

Number 50

THE

September 2016

VETERAN



Chris Scawn



Edgar Reynolds



David Hargreaves

National Association for the 40 year old and over racing cyclist

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE 2016/17

President

Carole Gandy (Kent)
01622 762837 : carole.gandy12@gmail.com

Honorary Life Vice President

Keith Robins

Vice Presidents

Mrs D Mahar E A Green

Chairman

Jim Burgin (London and Home Counties)
33 Pinelands Park Padworth Common Reading RG7 4QB
0118 9701147 : jim.burgin1@btinternet.com : 07925503819

Treasurer

William Gladwin (London & Home Counties)
5 Elm Avenue
Eastcote, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 8PE
020 8582 7815
wjgladwin@blueyonder.co.uk

Records Secretary

Geoff Perry (London & Home Counties)
8 The Meadway Loughton
Milton Keynes MK5 8AN
01908 200680
geoffreyperry@aol.com

Editor & Advertising Secretary

Jim Burgin (London & Home Counties)
33 Pinelands Park Welshman's Road
Padworth Common Reading RG7 4QB
0118 9701147 & 07925 503819
jim.burgin1@btinternet.com

National Recorder

Steve Lockwood (Midlands)
131 Crabtree Lane, Bromsgrove
Worcestershire B61 8PQ
01527 578885
recorder@vtta.org.uk

National Secretary

Rachael Elliott
6 Pindar Place
Newbury RG14 2RR
07931 722817
secretary@vtta.org.uk

Membership Secretary

Merv Player (East Anglian)
18 New Close Knebworth
Herts SG3 6NU
01438 814154
bikies@pat-merv.freemove.co.uk

Webmaster

Jim Gibb (Wessex)
4 Hispano Avenue Whiteley
Fareham PO15 7DS
01489 564735
webmaster@vtta.org.uk

Awards Secretary

Ian Greenstreet (London & Home Counties)
Davendy, Long Lane
Newbury RG14 2TH
0798 0301321
iangreenstreet@gmail.com

National Executive Committee

Alan Colburn (Midland) : Brian Camfield (Manchester)
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Website : www.vtta.org.uk and Facebook



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THE VETERAN

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

OF THE

VETERANS TIME TRIALS ASSOCIATION

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

Number 50 September 2016

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Chris Scawn
12 Hour Champion

Edgar Reynolds
24 Hour Champion

David Hargreaves
100 Mile Champion

PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Carole Gandy



It was indeed sad to hear of the passing of Derek Stewart. I met him for the first time on a very wet day in Wales in 2015 when he was the winner of the 25 mile National Championship where he still got the under hour despite the weather. A lovely gentleman who enjoyed riding his bike who will be greatly missed.

Both John and I enjoyed a late August holiday with friends who have gone native and live near Bergerac, France, where the temperatures were extremely hot. It was particularly enjoyable because John had been told that probably cycling; swimming or playing any racquet sport would be a thing of the past. Happily John discovered that he can do all of these things and getting back on our bikes again was a great joy as we only took these with us with the slim

hope of being able to use them.

Autumn this year, so far, has been great although some parts of the country have had to endure variable weather conditions, which for a change in the South East of England has been extremely constant. Great for getting out and about but not so great for our gardens which are in need of a steady rainfall any time soon. One thing it seems that weeds will always grow, but plants will not when we experience hot and dry periods.

The Olympics were great in all sports and yet again the cyclists showed their class be it in the Olympics or the Paralympics. It was great to hear night after night that our athletes had achieved their potential and brought home the goods. The national lottery has enabled them to show their worth and I am particularly delighted that our Paralympians have been given the chance to shine through this support and hopefully this will encourage people to reach out and help their dreams to come true. So everyone keep buying your lottery tickets.

If you find yourself at a loose end during the winter months and cannot get out on your bikes how about a game of Pickleball. Yes I can hear you saying what is this? Well it is an American craze which is fast taking on in GB. It is specifically designed for the 50+ group, but like bowls any age group can play. It is best played in doubles and you will get plenty of exercise over a period of two hours. Just look up Pickleball on line (U Tube) and you will see what it is all about. There are even tournaments in England and Europe and of course plenty in America. Next year the world championships are taking place in the Medway Towns, Kent.

Let's hope, as we always do, that the winter will not be too severe this year but with all the modern technology that is available for training, relying on the weather to be able to ride our bikes is no longer a problem.

Happy cycling

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Rachael Elliott



As we draw to the end of another time trialling year, it provides opportunity to reflect on another year of performances. Although we have, once again, been blighted with stronger winds than we would like for many weeks of the season, my personal feeling is we've also had more than our fair share of float days this year – which is perhaps best exemplified by the number of CTT competition records which have been achieved this year. However, whilst Hayley Simmonds' 18:36 and Marcin Bialoblocki's 16:35 may have grabbed the headlines in Cycling Weekly, there have been some equally impressive veteran records broken this year: at the Port Talbot Wheelers event I rode last week, Chris Melia rode a 55:11 for 25 miles – a hugely impressive result and one, like many, which has gone under the radar.

The performances in the VTTA championships have been no less impressive than Chris' achievement: Kevin Tye put in an incredible ride of 1:43:21 in the 50 mile championships to earn himself a plus of +38:28 whilst Brian Sunter, knocked into second for

the "50", hopefully was rewarded some redemption with a superb +16:27 to take victory by nearly 2.5 minutes in the 25 mile championships – superbly promoted with help from the Midlands Group.

However, one notable absentee this year has been Derek Stewart. Derek's featuring on the podium results over recent years has been as reliable as a Japanese bullet train, but he had sent a personal message of apology before each championship event this year that he would not be able to ride, blaming an insignificant health issue. However, in the same way as he always took his medals with such modesty on the podium, this transpired to also be the case with his health claims. I was informed by the SVTTA of his worsening health in the beginning of September, and he sadly succumbed to his illness just three weeks after diagnosis in mid-September. His cheerful face, stories of working endless hours on offshore oil platforms and his unstoppable questioning about how *your* racing was going, will leave a huge hole for me, and for many others.

Derek's absence from event results will not be the only "hole" in the VTTA next year as we gear ourselves up for the retirement of our formidable Chairman, Jim Burgin, after the AGM in January. Whilst I know this will give Jim the opportunity to spend more time with his wife, Dot, after selflessly sitting on multiple cycling Committees and timekeeping many hundreds of events over the years, I certainly approach 2017 with a degree of trepidation.



NEW MEMBERS JOINING SEPTEMBER 2016

Merv Player

No	Group	Name	Joined	Age
5978	East Anglian	Adrian Rudd	03/09/2016	53
5986	London & HC	Neil & Gilly Blundell	24/09/2016	54/52
5981	London & HC	William Campbell-Jones	15/09/2016	43
5977	London & HC	James Watthey	02/09/2016	40
5979	London & HC	Gareth Williams	12/09/2016	50
5980	Midlands	Jonathan Jenkins	13/09/2016	51
2225	N Lancs & Lakes	Michael Smith	Ex lapsed	66
5105	Nottingham & EM	Andrew Baird	Rejoined	51
5983	Nottingham & EM	Richard Boot	08/08/2016	46
5984	Nottingham & EM	Robert & Julie Christian	15/08/2016	60/60
3731	Nottingham & EM	Ben Waddington	Ex lapsed	47
5985	Nottingham & EM	Patrick Warren	18/08/2016	50
5982	Yorkshire	David Percival	16/09/2016	40

MEMBERS DELETED

1538	N.Lancs & Lakes	Trevor & Julia Matthews	Resigned
2311	Scotland	Derek Stewart	Deceased
0134	Surrey/Sussex	Ian Bashford	Died 17/9/16
0243	Wessex	Peter Boston	Died 19/7/16
0768	Wessex	Trevor Fenwick	Died 27/7/16

Total Membership : 2705

EDITORIAL

Jim Burgin



It's crisis time again! After a season of event secretaries praying that it doesn't rain and that there are no accidents, then sleepless nights wondering if they can find enough marshals, we move on to the next period of anxiety - the unearthing of volunteers to fill the vacancies.

The Group reports in each issue make reference repeatedly to the search for helpers. There seems no remedy and apparently the state of affairs prevails in all organisations which cannot exist without volunteers.

When reading in the Press about the re-shuffling of the Cabinet and the Shadow Cabinet, I often wonder how someone who was once the Mayor of London can become the Foreign Secretary overnight. Does he get a Job Description in order to become acquainted with requirements before he goes to work the next day? In the next re-shuffle he could presumably become Chancellor of the Exchequer and master that overnight also. He does, of course, have to learn/be taught

the job. Whilst there can be no comparison between Boris Johnson and an organiser of a 25 (I hope), a volunteer in our Time Trialling world is left to his or her own devices. I know of a really keen club member who volunteered to promote his club's open 25. With just a few weeks to go, he asked a fellow club member what he had to do; the response "Ask Jim Burgin to show you how to use Mick Fountain's program"!

Perhaps therein lies the answer - there are hundreds of potential helpers amongst our 2705 members but many of them haven't any idea of what a job entails.

Another point of view which has been expressed by many is that time trialling has become a purely competitive sport. At first thought that sounds incongruous, contradictory even, but for most of its life cycling competition has been just a part of the whole experience of riding a bike. Touring and Club Runs, social events, all formed part of it. Not so now. I am told that many top riders don't even ride on the road except when racing - all riding is for training purposes and is carried out on static 'turbos'.

This point of view has substance when spectators at an event know the identity of a rider only by his or her number; they are indistinguishable otherwise.

If that is true, then it follows that competitors are only concerned with the competition. It is hardly likely that when someone joins a tennis club they expect to keep the score for other players or even collect the balls.

Whichever point of view one believes, it seems we are doomed to extinction unless we come up with some new ideas. One Group at least is making an attempt by recompensing those who spend their leisure time, and money, in ensuring the sport continues.

With these thoughts in my head, I had a recent experience of how things used to be. I was timing the Newbury RC Hill Climb and at the finish spectators could be heard shouting encouragement even when a rider was not in sight. As they approached the finish, travelling at about 10mph, most were clearly visible as people, not one automaton amongst them. No eye shields or streamlined helmets, in fact few helmets at all. It was a refreshing experience for me as I timed my last event after 63 years of holding a watch.



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GROUP REPORTS



EAST ANGLIAN GROUP

Mary Horsnell

The Counties 12 hour took on a new dimension this year with few local riders and a host of invaders led by Richard Bideau (he of the flowing locks) whose 305 miles were perhaps a little less than expected on what was described as “a perfect day, the best for years”. There were certainly some outstanding performances, not least of which was that of Graham Painter who made a splendid improvement to around 272 miles and will probably take the Dunlop Cup for best ECCA rider, won by Alex Eason in 2015. Taking the Neville Cup for BoS in Group was John Golder, who was well pleased with 262 miles, his best for some years. He takes this trophy from Peter Horsnell, a past winner three times; now John has added to his 1994 and 2004 wins to level the score; with these two performances for a solid team start, it was something of a disgrace that the Chelmer failed to enter three riders. After so many past successes, such familiar names as Stapleton, Horsnell and Ann Shuttleworth were missing from the start sheet, although Ann, a helper par excellence, was assisting Graham throughout the day, as she has Stapleton and Eason in the past, all achieving PBs. Meanwhile, as a penance, Horsnell spent several hours on Sawston roundabout where he was joined for a while by none other than Fergus Muir, who records cycling activities with both words and photos in the evening paper at Norwich and the East Anglian Daily Times, as well as being a keen trike man who does not drive, but travels everywhere with, or on, his folding bike.

It is only fair to say that John was staunchly supported throughout the day by his partner Chris, who also plays a part in all the events which he organises and tries to fit in her own racing – thank

you both.

The indefatigable Dave Nock, as Event Secretary, was here, there and everywhere before, during and after the action took place, first of all signing the entire course and approaches to and from the HQ (which took 5 hours on the previous day) and manning the HQ from 3 am. One could go on, but he is still looking forward with great enthusiasm to 2017 when it will be the National again. All distances, of course, are provisional, his team on the day calculated by Terry Anderson.

It does not seem very fair that, under the latest CTT Regulations, first time riders do not get a handicap; it is not very encouraging. Yes, time trials have certainly taken on a new dimension; 10s closing on a short 23 and 25s on 53/54 means that older/slower riders cannot get enough rides for a decent season or to improve their times for various season-long competitions. There was a time when the ECCA guaranteed everyone a ride; in fact Bill Thorncroft would organise two events on the same day, one on E3 and one on E1. He tells of a postman bringing sacks of mail. Now, alas, entries are being returned; fewer clubs, but some have just a handful of selected members from a very wide area and they fill the start sheets.

Dave says that he will need more marshalling help next year as so many reliable helpers of the past have had to retire through age or infirmity – or both! These include people who have helped to keep me in touch with their respective areas – thank you all.

Another needing no introduction, but is worthy of grateful thanks, is Mick Pepper who is about to retire after 15 faithful years as the Group archivist. Is there a volunteer to take on this thankless task? Our founder, Herbie Nevill, kept immaculate

records from 1964, but faltered towards the end; the Group was small then, but Mick is gradually bringing it all up to date. It is proposed to put the early records in the Essex Record Office, but would any cycling historian like to house the huge scrapbooks in a dry place. It would be such a pity to destroy them.

East Anglian Group latest batch of new members, several of whom have already made a name for themselves – notably Rob Young and Verity Smith, while Noah Knock is fast improving

Sadly, some well-known names have not rejoined this year: including prolific prize-winner Ian Cammish plus Val Hester. Val has done sterling work throughout the years that she and her late husband Bill have been members of the Group.

Andy Kennedy	51	Ipswich BC
Roy Cuppleditch	51	Colchester Rovers CC
Kevin Hobbs	46	Peterborough CC
Rob Young	42	Team Vision Racing
<i>(trans from L&HC)</i>		
Stephen Watson	52	Hertfordshire Wheelers
John Bradbury	45	CC Sudbury
Erron Field	40	Chelmer CC
Andy Horner	40	Stowmarket CC
James Doy	50	Sole Bay Cycle Sport
James Trenchard	40	Godric CC
Patrick Charlton	58	Wolsey RC
Verity Smith	40	Stowmarket CC
James Cornell	42	Hitchin Nomads CC
Michael Cope	56	Kettering CC
John Manlow	47	Ely & District CC
Julian King	47	Welwyn Wheelers
Noel Toone	55	Kettering CC
Andy Griffin	52	Bedfordshire RC
Phillip Jenkins	47	Bedfordshire RC
Alan Smith	67	Ipswich BC
Julian Birch	48	Redbridge CC
Nick Boyle	40	Chelmer CC
Le Garrod and		
Denise Hurren	47/51	Sole Bay Cycle Sport
Geoffrey Brewster	57	Ely & District CC
Carl Ferri	46	Cadence Performance
Serge Bouschet	43	Dulwich Paragon CC
Gerd Elsmore	44	Ely & District CC
Mark Thomas	53	Bigfoot CC
Will Shepherd	42	Ely & District CC
Chris Symonds	42	Ely & District CC

Nigel Hale	44	TSE/Hitchin Nomads
Noah Knock	45	Victoria CC
Sue Rust	52	Kettering CC
		<i>(trans from Notts)</i>
Ian Day	46	Newmarket & District
Paul French	40	Bedfordshire RC
Matt Kuwertz	41	Southborough & District Wheelers

While welcoming all the new folk, it is important not to forget those who have inspired us in the past. It was sad to hear of the death of Mary Dawson, holder of so many VTTA awards. I first met her when she won the Twickenham 100 on the Bath Road with 4:34:03 (I think). I did a PB that day and it stood on my entry form (more details then) for years. She won the National 100 in 1955 and after that came Beryl who, like ourselves, was married that February. I still have the 'Ruby' card from Beryl and Charlie; I value that and I treasure the memories of Mary, like us – loyal to one club, always in her distinctive red and green colours as was George.

Another I remember was Chris Watts, although I don't think that she ever joined or rode as a Vet. She broke Eileen Sheridan's record in the Rosslyn Ladies 12 in 1954. I was very envious at the time as her helpers were in a *car*, unheard of in those days, as mine were dashing about on bikes. She won the trophy outright with three wins. I won the replacement four times. My first 12 was in 1952 and years later I realised the Icknield 12 was 50 years on almost to the day. Entering on impulse, with no preparation – a big mistake – after 90 miles, I was in trouble with cramp and had to stop on the finishing circuit; up came Chris, by now a notable RTTC official, "When are you going to give this up?" Then she saw my face, "Oh dear, I should not have said that!" It was the last time I saw her. What an example these two ladies have set, giving years of loyal service to our sport. Revelling in the mixing of sexes, which revived women's racing. What more can I say as I see them down memory lane.

