



PEDALLER

Yeovil Cycling Club

July 2002

The story of 2002 seems to be one of road cones. The evening time trials have all been disrupted by the road works on the A303, even when we thought they had finally gone the gangs re-appeared to put them out at 8pm ready for a night closure. The road races were not immune either just before the John Andrews Memorial Road Race a three way set of traffic lights arrived at St Michaels Avenue and Mudford road. But despite all the obstacles we have managed to keep all the events going and it is pleasing to see more new faces, especially as they are returning every week.

Trials and Tribulations

With the U30/10 and 25 courses out of action the Maperton 10 course has been in constant use, although not as popular due to the hill on the way back and the extra distance from Yeovil, there has been a steady turn out of riders. There is the occasional complaint about the terrain but it is certainly a much better course than a lot of the Club 10s, and with several 21s it can hardly be classed as slow, perhaps the final redeeming factor will be to see how well the riders that have used it go when they get back onto the U30.

The club 50 was one of the casualties of the roadworks, however the course has now been officially measured and will be



The cones weren't too bad but a 30mph limit!

approved as an official 50 shortly, so when you struggle round next year at least you know your time is accurate. The start is slightly closer to Podimore village, the finish remains the same as the 10 and 25.

Our thanks to Mark Askill for all the work he has done keeping the events going, not an easy task when the information is constantly changing. We are now back on the Podimore course, just in time for the Club handicap.

Open 25

Stuart Wroot took on the organisation of the 25 this year and he too had to struggle with the late running roadworks, even making arrangements to move it to another course at the last minute, but fortunately the cones were gone and the event took place as scheduled. A

www.yeovilcc.macunlimited.net

For news, events, results and other stuff...

remarkable ride by the number 10 rider, Mark Wareham, saw him slash over a minute off his PB, an already impressive 54.38, to win by almost a minute and a half. Yeovil took the team prize with Mike, Chris and James.

1st Mark Wareham	Chippenham & Dist. Wh	53:31
2nd Andy Winterbottom	Wellington Wheelers CC	54:56
3rd David Kiddell	Cavalier CC	56:49
Vet on standard		
1st Michael Lawrence	Clevedon & Dist. RC	+19:47
1st Junior Dean Ward	1st Chard Wheelers	1:06:45
Team Yeovil CC,		
Mike Loader (56:55), Chris Absolom (57:15), James Hector (1:01:38). Team Total 2:55:48		

A big thank you to all the marshals, timekeepers and helpers that made it another successful YCC promotion.

John Andrew Memorial Road Race

With the assistant commissaire stationed by the roadworks armed with a stopwatch and ready to adjust any advantage the bunch/leaders may gain from a red light, the event took place without too much disruption. Rex Facey (1st Chard Wheelers) emerged as the clear victor after a five man break

Pos.	Name	Handicap	Actual	H'cap time
1	Gary Swain	6:14	25.40	19.26
2	Paul Sparks	8:11	27.50	19.39
3	Steve Pym	2:25	23.00	20.35
4	David Notley	3:28	24.24	20.56
5	Rod Bowditch	5:58	27.01	21.03
6	Rachel Martin	4:54	26.07	21.13
7	James Hector	1:06	22.37	21.31
8	Chris Absolom	0	21.38	21.38
9	Colin Williams	4:41	26.21	21.40
10	Chris Fendt	1:57	23.53	21.56
11	John Clemit	0:59	23.12	22.13

away was eventually reduced to just Rex and Luke Humphries (Exeter Wheelers). The chasing group was unable to close the gap and S Wedge (Exeter Wheelers), J McKenzie (CS Dynamo), Glen Longland (Antelope RT) and M Cook (RAF CC) took the next four places. Dave Walters was the highest placed Yeovil man, 14th, with Steve Pym taking the final points placing, 20th. Chris Fendt crashed out on the fourth lap after clipping the kerb, and had a long walk back from Coppitts Hill. Once again a big thank you to all the helpers and to Ivy Andrews for stocking and running the catering (a little bird tells me she even got a kiss from each of the riders. Is this some new form of bartering?).

