



Keeping up with the Redmon Cycling Club

Editor's Welcome

JA

Welcome to the last issue of the newsletter for 2018, and let me be the first to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy Cycling New Year!

You will be pleased to know that we will continue to produce this newsletter next year on a quarterly basis, as the general feedback has been positive. Thanks to those members that emailed or wrote to me. However, due to time and the production costs, it will be emailed out and NOT posted in 2019. We will, however, make exception for those with no email address, although there will be a small additional charge of £5 -there is a separate option on the printed membership form.

2019 should be a good year for the Club: We have plenty on: our club and open events are back; Redmon teams competing in the Duo Normand Team Time Trial in France, and all of our usual club activities.

So the Grand Prix is back! We even had an article promoting it in Cycling Weekly at the beginning of the month, and they have kindly allowed us to reproduce the text in the newsletter.

Our President's Update

RH

We ran two evening club events this year: the Championship Ten on 26 July and Hill Climb on 16th August. Unfortunately I had to cancel the Championship 10 because of poor weather. We had better luck with the Hill Climb, although only six members rode the event, Tony Tuohy won with a time of 3mins 29secs. As usual the fish and chips were very good and very popular, over 30 members and friends turned up. This was the fifth year that we have combined the Hill Climb with a fish and chip supper, and I'm afraid that the cost to the club is considerable, at nearly £300. If we continue with the fish and chips in future it may be necessary for members to make a contribution towards the cost, say £5 a head.

Our next social event will be the Prize Presentation which will take place in March 2019, exact date to be decided. I hope that we will return to the Parrot Inn at Forest Green, the food is good and the pub has a friendly atmosphere.

Club Membership Renewals

JA

All members with an email address have received a reminder about renewing their membership of the Club, and so far I have received only 16 renewals. So if you haven't renewed – why not? Next year will be a

good year for the Club, and it's certainly worth continuing your membership.

Please remember that the club year starts on 1 October, which is when your money is due in – it's not sometime in 2019, or when the racing season starts!

Those of you that don't have an email address, and those of you that haven't renewed will find a paper membership form for 2019 included in this mail shot. Please don't ignore it, fill it in and send it back to me with your cheque straight away – before you forget. There's no time like the present!

2018 Annual General Meeting

RH

The club AGM will take place on Saturday 24th November at the Walliswood Village Hall. We will start at 10.30 am, tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided by the club. The Village Hall is a pleasant venue and it would be good to see a decent number of members attend, last year I think we managed around twelve.

Wednesday Weekly Club Runs

JC

Four members of The Redmon meet most Wednesday mornings at 11am, weather permitting, at Stoke D'Abernon, at the junction of Blundel Lane and Stoke Road, opposite the pub. We then do a gentle ride, about 20 miles, at roughly 15 mph max.

Feel free to join us and to double check if the ride is definitely on ring me, John Chatterton on 07767 811701, about 9.30am on the morning of the ride.

REDMONster –

*picked up the wrong helmet
after the tea-stop*



Next Year's Redmon Open Events

Open 10:

The 2019 Redmon Open 10 will be on G10/42 course on Saturday 11th May 2019. The HQ will probably be at the St Johns' Primary School which is by the North Holmwood roundabout. Contact the event secretary, Richard Hoskin for further details or with offers of help.

Grand Prix des Gentlemen:

Everyone's favourite TT: the Grand Prix des Gentlemen is also back! And for 2019 - it will be on Sunday 29th September, hopefully using the same HQ as for the 10. Contact the event secretary, Mike Wakely for further details or with offers of help.

Note that these are provisional dates and subject to the approval of CTT, and the District Committee.

Redmon Grand Prix des Gentlemen

For those of you that didn't see the article about the Grand Prix by Simon Smythe in Cycling Weekly on October 4th, the text is reproduced below with the kind permission of the magazine's editor Simon Richardson. The original article was accompanied by a photograph of the winning pair in 2003 – Messrs Sean Yates and Bradley Wiggins.

It might sound like a competition for top-hatted Victorians on high bicycles but in fact the Redmon Grand Prix des Gentlemen was first run as relatively recently as 1976 and is an imported version of the Gentlemen d'Aulnay that the South London club's founder member Alec Wingrave witnessed in 1970 and rode himself in 1971.

The French event took place at the end of the season when more relaxed competitions against the clock brought racers back together with clubmen and older riders. An active racer would pace a veteran or 'gentleman' over 40, with the veteran only allowed to overtake the pacer in the closing stages of the race, in the French event's case when the pair reentered the velodrome at Aulnay-sous-Bois, north-east of Paris.

Having convinced the RTTC to sanction a time trial in which both amateurs and professionals could compete, the first Redmon Grand Prix des Gentlemen took place on a 15-mile circuit in Surrey five years later and during the closing years of the Seventies attracted the country's finest time triallists such as Eddie Adkins, Mick Ballard and Roger Queen.