My apologies for this scrappy report, which is due to unforeseen circumstances beyond my control. In other words, we arrived home from the 12 to find two neighbours sitting on the grass outside

our gate to tell us that the place had been broken into. They'd been there for three hours! Luckily there was no money there, only a few items of sentimental value taken, but everything tipped out of drawers, cupboards and wardrobes onto the floor. So my notes for this report went missing...sorry about that!

KENT

Ian Turner

Since my last report in the Veteran, Kent Group has held a number of events, the results of which are summarised below. On 3rd July, our 10 mile Championship on Q10/30 resulted in a fine win for Kevin Tye with +7:27. Bronwen Ewing (+7:10) and Peter Tadros (+6:43) were second and third respectively, while Kevin Tye and Andrew Meilak took the team prize.

The 100 Mile Championship on 12 June was won by Andrew Meilak (+1:11:46, with Simon Henderson (+1:02:09) and Chris Bax (+50:58) taking the remaining honours. The Team prize went to Simon Henderson and Andrew McCall (Thanet RC +1:16:35)

The 25 held on 19 June was won by Andrew Meilak, (+12:25) who also wins the Aubrey Sheather Shield. Simon Henderson (+12:30) and Mark Doxey (+10:54) were second and third respectively with team honours going to Andrew Meilak and Mark Hill with +22:53.

The 50 mile Championship, held on 17 July on Q50/11, was won by Kevin Tye (Velorefined Aerosmiths +35:03) who also takes the Peter Phillpot Cup. Simon Henderson (+26:19) and Tom Morton (+24:12) were second and third respectively and Tom also won the team prize with Chris Bax (+45:59)

The 10 mile event held on 30 July for the Morris Crowe Trophy on Q10/1 was won by Bronwen Ewing (+6:35) who was also first vet woman on scratch with 22:00. Simon Henderson (+5:39) and Tom Morton (+5:33) were second and third respectively. Team honours again went to Chris Bax and Tom Morton (PMR) with +10:25.

The Group's 12 Hour promotion had to be

cancelled and all entries were transferred to the ECCA event held on 14 August on E2/12 hr which was designated as the Group's Championship event. We had two finishers, Mike Piper and Alec Mayes, with Mike recording a plus of 56:254 miles to win the Championship and the Sittingbourne Cup. Alec was thus second with +34:052 miles. The 12 Hour Bill Woodruff Tankard, which is awarded for the best on standard in any 12 hour event, has been won by Bronwen Ewing for a plus of 89:371 miles in the CC Breckland event on 4 September.

The Group's AGM will be held on 13 November at 10:00 am at Lenham Village Hall. The Committee, at its meeting on 7 September, has decided to put forward a proposition that, if approved, will re-introduce the requirement for racing members to undertake some form of help - e.g. organising or marshalling one of the Group's time trials or being on the Committee - in order to qualify for awards. This has become necessary because help for many events has not been forthcoming - the 12 Hour event was cancelled for this reason.

The Group's Annual Luncheon and Prize Giving will be on 11 February 2017 and is once again at Weald of Kent Golf Club, which has proved a delightful venue for the event. The Guest of Honour has yet to be confirmed - watch this space.

So, another season draws to a close - best of luck to all who still have events to contest. I'll close with a reminder to those who think they qualify for awards to please get claims in to me as soon as your season has ended.

LONDON & HOME COUNTIES

Peter Tasker and Jim Burgin

With two National age record breakers in the Group it will be the woman who takes pole position; 67 year old Gill Reynolds of the Willesden C.C. set a new Women's 15 mile record in the CC Breckland event on 6th July with a time of 38:05; this is also a group record. Earlier in the year in the Shaftesbury CC 25, she clocked 1:03:39 which is a new Women's group age

record for the distance.

As they often say age has no barrier if you are fit, healthy and wise, well 87 years old John Lee of Icknield Road Club has set some new outdoor national and group age track records at the Welwyn track in early July. Firstly he reduced the late Stan Miles's Verulam CC records at 5km with 9:39.4 and 5 miles with 15:34.5. He then went on to set new national and group records for 10Km with 19:23.6 and 10 miles with 31:04.8. Congratulations to both of them in setting new records.

On the racing scene we have Liam Maybank, Twickenham CC, who has been setting some very fast times at all distances so he could have a high BAR placing at the end of the season.

Other news is that the group has many members racing and it is impossible to record all the times so here is coverage of what I have managed to find on various websites.

In the Hemel Hempstead 10 on 18th June it was a fast day on the F11/10; there were 120 finishers from a field of 150 with 16 rides inside 20 minutes. Group times were Simon Norman 19.08, Peter Lawrence 19.38, Geoff Powell 20.07, Jim Moffatt 20.24, John Sullivan 21.28, Andy Halliday 21.29, Roger Porter 22.02.

On the same day in the Newbury CC 10, Ian Greenstreet clocked 20.28 and up in the Breckland 10 Gill Reynolds clocked 25.02.

Next day in the Hemel Hempstead 25 on F13, Peter Lawrence recorded 53.48, Geoff Powell 56.17, Richard Hutt 59.41, John Dowling 1.00.17 and Paul Woodham 1.06.30. The following weekend on F11/10 there were events on both days with the Dunstable CRC on Saturday when Liam Maybank clocked 19.17, Paul Woodham 24.40 and Gill Reynolds 24.29.

Next day in the Norlond event which was changed from F15/10 due to road works, Ian Greenstreet with National Secretary Rachael Elliott as stoker on tandem, clocked 20.46. Other times: Peter Lawrence 20.38, Alan Crane 23.35, David Rogers 25.00, Gill Reynolds 26.33, Colin Holmes 26.58.

The following weekend in the Finsbury Park 50 on

F1B/50, John Lacey finished in 1.54.16, Greg Orsborn 1.57.01, Alan Crane 2.00.30, John Markham 2.04.15, Richard Moule 2.06.21, and David Rogers 2.14.12.

A week later, in the RTTC Championship 100, John Lacey clocked 3.57.49 and the Group Woman BAR Champion, Katja Rietdorf a splendid 4.26.36.

On the same weekend of 9/10 July, Simon Norman recorded 19:50 in the Team Sales Engine 10 whilst, riding the VTTA East 25, Pete Lawrence romped home with 52.27, Alan Crane 57.59, John Dowling 59.46, Roger Porter 1.00.17 and Richard Moule 1.00.33.

On Wednesday the 13th, two Group members took the afternoon off to belt up to Yorkshire to ride the City (Hull) RC 10. Simon Norman did a 19.35 and Ian Greenstreet 20.41.

At the week end of 16th July in Team Cambridge 10, John Dowling finished in 22.13, Paul Woodham 25.15, David Solomon 25.26 and Clive Faine 26.02.

On Wednesday, 20 July, Bernard Lamb promoted the Group 10 on F11/10 with the customary full field of 150 riders, with all of the 107 starters grateful that it didn't rain and so was not cancelled this time. Not surprisingly, the London and Home Counties Group were well represented, producing the following comprehensive list of performances.

Ian Greenstreet	20:17	6:37+
David Emery	20:03	6:10+
Howard Waller	20:44	6:06+
Angus MacInnes	20:48	6:02+
Steve Mead	20:47	5:58+
John Dowling	21:54	5:38+
Peter Oliver	21:19	5:31+
David Guy	23:50	5:24+
Alan Allcock	22:24	5:20+
Cliff Voller	22:54	5:20+
Mathew Rowley	21:18	5:18+
Michael Bennett	21:22	5:10+
Kevin Creese	22:42	5:09+
Martin O'Sullivan	20:55	5:09+

Continued

David Cook	22:30	5:08+
John Sullivan	21:48	5:06+
Andrew Wright	21:30	5:06+
Thomas Pfeiffer	21:18	5:05+
Richard Moule	22:33	4:59+
Gillian Reynolds	26:01	4:50+
Tim Childs	22:15	4:49+
Geoff Bunyan	22:22	4:47+
Damian Poulter	21:43	4:26+
Rod MacFadyen	22:44	4:25+
Richard Burton	23:44	4:00+
Paul Woodham	24:17	3:57+
Adrian Wadsworth	23:04	3:32+
Jamie Swanston	23:38	3:21+
Jim Parker	26:02	3:00+
John Cooke	24:32	2:48+
Paul Nicholls	24:50	2:14+

In the Shaftesbury CC 50 on Saturday afternoon, using course E2/50, Liam Maybank clocked 1.37.34, Howard Waller 1.45.31, Ian Greenstreet 1.48.58, John Lacey 1.49.11, John Dowling 1.51.10 and Kieta Rietdorf 1.56.01.

The next day, firstly in the Verulam CC 25 on F1B/25, Greg Orsborn recorded 56.32, Richard Hutt 57.13, Roger Porter 58.44, Alan Crane 58.58, Ian Markham 59.12, Richard Moule 59.20, Peter Harridge 1.00.49 and David Rogers 1.04.24. Whilst down in the Reading CC 50 on H50/8A, Bob Gilmour finished in 1.54.40 and Jill Bartlett 2.22.56.

On the last weekend of July on the Saturday in the Chronus RT 10 on F2A/10, John Dowling was best of the group riders with 21.30. Bob Gilmour 21.33, Roger Porter 22.16, Paul Woodham 23.52, Gill Reynolds 25.28 and Les Morris 28.59.

On the Sunday in the VTTA East 25 on E2/25, Jeff Roberts clocked 53.57, Greg Orsborn 56.03, Roger Sewell 58.02, Peter Harridge 58.29, David Solomon 1.06.45 and Paula Robinson 1.09.02.

The West London CA held its 30 mile event on H30/1 on the same day and National Secretary Rachel Elliott, women's comp record holder at the distance, finished with 1.05.29. Ian Greenstreet managed 1.06.05, Bob Gilmour 1.08.59 and Paul

Holdsworth 1.10.09. Bob took the award for best on standard with a plus of 17:56.

Into August and in the Finsbury Park 25 (course F1B/25) on the 14th, John Lacey must have been well pleased with his 54.18. Richard Hutt did 56.49, Alan Crane 57.38, Ian Markham 57.41, Adam Laycock 57.50, Roger Sewell 58.48, Peter Harridge 58.52, and Dave Rogers 1.04.32.

There were just 24 contesting the second of the Thursday afternoon ten mile events, each held on the rather crowded but very urban H10/2 course, albeit part of the A4 Bath Road highway before the days of the M4. Nineteen Group members were amongst those riding and they included Jan Farmer back after her illness, Gary Ford, new to the world of Time Trialling and Pete Cookson making a rare appearance. Peter's eyes no longer allow him to be fit to drive but mercifully he is able to ride his bike.

Danuta Tinn	24:03	4:55+
Jeff Roberts	22:22	4:28+
Cliff Voller	23:48	4:26+
Andrew Wright	22:20	4:16+
John Sullivan	22:50	4:04+
Gillian Reynolds	26:55	3:56+
Keith Revell	23:46	3:40+
Peter Cookson	24:58	3:16+
Gary Ford	23:27	2:32+
Richard Bennett	24:14	2:13+
Bryce Taylor	25:41	2:03+
Peter Warwick	24:49	1:38+
Thierry Huser	26:50	0:19+
Brian James	34:15	0:05+
Les Gardner	29:27	0:35-
Brian Moon	30:02	1:00-
Rosslyn Young	34:01	2:11-
Jan Farmer	33:14	2:43-

With the racing season coming to a close with the Rocco 25 on 2 October to wind up yet another year, the Group looks forward to the revolution which takes place at Great Missenden Memorial Hall on Sunday 13 November at 11.00. With Jim Burgin's retirement the field is open for the new young blood to move in and take over. Most of the Committee is standing down, including Treasurer Chas Jepson who has held that office since he

was a lad. Early indications are that it is to be a clean sweep! A new Secretary and Treasurer is waiting in the wings and new Committee Members are promised. Event Secretaries are lined up for the 2017 events and the Luncheon which is scheduled for Sunday 22 January 2017 looks likely to be a real party.

At a recent meeting of the Committee, it was resolved that all Committee Members will receive a complimentary ticket to the Annual Luncheon and Prize Presentation. Further, Event Secretaries will receive an honorarium of £100 if their event exceeds 100 and those up to 99, £50. This in addition to £30 for marshals in events exceeding 100 entrants and a free ticket to the Luncheon for those with less than that number.

The cancelled Don Byham Memorial 10 which was to have been held on 2 May, has been scheduled to be re-run on Saturday 8 October. A 'new' event with entries closing on 1 October. Unfortunately, as we are late going to press, readers won't be able to take advantage of this.

It's been a big year for the Group with 46 joining. Welcome to the latest recruits who are:

John Cooke
Mark Beisiegl
Peter Lavery
Jamie Swanston
Clayton Edge
Heather Larson
Thomas Lawrence
Simon Collins
Tim Duncan-Booth
Thierry Huser
Peter Warwick
Craig Harper
Matt Jones
James Watthey
Gareth Williams
William Campbell-Jones
Neill and Gilly Blundell
Mark Montgomery

MANCHESTER & NORTH WEST

Jim Ogden

Writing in August, the season is in full swing, only our 12 hour for the BAR left to come. All our group events have been run successfully, three of them being thanks to a main club promoter allowing our group events to be included.

The first of these was the Warrington RC 50, promoted by David Wright on Saturday May 28th. Some of the A50 and most of Twemlow Lane had been resurfaced during the previous week but it had bedded down sufficiently to make riding safe. Actual fastest was welcome visitor Charles Taylor, Team Bottrill, in 1:45:05. Another regular visitor on our course, David Cawley, Velotik RT, was runner up in 1:48:44 and also had the best plus of +26:51. However, the best plus by a group member was achieved by Darren Maironis, Coveryourcar RT in 1:41:15 +25:44, for which he will be awarded the E.S.Ward Memorial Championship cup. Adrian Hughes, Seamons CC, winner of the group 10 in April, was second group rider in 1:54:21 +25:13. Dame Sarah Storey equalled the women's course record and was placed seventh overall with her 1:54:40. Sarah is such a popular rider who often competes on J courses.

The first Group 25 was held on Saturday 9th July in conjunction with the Nova CC event and promoted by Ian Ross. The J2/9 course has benefitted from the recent resurfacing and a pot-hole free Twemlow Lane. The winning margin was close. Darren Maironis was fastest in 54:50 ahead of Ben Norbury, Congleton CC, 54:59. As winner, Darren gets to hold the Nova Ron Vaughan Memorial Trophy for 12 months.

On standard, Adrian Hughes, Seamons CC, made a bid for the Group's 25 mile Championship cup with his 55:36 +12:14 ahead of Darren's +11:49. Neil Skellern, Team Swift, was placed third 56:49 +11:37.

The last of our Group events was held in conjunction with the Seamons 25 on Saturday 30th July. Unusually, it wasn't a full field, only 85 entries. However, for myself together with Brian and Yvonne Camfield marshalling on Chelford Island, it still seemed a lot and they go through

twice!

John Morgan, Preston Wheelers, with his 54:28, split our two Group members Darren Mairinos 54:28 and Adrian Hughes 55:38. Other Group members included Mostyn Bullock, Buxton CC, 57:16; Nige Wood, PBK Santani, 57:43; Mike Cotgreave, Westmead Team 88, 1:02:06; Joyce Dickens, Vision Racing, 1:02:40; David Wright, Warrington RC, 59:26; Robbie Harcourt, Salford CC, 1:00:36 and Barry Armstrong, Seamons CC, 1:03:59; Dave Fearon, Weaver Valley, 1:02:15; Lynne Skellern, Macclesfield Wheelers, 1:10:59; Pauline Atkinson, Seamons, 1:06:01; Caroline Fearon, Weaver Valley 1:12:48.

On standard, Darren was best with +12:15 with Adrian second +12:12. Each had been a winner of one of our two group 25s – but when adding their plusses, Adrian's total of +24:26 narrowly beats Darren's plus of +24:04 and so Adrian becomes the winner of the Group's 25 mile Championship cup for this year.

