

SPOKES

The newsletter for you, the cyclists of Leamington C & A C
March 2001

Club Dinner Fiasco? No problem!

I'm glad my Time-trial on Saturday 24th March didn't suffer the same fate as the Bull & Butcher the day before. Chris and I arrived to find Mike Ford unloading trestles from his car. The bailiffs had been and removed all the tables and chairs from the restaurant late in the afternoon. The manageress was near to tears but we had an excellent evening despite the little hiccup at the beginning.

The food was delicious, the atmosphere cheerful and we were pleased to see our most senior members, Fred Dale, Alf Moore and Norm "Sarge". Norm said afterwards that he had enjoyed it as much as some of the Dinner-dances back in the days of his youth. Trophies were presented by Mike Vaughan who has a family connection with the Club going back to the early part of the 20th century. Mike has had the "Vaughan" trophy refurbished, and Paul Preston is again the custodian of this fine cup, for a second year.

Alan Edwards took great delight in presenting the Ladies trophies to his "fast" women, Chris and Pam shared the spoils evenly. Mike Ford received the Tom Cummings cup and the Jack Everall trophy for his fine results in the 25, 30 and 50 mile TTs. Dave Bennett received the award for the Hilly 22 and the Cyclo-cross shield. Peter Taylor picked up the GM Bennett trophy for Road-racing and the "Lance Ravenhill" shield again, hill-climber – extraordinaire that he is. Tony Smith collected the 25 and 2-up 25 awards, his absent partner-in-crime John Herring will have a few cups to collect himself later. The Cavin Woodward plate was presented at the end of the evening to little old me, for "services rendered". I am flattered that you chose me, Peter & co.

After the upset at the beginning of the evening, the hosts were so relieved that we had taken it in such good spirit, they presented us with a selection of free drinks to round off the night. Saturday afternoon saw the beginning of the new season for a few hardy members, the first VTTA event organized by that man again!

Bearley Cross Road race

Tim Cadd is keeping his fingers crossed that the F&M situation doesn't affect the Club's première event, the Bearley Cross race on Sunday May 6th. He will be calling for volunteers to act as marshals and helpers nearer the date. Call Tim on 01926 402819 to offer your services.

New Members

An updated Phone Numbers list is enclosed – there were a few mistakes on the first list, also we seem to have attracted a few new members again. Mike Burns rejoins us from the Olympic, he tells me he was secretary of LC&AC for a time back in the 70s. Geoff Mundford from Harbury is a “died in the wool” tourist, he plans to visit Santiago di Compostella this year, he says he has broken down in more countries than he cares to remember.

Club Runs continue through the F&M “crisis”

While Warwickshire has escaped the problems of surrounding counties we shall endeavour to run Sunday rides as per usual. Off-road riding is OUT until the county council reopen the footpaths and bridleways, have a thought for the horsey riders, they don't mix very well with car traffic either. The first casualty appears to be the Coach at Shennington Glider Club, they don't seem to be flying so the Coach won't be operating its normal cordon bleu service.

Club TT Calendar

The events list is enclosed on a separate sheet for you all to keep somewhere safe, or lose as the case may be. A lot of hard negotiating has gone on ahead of the first event, we applied for as many 10s as possible on the Princethorpe course and in the process appear to have trodden on a few toes. I have had Barry Harden of Coventry CC almost begging me to relinquish a couple of events, we shall be sharing the course on one occasion and putting a ceiling on entries on another date to avoid all-out warfare. They still get 5 events to our 4. Rugby RRC are also affected by the clashes, but as Dave Barry said, get your applications in early to avoid disappointment.

London Marathon

There is still time to join the long list of sponsors for Jan Ford's big event. Jan is in very serious preparation, her programme includes runs of up to 20 miles in training, she welcomes a bit of company on those long training bashes, Chris and Liz have been out with her, but I understand the sight-seeing was more interesting on one run!

Tuesday evening training

Normal service is resuming as the “summer” approaches, training rides are now heading into the lanes after the manic circuits around Warwick Technology Park of the last few weeks. (Only joking, guys, they were very well organized) Contact “chief coach” Dave Bennett for more info.