Club Handicap

Gary Swain continued his improving trend (over 5 minutes of his pb in the Open 25) to take the club handicap by 13 seconds from Paul Sparks. Steve Pym on the latest edition to his cycle fleet took third. The rest of the field were closely bunched with just a minute between 4th and 10th places.

Yes it is right!! Book your tickets for the prizegiving now.



TVCRA

The annual 4-up TTT was moved to Wincanton, a section of the Gillingham 25 course, because of the roadworks, with the Hunters Lodge pub as the HQ. There were 26 teams this year, the highest ever (?), and with the large number of riders it proved a very successful move (not withstanding the 400 motorcyclists that turned up at the pub too!). There was seating and food for over 100 people and even a stage for the presentation. Margaret Bartlett was presented with a bouquet for all the work she did for the TVCRA and she then presented the prizes.

Yet more thanks this time to Chris Absolom for organising such a superb evening and to Andy and Anna (aka Scorpion CS) for their support. Thanks to Derek, Kevin, Mark and the Absolom crew for pushing off.

Winners: www.bikeshop.uk.com
Greg Sandy, Gerry Bowditch, Matt Watch, Graeme Lackford Time: 42.29

Runners up: The Yeovil Youth
Mike Loader, Paul Haggerty, John Clemit, Chris Absolom Time: 43.57

Third Place: SRC A
Tom Cox, Dave Bentley, Rick Johnson, John Wynn Time: 45.20

First Ladies (and the Lantern Rouge Ladies): The Girlies
Anna Ellington, Rachel Martin, Sarah Creswell Time: 74.41 *(Presented with a set of rubber gloves to do the washing up, only Chris would dare)*

Lantern Rouge Men: SRC Tri G
Richard O'Neill, Chris Rowley, Ian Middle Time: 71.36



Signing on (Top)



Who's this first in the queue? (Left)

The feeding frenzy over we await the presentation. (Below)



You're a vet Rachel. How far up did you say? I can't wait to see Chris' face...



Merryfield continues to grow in popularity with 30 to 50 riders every week. It seems Taunton Vale has now stretched as far as Weymouth, (albeit the rider is joining on of the local clubs second claim). As well as the usual training session there is now a small group of young riders being coached by Walter Rixon in the safety of the central area. The session now starts with a neutralised lap which also gives the younger riders an opportunity to ride with the bunch. Inspired by le Tour then see Chris Absolom about a Merryfield pass it really is good training if you want to road race.

Round and about

Yeovil CC riders have been making their presence known both in the road races and time trials. Mike Loader has been finishing consistently well placed in the TTs and he, Chris Absolom and James Hector took second place in the West DC 10 Team Championship as well as the team prize in both Yeovil CC events this year. Dave Walters, John Clemit, Bryan Pearse and Chris Fendt have all been performing well out on the road. Dave already has 18 points on his license in his first season road racing.

Don't be shy, if you e-mail your results to yeovilcc@macunlimited.net they can be posted on the website, good or bad everyone is always keen to know what other riders are doing, and if you can include a bit about the race/course even better.

Get in quick

Entries have already started to come in for our Open 10 in September. The event is normally a popular end of season ride, attracting a nearly full field, so if you

YEovil CC RESULTS									
No	Name	Time	Pos.	No	Name	Time	Pos.		
1	J. HECTOR (20:1-9)	22:37	5	21	N. PLANT	23:34	11		
2	P. MOGAN	22:36	4	22	N. ARMSTRONG	24:01	12		
3	M. BAILEY	22:44	19	23	C. ABSOLOM (21:32-10)	21:38	1		
4	J. SHARP	23:11	8	24	M. LOADER	22:48	6		
5	K. JOHNSTON	22:06	2	25	N. JUNKER	22:58	3		
6	D. NOTLEY (20:4-9)	24:24	15	26	D. WARD JR	24:11	24		
7	P. WASHINGTON	24:36	16	27	D. WARD SR	24:23	26		
8	M. WARDEY	25:39	20	28	J. CLEMIT (22:11-10)	22:12	9		
9	C. FENDT (21:54-10)	23:53	14	29	G. LACKFORD	23:35	12		
10	A. CEANE	25:15	19	30	S. PYM (20:25-5)	23:00	7		
11	C. WILLIAMS (20:40-9)	24:21	25	31					
12	P. SPARKS (19:31-3)	21:50	29	32					
13	T. CLAY	24:51	27	33					
14	R. MARTIN (21:13-4)	24:09	23	34					
15	J. RIDGLEY	23:33	10	35					
16	G. SHWIN (19:24-1)	25:40	21	36					
17	R. SANDITCH (20:09-10)	27:01	27	37					
18	S. WALSH	23:54	13	38					
19	A. HILLIARD	24:15	3	39					
20	B. PERRY	25:01	18	40					