The M&DTTA 100 incorporated the VTTA National 100 mile championship and was held on a new compact J course on Sunday July 3rd, Dave Fearon being the event secretary. Saturday had seen high winds and heavy rain, but excellent conditions blessed the event on race day resulting in four sub four hour rides – and that's a record. Actual fastest was Ben Norbury, Congleton CC, 3:52:44; Jack Schofield, Bath CC, was second in 3:55:04; third was Darren Maironis, Coveryourcar RT, 3:55:24 and Andy Ashurst, Manchester Wheelers, completed the four in 3:57:45.

The Championship was almost totally dominated by group members, except for the overall National Champion, David Hargreaves, and North Lancs RC, winning with 4:21:50 (+64:43), ahead of Andy Ashurst 59:54 and Neil Skellern, Team Swift, 4:00:09 (+58:34). Alison Vessey, Micky Cranks CC was first woman 5:06:29 +30:46 ahead of Pauline Atkinson, Seamons, 4:55:14 +29:53 and Janet Barber, Seamons CC, 5:06:46 +23:57. It was inevitable that Manchester & NW would be Group team winners, made up of Andy, Darren and Neil.

It was Darren's first attempt at the 100. He told me that, after recording 1:57:00 at 50 miles, he rode

into the unknown still feeling strong ...and it lasted!! Being of the old school and riding long before sponsored clubs when it was easier to know a rider's geographical location from the name of his club, it was interesting for me to learn that Darren had spent his early cycling days as a member of the Withington Wheelers, an old Manchester club.

The day after the Nova 25, the RTTC Championship 100 was held on the fast North East 'T' course. Two group members had made the journey and our Best All Rounder, Ian Holbrook, Stone Wheelers, recorded a fine 3:52:47. Edgar Reynolds, Congleton CC, three weeks before his 24 hour, recorded 4:48:25

From my report of the Mersey Roads 24, incorporating the VTTA Championship, you will see that presenting the awards had its difficulties. However, when the results became available, the Manchester & NW Group did very well with a team win. Edgar Reynolds was the overall winner again (having been champion in 2104) covering 386.89 +112.30 ahead of Jim Williams, Weaver Valley riding his first 24 and covering 423.63 +107.69 backed up by Rob Waghorn, Congleton CC, also in his first 24, covering 272.16 miles +7.80.

As Edgar had left before the presentation, I still have the winner's jersey and cap and propose that they be presented at the Group's annual lunch and prize presentation.

Derek Hodgins, Stockport Clarion, over the years has been the Group's most prolific winner of Championships and standard awards. Now, having reached the age of 82 and being a full time carer for his wife Barbara, he has decided that racing without the required time for training is no longer viable, so has decided to retire. His retirement was however on a high, after he recorded a North West Vets age record of 25:24 +6:59 in the VTTA Yorkshire 10 at North Cave. Derek says he has enjoyed a lifetime of racing, made many friends and retains happy memories. Now, even riding socially, Derek will always remain a star and a tireless worker for cycling in the North West.

Mike Cotgreave (70) was persuaded by his son

Rick to ride the Maratona dles Dolomites on Sunday 3rd July. There are three distance options and they chose the middle one of 106 km with an altitude gain of 3,136 metres. Over 65s are not allowed to ride the longest 138 km +4,330 metres, although apparently you could but would not get a finishing time. The event had attracted 10,000 entrants of which 8,800 were classified as finishers. Rick and Mike finished in 5:47:32. The highest climb was the Passo Sella at 2,244 metres (7.9%). As there was no 70 category, Mike was placed 19th out of the 119 over 65s; however, Mike's time was the best of the 19 riders over 70 who finished. That was some achievement.

Looking ahead, a date for your diary is the Group AGM which will be held at Goostrey Village Hall on Sunday 6th November, by which time we should know all our Group Champions for 2016.

MERSEYSIDE

Geoff Edgerton

Saturday afternoon in late July saw me sitting on a deckchair on the Battlefield Island north of Shrewsbury. The reason for this was the marshalling for the Mersey Roads Club's 24. A few years ago I volunteered to do this, my club, North Shropshire Wheelers usually marshalling a point furthest south. Normally it is Shawbirch Island, north of Telford but as most of you know that race in Shropshire, roadworks have created havoc in this neck of the woods. Anyhow, as I said, I volunteered and now it is an annual commitment. Not that I mind, I try to marshal a few events each year, in fact it is an obligation of my club to do this. And how could you say no to Ruth Williams even if you wanted to. The only way I could possibly get out of this is to race and that is not going to happen. After the start from Farnon, the riders completed two legs of the Prees to Battlefield course. I suppose it's good to get it out of the way early or a good softening up process depending on your point of view. Sadly, no Mersey Vets riding but a couple of local riders that included Roger Squire of Wrexham, something of a regular, and Geraint Catherall of Anfield BC who competed. And a special word for

Victor Chetta of Mid Shropshire Wheelers, who completed just over 500 miles for a third place finish. A good field of seventy riders, and well done to them all for attempting this event.

The season is now in full swing and probably not much left by the time this hits the doormat and a couple of events to report on. The Chester RC 25, held in early June; I'm not too sure what the weather conditions were like but felt I could have gone better. Arthur Winstanley was the winner on standard with a plus of 12:32 for which he collects the Colin Rutter Cup. Arthur was also fastest with 57:32 but with one rider one prize, the WJ Smith Rose Bowl for fastest time of 59:12 (+7:51) goes to Kevin Larmer. Andrew Clarke of Mid Shropshire Wheelers. Andrew had just jetted in from Indonesia where he lives and put in a good effort to finish in a time of 59:42 and a plus of 9:52. Ian Hawkins' good early season form continues as he finished in 1:02:00 (+5:38). Phil Guy put in a good shift to record 1:02:20 and finish second on standard with a plus 10:24. Sakib Shamas was next man home in 1:02:43 (+3:43) to finish just ahead of Ian Corrin 1:02:48 (+5:38) with newcomer to the group, John Robertson of Mid Shropshire Wheelers, recording 1:04:45 (+5:53). Derek Parry finished in 1:05:03 (+5:35) with Martin Sturge recording 1:05:46 (+2:04). I always seem to be close to Ian Casson but he got the better of me on this occasion with a time of 1:06:50 (+4:26) to my 1:07:20 (+5:50). Two women competed, with Helen Tudor recording 1:08:47 (+4:02). Newcomer to the group Mandalin Hadwin of Liverpool Phoenix rode in her first group event to finish in a time of 1:14:29 (-2:46).

The next group event was the West Cheshire 50. Road works again made for a course change and instead of going to Shawbirch roundabout, the challenging Prees-Battlefield leg was included. In spite of the rain, it was quite a decent day to race, with a couple of riders breaking the two hour barrier - no mean feat given the course. This included Arthur Winstanley who again triumphed on standard with a plus of 27:02 and a time of 1:58:03 to win the Dick Corris Memorial Trophy. Kevin Larmer also put in a good ride to finish in 2:19:03 (+18:49) to claim the Eddie Graddon Trophy. Phil Guy showed his preference to the longer distance to record 2:11:01 and finish

second on standard with a plus of 19:21. Sakib Shamas put in a good effort to finish in 2:12:54 (+8:00) with Ian Hawkins time of 2:15:56 good enough for a plus 3:13. Derek Parry could feel happy with his morning's work to record 2:16:06 and a plus of 9:37. Geoff Edgerton finished in 2:19:15 (+12:03) with Ian Casson recording 2:23:15 with a plus of 3:15. As in the Chester RC 25, the same two women competed with Helen Tudor completing the distance in 2:26:34 (+3:13) and Mandalin Hadwin in 2:32:34 (-5:11).

The remaining group events will be in the November edition of *The Veteran*. Apologies if I have missed anyone out. Enjoy the rest of the season.

MIDLANDS

Jeff Matthews

The Midlands Group Points Series continues to enjoy success, with a record 68 riders featuring in the competition this year, and with still three months to run.

Current leader Jon Simpkins (Drag2Zero), looks well placed to win, but 2nd and onward is still very much to play for. The women are led by Liz Powell (Mike Vaughan Cycles); however, Lucy Walters (Team Echelon Rotor) is fast improving and could still catch her.

The Group 25 mile TT held on 24th July, proved an improvement over last year's event with a new course being trialled for the National Championships in August. Taking out a number of islands and reducing the turns offered the opportunity for faster times than the same event last year.

Winner on standard was Brian Sunter (Condor RC) with a +18:57, making his trip worthwhile. Jon Simpkins was 2nd and local bike shop owner Tim Wood (Team Echelon Cycles) a pleasing 4th, having been off the bike for the previous 10 days with illness and family commitments

NORTH LANCS AND LAKES GROUP

Dave Brown

We congratulate Dave Hargreaves – one of the keenest and most committed competitors of our Group – on being crowned National VTTA 100 mile Champion after a very well deserved ride based on the Cheshire lanes. Dave had been part of the winning VTTA team in the Championship 100 the previous year along with his North Lancashire Road Club teammates Steve Irwin and Ian Cox, but this was his first individual VTTA Championship success.

The long-term North Lancashire Road Club member's time of 4:21:50 at the age of 69 gave him a winning Plus of 1:04:43 which proved too good for the rest of the field. Dave's ride did not go exactly as planned, with the high tech man having left his Garmin at home that morning and then lost his one and only feeding bottle contents along the course. Thankfully the Cheshire feeding station could satisfy his needs with chocolate bars!

Our Group 25 on the A59/Clitheroe by-pass course in June turned out to have the fastest winning time ever in a North District Council event. Non vet - 26 year old - James Gullen of Pedal Heaven squad - returned to timekeeper Richard Taylor in 47:55!

The event was a combined West Pennine Road Club/ North Lincs and Lakes VTTA promotion on a testing course on which no rider had previously beaten 50 minutes.

Steve Irwin of North Lincs Road Club took second with an excellent time of 50:34 which also gave him a winning plus of 16:29 at age 45. Newish Vet Derek Parkinson, age 41, of the Springfield Financial team returned third fastest in 52:11 and Gethin Butler at age 47 took fourth in 53:16s. Sue Cheetham of North Lincs Road Club took fastest women's award with her 1:05:09.

Mick Black of Springfield Financial was second on standard with 58:16 and a Plus of 15:21. Dave Hargreaves returned in 58:43 for the third best plus of 14:54 and Paul Fleming of Preston Wheelers clocked 53:53 for fourth - 14:21.

Later in June our Group organised a 15 on what

many will remember as the Finishing Circuit of the much missed Lancashire Road Club 12 hour. Fastest? None other than Gethin Butler who remembers those roads very well indeed after his several wins in that 12 hour event where performances around 280 miles entailed five or six laps of that same circuit for someone of Gethin's calibre!

Gethin clocked 34:09 for one circuit giving a margin of well over two minutes on the rest of the field. Fastest woman was again Sue Cheetham in 41:52.

When it came to Standards it was Mick Black who had clocked 36:39 at the age of 69 to give him an unbeatable plus of 6:56. Gethin took second on standard with plus 5:52 and Simon Lester of Springfield Financial third with his 37:10 ride giving him a plus of 5:15. No doubt about the team on standard with Dave Shorrock, also now riding for Springfield Financial, having a plus of 2:39, a team winning total plus of 14:50.

The one and only 100 in our area was held successfully on the Keswick to Cockermouth stretch of the A66 on 31 July. Thankfully it managed to avoid all of the road works that have caused the cancellation and delay of several other events on that road this season. Although a North Lancashire Time Trials Association (NLTTA) promotion, our Group Chairman, Richard Taylor was event secretary as he is also Chairman of the NLTTA.

The event attracted a disappointing entry of just 29 riders but previous cancellations on that road this year may well have affected the choice of others.

There was an interesting battle expected for top spot with NLTTA record holder on a variation of the course, Derek Parkinson up against Steve Irwin who had never previously competed on the A66 road. On the day Steve caught Derek the five minutes between them at the start on the last of four laps, with Steve re-setting the NLTTA record at 3:33:32 and new Group member this year Derek's 3:39:57. In the age groups, Steve was naturally winner of the Vet 40+ whilst Paul Fleming took the Vet50+ with a very good 3:51:26. Harry Haseley (NLRC) took the Vet 70+ with

4:59:54.

Two of our Group members were well placed in the RTTC National 100 Championship in Yorkshire with Richard Bideau taking bronze position with a superb 3:26:24 and Steve Irwin sixth in 3:32:46. The event was held on the 'same' roads that Richard had lost his first ever 30mph ride when the course was eventually deemed short. From all accounts of finishing riders it sounded like the course had a very healthy safety margin this year as several riders found 100.7 on their Garmins when they finished!

Our Group members, and many others across our sport, were saddened to hear that Ruth Smith one of our Honorary Life Members had died on July 1st aged 86. Ruth was a top woman competitor in her younger years and has been very much part of our sport since that time. Her funeral took place at Chester on July 18th where many of Ruth's friends were present. An obituary by long term partner Keith Tattersall can be seen later in this edition of The Veteran along with a wonderful action shot of Ruth at speed in the 1950s.

Our Secretary Derek Black has confirmed that the Group AGM this year will be at Winmarleigh village hall at 10-30 am on Sunday 23 October. He will be posting a confirmation of our AGM shortly and also a membership form to be used for renewals.

A subject that needs to be considered before that AGM is the one of new Event Secretaries for our events in 2017. Anyone happy to organise one please contact Richard Taylor ASAP.

We have just two new members having joined our Group this summer to date. We welcome Lee Faulkner of Preston Cycling Club and David Golden of West Pennine Road Club.

SCOTLAND

James Skinner

A scattering of items to begin with:

Jim Harris has asked that members who have paid for standards to forward them on to him

as soon as they stop racing. Also any new members who are not too sure regarding claiming standards to get in touch and he'll sort out your claims.

Dates for your diary are:

Sunday 6th November for the SVTTA AGM at 11am in MQs Tartan Arms 45 Main St, Bannockburn, Stirling FK7 8LX. Lunch afterwards will be £8.00.

Sunday January 15th 2017 - SVTTA prize presentation; Lunch 11am Venue MQs Tartan Arms as above. Tickets priced £13, are available from George Skinner; come along and celebrate the 65th anniversary of the SVTTA.

Well done to Iain McLeod riding for SVTTA, having taken a chance with the weather he got to ride the VTTA national 10 mile championship. Ian, who was the only rider from Scotland, sent the following report:

The course is mainly on A1 dual carriageway. Strong wind and some drags meant 17 mph on outward leg, 37 mph on return. In fact two riders came off on a curve on a slip road at the finish. Tight roundabouts joining the A1 and at the turn, with plenty of marshals. The race HQ was a pavilion in playing fields, but cars were not allowed into the playing fields, so were parked roadside, with some mud and puddles in bits. Other than that the local group did a great job. (The result published elsewhere in this issue).

Racing in Fife is as busy as ever with a good turnout of SVTTA members riding

Event three back in April included 15 members riding the 10, including three new members. Fastest SVTTA member on the night was Steve Davidson of Sandy Wallace Cycles with a 21:33. Steve being the fastest SVTTA member in the Fife Cycling Association events, is a trend that has continued throughout the season.

The Mackie Tankard Trophy 25 Mile TT saw 18 SVTTA members riding from a total field of 55. Fastest was Kenneth Armstrong of Ayr Roads with 54:00. Fastest member was Callum Finlayson of Moray Firth Cycling Club with a 56:27 gaining him a 7th place overall.

The Alistair Speed Memorial Trophy Incorporating the Harry Roberts Trophy took place in mid-May. Thirty-four SVTTA members took part, the fastest being Callum Finlayson of Moray Firth CC, a 1:54:44 giving him +22:15.

Iain McLeod, riding for the SVTTA Seven took, 1st on standard with 2:19:30 +25: 27.

Christine McLean of Shetland Wheelers took 1st woman on standard with 2:11:26 (+22:18) this, combined with Carlos Riise (+24.46) gave Shetland Wheelers the team prize.

Racing in the North and North East continues at its high standard, with Forres CC promoting its Bill Stuart Weekend of events.

Six members took part in the Bill and Chrissie Stuart 10 with Peter Ettles of Sandy Wallace Cycles placed 3rd overall with 22:43. Peter Robertson of Forres Cycling Club recorded 26:46 to gain 1st North Scotland Cycling Association rider on Standard.