However, it wasn't until the 1980s that it really started to resemble the pro-am event that had originally inspired Wingrave, and that was largely down to Sean Yates returning as a pro and pacing veteran Mick Ives to the win in 1985 and 1986. When Yates retired he was paced as the gentlemen to a succession of victories in the early noughties including by Bradley Wiggins in 2003. Most recently Yates has been paced by sons Liam

and Jesse and could justifiably claim to be the event's most regular competitor.

But the most famous story of all, still told in Surrey cycling circles, is the one where Giro and Vuelta winner Tony Rominger came to ride in 1998. The Swiss legend had retired a year earlier but paced fellow Swiss Marc Biver, who would go on to manage Astana, to 14th place.

Spectators lined the A24 south of Dorking to get a glimpse of him, the HQ was packed before and afterwards and the police arrived to ask what the crowds were there for.

Afterwards Rominger told Cycling Weekly "I can race for an hour but longer, say 100km, not any more. Now for some tea and cake!"

This year, for the first time, the Redmon Grand Prix des Gentlemen is not being held, but the club is preparing for its return in 2019.

Pete Reynold's Commemorative Kit J A

IMPORTANT

Those of you that haven't yet collected your Pete Reynolds kit, you will need to come to the AGM to do so. This will probably be the last event where you can, and any kit not collected by 31 December will either go into stock, or be given to another member. You have been warned!

Club Trophies and Prizes C B

The racing season is over, and the time to get your claims in for club trophies.

Please send your claims into me before 4th January 2019 via email at chrisbrewer8@icloud.com.

Ten Little Cyclists D E

In the old days when the idea of 'Political Correctness' had not been invented, those happy innocent times when 'gay' meant 'jolly' and 'cool' meant not very warm and 'slag' was something left over from coal mining, children were allowed to sing a song about ten little (ahem) persons without incurring retribution from self-appointed guardians of our moral well-being. Could we revive this harmless lyric with slightly altered words?

10 little cyclists, riding in a line; one missed a turning,
and then there were

9 little cyclists, boozing out late; one got pickled, and
then there were

8 little cyclists, thought they'd ride to Devon; one gave
up at Dorking, and then there were

7 little cyclists, eating bars of Twix; one had one too
many, and then there were

6 little cyclists, up a private drive; the gamekeeper bagged one, and then there were
 5 little cyclists, met a fierce wild boar; one had his tyres slashed, and then there were
 4 little cyclists, stopping for some tea; one had far too many cakes, and then there were
 3 little cyclists, queuing for the loo; one couldn't wait, and then there were
 2 little cyclists, thought 'wheelies' would be fun; one went over backwards, and then there was
 1 – One little cyclist, pedalling all alone; thought "well sod 'em all", and just pedalled home.

Christmas 10 mile TT **J A**

For a number of years, we entered a number of riders in the Farnborough and Camberley Christmas 10m TT, fancy dress optional, on the Bentley course, followed by a celebratory meal in the Star Inn next door. I think we gave up one year because we got cold and wet, however, the 2018 event is earlier and on the 8th December. David Eccles has told me that it will probably be his last TT, so let's try to get a Redmon team together. Let me know if you are going to enter.

Geoff's Reminiscences for the New Year **G G**

The social season is over and time to start getting the miles in. First reliability trials, the Redmon one was popular, with several local clubs taking part. Meeting at Woolworths, Rose Hill, groups started from 9.00am: out via Banstead and Dorking into the Surrey Hills. It sorted the men from the boys!

Next the RTTC handbooks arrived and we planned our events for the coming season at the club room with fellow members. The aim was to enter teams of three: could we possibly win a team prize or two?

I can remember going out to an event, to Essex for one of the E courses, in David Boyd's car, with Ivan Bass. His start was early and as we were running late, he had to get himself ready in the car whilst travelling. We arrived just in time to send him off. David and I had time to spare, starting later. Even so, Ivan did a flyer.

This was all part of the time trial season.

Wife: "Shall we go to the pictures tonight?" Husband: "No, I've got to be up at 3am in the morning". Thus begins a weekend of being married to a racing man. At tea time, there he sits scoffing salad like something possessed. Half way through the evening he disappears, he's sloped off to bed.

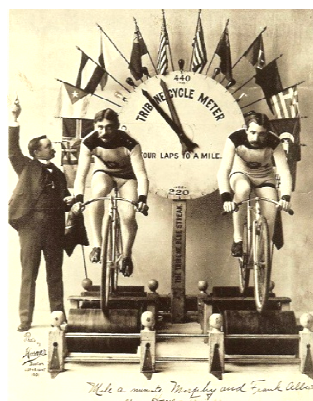
Eventually my turn to bed arrives and I gingerly creep in, mustn't bump into anything in case he wakes or baby stirs. 3am comes round only too quickly and the alarm shrills through the silent room. Someone beside me is also awake, hope it's not the baby, luckily it is he.

Minutes later I smell cooking (how can anyone eat at this time of the morning) poached eggs on the menu again. Feeding finished and last minute collection of his saddle bag etc., and the house is still once more. When will he return! Your guess is as good as mine.

Next it was Thursday again and time for the evening 10s and 15s. When the event was over: it's tea and cakes. What did you do last weekend? Did you do a P.B? What are you doing this weekend? Do a good 'un.