Back on the U30/10 and suddenly the results board is full!

want to compete make sure your entry is in before the closing date. Whilst priority has to go to the faster riders if your entry is in on time you will be given precedence over faster late entries.

New road race course.

We are currently seeking an alternative road race course, either as a replacement for the existing Yeovil, Queen Camel, Ilchester circuit or as a back-up should we have problems. The current course is getting very busy over the section from Ilchester and through Yeovil. There are no compulsory requirements but logic dictates that most of the following should be fulfilled:

- Close to Yeovil, within 10/15 miles
- Circuit of 10/15 miles
- Reasonable quality roads
- No right hand turns
- No traffic lights
- Minimal obstacles
- Minimal traffic
- Cannot use the A303.
- HQ available.
- Suitable finish area.

If you have any suggestion then please let one of the Committee members know or come along to the date fixing meeting.

Notice of EGM

The Annual Date Fixing Meeting (Extraordinary General Meeting) will be held at Yeovil Sports Centre on Monday 9th September 2002, at 8pm.

The dates, organisers and entry fees for 2003 will be decided. Come and express your opinion, do we organise too much, too little, or are you happy with the status quo?

Free for all

In addition the Club's 75 year anniversary will be discussed. A motion will be put to the Meeting to propose that the windfall money that we received some years ago be used to subsidise a Training top, in the usual club colours with a discreet 75 year logo. The proposition is that all members registered on the 1st October be eligible for one Top at the cost of £10, any new members will be able to buy one for £20. This was felt to be a good use of the money and one that benefits all club members, it is of course open to discussion and subject to approval by the meeting. So do come along, the beer is good and cheap if that is an incentive.

Club Clothing

The new batch of Club clothing should be in at the end of August. We have changed suppliers, the quality is still very high but the prices should be a little more competitive. There is still some clothing in stock, if you need something before then. Check out the website, it is on the *Membership* page.

One of the Organisations to which the club is affiliated is **RoadPeace** which campaigns for the safety of all road users.

Responding to Road Death and Injury, an international conference, was held at Westminster, amongst the attendees were our local police authorities, cycling organisations and the cycling press. The keynote speakers were Lord Falconer and Ken Livingstone. An emotional plea was given by a RoadPeace Trustee whose son was killed in a road crash. She highlighted cases of those who died or were seriously injured pointing out they and their families were victimised twice, once by the crash and then by the legal system.

A senior police officer spoke about the new *Road Death Investigation Manual*, which also applies to serious injury, and the way this has improved the treatment of victims. There are still not enough police available to properly investigate all the minor crashes however.

The legal status, or lack of, for road victims was highlighted. In court the Defendant and Crown are represented but the victim has no chance to speak. The *Victim Personal Statement*, taken by the police, can inform the court how the accident has affected the family/victim, but this is treated as evidence and can be subject to cross examination adding more stress to the victim.

The need for improvement in civil cases seeking compensation (which can take up to 5 years) was stressed.

Transport 2000 listed key requirements for the next decade. Victims need to be put at the heart of the investigation system, they need justice. Road casualties must be cut and road dangers reduced. RoadPeace will be holding memorial services across the country on 17th November including a local event.

Rita Taylor, Vice Chair RoadPeace.

A brief resume of the last committee meetings. Topics covered elsewhere are mentioned only briefly.