The next morning only Kevin Lackie of Sandy Wallace Cycles and David Kirton of the Kennoway Road Club braved the Baltic Conditions for the 25, finishing with respectively, 1:02:25 and 1:26:32.

That afternoon saw the 3rd event of the weekend, the 17 mile Edinvale Hilly TT with Peter Ettles gaining 3rd overall with 43:13, and Kevin Lackie, riding his 3rd event of the weekend, finishing with 50:30.

In early June, the John Cramb Handicap Trophy incorporating the Neish/Low Trophy over 25 miles, took place with 21 SVTTA members riding in tough conditions with the following report being submitted:

Congratulations to new group member Brian Nicholas of Moray Firth CC who won with 59:32 thus winning the John Cramb Handicap trophy.

Second handicap went to a new member and come-back rider Jim Petrie, Dundee Wheelers who returned 1:05:06.

A very unpleasant morning greeted the riders with rain and strong wind, on the return section although it didn't stop 20 riders from going under the hour with Kyle Gordon of Sandy Wallace

Cycles winning the open event with 54:13

Stewart Gordon and Peter Robertson both sent their apologies to organiser Bob Gibson.

Alasdair Washington was the only member representing the Scottish Group in the Caithness CC Weekend Cycling Festival, and put in a respectable time of 1:07:03 for the 25.

Ross-Shire Roads CC promoted the Angie McDonald Memorial Trophy 25 on the Invergordon course with seven SVTTA members riding, Callum Finlayson of Moray Firth Cycling Club took 2nd place overall with a 56:53.

Sixty riders entered Group member Ian Brodie's Memorial 10 Mile TT organised by Deeside Thistle CC, with Jon Entwistle returning fastest time of 20:41. Of the five SVTTA members, Malcolm Young, Deeside Thistle CC was fastest with a 23:20.

Group members made up half of the field and also took first three positions in the Ross Shire CC Skelly Memorial 50 near Invergordon, The fastest being Carlos Riise of Shetland Wheelers with a 1:52:57.

In another Ross Shire CC event, Callum Finlayson, Moray Firth CC, took 2nd overall with a 56:15, Brian Nicholas, Moray Firth CC was 10th with 1:00:00 and a respectable 1:07:22 was recorded by Alasdair Washington of Caithness CC.

Granite City R.T organised the Gregg Handicap trophy 25 on the Fourdon course. Twelve SVTTA members took part with Callum Finlayson, Moray Firth CC, riding a 51:29. The following race report was recorded.

A fine day on the A90 after the fog cleared and lots of personal best times, Callum had to share first place with former Group member Philip Kelman. But top spot must go to Deesider Jim Robb, winning his first ever trophy (Gregg handicap trophy) at the age of 60 years.

The Jim and Betty Train SVTTA 10 mile championship also incorporating the Robert Cooper Memorial, organised by Law Wheelers, was held on the Cambusbarron course and there were 39 SVTTA members riding. Davie Miller,

riding for SVTTA, was first on standard, his 23:10 giving him a +5:52. First woman on standard was Lynne Wardrop of Ayr Roads CC with 25:21 which gave her a plus of +2:58.

Michael Devlin organised the Pinky Williams Memorial 30 from Thornhill. Of the 22 SVTTA members riding, Carlos Riise of Shetland Wheelers was best on standard, his 1:07:04 producing +15:17. The team prize also went to Shetland Wheelers as Christine Maclean was 2nd on standard with 1:15:05 (+15:00).

In May the Bill Moore Memorial was run on the Eglinton 10 course organised by Fullarton Wheelers. Twenty-one SVTTA members were in action with Graeme Cockburn Glasgow of the Nightingale CC recording a 20:38.

In the West Lothain Clarion 25, run on the Cambusbarron course, 24 SVTTA members took part, the fastest being Mark Skilling of the Icarus Race Team with 56:59.

Also on the Cambusbarron course there was the Ben Smith Trophy, incorporating the Pett Trophy, organised by the Law Wheelers. The report states that although rain kept away it was a very strong wind that faced the riders on the outward leg. With twenty eight riders returning under the hour, the big gears were in use on the return journey. Chris Smart of GTR was fastest in the event with 53:13.

Davie Miller's time of 59:30 gave him a plus14:36 which won him the Ben Smith Trophy together with the Pett Trophy and, with SVTTA teammate Frank Anderson's +12:33 also the team prize. Isobel Fletcher was first woman on standard with 1:14:20 giving a +00:18.

CTT events in Scotland continue to progress with a full season of events on the Georgetown Road 7.5 miles which form the A77 10 course and the Westferry 10 course, as well as an additional couple of 25s on the testing Shillford course. The SVTTA is showing a good presence in all of the CTT events this year.

Graeme Cockburn of the Glasgow Nightingale CC is getting times on the A77 10 course down to 22:23, and Albert McLellan of the Glasgow Couriers CC rode a 1:08:05 on the Shillford 25 mile course.

Dooley's Cycles RT organised the Jason Macintyre Memorial 10 under the CTT banner on the Westferry course, with 30 SVTTA members riding, and five riding as SVTTA, it was one of the best turnouts of the season from the SVTTA. Fastest member on the day was Jim Cusick of Dooley's Cycles RT with 21:27.

Twenty-two of the 66 participants in Velopreda's CTT Scotland 25 mile Championship were members of the SVTTA. Iain Duguid of Bicycle Works recorded a 57:14 to take 9th Place overall. Second and 3rd woman went to Isobel Fletcher, VC Glasgow South, and Jennifer Nicol, Fullarton Wheelers.

Twenty-nine SVTTA members took part in the rearranged CTT Scottish District 10 mile championships with Jim Cusick of Dooley's Cycles RT coming 6th overall with a 21:23 on the Westferry course.

Several SVTTA members headed south to ride in the Mersey Roads VTTA 24 Hour Championship Nigel Brooks of Stirling Bike Club covered 362.517 miles, and on the tandem Mark Leadbetter/D. McLean of Stirling Bike Club covered 407.56 miles. Long mile stalwarts George Berwick/Philip Jurczyk Edinburgh RC/W Clarion rode 344.85 miles.

Three members rode in the Wigan Wheelers Charity Event. James Skinner 24:09, Jocky Johnston 24:52 and George Skinner 25:52 Alex Munro called off minutes before the start with stomach issues, turns out he was trying a new brand of beetroot juice that didn't agree with him.

The Scottish group welcomes the following new members.

Andrew Brierty- Leslie Bike Shop
Kirsti Sharrat - Leslie Bike Shop
Jenni Shanley - Kinross Cycling Club
Craig Black - Leslie Bike Shop
Brian Nicholas - Moray Firth CC
James Petrie - Dundee Wheelers

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

NOTTINGHAM AND EAST MIDLANDS

David Herd

Witham Wheelers 10 TT 4 June 2016 held on Sleaford Osbournby Course attracted 70 riders but there were 10 non-starters on this blustery day. Senior rider Richard Hamblin was fastest with 21:49, with Witham Wheelers first year senior Reece Egner second fastest on 21:58. The two fastest NEM group members were Gary Symonds 4th fastest on 22:16 with Ian Pike Fenland RC close behind on 22:36. Other NEM members:

Russell Gent	25:12
Louise Day	25:27
Anthony Hardenberg	26:15
David Ashley	26:20
Peter Holland	31.03

The LRRR 50 promoted by Sleaford Wheelers CC on 11 June, using the Quarrington- Osbournby- Grantham- Donington Course, proved a hard day, although there were some very good times, with senior Alex Colman of Arrow Cycles fastest in 1:49:35. Nigel Haigh of Strategic Lions was 2nd fastest (1:52:38) and 3rd was Neil Palmer (Velo-One Cycling), 1:53:56. The promoting club's Richard Yates was just over the sub-two hour mark with 2:01:06 with his team mates Richard Horton recording 2:09:17 and David Ashley 2:23:27. Martin Hedley of Witham Wheelers came in on 2:26:31 and Peter Holland from Lincoln Wheelers CC, 2:47:36.

Lincoln Wheelers Charity 10 held on 9 July 2016 on the Ingham Top just north of Scampton proved much more windy than normal, making it hard on the return leg. Patrick Gould (Matlock CC) was fastest with 21:24. NEM Group Members as follows; Paul Fairy 27:16, John Needham 27:18 and David Herd 27:30.

Held on the same day as the Lincoln Wheelers 10 and unfortunately with the same windy conditions was Sherwood's CC 10 on the A1- Long Bennington- Gonerby Moore course. At a guess the elements were reason 24 none starters were listed. Brett Harwood of Terry Wright Cycles RC was fastest on 19:32, with very good ride by vet Sean Vincent (Team Bottrill) just over a minute behind on 20:36.

Other MEM riders:

Richard Boot	21:23
Jason Swann	21:29
Ian Pike	21:33
Ian Wroblewski	21:58
Craig Lamb	22:33
Phillip Collier	22:44
Steven Howgill	23:20
Anthony Spence	24:43
Russell Gent	24:07
Nigel Finch	24:16
Tony Hardenberg	24:18
Paul Eveleigh	24:18
David Fear	24:38
Graham Darcy	24:50
Jo Corbett	24:57
David York	27:20

The Sleaford Wheelers CC/Nev Crane Memorial event on 17 July attracted 138 riders. NEM Group members were well represented:

Chris Ward	56:02
Jim Boyle	56:27
Ian Dalton	56:46
Gary Symons	57:40
Ian Pike	58:14
Sean Hunt	59:29

Other Vets and NEM times:

Michael Lamb	1:00:44
Paul Mapletoft	1:01:08
Roger Sewell	1:01:52
Michael Wilkinson	1:05:30
Paul Eveleigh	1:06:00
David Smith	1:06:40
Tony Hardenberg	1:08:14
Kath Smith	1:12:20
David Herd	1:12:29
Ron Hallam	1:12:32

The Melton Olympic CC 25, which included the Nott's and East Midland VTTA 25, was held on 30 July on the East Stoke- Stragglethorpe – Farndon Course. The event turned out to be fast for the top riders with Courtney Blockley of Crampton University of Birmingham CC returning fastest with 52:14. Nick Cave (Lutterworth Cycle Centre) was only five seconds behind on 52:19. Others:

Malcolm Smith	52:44
Geoff Platts	52:49
Colin Parkinson	55:03
Michael Wills	55:13

Craig Lamb	58:33
Roger Sewell	58:50
Gary Lee	59:33
Michael Wilkinson	1:00:08
Alan Morris	1:00:12
Russell Gent	1:02:10
John Needham	1:04:42
David Ashley	1:05:45
David Herd	1:07:35
Ron Hallam	1:07:43

Two familiar names visiting the region

Mike Williams	1:03:49
Derek Hodgins	1:09:37

And there are more:

David York	1:09:48
Michael Spurr	1:11:20
Peter Holland	1:11:50
Jill Morris	1:14:26

Our thanks go to Brian Fenwick and his team of helpers from Melton Mowbray for running an excellent event.

The Bourne Wheelers 50 on 31 July resulted in some fast times with James Gelsthorpe of Peterborough CC fastest with 1:49:22. Neil Palmer (Velo-One Cycling) recorded 1:53:31, Tom Thornley (Buxton CC) 1:56:50 and John Pilgrim (Witham Wheelers CC) the last man to go under the 2 hours with 1:56:53. Louise Day Team Swift was fastest woman (2:18:59), Tony Hardenberg (Witham Wheelers) did 2:20:48, Alan Morris (Hinckley CRC) 2:23:39 and Steve Boat (Welland Valley CC) 2:25:58.

The Leicester Forest CC evening 10 on 13 August was won by Ian Guilor of Mapperley CC with 20:33. Team mate Shaun Eden was second in 20:42 and Courtney Blockley-Campton coming in just behind in third with 20:45. Geoff Platts was the second NEM Group member home on 21:07; Michael Will 21:57; David Yarham 24:09; Ben Waddington 25:21; Tony Hardenberg 25:30, Ron Hallam 26:54, David York 27:14 and Michael Spurr 27:51.

Team Swift's mammoth charity 10 mile event was held on 28 August using the renowned V718 course at Hull. The event attracted over 350 entries. Those slower than 22 minutes went off first, with Joe Le Sage setting the fastest time of

19:54 in this group. The first NEM member making a rare outing was Andy Barnard Spalding CC who did 21:54. Alan Morris came in on 22:20, Andy Newham on 23:08, John Needham on 23:49, Paul Eveleigh on 24:18, Bryan Fenwick on 24:21 and Mike Davis on 25:07.

In the Women's, Juniors and Overflow event, Hayley Simmonds of Aero Coach was fastest with a superb time of 19:18, Andy Fretwell Mapperley CC was first NEM member in this group with 22:35, whilst team mate Jo Corbett 23:32 and Louise Day came just behind on 23:34. Ron Hallam and I (David Herd) were again grouped together 24:46 and 24:31 respectively. Jill Morris finished with 27:43 and what I think was an age record for Gill Henshaw - 28:06.

In the faster than 22 minutes event James Gullen equalled Alex Dowsett's record with 17:20; Ian Guilor achieved another good ride with 18:35. Daniel Barnett recorded 19:06 and Sean Vincent 19:41. Other NEM group rider: Jason Swann (20:07) was close to Ian Pike (20:10), Gary Symonds (20:31) and Mark McCartney 20:39. This was a great event on not such a good day but the wind on the return leg did not spoiling things too much, well done Mike Williams and Team Swift.

The Lincolnshire RRA 30 on 4 September was held on a new course and under a new administration. Martin Hedley from Witham Wheelers took the lead with a great deal of help from neighbouring club Sleaford Wheelers. The course started at Scott Willoughby on the A52 to Osbournby roundabout tracked up to Quarrington back to Osbournby, to Donington and finished at Scott Willoughby. The weather was such that the head wind on the final leg foiled most riders but Neil Palmer of Velo One City came home with a creditable 1:07:28 with another strong ride by NEM Vet Jim Boyle which gave him second place on 1:08:17. Another Velo One CT rider was Anthony Gough who did 1:08:52.

Other VTTA times;

Gary Symons	1:10:39
Roger Sewell	1:15:17
James Westwood	1:16:47
David Smith	1:22:29
Dave Ashley	1:23:18

Chris Close

1:25:07

Our good wishes go to our Group secretary Russell Gent who unfortunately broke his knee cap in an accident whilst out training. We wish you a speedy recovery Russ and hope to see you around soon.

Please look out for AGM notices from our secretary Russell Gent it has been provisionally set for 20 November 2016. In advance of request for BAR times from our recorder Graham Green please respond to BAR times and claims.

SURREY-SUSSEX

Tim Carpenter

This time last year we were asking for a Treasurer, Time Trials Secretary and 10 Organiser. All were filled and we also had a volunteer Lunch Organiser. This year we were looking for a Recorder and Press Secretary (and someone to do a bit of web work). Richard Smart has kindly stepped into the breach as Recorder and I will help him pull together this year's results. We do still need a Press Secretary.

Carrying on last month's theme of our over 70 year olds, Mick Gowan of the Festival RC has been putting in some excellent performances. 10 miles in 23:10 (+6:16) on the P881 in the a3crg event on 22nd June; a 23:24 on the F11/10 in VTTA event on the 20 July, a plus 6:15. For 25 miles he has 59:37 a plus of 15:32 on the P885 in a a3crg event on the 27th June and a 59:27 (+16:16) on his 73rd birthday.

Mike O'Gorman has broken two Group records this year. The 15 record in the SCA 15 with a 36:10 and the Team Axiom 10 with a 21:26. He also broke the 50 last year but failed to claim. This has prompted me to remind everyone that there are Group records at all ages and the standard distances for bike, trike and tandem. The details are on the web site

(www.surreysussexvttta.org.uk). I am conscious that riders only seem to claim National Records but if you have beaten the times on the website in an Open or Association event (not club events) while a member of the Surrey Sussex Group then send me the result sheet (I will take retrospective

claims) and I can sort out the Records.

We have had quite a hectic few months of racing, although not by me. My only event of the year was the June 10 and I did a 25:05. Peter Tadros In-Gear Quickvit Trainsharp RT won the Stan Harvey Trophy and Medal (Highest Surrey/Sussex Veteran Plus on Standard) with a plus of 5:38.

