was evacuated from Dunkirk, later serving in North Africa and up through Italy.

He resumed cycling in the late 1950s but he was not your super star fast man but a 1-6 25 man and a 2-18 50 man. But he enjoyed his cycling so much that he was still racing in his early eighties and still going for sneaky rides from the rest home where he lived for six years (he had a turbo trainer in the boiler room!) even though he was registered blind.

Jack was an avid sports fan and a lifelong Preston North End supporter.

He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

David Mellis - Son

Sybil Wilson

Sybil Wilson, née Rodgers, wife of Syd Wilson and one of North Midlands Group life members, passed away on Saturday 7 June after suffering several heart attacks. Sybil was a member of the Sheffield Phoenix CC and Beighton Wheelers. The Wilson brothers, Jim and Syd are legendary in South Yorkshire. If you'd like to know more there's a brilliant article by Syd's nephew Nigel Wilson on the Wilson Cycles site: <http://www.wilsoncycles.co.uk>

Dave Keeler

25.12.1927—20.07.2014

London Group lost one its famous members with the passing of Dave Keeler.

He started his racing amongst a group of friends at school in Letchworth in 1946 and in 1949 he represented England in the World Student Games in Budapest both on the track and the road events.

In 1951 he lowered the RTTC 25-mile time trial record twice as well as taking the 30 mile record. He was the first rider to beat the hour in Wales and was Scottish 25 mile champion breaking the competition record at the same time. Another Celtic foray resulted in him breaking the Welsh 50 mile competition record. On the track he took the National (NCU) 4000 metres Pursuit Title at the Butts Stadium, Coventry.

He was the first man to ride the End to End in racing shorts and a club vest as opposed to black tights and Alpaca jacket, and the first amateur solo bike rider to break the record, which had been held by professionals for 50 years

On retirement in later life, he raced regularly as a 'Vet', preferring the longer distances.

(Details extracted from the RRA Web Site)

OBITUARIES

Robert Cooper

06.08.1940 – 26.07.2014

Robert was a long time member of the Law Wheelers, an active member of the SVTTA and, for a while was a member of Stirling BC.

As well as being a regular on the time trial circuit, recently he got himself 'up to speed' in the Glasgow Velodrome.

Robert was great company on training weeks in Mallorca, where he was renowned for going up the steep climbs in the big chain ring, a couple of years ago after a heavy crash he still attended the Mallorca training week albeit not to cycle.

Over the last couple of years Robert has introduced his grandson to cycling through the Clydesdale Colts, and onto time trialing at club level. As with so many others over the years, he enjoyed sharing his passion for cycling and the outdoors. Robert also completed the great north run many times.

With his brother John, Robert ran the very successful Cooper Brothers business, supplying car tyres, exhausts, MOTs and operating petrol stations, with premises in Newmains, Carluke and Cumbernauld.

Robert was a tireless fundraiser for local charities, and using collecting tins located in his various business raised funds for Erskine Hospital, Cancer Research and the local Girl Guides, he also encouraged the staff at these locations to participate in various Cycling, Running, Swimming and walking events.

Cambusnethan North Parish Church was full to capacity, and included many members from the VTTA paying their respects to Robert both in the church and at the graveside, then continuing to the Cartland Bridge Hotel.

Leonard Dimmock

2.01.1921—31.08.2014

Honorary Life Member Len Dimmock passed away peacefully at the end of August. Len rode his bike until well into his 80s and was well-known figure in Leighton Buzzard. He was a member of the Bossard Wheelers.

Danny Williams (Nephew)

Harry Maher

Harry Maher, husband of Vice President and former President Doreen Maher and long serving member of the NEC, died recently. Details in the next edition of *The Veteran*.

Also departed are

Olive Forsbrook (East Anglian Group)
Les Janman (Wessex Group)
Lilian Shakespeare (East Anglian Group)

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The 2015 Championships

Applications have been made for the following:

31-May	Saturday	10 Miles (Yorkshire)	V718
26-Jul	Sunday	25 Miles (Wales)	R25/3L
09-Aug	Sunday	50 Miles (Hampshire)	P885
16-Aug	Sunday	30 Miles (Berkshire)	H30/1

The following have kindly agreed to combine the VTTA Championship with their events

25-May	Monday	Anfield and VTTA 100 Championship	D100/2R
14-Jun	Sunday	Newbury RC 12 and VTTA Championship	H12/8

The Promoters of the 2015 CTT Championship 24 Hour are to be asked if they would incorporate the VTTA Championship within their event

Now that I'm older here's what I've discovered:

I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.

My wild oats are mostly enjoyed with prunes and all-bran.

I finally got my head together, and now my body is falling apart.

Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.

Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.

If all is not lost, then where the heck is it?

I wish the buck really did stop here, I sure could use a few of them.

Kids in the back seat cause accidents.

Accidents in the back seat cause kids.

It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.



Edgar Reynolds—24 Hour Champion



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