8th April 2002

Gen Sec Correspondence dealt with. Treasurer Reported that most of the transactions were to do with the road races. Received £112 in membership fees. Current account at £709.76. M Bailey proposed we consider a one off order club clothing to celebrate club's 75th Anniversary

TT Sec Reported that he had all the equipment for the evening TTs. Batteries in one watch need replacing. Roadworks still on U30, Maperton course to be used. D Notley reported he had received a letter from Police noting their objection to the use of the U30 for the Open. (Police and West DC contacted and matter discussed, event to proceed). RR Sec Thanks to all RR helpers, 70 riders entered Pittards and 65 for Ham Hill. Favourable report from Commissaire. No motorcycle marshals, and one Commissaire with no transport, because matter to be raised with BC at district and national level. Open day at GT Motorcycles caused congestion but no problems. Considered pre-race posters giving notice of event and/or contacting GT Motorcycles before next event.

M Bailey commented on the professional appearance of the programme. Levies totalled £337.50, expenses discussed. Lack of finish line judges debated. Membership Sec He reported that there were 36 paid up members. D Notley raised the matter of honorary members T White and S Barlow.

Runs Sec Martin Bailey is now runs secretary. Will submit report for Pedaller. Records Sec New 10 record. M Loader

20:23 set on Good Friday.

Newsletter Ed Will publish w/c 15th April

YVCRA Representative First event 16th April. Affiliation fee for clubs £15
Press sec Reports have been submitted

13th May 2002

Treasurer Reported that he had received £106 in respect of clothing sales. Ham Hill and Pittards RR's made a profit of £222.86p, which included the profit on the catering, accounts do not include payments for the permit and insurance fees, these sums amount to £47.50p. (We are still owed £27.50p refund for the insurance premium for 2001). Spring 10-mile TT made a profit of £60.57p. Still waiting for the bill for engraving the club trophies. Not yet received the Pittards sponsorship money of £360. Paid out £34.24p in respect of postage and expenses for the club Newsletter, BCF affiliation fee of £87. Current account balance stood at £1,057.05p and that membership fees of £90 which had been paid had to be added to that sum.

Gen Sec Correspondence dealt with. He passed the letter about road junction improvements on the A303 from WS Atkins to D Notley for an official response on behalf of the club.

TT Sec He reported that WS Atkins, Somerset County Council highways contractor, would continue with the highway maintenance work on the U30/10 until the end of May, TTs would be at Blackford until then. Spent £12.99 on a results board for the TT's. Traffic count for the Blackford course is between 300 and 580 vehicles per hour. D Notley reported that the open 10-mile TT made a profit of £60.57p. He duly submitted a copy of the accounts to the Committee.

RR Sec The Secretary dealt with the

accounts submitted for the Ham Hill and Pittards RR's. He reported on the position of the John Andrews Memorial RR to be held on Sunday 16th June and on his prospective attendance at the South West Division AGM to be held on Monday 20th May 2002.

Membership Sec He reported that there were 44 members in total, there were 3 new members joining this month.

Runs Sec Club runs are continuing and are well attended.

Records Sec, Newsletter Ed, TVCRA Representative, no reports.

Press Sec Reports have been submitted but the press coverage has been patchy.

AOB D Notley reported that Ray Pollard had borrowed the tea tent. G Mitchener reported that B Pearse had an accident at Merryfield in the Somerset RC promotion on Bank Holiday Monday. K Mahon reported that Beekay have not yet sent an invoice for the marshal's jackets, the bill is approximately £40.

10th June 2002

Matters arising K Mahon reported on the insurance premium of £27.50 owed to the club. He suggested that somebody tackle E McLean on Sunday 16th June at the John Andrews Memorial RR about this matter. D Notley reported that he had responded to the enquiry from W S Atkins regarding cycle use on the A303 and that R Pollard had not returned the tea tent but he would ask him about the matter tomorrow 11th June.

Treasurer Reported that Pittards have transferred £360 to the club account in respect of their donation to the Pittards RR. He had received £25 from the evening TT's, £95 from clothing sales and £70 in membership subscriptions. Made a payment of £40.53p to Beekay for 6 marshal's jackets.