The Wilf How Trophy and Medals (Highest Surrey/Sussex Club Veteran Team of 3 on Standard) was won by the Lewes Wanderers CC Team of Peter Baker (+3:25) Michael Valks (+2:46) and Paul Valks (+1:58) with a total plus of 8:09. The National VTTA also awarded the Brafman Cup (Highest VTTA Club Team of 3 on Standard) for this event so the Lewes win that trophy as well.

The thirty was the next day. Pete Tadros won the Mick Burgess Cup with a plus of 15:17. A different Lewes Wanderers team took the Team award with Tom Glandfield (11:31) Sam Ramsey (9:28) and Peter Baker (8:41)

The 50 saw Nick Dwyer Lewes Wanderers CC win the Aldershot Cup with a plus of 30:26. The Team of Three were the Lewes Wanderers with Nick Dwyer, Peter Baker (20:50) and Tom Glandfield (20:02) for a total plus of 71:18.

The 100 mile Championship, which is incorporated in the ESCA 100 held on 10 July was challenging with high gusting winds, lashing rain and an extremely slippery road. Thirteen riders didn't finish and 12 didn't start. In the

circumstances the winning ride was truly jaw dropping. Alex Napier of Blazing Saddles recorded a stunning 3:46:48 for a plus of 61:34, and is Group 100 Champion. The Team of three were once again the Lewes Wanderers Nick Dwyer (55:44) Peter Baker (33:18) and Samuel Ramsey (31:37)

Some other news. Due to problems over finding enough people to support the KCA 12 Hour (it needs around 85 people) the event was cancelled. This means that the Group won't have a 12-hour Champion. On the same day the Bec have their 25 which incorporates our Championship. The result will be known by the time you read these notes.

Finally, the last event of the season is the September 25, organised by Keith and don't forget the AGM on 27 November at 10 o'clock at Handcross Village Hall.

Mick Kilby received his HLM certificate from Keith Wilkinson during the 40+ lunch gathering at the Lamb at Lamb's Green on Tuesday 9th August. Mick is a stalwart of Sussex racing, being a prolific timekeeper. One of the people that enables our sport to exist.

At the hall Mike Anton (our resident photographer) took the picture of Dave Dallimore, Ray Dare, Dave (M) and Paul Valks with a combined age of 314 years!!!

Photographs below and next page.



Mick Kilby receiving his Honorary Life Membership Certificate from Keith Wilkinson



Dave Dallimore, Ray Dare, Dave (M) and Paul Valks

WESSEX

Peter Warhurst

The Group, especially those of us in the Bournemouth area, are still coming to terms with news of the passing last month of two of its luminaries, Peter Boston and Trevor Fenwick, both members of the Bournemouth Jubilee Wheelers (see obituaries).

Happily, though, the results from the Group's racing scene continue to be most healthy.

I must say that when early this year I heard that at age 72 Terry Icke was moving from Dorset to live near Telford, Shropshire and had left Poole Wheelers to join Newport CC – though opting to retain his membership of our Group – I thought that we statisticians here would have an easier life in the light of the move and his advancing years. But not a bit of it! Terry is continuing where he left off down here with a claim for the age 72 national 25 record in 54:08 on July 31. No slouch either at 50 miles with Group age records at 50 miles in 1:53:29 followed by 1:52:44 on 23rd July.

The Group's other inveterate record breaker, Adam Topham, set a new Group age 48 record at

50 miles in 1:40:28 on 23 July. Unfortunately this was just two seconds outside the current national figure.

Norman Harvey is another of the Group's persistent age record breakers. At age 83 he does not feel that it is time to 'hang up his wheels', and like most octogenarians lie back and watch the world go by, but chooses to ride his bike every day and dabble in as many open time trials as possible. So far this year he can claim Group age records at 10 (27:52), 15 (43:08), 25 (1:12:13) and 50 (2:34:10). He even had the energy on a spare weekend to push Mary Corbett round in a 10 to claim the Group mixed tandem age 59/83 record with 25:46. Or is it Mary who pushes Norman?

What is certain is that the Group would be hard put to survive without the work which Mary puts in as Group treasurer and Norman as Group membership secretary.

Oh, and Norman's 15 time merits a national age 83 claim.

Then I have to note a Group age 41 record by new group member Paul Ashley of Fareham Wheelers with 19:00 for 10 miles on 24 July. Paul

followed this with 49:16 at 25 miles. Not quite an age record but proof that we have another scintillating cat to put among the pigeons.

Another 41 year old member to come close to age records is Andy Langdown, who has now switched club to Blazing Saddles. The effect is that he is burning up the road even faster than in 2015. His modernised times are 10 (19:46), 25 (50:37) and 50 (1:48:46).

Forty-two year old BJW member John Samways is another Group rider shining this year, with bests of 10 (20:02), 25 (50:12) and 50 (1:46:54). At age 52, I must mention Greg Parker with 10 (19:58), 25 (52:22) and 50 (1:50:00).

Finally we have to mention impressive rides by Fareham Wheeler's 70 year old Alan Emmott with 50 (2:00:49) and 100 (4:19:09).

In closing I am glad to report that Sarah Matthews, who took a bundle of our age records soon after joining the Group a year or so ago, is back in the racing saddle following a spell in hospital for repair to hand injuries as a result of crashing in the Hounslow 100.

Then really heartening stop press news has reached me that our old mate Dave England, who for some years has battled health problems (not helped a year or two ago when involved in a near fatal hit and run incident) which would force all but the most determined to give up riding a bike, let alone race, knocked nearly 22 minutes off of the Group 100 age 73 record on 17 July with 4:39:38 in the EDCA event. He also recently came close to improving John Woodburn's Group 50 age record with 2:08:38. And just to show that there is speed in the 73 year old legs clocked 59:22 in a recent open 25.

What a hero

WEST

Brian Griffiths

The year has passed so quickly that we are already talking about our AGM on the 30th October. Although it is still a few weeks away do make certain it is in your diary so that you can

come along and have your say as well as enjoy the very convivial company of our members. We would appreciate some new volunteers for the committee but don't stay away because you think you might have your arm pressed up your back.

We are sad to have lost far too many of our older members recently, Len Ingram the Hetchins expert and timekeeper from Chippenham, Ron Carlton from Cheltenham and now Pete Luxton from Exeter. All long-standing members who have who have made a valuable contribution to our group over many years both as competitors and officials.

Earlier in the year I suffered with a suspected slight stroke and although nothing has been diagnosed as yet, the medical profession has decided to ground me to some considerable extent. This has been particularly hard, as I see no real reason except that they insist that it is for my personal safety. It is beginning to look as though my racing career is over after 58 years and this for me is a very hard concept to come to terms with.

However, whilst I have been out of commission racing wise I have tried to make myself useful on most Sunday mornings when there has been a local event that I can help out with. Personally I am always willing to lend a hand, but my experience this year indicates that organisers are having quite a hard time recruiting marshals etc to do the necessary work to put these events on. Please do find time to do your bit to promote and help out at our events, after all, like me you will have probably been perfectly happy to have quality local events to ride and enjoy. So try to put a bit back into the sport and don't forget that they are great social events too. Also they are always pretty good at providing interesting refreshments at the end.

At the end of July I made my annual trip up north to help out with the Mersey Roads 24. What a fantastic event this is, very capably organised by a super enthusiastic Liverpool club with a large contribution from the Williams family and a healthy contribution from loyal friends and other interested parties. Long may it survive despite a considerable battle to find suitable roads in the rural parts of North Shropshire and South

Cheshire.

This year there was a lot of fierce competition at the fast end of the field with four rides in excess of 500 miles. These were superb performances. I will always admire people like George Berwick who is well into his seventies and I believe well past his 50th 24 hour event, yet he still does a creditable ride with his courageous tandem partner.

I was sorry to learn that ever-consistent Ray Retter was unable to ride this year due to an annoying and persistent health problem. I know how disappointed and frustrated you are Ray. Hope to see you there next year, when you are sure to be OK.

I have no doubt that many of you will be amazed at the times being recorded this year up and down the country, with significant improvements made in events where only a few years ago only seconds were shaved off on exceptional mornings. This seems a little unreal and I would be most interested to know if anyone has any sort of explanation. Modern aerodynamics will play a part, improvements in equipment and power training methods are all effective, but somehow it doesn't all quite add up for me.

YORKSHIRE

Malcolm T Cowgill

As I begin this piece, we have got some warm weather at last. Shorts are the order of the day, everywhere you look milk bottle legs are on display and the Yorkshire water authority are praying for rain!

Despite the foul Spring, some fine rides have been recorded. One event which stands out is the YCF 15 held in East Yorkshire on the A63. In this one event, an amazing thirteen VTTA National Age Records were set, plus two Competition Records. The women had a field day: Cheryl Trueman (Team Swift) set a new mark of 39:25 at 71, Rachael Mellow (Holmfirth CC) did 34:05 at 52, Pauline Atkinson (Seamows CC) set a new mark of 35:19 at 54 and Helen Bailey (Lyme RC) did 36:41 at 56. Records were also made and lost. Karen Taylor (East Bradfield CC) did 34:11 at 49 and new member Kirsty Smith (Team Swift) did

33:12 at 41. This only lasted 35 seconds before Karen Ledger (Langsett Cycles) stormed in with 31:47 to set an age record at 43, but more importantly update the Competition Record of 32:15 held by Marina Johnson since 1995. The men were also prolific: James Lawley (Barrow Central Wheelers) set a trike mark of 45:56 at 73, Mike Allen (Team Jewson) did 32:03 at 69, Walter Wilkinson (Harrogate Nova) did 32:35 at 71, Graham Green (Team Bottrill) did 35:42 at 73 and John Smith (Thurcroft CC) 36:23 at 78. The fastest ride of the day was done by Mike Ellerton (Team Swift), who did a staggering 28:27. Finally, the tandems: Mike and Barbara Penrice (VTTA Yorkshire) - with a combined age of 150 years - updated their own record to 38:17; with a combined age of only 100 years, Richard Dixon (Team Swift) and Alex Deck (Langsett Cycles) were considerably faster with 28:58 for Mixed Competition Record by one second and naturally another VTTA record. It's doubtful if any of the above would have been envisaged when the Vets were formed.

Staying with racing, the classic Andy Wilson 50 was run for the 85th time. The winner on a testing afternoon was Keith Murray (Drag Zero) who did a fine 1:46:59. Although six minutes outside Mark Atkinson's now 12-year-old record, it was, more importantly, Keith's fourth win in the event and amazingly 21 years after his first win in 1995. It places him alongside the only other four times winner Eric Britton (Yorkshire RC), who achieved this feat back in the fifties, but one behind the five time winner Walter Fowler (Teesside Clarion) who won it five years in a row back in the forties. Our own Brian Sunter (Condor RC) did a solid 2:01:08 for sixteenth place. The list of winners in this classic event features some of the greatest names in time trialling. Surprisingly, over the 85 years, there have been only five organisers, the current being Phil Hurt. Out of a field of 105, there were only 54 finishers – testament to the difficulty of the day.

Brian Sunter also finished third in the National VTTA 10 with 23:21 and also third in the VTTA National 30 with 1:13:59. Congratulations once again Brian.

The Team Swift 12 hour was held on a very windy

day but, despite that, some good mileages were recorded. The winner was Alexander Colman (Arrow Cycles) with 280.897 miles; second place was taken by Doug Hart (Ilkley CC) with 263.414 miles; Andy Askwith (Bridlington CC) finished third with 259.499 miles to take our 12 Trophy. Chris Goode (Yorkshire Coast Clarion) finished sixteenth with 230.148 miles and the only lady finisher, one place behind in seventeenth place, was Tania Tucker (Tyneside Vagabonds CC) with 221.925 miles. As far as I could tell, there were only nine riders from our District out of the 27 finishers from a field of 30 starters; just 34 entered – how much longer this event can continue is anyone's guess.

Now to some sombre news. I'm sad to report the passing of Terry Kelly (Yorkshire Century RC). He was 87. Terry was a life-long member of the Yorkshire Century and his death marks the end of an era. Terry joined the VTTA in March 1969 and so was well qualified to be an Honorary Life Member. Terry will best be remembered as a tricyclist. To say he was durable is an understatement. He rode the Mersey Roads 24 and then rode home over the Pennines! In later life he took up marathon running. In recent times, I would bump into him in Leeds doing his shopping. He was always keen to know what was going on in Vets circles. He was a true cyclist of the old school. He will be missed. Our condolences go to his friends and family.

At the time of writing, I have no details of our July 10 other than that Mickie Hornby (Team Swift) set an age record at 82 with 27 20.

Our August meeting saw the usual faces with 11 present. Tony Stott informed us that we have lost another of our centenarians, Ike Delbridge, who passed away at the grand old age of 103. Ike had been around as long as any of us can remember. A fine rider and later filling many official jobs, a great man and a sad loss. Our condolences go to his family.

Mike Penrice reported that there may be a 15 mile VTTA National Championship. As for our events next year, things are a bit up in the air. Mike Penrice is willing to promote a 10 and suggested an April date. Cliff Ralphs will contact Andrew

Vaughn regarding the other 10. All this should be clearer by the time of our AGM. Entry fees will remain at £10. Mickie Hornby, who will be running our Lunch for the last time, informed us that our own Multi National Champion Brian Sunter (Condor RC) will be Guest of Honour. The Lunch is on 29 January 2017, tickets £22 will be available from Mickie at our AGM in November. As I have mentioned before, several of our officials will be standing down. So far we have a volunteer for the post of Recorder. Jim Trevor will step in. But we still need a Lunch Organiser, Medals Secretary and Racing Secretary. As a result, a proposal was put forward for our AGM that the Group be wound up. It is the same dozen or so faces who attend the meetings and fill the jobs to keep the Group afloat. So if there is anybody in our 180 membership who cares, come to the AGM or it could be all over.

Bob Tate would like to remind riders to put claims in for the BARs and National Age Records either to him or the National Recorder. In the past, riders have not claimed and this has cost the Group in the Team Competitions. Bob also pointed out that our short distance BAR is now in line with the National Competition, i.e. Fastest two 10 miles and fastest two 25 miles. So that was our August meeting.

On a lighter note, that laughable affair, the Football Season, has started. How many managers will Leeds United have had by the time you read this? Answers on a large sheet of paper!

Chris Froome got more publicity when he was on foot in the Tour de France than he did on the bike. Up to this point, where he was running up at Ventoux, the BBC hadn't mentioned him. He will have to buy a tennis racquet. The way things are going at the Olympics, there are going to be a few bikes leant on the wall at Buckingham Palace when the New Year's Honours are announced!

See you up the road.

SOUTH WALES

Barry Williams

I have recently given up riding time trials and therefore i am no longer able to write the quarterly report for South Wales District in *The Veteran* - I think the South Wales membership deserve a mention in this magazine.

Bob Jones hoped he could fill the vacancy, but he found he did not have sufficient time for the task.

It's not that difficult for anyone who rides or attends our local time trials. A great chance to write about your rivals and spread the local cycling gossip.

If you look at the articles in *The Veteran* it's about 400 words emailed to Jim Burgin, our Chairman and Editor, on 7th February, 17th May, 17th August and 17th November.- I have enjoyed doing this for the last 10 years, therefore it's a very worthwhile job for an active member.

The picture below shows Barry in action at the 25 Mile Championship in 2015



NORTH

Gavin Russell

This report, written at the end of a blustery and often wet August, covers most of the season's group events. I have not included details of all participants in the events, as the result sheets have long been published/distributed.

Hartlepool CC/VTTA North Group 10 on 23 April, organised by Merion Hughes (a new member) on the new T102/2 A19 course (albeit long), saw Yorkshire visitor Michael Ellerton win on standard with a time of 20:24. 2nd and 3rd on Standard were group members John Warrington with 21:07 and Richie Booth with a 21:18.

Hartlepool CC/VTTA North Group 10 on 2 May, organised by Richard Booth on the super-fast T102/1 A19 course, again witnessed Yorkshire's Mike Ellerton record the fastest time of 20:54 to win on Standard with a plus of 6:15; 2nd fastest was North Group Member Keith Murray with a time of 20:58, which also placed him third on standard with a plus of 5:06. Second on standard was Brian Sunter with a plus of 5:50 (actual time 23.38)

VTTA North Group 15 on 4 June, organised by Ruth Crossley on a new course adjacent to the A1 near Leeming Bar saw a hard day overcome by Russ Richardson with a plus of 7:37, beating visitor Ron Hallam who returned a plus of 7:05. There were 21 VTTA members in the 24 finishers.