Roller Racing **A L**

Roller racing the event where you pedal as fast as possible and go nowhere, where's the fun in that. Well it is probably the most accessible form of cycle sport and essentially anyone of any age can take part. This accessibility has been taken advantage of by the likes of Rollapaluza who run events across the country in locations as diverse as schools and nightclubs. In my opinion and those of purists what they run isn't really



roller racing, it would be more accurate to call it static bike racing, you may ask what I mean. Well the rigs they use lock the front forks in position, so it is impossible to ride off the rollers. Real roller racing requires the rider to have balance and ride in as straight a line as possible in order to stay on the rollers,

due to the speed and effort levels involved you do have someone holding your bike to ensure that you don't topple off the rollers!

Having ridden in the now defunct South London Roller Racing League in the late 1990's and early 2000's I know a little of the history of this curious sport. Its heyday was in the 1950's where I understand exhibition races would often take place at the local picture house during the interval of a movie on a Saturday evening, I'm sure some of our members will have fond memories of this and any information and memories would be of interest to me.

So, what of Roller Racing now, well over the last couple of years the Bec CC have attempted to revive the sport in the local area by hosting a number of events at Sutton and Epsom Rugby Club on a Thursday evening. What's not to like about that, a spot of racing in events ranging from 250m to 1000m lasting less than 60 seconds and access to a bar. It certainly is an improvement on the old roller racing league that frequented church halls where the only beverage on offer was a cup of tea or coffee.

Unfortunately, when this current edition of the Redmon Review goes to press the October edition of the Bec's

Roller Racing will have just taken place, but I understand from the organizer that there will be another event in February. So if you are interested in coming to support or compete let me know and once I know the date I will pass the details on.

Finally, I know that a couple of other local clubs are interested in hosting roller racing events. Given this is there any interest in the club membership for us as a club to host an event? I have heard that the club once had a set of racing rollers, but I have also heard that we borrowed the Surrey Roads Rollers, could someone confirm which is true?

I look forward to hearing from you with stories of roller racing and whether anyone is interested in assisting me in potentially running a Roller Racing event in the future.

Cycling Commentators

DE

You have to admire the guys who comment live on road racing. Although they must have back-up info on their computers, it's still a huge challenge to utter sensible relevant things about the TV images that come flooding in as it's all happening. Although no-one today says stuff like 'eyeballs out' or 'on the rivet', the language is still curiously specific, and must seem a little idiosyncratic to viewers not so familiar with the sport. In a condensed voice-over, a lone breakaway might sound something like this:

*"It's great to see the cowbells out today.
Hard to tell whether he's good or bad.
He's just finding his legs now.
It's a good day out for him.
He has the full arsenal against the people he's riding against.
And it's triggering action behind.
Fireworks are going to go off here very soon.
That has thrown the gauntlet down.
He's in the driving seat. Getting stuck in. Really digging deep. Elbows out. Going to up the gas. Putting the hammer down.
They're hanging on to his coat tails. Don't have to put their noses in the wind.
They'll have to dish it out in very small doses.
He's going to get swamped up by the peleton.
Trying to surf off some of the other group's position.
Concertina-ing in and out. Yo-yo-ing back and forth.
Grabs a handful of gears and bangs it in with his thumb.
He loves a bit of hurt. It's been a long day away.
This is where he gets popped for good.
Legs just started to drop off.
Has he forgotten these guys up front?
Visibly, you can see the difference.
Needle has just hit empty."*

Poor chap. So much commentary and then tailing in at the back of the bunch while the carefully-protected top

sprinter is launched across the line, cheekily displaying the logo on his sponsor's shirt in the "Wonderbra finish".

(NB Nothing above was invented; all these remarks were taken down verbatim this year.)

Vice Presidents and HLMs

JA

Following details in the last newsletter, the committee has confirmed the current list of Honorary Life Members (HLM) and Vice Presidents (VP).

HLM: Ron Allen, Brian Beckwith, Ken Gadd, Geoff Goat, Richard Hoskin, Jean Walsh.

VP: David Boyd, Doug Conroy, Jack Jackson, Mick Deen, Derek Wardle.

Sadly Joyce Martin (HLM) and Joyce Shiret (VP) dropped off the list as they didn't renew their membership in 2018. Note: to maintain status: HLMs must complete a membership form, and VPs pay first claim subs.

Diary Dates

Sat 24-Nov	Annual General Meeting
March '19	Prize Presentation
11-May-19	Club Open 10 on G10/42
22-Sep-19	38 th Duo Normand, France
29-Sep-19	Grand Prix des Gentlemen

Contributions and Views to the Editor?

JA

Please email articles to news.letter@redmoncc.co.uk, or post to: 15 Ellis Avenue, Onslow Village, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 7SR. Email is preferable, to avoid retyping, and they may not get published immediately.

General Data Protection Regs (GDPR)

JA

Just to reiterate that previously published: GDPR applies to the Club: the presumption being as a paid up member, you consent to receiving communications from us relevant to your membership, and to opt out you need to contact a committee member in writing.

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