Gen Sec Correspondence dealt with.

TT Sec Reported that there are widely varying numbers of entries on Thursday evenings. He had been in touch with W S Atkins and the news is that they will have completed the road works by the 28th June. We should be back on the U30 course from that date. The 4-up TTT is being relocated, due to the road works on the A303, to Hunters Lodge, Wincanton, start time will be 6.45pm. The open 25-mile TT will be held on the 7th July 2002.

RR Sec Reported on the entry for the forthcoming RR. D Notley raised the matter of the road works on the Mudford road. K Mahon responded saying that he would investigate the matter. Income received from entry fees thus far for the RR was £689.10p, profit on the RR would be about £100. Reported on the funds transferred from the Western Division to the South West Division.

Membership Sec Currently standing at 51, there were 3 new members: Rachel Martin, Barry Hester and Clive Bowditch.

Runs Sec, Records Sec, TVCRA, Press Sec no reports.

Newsletter Ed Reported that he would publish an edition of the newsletter in July.

AOB D Notley reported that Impsport had become expensive and slow to deliver, ProVision was cheaper and quicker, recommended we change to ordering our club clothing from ProVision.

Next meetings: 12th August, 9th September (Date Fixing) and 14th October all at Yeovil Sports Club at 8pm.

Cycling Times

By Anthony Taylor

The Hobby Horse originated in France in the late 1700s. They were called that because they were propelled by pushing on the ground with the feet, whilst sitting on a support that connected the two wheels. The idea quickly spread to Britain, and it was here that it developed.

In 1839 a Scottish blacksmith, Kirkpatrick MacMillan, built the first real bicycle ie. the rider not touching the ground when travelling, but pushing treadles on one of the wheels.

These early machines were commonly called boneshakers, for obvious reasons.

In 1871 James Starley brought out a revolutionary design of bicycle – the front wheel, the only part that was ‘pedalled’ at that time – was about a metre and a half in diameter, with a very small rear wheel. This machine has always been referred to as a penny farthing (old currency) cycle. This design soon became the first standard popular bicycle, albeit only for the wealthy. When getting on and off had been mastered, it had considerable speed and the riding position over the large front wheel gave a smoother ride, and cycling rapidly became a pastime and a sport. By 1876 there were about 30 cycling clubs in the country and by 1880 there were over 200.

In 1878 both the Bicycle Union, which in 1893 became the National Cyclists’ Union (NCU) and the Bicycle Touring Club, which in 1883 changed its name to the Cyclists’ Touring Club (CTC), were founded.

There was a great deal of ill feeling on the highways from existing road users, particularly horse drawn vehicles, and some cyclists were deliberately ‘scorched’ as it was called or ran into – who said road rage is a recent phenomenon.

Due to the very high riding position, any mishaps – and there were many – resulted in heavy falls. Gradually the front wheels got smaller and the rear wheels bigger, but more significantly the frame design incorporated a chainwheel fitted with a chain to the rear wheel, brought out in 1885 by James Starley. Thus the modern cycle frame design evolved, and together with other improvements in safety and comfort, these were marketed as safety bicycles.

In 1888, John Boyd Dunlop patented his pneumatic tyre, a huge step forward in comfort and speed and during the 1980s the freewheel – until then it was all fixed – came into being. By the turn of the nineteenth century, factories were producing cycles with brand names like Rover, Humber, Rudge-Whitworth, Raleigh and BSA that were now at prices affordable by a large number of the population.

The magazine Cycling was first printed in 1891 and is still published today as Cycling Weekly.

In the next issue: The Early Days of Racing,

CLUB SECRETARY /ROAD RACES

Kevin Mahon 07789 215801

MEMBERSHIP

Mike Loader 01935 410790

RECORDS SECRETARY

Mike Northcott 01458 273576

TVCRA

Chris Absolom 01935 477965

TIME TRIALS (Evening events)

Mark Askill 01935 477561

NEWSLETTER & CLOTHING

David Notley 01963 440291