Hartlepool CC/VTTA North Group 10 on 18 June, organised by Paul Garstang on the T102/1 course, saw a super-fast youngster (home from Continent for BC Cycle Championships) Josh Teasdale, aged 22, record a time of 18:10, just ahead of VTTA group members Shaun Tyson (21:17), Steve Fullerton (21:46), Gary Hunt (21:30) and Gray Walker (21:30). There were 6 of the 42 entrants over the age of 70 in this event.

Hartlepool CC/VTTA North Group 10 on 9 July, organised by Phil Wright on T102/1, saw Yorkshire visitor Brian Sunter score a win on standard with a plus of 6:42 (actual of 22:57). 2nd on Standard was North Group member Steve Davies with a plus of 5:47 (actual of 22:19). Third on Standard was another North Group member Nev Martin with a plus of 5:43 (actual of 21:37).

Cleveland Coureurs/VTTA North Group 25 on 17 July, organised by Gavin Russell on the T252/3 saw 35 VTTA members (8 over the age of 70) out of 74 entries tackle what was a reasonable fast morning. 69 year old Mick Black, in recording a time of 56:31 secured the fastest Standard with a plus of 17:06, beating both Shaun Tyson (51:27 and a plus of 15:56) and Joel Wainman (51:18 – plus of 15.08). As this was the Teesside District 25 Championship, nearly all the age group awards were secured by North Group VTTA members.

Unfortunately due to torrential rain, both the Hartlepool CC/VTTA North Group 10 on 20 August and the Darlington CC/VTTA North Group 50 on 28 August were cancelled on safety grounds. As many of you will know that due to the very fast smooth top dressing used on these two courses, when rain falls, the spray caused by other road users reaches a point where rider safety is compromised, which in both these cases led to cancellation before any rider started.

At the time of writing only two group events are still to be held:

Cleveland Coureurs/VTTA North Group 25 on 17 July and the Cleveland Wheelers Hillclimb (that includes the North Group Hill Climb Championship) on the 2nd October.

I am sure that all the event organisers would want me to pass on their sincere thanks to those members and friends who continue to support the Group events during 2016, whether they be as timekeepers, scribes, marshals, tea and cake makers or those who just happen along to eat the goodies on offer and contribute through their generous donations.

One of our stalwart North Group members has drawn my attention to a recently published book by a North East author that he thoroughly recommends as a good read.

The book, penned by a North East local rider, Mike Harris, covers his lifetime (to date) experiences as an amateur, is entitled "Sixty years an athlete". There is however much more than just sporting issues in this self-penned autobiography, simply because Mike has remained an *amateur* athlete throughout his 60 years of athletic competition. Starting at four years old, back in 1955, through to still competing

seriously at 65 years of age, (still with notable success) During this period many notable achievements included winning Marathons (being North Eastern Counties Champion, before switching sports to Triathlon in 1983). For the next 12 years or so he won 47 triathlons and represented GB for a decade, gaining 18 National Medals whilst being British Triathlon Champion three times as well as Runner-Up on three further occasions, ten times British Masters Champion, British Ironman record holder, as well as gaining medals in European championships and top 15 placings in World championships. It was during the triathlon years that he 'fell in love' with cycling and once his triathlon days were through he jumped back on his trusty steel framed Dave Yates bikes again before going on to win 75 Time Trials, the vast majority when he was aged between 50 and 60. Much of the sporting content of this 'life' story has been taken from his 40 detailed annual training diaries. In his own words his training was simply 'staggering' and more often than not amounted to twice and thrice daily sessions, some 25 hours training every week for years and always whilst working full time and with a family!

The book is not the 'run of the mill' sporting celeb' rags to riches story, as we may have come to expect and consists of much more than just athletic competitions. Harris takes the reader through the life of a successful but little known amateur athlete from the North East, from his childhood in the 1950s and revolutionary 1960s, to joining-up, (Royal Marines) then back to the freedom of 'Civvy street' as an unattached young man, before getting married and having a family, and all the while for the most part still successfully pursuing what many would consider almost impossible sporting ambitions. He has never been unemployed and, as far as he can recall, never had a single day's absence through sickness from either school or work in his entire life. Throughout the book there are short engaging (and often humorous) stories.

This is a unique and interesting read, written by Mike, initially 'on a whim' just to record the details of this most energetic life – for his infant grandson, but it is likely that most cyclists will find this a compelling read whilst at the same time

being able to relate first hand to the balancing act that we amateur athletes all endure as we try to combine our love of cycling in all its varying formats, with work, family and sporting ambition.

The book is available from Amazon.com, Waterstones.com, and Mike has limited copies if you live local to Widdrington. Thanks to Pete Manners, a Group Veteran of many a year, for drawing our attention to this interesting read and also to Mike Harris himself for background information on the content of the book itself.

In conversation with Mike, he confirmed that taking up time trialling enhanced his performance in triathlon from being in the top twenty to being in the top 10 in events. With the tremendous amount of people taking part in the triathlons and being members of two 300 strong clubs, this is an area that all aspects of the time trialling fraternity should be encouraging and embracing to secure the future for our sport.

On a personal note, on my way to Daventry to attend a meeting of Cycling Time Trial's Board (I am a Director), I have often passed time trials being held on the A46. In August, I decided not to waste the full weekend of the meetings, so I entered a 10 on the A10/11 course. I managed to achieve my personal standard for the distance by six seconds. (I'm told not to beat my standards by too much otherwise it's harder next year) This means I shall be attending the North Group Luncheon at the Hardwick Hall Hotel on Sunday 8th January 2017 to collect my medal. Tickets are £22 per person for a very good tasty meal and are available from Ruth Crossley. The Teesside District Awards will also be made to those attending

As usual, If you have any information from events, the grape vine or just want a chat, please do not hesitate to contact me, just like Pete Manners and Mike Harris did, and I shall endeavour to include it in the future editions of the Veteran.

My contact details are: Tel: 01642 654419 or gavin_russell@hotmail.co.uk

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50 Mile Championship **Sunday 14 August 2016**

Jim Burgin

Kevin Tye took the gold medal for 50 Mile Champion in the event held on the H50/8 in Hampshire on Sunday 14 August. It was a good morning and Kevin's plus of 38:28 gave him a 50 second victory over multi champion Brian Sunter. In third was another famous name – Terry Icke. Terry is recovering from a set-back but was in fine form on the morning.

Sarah Wheeler from West Group took the winner's medal from the two Hounslow women, Jill Bartlett and Joanna Wells who were second and third respectively.

Terry Icke led the winning Wessex Group Team whilst the tandem event was won by Nikki Hunt and Brian Foran.

As with all the shorter distance championships (10, 25, 30 and 50 miles), promotion was in the hands of the National Committee with the vital and precious support of the local Group, in this instance London and Home Counties.

25 Mile Championship **Sunday 21 August 2016**

Jim Burgin

The last of the Association's Championships took place on a course near Alcester in Warwickshire on the 21 August.

It was promoted ostensibly by the National Committee but its success was down wholly to the work of the Midlands Group under the guiding hand of ex-president Alan Colburn.

Brian Sunter was a clear winner on a windy morning although the threatened rain did not materialise. Brian, a previous champion at 30 miles 100 miles and 50 miles (six times) was delighted to record a gold medal at this popular distance.

David Hargreaves from North Lancashire proved the trip was worthwhile with second, whilst local rider, Philip Brown, took the bronze.

Liz Powell, also a local, was a clear winner from the women with Alison Vessey, a medal winner in every Championship this year, gaining another silver medal. Sarah Soden, from Nottingham was third.

The team prize went to the Yorkshire trio of Brian Sunter, Blair Buss and Tony Stott.

In the accompanying tandem event, Murray Kirton played the part of stoker to Mick Ives to win by a small margin from the other pairing of Nikki Hunt and Brian Foran.

A large number of excellent photographs taken by Brian Hall may be seen on his Facebook page.

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25 Mile Championship—14 August 2016

The Champion : Best on Standard

Gold Medal : Champion's Jersey and Cap

Charlie Cole Cup (Facsimile)

Brian Sunter	Condor RC	Yorkshire	59:16:	+16:27
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David Hargreaves	North Lancs RC	North Lancs & Lakes	59:35:	+14:02
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Philip Brown	Walsall Roads Cycling Club	Midlands	58:18:	+13:18
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Women

Liz Powell	Mike Vaughan Cycles	Midlands	1:00:13:	+11:30
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Alison Vessey	Mickey Cranks Cycling Club	West	1:09:28:	+07:12
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Sarah Soden	Leicester Forest CC	Nottingham & East Midlands	1:10:26:	+03:29
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Tandem

Murray Kirton & Michael Ives	A5 Rangers CC Team Jewson-MI Racing	Midlands	1:04:18:	+10:18
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Group Team

Brian Sunter, Blair Buss, Tony Stott		Yorkshire	2:37:52	+41:01
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1	Murray Kirton & Michael Ives	A5 Rangers CC Team Jewson-MI Racing	Midlands	1:04:18:	10:18
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2	Brian Foran & Nikki Hunt	Lampard RC London & Homes Counties	London & Home Counties	1:02:57:	09:03
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1	Brian Sunter	Condor RC	Yorkshire	0:59:16:	16:27
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2	David Hargreaves	North Lancs RC	North Lancs & Lakes	0:59:35:	14:02
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3	Philip Brown	Walsall Roads Cycling Club	Midlands	0:58:18:	13:18
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4	Ian Holbrook	Stone Wheelers CC	Manchester & North West	0:54:23:	13:03
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5	Jon Simpkins	Drag2zero	Midlands	0:54:11:	12:52
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6	Mark Corbett	Worcester St. Johns CC	Midlands	0:53:47:	12:52
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7	Blair Buss	SSLL Racing Team	Yorkshire	0:55:40:	12:34
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8	Roger Sewell	Hounslow & District Whs	London & Home Counties	1:01:23:	12:14
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9	Tony Stott	VTTA (Yorkshire)	Yorkshire	1:02:36:	12:00
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10	Joe Costello	Walsall Roads Cycling Club	Midlands	0:57:40:	11:54
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11	Liz Powell	Mike Vaughan Cycles	Midlands	1:00:13:	11:30
12	Colin Parkinson	South Western Road Club	Nottingham & East Midlands	0:57:47:	11:05
13	Steven Loraine	Team Swift	Midlands	1:00:00:	10:21
14	David Evans	Team Echelon - Rotor	South Wales	0:59:47:	10:17
15	Stuart Stow	Twickenham CC	London & Home Counties	0:58:06:	10:08
16	Neil Holden	Lutterworth Cycle Centre RT	Nottingham & East Midlands	0:57:13:	09:38
17	Mark Wise	Team Jewson - MI Racing	Midlands	0:58:48:	09:38
18	Alastair Semple	Stafford RC	Midlands	0:58:22:	09:16
19	Robin Vessey	Mickey Cranks Cycling Club	West	1:00:28:	08:11
20	Phil Banks	RM Cycling Club (RMCC)	Midlands	1:00:44:	07:55
21	David Guy	OV Cycling Club	London & Home Counties	1:06:55:	07:41
22	Alison Vessey	Mickey Cranks Cycling Club	West	1:09:28:	07:12
23	John Grumbley	Coventry Road Club	Midlands	1:08:51:	06:18
24	Mike Williams	Team Swift	Yorkshire	1:08:04:	06:02
25	John Robertson	Mid Shropshire Wheelers	Merseyside	1:04:51:	05:47
26	Roderick Remedios	Walsall Roads Cycling Club	Midlands	1:06:59:	05:45
27	Paul Welsby	Drag2zero	Midlands	1:02:31:	05:19
28	Andy McIntyre	Mickey Cranks Cyling Club	London & Home Counties	1:02:51:	04:12
29	Karl Davies	Stourbridge Velo	Midlands	1:04:40:	04:12
30	Sarah Soden	Leicester Forest CC	Nottingham & East Midlands	1:10:26:	03:29
31	Sarah Lakey	Mid Devon CC	West	1:08:20:	03:08
32	Paul Gould	Midland C & AC	Midlands	1:08:33:	01:48
33	Alan Shuttleworth	T Weaver Valley CC	Manchester & North West	1:16:34:	01:36
34	Allan Renyard	Guernsey Velo Club	Wessex	1:16:13:	00:07
35	Stephen Cooke	Walsall Roads Cycling Club	Midlands	1:11:02:	-1:28
	Vincent Jenkins	LeisureLakesBikes.com	Midlands	DNS	
	Frank Anderson	SVTTA	Scotland	DNS	
	Arja Scarsbrook	Team Echelon - Rotor	West	DNF	
	Phil Gambles	Walsall Roads Cycling Club	Midlands	DNS	
	Mike Cotgreave	Westmead Team 88	Manchester & North West	DNS	
	William Harper	Warwickshire Road Club	Midlands	DNS	
	Stephen Williams	Stourbridge CC	Midlands	DNS	
	Steve Mead	Didcot Phoenix CC	London & Home Counties	DNS	
	Susan Semple	Born to Bike	Midlands	DNS	
	Maggi Biggs	Team Bader Amputees	North Lancs & Lakes	DNS	
	Stefan Harrison	Lutterworth Cycle Centre RT	Midlands	DNF	
	Brett Lowndes	Pro Vision Cycle Clothing	Midlands	DNS	
	Nigel Wood	PBK-Santini	Manchester & North West	DNS	

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Kevin Tye	VeloRefined.com Aerosmiths	Kent	1:43:21	38:28
Brian Sunter	Condor RC	Yorkshire	1:59:24	37:36
Terry Icke	Newport (Shropshire) CC	Wessex	1:58:15	37:28
Women				
Sarah Wheeler	Offcamber	West	2:16:19	14:24
Jill Bartlett	Hounslow & District Wheelers	London & Home Counties	2:20:58	13:20
Joanna Wells	Hounslow & District Wheelers	London & Home Counties	2:21:39	12:05
Tandem				
Brian Foran & Nikki Hunt	London & Home Counties	London & Home Counties	2:07:10	21:39
Team				
Terry Icke, Philip Watts, Stephen Williamson		Wessex	5:38:22	98:02
1	Kevin Tye	VeloRefined.com Aerosmiths	Kent	1:43:21 38:28
2	Brian Sunter	Condor RC	Yorkshire	1:59:24 37:36
3	Terry Icke	Newport (Shropshire) CC	Wessex	1:58:15 37:28
4	Andrew Meilak	VeloRefined.com Aerosmiths	Kent	1:46:50 33:10
5	Robert Gilmour	Hounslow & District Wheelers	London & Home Counties	1:58:07 30:31
6	Philip Watts	North Hampshire RC	Wessex	1:52:20 30:29
7	Mike O'Gorman	Worthing Excelsior CC	Surrey/Sussex	1:57:29 30:22
8	Stephen Williamson	a3crg	Wessex	1:47:47 30:05
9	Gawie Nienaber	Farnham RC	West	1:54:01 29:53
10	Chris Scawn	Plymouth Corinthian CC	West	1:59:14 29:24
11	David Shepherd	GS Stella	Surrey/Sussex	1:52:56 29:23
12	Keith Dorling	Team Bottrill	East Anglian	1:56:18 27:03
13	Tom Cox	Northover VT/Rudy Project	Wessex	1:59:47 26:37
14	David England	Crabwood CC	Wessex	2:10:59 26:01
15	Nick Andrews	Portsmouth North End CC	Wessex	1:55:10 24:50
16	Tim Butt	Banbury Star CC	London & Home Counties	1:55:15 24:45
17	Stuart Stow	Twickenham CC	London & Home Counties	1:56:08 24:19
18	Martin Brown	7 Oaks Triathlon Club	Kent	1:58:19 24:00
19	Steve Shore	Southend Wheelers	East Anglian	2:08:29 23:49
20	Adrian Blacker	Norwood Paragon CC	Surrey/Sussex	1:57:08 23:46

21	Donald Parker	Brighton Mitre CC	Surrey/Sussex	2:06:53	23:29
22	Murray Kirton	A5 Rangers CC	Midlands	2:16:39	23:12
23	Cliff Voller	Newbury RC	West	2:05:45	22:53
24	Stuart Hewlins	Hounslow & District Wheelers	London & Home Counties	1:55:30	22:22
25	Trevor Leeding	Worthing Excelsior CC	Surrey/Sussex	1:57:45	22:15
26	David Evans	Team Echelon - Rotor	South Wales	2:02:21	22:08
27	Chris Martin	Yeovil Cycling Club	West	1:58:23	21:11
28	Jeff Roberts	High Wycombe CC	London & Home Counties	1:59:33	20:54
29	Noah Knock	Victoria-Ciclos.com CC	East Anglian	1:57:01	20:51
30	Tim Duncan-Booth	Farnborough & Camberley CC	London & Home Counties	1:55:43	20:21
31	Jon Fairclough	Woking Cycle Club	Surrey/Sussex	2:06:30	19:54
32	Robin Vessey	Mickey Cranks Cyling Club	West	2:01:30	19:51
33	Andy Cook	Chippenham & District Whs	West	2:01:31	19:50
34	Martin Dickinson	Deal Tri	Kent	1:58:22	19:30
35	Neil Morris	Didcot Phoenix CC	London & Home Counties	1:59:13	19:30
36	Barrie Whittaker	Lyme Racing Club	Manchester & North West	2:07:19	17:10
37	Sarah Wheeler	Offcamber	West	2:16:19	14:24
38	John Allen	Redmon CC	Surrey/Sussex	2:08:59	13:50
39	Jill Bartlett	Hounslow & District Wheelers	London & Home Counties	2:20:58	13:20
40	Joanna Wells	Hounslow & District Wheelers	London & Home Counties	2:21:39	12:05
41	John Isard	Hampshire RC	Surrey/Sussex	2:16:41	11:10
42	Serge Bouschet	Dulwich Paragon CC	East Anglian	2:06:04	10:55
43	Paul Gould	Midland C & AC	Midlands	2:19:02	06:04
44	Allan Renyard	Guernsey Velo Club	Wessex	2:33:43	04:40

Tandem

Brian Foran & Nikki Hunt	London & Home Counties	London & Home Counties	2:07:10	21:39
Roderick MacFadyen	Reading CC	London & Home Counties	DNF	
Mark Ellis	Team Milton Keynes	East Anglian	DNF	
Paul Clarkson	Kingston Wheelers CC	Surrey/Sussex	DNF	
Lawrence Wintergold	Hounslow & District Wheelers	London & Home Counties	DNS	
Andrew R Green	Bec CC	Surrey/Sussex	DNS	
Rob Lee	Yeovil Cycling Club	West	DNS	
David Pollard	In-Gear Quickvit Trainsharp RT	Surrey/Sussex	DNS	
Adrian Watkins	Tornado Road Cycling Club	Wessex	DNS	
Jim Moffatt	CC Luton	London & Home Counties	DNS	
Philip Morris	Hampshire RC	Wessex	DNS	



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National Championship 100

3rd July 2016

Brian Camfield

This year the National Championship was held in conjunction with the Manchester & District Time Trials Association 100 Championship event on the sporting J4/18 course in Cheshire. After high winds and heavy downpours the day before the event, we were fortunate to have light winds on a dry race day. The turnout was excellent with most of the 84 entrants starting and few non-finishers, despite some complaining about the heat; whilst the air was on the cool side, it was very warm in the long periods of sunshine. Fifty-seven of the starters were veterans with just over half being VTTA members.

David Hargreaves (North Lancs RC) told me that this was his first time of wearing the Champion's jersey but his +64:43 on standard put him nearly five minutes ahead of second placed man Andy Ashurst (Manchester Wheelers) who himself exceeded his previous personal best by over four minutes.

In 3rd place, Neil Skellern (Team Swift) also took the prize for fastest veteran of the day and his recent move of Groups to Manchester & North West proved to be a winner all round as Manchester & NW took the Team prize medals with Andy Ashurst and Neil being joined by Darren Maironis (Coveryourcar.co.uk RT).

Alison Vessey (Mickey Cranks CC) from Witney, Oxfordshire led the way for the women and her +30:46 put her into gold medal position being closely followed by Pauline Atkinson and then Jeanette Barber both of Seamons CC. This is the first year that Alison has put her efforts into VTTA events and her third year of concentrating on the cycling element of her international triathlon experience.

Any 100 mile event takes a lot of effort from many people and I do not hesitate to thank Dave Fearon for leading his M&DTTA team to make this a highly successful day in every way.

The Champion : Best on Standard

Gold Medal : Champion's Jersey and Cap

Doug Brunwin Salver (Facsimile)

David Hargreaves	North Lancs RC	North Lancashire & Lakes	1:04:43	4:21:50
Andy Ashurst	Manchester Wheelers	Manchester & North West	0:59:54	3:57:45
Neil Skellern	Team Swift	Manchester & North West	0:58:34	4:00:09
Women				
Alison Vessey	Mickey Cranks Cycling Club	West	0:30:46	5:06:29
Pauline Atkinson	Seamons CC	Manchester & North West	0:29:53	4:55:14
Jeanette Barber	Seamons CC	Manchester & North West	0:23:57	5:06:40
Group Team				
Andy Ashurst, Neil Skellern, Daren Maironis		Manchester & North West	2:52:30	11:53:18

The Championship 100— Result

1	David Hargreaves	North Lancs RC	North Lancashire & Lakes	1:04:43	4:21:50
2	Andy Ashurst	Manchester Wheelers	Manchester & North West	0:59:54	3:57:45
3	Neil Skellern	Team Swift	Manchester & North West	0:58:34	4:00:09
4	Darren Maironis	Coveyourcar.co.uk RT	Manchester & North West	0:54:02	3:55:24
5	Adrian Hughes	Seamons CC	Manchester & North West	0:52:14	4:03:20
6	Dan Mathers	Seamons CC	Manchester & North West	0:47:01	4:02:25
7	Howard Waller	Python RT	London & Home Counties	0:38:30	4:19:09
8	Dave Fearon	Weaver Valley CC	Manchester & North West	0:36:12	4:22:31
9	Lee Winslow	Wills Wheels CC	Manchester & North West	0:31:35	4:26:04
10	Alison Vessey	Mickey Cranks Cycling Club	West	0:30:46	5:06:29
11	Pauline Atkinson	Seamons CC	Manchester & North West	0:29:53	4:55:14
12	Edgar Reynolds	Congleton CC	Manchester & North West	0:27:39	4:56:25
13	Pierre Guern	Leamington C & AC	Midlands	0:25:41	4:21:35
14	Robin Vessey	Mickey Cranks Cycling Club	West	0:25:02	4:34:47
15	Jeanette Barber	Seamons CC	Manchester & North West	0:23:57	5:06:40
16	Jon Fairclough	Woking Cycle Club	Surrey-Sussex	0:21:48	4:50:12
17	Barrie Whittaker	Lyme Racing Club	Manchester & North West	0:18:41	4:48:40
18	Steven Drew	Ashley Touring CC	Manchester & North West	0:16:18	4:34:11
19	Ian Casson	Birkenhead Victoria CC	Merseyside	0:07:36	5:06:07
20	Rob Waghorn	Congleton CC	Manchester & North West	-0:43:24	6:12:37
	John Hassall	Bossard Whs	London & Home Counties		DNS
	Greg Dancer	Stone Wheelers CC	Manchester & North West		DNS
	Mick Black	Springfield Financial	North Lancashire & Lakes		DNS
	John Hatfield	Ravensthorpe CC	Yorkshire		DNS
	Stephen Longdon	Stretford Wheelers CC	Manchester & North West		DNF
	Peter Greenwood	Team Swift	North Lancashire & Lakes		DNF
	Simon Phillips	Stockport Tri Club	North Lancashire & Lakes		DNF
	Ian Cox	Fogarty Insurance Tri Team	North Lancashire & Lakes		DNF

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National Championship 12 Hour

26 June 2016

Bob Jones and Geoff Perry

Chris Scawn of West Group was the winner of the VTTA 12 Hour Championship which took place in South Wales on the 26 June.

In second place was Gary Drew with Katja Rietdorf of London and Home Counties a brilliant third in her first ride at the distance. Katja's ride gave her the gold medal for first woman and with it a new Women's National Record. Linn Biddulph, famed long-distance rider, was second woman.

The team award went to West Group comprising Chris Scawn, Gary Drew and John Murphy.

The Champion : Best on Standard Gold Medal : Champion's Jersey and Cap Jim Painter Cup (Facsimile)

Chris Scawn	Plymouth Corinthian CC	West	76.39	253.878
Garry Drew	Royal Navy & Royal Marines CA	West	76.08	274.517
Katja Rietdorf	Born to Bike - Bridgtown Cycle	London & Home Counties	70.90	257.947
Women				
Katja Rietdorf	Born to Bike - Bridgtown Cycle	London & Home Counties	70.90	257.947
Lynne Biddulph	Born to Bike - Bridgtown Cycle	Midlands	57.90	242.720
Group Team				
Chris Scawn, Garry Drew, John Murphy		West	216.31	742.777
Chris Scawn	Plymouth Corinthian CC	West	76.39	253.878
Garry Drew	Royal Navy & Royal Marines CA	West	76.08	274.517
Katja Rietdorf	Born to Bike - Bridgtown Cycle	London & Home Counties	70.90	257.947
John Murphy	Gloucester City Cycling Club	West	63.84	214.382
James McKenzie	CC Ashwell	East Anglia	63.72	244.888
Lynne Biddulph	Born to Bike - Bridgtown Cycle	Midlands	57.90	242.720
Stuart Edwards	Royal Navy & Royal Marines CA	West	51.92	250.364
Edgar Reynolds	Congleton CC	Manchester & North West	48.97	220.308
Simon Kinsey	Acme Whs (Rhondda) CC	South Wales	17.36	221.893
Damian Cudmore	Camel Valley C & TC	West	4.72	217.312
Paul Griffiths	Cardiff Ajax CC	South Wales	3.75	188.320

National Championship 24 Hour

23/24 July 2016

Jim Ogden

The Mersey Roads Club presented the RTTC National Championship on the 23rd/24th July and included the VTTA Championship within the event. The excitement at the finish focussed on the Arctic Taxt RT trio who all exceeded 500 miles, setting a new competition team record of 1,547.51 miles. Unfortunately other results were delayed before the prize presentation could take place, and veteran riders had left without knowing if they were prize winners.

However, this did not apply to the women and Lynne Biddulph (47) was loudly applauded when receiving her medal, as were the placed riders Jacqueline Hobson (51) and Cathy Wood (52).

Some of the results given on the day have subsequently been amended, which underlines the difficulties inherent in presenting awards immediately after the event. Edgar Reynolds (68), who won in 2014, is Champion again with an improved plus, but had left before the presentation. Riding his first 24, Jim Williams (58) takes silver and Lynne Biddulph wins the bronze for third overall in addition to her gold for first woman.

With Edgar Reynolds and Jim Williams both members of the Manchester & NW Group, it just needed another group member, also riding his first 24, Rob Waghorn (70) to complete the winning Group team.

The Champion : Best on Standard Gold Medal : Champion's Jersey and Cap C W Cooke Cup (Facsimile)

Edgar Reynolds	Congleton CC	Manchester & NW	+112.30	386.89
Jim Williams	Weaver Valley CC	Manchester & NW	+107.69	423.63
Lynne Biddulph	Born to Bike	Midlands	+101.05	418.07
Women				
Lynne Biddulph	Born to Bike	Manchester & NW	+101.05	418.07
Libby McLaren	Born to Bike	Manchester & NW	-28.03	305.56
Group Team				
Manchester & NW : Edgar Reynolds, Jim Williams, Rob Waghorn			+227.83	
Tandems				
Don McLean and Mark Leadbetter, Sterling BC		Scotland		407.56
Philip Jurczyk, West Lothian Clarion and George Berwick, Edinburgh RC		Scotland		344.84
Angus Swanson	Sterling BC	Scotland	+81.32	428.21
Nigel Briggs	South Pennine RC	Nottingham & East Midlands	+72.68	398.53
David Greenwood	Rye & District Wheelers	Kent	+63.27	401.33
Nigel Brooks	Sterling BC	Scotland	+61.35	362.52
Dave Pemberton	Born to Bike	Midlands	-12.53	331.42
Libby McClaren	Born to Bike	Midlands	-28.03	305.56
Rob Waghorn	Congleton CC	Manchester & NW	+7.84	272.16

RUTH SMITH

1930 – 2016



Ruth passed away peacefully in the early hours of Friday 1st July 2016. Her first introduction to cycling was on the back seat of her father's tandem at the age of 13 with the local Clarion. At 15 she rode a single and at 17 aspired to a lightweight bike with racing wheels. She rode her first 25 and at that time was in the Pendle Forest CC. She did 1hr 14mins and took first handicap. She made steady progress and joined the Nelson Wheelers

In 1952 at 22 years old she won the Yorkshire Cycling Federation Women's 12 Hour Time Trial with a total of 230 miles which at that time was the third greatest distance ever ridden by a woman. In 1954 she again

won the YCF 12 with a total of 233.4 miles and was fourth in both the National Championship 100 and the Women's British Best All Rounder (BBAR). In 1956 she finished third in the BBAR and was placed in the National Championship 50. By 1957 she had recorded times of 1:03:46 for a 25 – 2:14:08 for a 50 and 4:32:02 for a 100.

Ruth was a member of Manchester and District Women's Cycling Association and competed in their events. In 1956/7/8 she won their BAR and their individual 10 mile Championship. Also in 1958 she won their individual 50 mile Championship. Ruth also competed in Road Racing and at the International Road Race at Harrogate she fell on a greasy corner whilst in the lead with Millie Robinson. In the eight day French race in Auvergne she had two bad falls and on her return to England it was found that she had broken a thumb. She then appeared in public 'plastered' (from the elbow downwards).

Ruth did not just do competitive cycling but was involved in the administration aspect of Nelson Wheelers. She held the position of President, was a Committee Member and for 15 years was Event Secretary for the Circuit of the Dales 50 mile Hilly Time Trial.

She will be greatly missed by both family and friends.

From Keith Tattersall 'with a lot of help'

DEREK STEWART
02.07.1936 – 10.09.2016



Derek, or Dick Dastardly as he was fondly known, has died. In a cycling career picked up after a 50-year lay-off, he surpassed performances set as a teenager in the 1950s. Dick resumed cycling in earnest when semi-retired from the oil industry, in which he enjoyed an equally eventful career as an ROV (remotely operated vehicle) pilot.

Born at Torphins, Aberdeenshire, on 02 July, 1936, Derek Vincent Stewart was the youngest of four brothers. His first job on leaving school in 1952 was as an office boy with Aberdeen Council's information bureau, publicising the city as a holiday resort. His second job, as an apprentice mechanical engineer, set him on the path to his career in electronics. However, after two years this was diverted into National Service with the RAF. As a driver with the desert convoys, Derek served two years in Iraq.

After finishing service Derek became a radio and television engineer. When North Sea oil was struck in 1973, he saw the first black gold come ashore. He entered the diving industry as a technician on vessels that were to take him to the shores of 23 countries across six continents. When technology saw the replacement of divers with safer remote-controlled vehicles, Derek joined an elite group of operators. The work took him away from home months at a time.

There were moments of danger and excitement. Working in Norway, Derek was once loading equipment on to a vessel from the quayside. He slipped and found himself plunging deep into the icy waters. It was only the chance presence of someone on the quayside that saved him.

A more notable escape was on BA flight 009, which left Heathrow bound for Australia in June 1982. Over Indonesia, the aircraft flew into a volcanic dust cloud and its engines cut out. For 13 minutes, Derek and his fellow passengers looked at one another helplessly as the plane fell from the sky. Managing to restart an engine the plane landed in Jakarta. Derek was featured in a book documenting the incident, whose title, *All Four Engines Have Failed*, was taken from the pilot's announcement from the cockpit.

Originally a member of Aberdeen's Thistle Road Club which amalgamated with the Deeside Road Club in 1953 to form Deeside Thistle RC. He was 17 at the time. In those early years he returned record times at 10 miles with a 24.34, at 25 miles with 1.01.27 and 50 miles with 2.07.37. It fuelled the competitive streak that has lasted his whole life but that cycling talent as a teenager had to be curtailed by National Service, then was superseded by work and family. As a competitive outlet he took part in half marathons and 10K races from the 1970s to the 1990s.

As organiser of an early public participation event (Great Inverurie Bike Ride) Dick approached me in the 1990s and introduced himself as a former member of the Deeside Thistle RC. This led him to rejoin the club on 05 August 2003 at 67 years of age and he rode a 10 the same day returning 29.33 and never looked back. In his own words to me just three weeks before he died "It's been a roller coaster 13 years." Soon after returning to his first sporting love, Derek was achieving lifetime personal bests and age-related records in 10, 25, 50 and 100-mile time trials.

A few notes from the archives:

2006 70 year-old Dick Stewart has astounded everyone. He has continued his comeback after a 50-year layoff and competes successfully in all the events he enters

2007 Derek Stewart continues to rewrite results. He has won various SVTTA Vets awards and at 71 was our best finisher in the Senior Middle Distance BAR

2011 Dick Stewart celebrated great success in taking the British Vets 25 mile Championship

2015 Derek Stewart, now 79, continued his extraordinary racing career by winning the VTTA 10 and 25 mile titles. His time of 22.35 for the 10 miles is the fastest ever by a 78 year old. The VTTA has awarded him the CW Cook Trophy for Meritorious Performance

During Dick's comeback years he won nearly every trophy the Scottish branch of the VTTA had to offer. Some of these awards were won year after year. In 2015 his success culminated in two prestigious awards, the Tom McGinness Trophy from the SVTTA and the C W Cook Trophy from the VTTA for outstanding performances at National level.

Cycling led to the realisation of another dream. The young man who started out repairing TVs really wanted to be a face on the box. In the 1990s, BBC commissioned the drama series *Roughnecks*. Derek won a role as a regular extra. In 2005 he competed on the Weakest Link quiz. Then in 2013 he was chosen to be a leading participant in the ITV gameshow *Amazing Greys*.

He was featured in the book *The Oilmen: North Sea Tigers*, made other TV appearances and worked as a model to market leisure activities for over-50s. Further fashion shoots for Highland wear and high street stores put Derek on the catwalk regularly. He also served as a Community Councillor in Aberdeen.

He met his illness, pancreatic cancer, which arrived without warning in August, with great dignity. In the face of a disease rampaging like lightning through a supremely fit body, Derek reflected with courage and gratitude on a life filled with excitement and opportunity. Married to Irene for 55 years, he died at home.

Derek is survived by Irene, their children Kevin, Julie and Caroline, and granddaughters Tania, Lorna, Catriona and Ella.

Sandy Lindsay

ROGER CHARLES BURCHETT

18-09-1943 - 22-04-2016

Apart from perhaps one or two close friends who predeceased him we do not know of anyone who knew too much about Roger. He was a private person who was devoted to his mother and never married. It took a while to find any cousins, probably because all his parents and their siblings had gone and so he lost touch with them.

He had a long history with the Tricycle Association though. Alison Purser, the Tricycle Association Treasurer tells me that he joined us in 1965. He first touched my life in 1967 when he beat me in the KCA 12 hour by about a third of a mile in 225 miles and getting a mention in *Cycling* while I didn't.

Roger was born in Cuckfield, Sussex and as far as we know life was as normal as perhaps you might have expected it to be for a young boy growing up during the 40s and 50s.

He became a local lad to Hythe, going on to complete his education at The Harvey Grammar School in Folkestone.

Having left school Roger became a TV Engineer working over the years for two main TV companies of the time - Rediffusion and DER. Roger later went on to work for the CO-OP in a similar capacity and in more recent years with his acquired knowledge of all things electrical, he set up his own business becoming self-employed.

He started cycling in 1962 with the Ashford section of the CTC, being involved with the CTC ever since. With Donald Holden and the late Mick Andrews, he started the South Kent Section a few years ago after the demise of the East Kent DA being their secretary when he passed away. He raced with The Folkestone & District CC, Medway Velo and Hastings and St Leonards CC, being very modest about being the Medway Velo time trial champion in 1969 and getting a second category BCF Licence. Apart from the TA and the clubs above he was also a member of The Tandem Club, The Veteran Cycle Club, The Moulton Bicycle Club, the VTTA and the Youth Hostel Association. He was elected into The Fellowship of Kent and Sussex Cyclists in 2010, of which he said he was very proud

On his tricycle he set his club record for tricycle 25 miles in 1966 after earlier in the year being elected to the 'Cape Wrath Fellowship' having cycled there from Durness. The only other racing reference I can find is him crashing in The Invicta Tandem Trike 30 in 1990 while stoking for Mick Andrews and being dragged through stinging nettles as he was unable to release his cleats. I do remember him though coming out on his trike for our TASE Runs and other events.

He did more than his share in organising and helping out. He was always ready to marshal when asked and would do anything to help. He has organised the VTTA Kent Reliability Trial for the past 9 years saying that next year will be his last. Sadly he will not now organise his tenth.

It was not all cycling though, although with about 25 machines in his shed you would think so! His other love was The Romney Hythe and Dymchurch Railway where he served various spells the longest being about 4 or 5 years. He was an engine driver and was fond of *Hercules* which was the locomotive allocated to him. Roger was also Station Manager at Hythe Station for a period of time.

It seems that Roger had interests over the years that many didn't know about. He had done some painting and drawing at one time, about which he didn't really tell anyone.

A judo suit had even been found in his belongings, another surprise. He also did a bit of photography and tried learning the guitar. For many years he had a cockatoo called Roley which was good company for him over many years.

In many ways Roger was a little eccentric but in a very nice way. He enjoyed a good debate and was perhaps a little misunderstood at times. He was certainly a very principled man and if he believed he was right then Roger was unlikely to give up, give way or back down – he was definitely not afraid to take people on!

It was a great shock to so many to hear that Roger had passed away so unexpectedly, although some tell me he did have heart problems. As is often the case with people living alone the alarm was raised only when he hadn't been seen for a while. The police had to break into his home where he was found unconscious but died on the way to, or at, hospital before regaining consciousness. No one knows how long he had lain like that at home but perhaps if someone was there he may still be with us now. Roger will be sadly missed and will leave a big gap in many lives

JIM (PEEM) BREWSTER

13.04.41-24.04.16

Jim died on Sunday 24th April 2016 while on a cycling holiday in Majorca he was 75.

Peem joined Dundee Roads in 1957 and thereafter Dundee Thistle, participating enthusiastically and successfully in road races and time trials. He was an avid tourist as well as a racing man, taking part in cycling holidays the length and breadth of Scotland with his cycling buddies.

A joiner by trade, he took a break from cycling when his son and daughter were born, but remained a very fit person, taking up running to participate in the first Dundee Marathon in 1983 which he completed in under three hours.

In early 1980, Peem opened a bike shop in Dundee and that soon became the hub of Dundee cycling. This involvement encouraged him to return to competitive cycling with Dundee Wheelers and as a member of the Scottish Vets he recorded a 21 minute 10, a 56 minute 25 and a 1:59 for a 50. In addition, one year he took the bronze medal in the Scottish Veterans road race championship. He also served as mechanic for Scottish International and other major races.

Local cyclists helped Peem celebrate his 75th birthday by organising a run to Birnam, which was his favourite coffee stop - a good time was had by all.

Peem is succeeded by Marie whom he met through cycling, former professional footballer son Craig and accomplished equestrian daughter Susan.

He will be missed by many who benefited from his advice and friendship. The Scottish Veterans Time Trial Association extend their condolences to Marie and family.

Jim Petrie and Dave Mc Callum

THOMASINA MCCANN

27:11:36 – 31:05:16

The Scottish Group lost one of its ardent supporters when Tina McCann, wife of Honorary Life Member Joe McCann passed away after a short illness. Tina wasn't a cyclist but lived cycling through her husband Joe, supporting him in his cycling activities from time trialling to his organising of club and Group dances and presentations. We of a certain age will miss her lovely smile and conversation.

The Scottish Vets extend their condolences to her husband Joe.

RON RICHARDSON

1925 - 2016

Sorry to report yet another passing of a very special member. Ron Richardson died at the end of September at the age of 91. Along with his wife Jan, he was a stalwart of the Hounslow and District Wheelers. More details will follow in the next edition of the Magazine, on the VTTA website and on the VTTA page of Facebook.

Until recently, the Hillingdon CC ran an annual invitation event for 'Old Crocks' and Ron took part on several occasions, winning the trophy in 2008: that was the year he rode 85 miles in one go to celebrate his birthday.



TREVOR FENWICK

Peter T W

Older members of the Jubilee Wheelers remember Trevor as something of a father figure, forever keen on riding his bike through his later years in the shadows of the time in the 1950s when he was a well-known, professional road racer in the "Daily Express" backed heyday of the sport in Britain. To some extent he was something of a square peg in a round hole with the Jubilee because his first love was always with road racing rather than time-trialling.

However, despite this leaning, for a good number of years he regularly graced our Tuesday evening club time trials, usually arriving in his impressively sized car, of which one feared he could not see over the bonnet, and accompanied by his dear wife, Bett.

Watching his impeccable riding style and determination I am certain that some of our youngsters must have learned from him. This time trialling period culminated in his amazing effort in his veteran hour record at Newport, where those of us present appreciated, perhaps for the first time that the mental input to such endeavour is just as important as the physical.

Before moving to be near his son, Shaun in France, Trevor had a number of years as cycling correspondent and photographer for the Bournemouth Echo, where again his professionalism shone through. In this time Trevor became a regular at photographing riders in local events, usually secreting himself by a bush or whatever so that the riders did not spot him as they approached. I like the tale Trevor told of a 2-up TT with one rider being a national star and the other a much slower but flamboyant chap, who freely let it be known that he had sat behind the star rider for the whole of the event; except that he had got to know where Trevor would be and burst past his mate just the once. Who says that the camera never lies?

PETER BOSTON

From Bournemouth Jubilee Wheelers Website

It is with great sadness that we have to report the passing of our President Peter Boston, aged 88. Peter had moved into Brook View Care Home, in West Moors, a week before his death due to failing health. He leaves behind his brother James, (a Jubilee family member), sister-in-law Sheila and his niece Hilary to whom the Club offers its condolences.

Peter was born in December 1927 in West London. The family later moved to Woodford Green in South West Essex where he spent his childhood and early adult years. He was born to be a cyclist, starting just a few months after he was born, being transported in a tandem sidecar on various camping holidays. Cycling was therefore in the blood and around 1943, soon after starting work for Barclays Bank in London, he was able to update to a modern F.C. Parkes and Peter's cycling career was underway.

It seemed natural at around the age of 18 that he should join a club and out of a great number of racing clubs in north-east London he chose the Forest CC.

In 1946, at the age of 18, Peter was called up to join the Royal Air Force. He was hoping to be flight crew but the entry exam revealed his mathematical skills so he was trained as a radar technician. The RAF had active cycling groups and as pay certainly did not run to fares home, he cycled to and from Camp for weekend leave, up to 100 miles each way. Riding back to Wiltshire from Woodford he would often take advantage of slow moving buses and lorries to provide 'back wheel' along the A4. This certainly provided the basis for a successful racing career, especially in the longer distances.

He made steady improvements in his racing and soon became the Club's fastest rider, winning a string of Club events and being well placed in Opens. Peter usually won the Club Championship.

Peter was a keen Scout and he ran the Venture Scout Group in Chingford from the early 50s through to 1972 when Barclays Bank decided to move him to Bournemouth. Many young lads were steered towards Peter's group to gain life experiences which would help them later in adult life. He led them on mountaineering trips to Wales, the Lake District, Scotland, Norway and the Alps. He also took them gliding, rock-climbing, camping and pot-holing. Some eventually joined the Forest CC spurred on by Peter's enthusiasm for cycling. Many remain very grateful to this day for Peter's help and kindness.

On moving to Bournemouth (West Moors) Peter threw himself into the local racing scene with the Bournemouth Jubilee Wheelers and VTTA. In addition to racing he did more time-keeping which he had started on the Eastern Roads and whilst he has never kept a record of how many events he has timed it must clearly have run into many hundreds over a 30 year period.

His own time trials have always been fully recorded and he has ridden well over 800. Peter raced over six decades and did his best 25 with 1.0.40 when he was 53 years old.

Peter was an expert skier and a founder member of the Dorset Ski Club, only retiring from skiing when he was in his seventies. He was a cycle tourist in the Alps, Corsica, Cyprus, Norway, and the Pyrenees as well as all over England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. A member of the Scrumpy Wheelers for 40 years he loved real ale being an early member of CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale). His favourite watering hole was The Vine at Pamphill where, incidentally, he held his 80th birthday celebration, attended by many of his cycling friends.

When he retired early from the Bank at the age of 55 years, one of his first trips was to successfully climb Mount Kilimanjaro, at 19,341 feet, the highest mountain in Africa.

Peter will be remembered by all who knew him as a kind, considerate and helpful friend who always looked on the positive side of life and who lived life to the full.



LETTERS

From Dave Orford

Dear Jim

Between 1990 and 1995 I organised the Veterans' World Cup Time Trial Championships. There were eight age categories and the women's event on an age handicap system.

My final promotion in 1995 won the first prize from Age Concern for the best sporting event in the UK for older people.

When I became a veteran (which was from 40+) I wrote to the controlling body, for the location and date of their National Veteran Championships.

The British Cycling National Secretary replied stating: "BC does not have any veterans. And, in the BC view, 'veterans should not be racing, they should be helping the young!'"

Within a week after this shocking letter, I had the support of the City of Derby Mayor and the OK from the police, and a very successful race took place in 1971 at Spondon.

Many veteran racing cyclists are quite fast and, at 65, Jim Goodwin became the first pensioner to beat the four-hour barrier for the out and home 100-mile championship. At 57, I broke the 50-mile record, with a time of 1:56:31.

Many people and organisations are against older people taking part in sport and, in Belgium, because the world body did not recognise veteran racing cyclists, the Belgian National Body LVB decided not to issue racing licences to any amateur over the age of 35.

And so, in 1972, a veteran body was organised in Belgium, open to everyone over 35. British veterans were soon going there, including me. In that first world champs in Belgium, I managed to finish second to Belgian champion Victor Wartell.

In Austria, the Austrian Tourist Board had noticed how veteran cycle racing had "taken off" on the continent, and so, at St Johann in Tyrol, the Austrian Cycling Association organised a fantastic world championship system, which attracted more than 2,000 riders, not only for the racing but also for many other events, now known as Sportifs.

So, here we are in 2016 and I can see in the future an Olympics for all veterans and why not?

NOTICES

AGM

Groups will soon be asked to submit proposals for the AGM in January, together with nominations for the National Committee.

As has been published, the Chairman is 'standing down' as is the Treasurer, the Magazine Editor and the Webmaster. Not all of the remaining members of the NEC have indicated their wish to Remain or 'Brexitee'!

Of course all members are up for election, although the President has another three years to go before she may relinquish the chain of office.

Groups will also be asked to nominate candidates for the C W Cooke Trophy for the most meritorious racing performance of the season and the Ted Bricknell Memorial Award for outstanding services to the Association.

Nominations and propositions for the AGM in January to be submitted to the Secretary by the 21st of November.

CLOTHING

The ordering and delivering of clothing will no longer be via Jim Burgin but direct to the VTTA page on the **Gear Club** website:

<http://www.gearclub.co.uk/en/33-vtta>

The clothing has always been satisfactory and the prices are well below others. However, I don't know if one can find how many watts a rider can gain!

TIME TRIALLIST'S LAMENT

Now is the season of our discontent.
The Summer's gone, the sunshine slowly came and quickly went,
and now the Autumn mist hangs damply on the air,
each breath a cloud and dewdrops grey our hair.

In that short time some talked of our prowess, of our potential,
of training, diet, exercise - all were essential.
We followed such advice (well almost) to the letter,
throughout the weeks convinced our times we'd better.

Oh how we tried as through each time trial course we slogged,
with aching limbs and gritting teeth, determination dogged.
But with each mile we covered, all that mattered
was where would it end? Long after were shattered.

We'd homeward wend our way, the mind distraught.
What became of that fast time for which we'd fought?
Awards we were to win eluded us it seems,
the Summer's gone and with it hopes and dreams.

Through these past months of suffering self-derision,
this does not dash our hopes or alter our decision.
However slow our times this year or for what reason
we'll try again, of course, next Racing Season.

*That was written 40 years ago (before a wrinkle):
well before Cav and Wiggo were, as they say, 'a twinkle
The Standards now are changed, perhaps enhanced,
so next year will I stand a better chance?*

D.M.B. October 1972 and updated 2012

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