



Keeping up with the Redmon Cycling Club

Editor's Welcome

J A

Welcome to the first issue of the newsletter for 2019, and a belated Happy New Year.

This edition of the newsletter is a little late, as hardly any articles were received for it, and I've had to chase for them. And it's the same contributors as always – but many thanks to them. Those of you that haven't helped out so far, please have a go!

It's really sad that a few of our old members have not renewed or rejoined the club in 2019. I've sent them a copy of this quarter's newsletter in the hope that they will reconsider it, as 2019 is sure to be a good year.

We have our evening club events again, thanks to Derek Wardle, and two open events. And quite exciting – we have plans to enter several teams in the Duo Normand TT in France, September. If you are interested in taking part, or experiencing this event, please let us know.

Our President's Update

R H

2018 came and went and unfortunately it was rather a fallow year for our club. We had two club events, The Championship 10 and the Fish and Chip Hill Climb. The Championship 10 had to be cancelled due to poor weather conditions. The fish and chips were very popular, as usual, in fact a lot more popular than the Hill Climb with six competitors.

2019 should prove to be a lot more interesting with two Redmon Open events and the series of Club evening 10's. I will be organising our Open 10 on Saturday 11 May on the G10/42. Mike Wakely is organising our traditional Grand Prix on Sunday 29 September. Derek Wardle will be our new organiser for the Thursday evening 10's and 15's. If you do not feel like racing please turn up and support Derek, you could always do a spot of Marshalling! Don't forget that there will be no refreshments so please bring your own flask, hip flask or coffee!

The usual club stalwarts attended our AGM at Walliswood Village hall on Saturday 24 November 2018, minutes can be found in this issue. Our new club Kit has arrived, "Riding in Memory of Pete Reynolds" it's good quality and looks good too, thanks to John Allen for organising sizing, purchase and delivery.

2019 should prove to be a good and active year for the Redmon so please come out and support our Open and Club events. We hope to organise our annual Pub Lunch and Prize Presentation in March of this year, details to follow. At the time of writing it has started to

snow; let's hope that spring is around the corner with some better cycling weather.

Club Secretary's AGM Report

E A

The AGM was held on 23rd November 2018 at Walliswood Village Hall with 17 members in attendance.

Chris Brewer was re-elected as the club chairman, while I was re-elected as club secretary. John Allen was re-elected as club treasurer, with the four general committee members elected: Mike Wakely, John Chatterton, Alistair Lang and Derek Wardle.

An update and open discussion on the club's future open and club events resulted in the announcement that the club evening 10s are to resume with Derek Wardle as organiser on Thursday evenings starting on the 2nd of May. We also have two open events planned for the year, a 10 on the G10/42 in May and the Grand Prix slightly earlier in September.

There was also an update on the Pete Reynolds' legacy; unfortunately the track championship had to be cancelled due to insufficient interest to make it worthwhile. However, the distribution of "Riding in memory of Pete Reynolds" kit can definitely be considered a success with many members expressing an interest. The club is still looking at entering several teams in the Duo Normand in France in 2019 – this is to be partly funded by the Redmon Cycling Club and partly by the riders and supporters attending the event.

REDMONster –

had his own idea about 'Dry January'



2019 Club Evening 10s

D W

A date for your diary:- **2 May 2019**

Time :- 7.30 pm

Venue :- G10/42

Event:- 1st evening 10

Wanted :- Riders, marshals and helpers in general

Please note :- There will not be a tea bar this year, so if you need a drink please bring your own. However, if some kind soul wishes to volunteer to take this on then they would be most welcome. Let's have a good, well attended season with fast times.

2019 Redmon Open Events

J A

The dates of the open events have now been confirmed as Saturday 11th May 2019 for the 10, and Sunday 29th September for the Grand Prix.

The 10 will be on usual G10/42 course and the HQ will be at the St Johns' Primary School, which is by the North Holmwood roundabout. Please contact the event secretary, Richard Hoskin for further details or with offers of help. Any offers will be gratefully received.

Easterly RC 25

J W

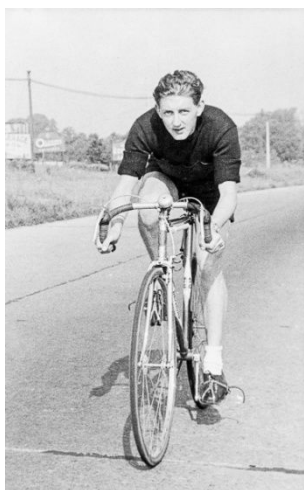
Looking through a 1950 Club Magazine, I read the following:

"Congratulations to our two riders in this event, but in particular Ron Allen whose time of 1-1-5 gave him 3rd place and also our club record!"

Ron Allen? You may well ask as we have his son John in the Club – he brings his Dad out to events – we have double the talent!

PS – the other Club rider with Ron was Sunny Sharpe.

Editor: It's lovely of Jean to mention my Dad, although I haven't taken him to a Redmon event for some time, as he is now in a nursing home. It's not me in the Allen family with the talent – it was my Dad and now it's Eddie. But it's funny she should send this in, as I was going through Dad's old photo albums the other day and came across this event, along with some of his other results. He was quite a good cyclist, and I hadn't realised before how good – he won a number of events and achieved some pretty quick times considering the equipment and



environment. I now appreciate, that he certainly had reason to take the mick out of me and my poor results.

Mrs Flying Scotsman by Anne Obree

D W

Graeme and Anne Obree made an appearance at Herne Hill last year as part of an extravagant and much-touted series of events over three days. These proved to be hugely expensive and aimed more at corporate entertainment than 'real' track cycling enthusiasts. Graeme gave a talk and his ex-wife Anne promoted a book she had written to tell her side of that extraordinary story.

It must be said that this is not a book about how to break records. Although Obree's remarkable achievements, gained against formidable odds, come into the story peripherally, the burden of Anne's writing deals with the many appalling difficulties in dealing with the problems of her family, her husband and of herself. The chapter headings tell their own story: 'Tragedy strikes again', 'To Hell and Back', 'Nearly a Goner'. There are plenty of happy moments, but one comes away with the feeling that the human spirit must be a very powerful force to be able to withstand so many blows from Fate. From deaths in the family and her own problems with weight control and self-image, to the horrors of Graeme's depression, his alcoholism and suicide attempts, it is pretty heavy stuff. That Anne manages to keep coming up smiling, even after her own close brush with death, is remarkable, and may in some measure be due to her strong Catholic faith.

One particular aspect of this often grim memoir is faced with considerable frankness and stoicism by Anne. Namely, that the drugs Graeme was prescribed for his bouts of depression had the cumulative side-effect of altering his sexual orientation. The inevitable divorce which followed this seems to have been sad but amicable, as testified by the couple standing side by side to talk to us at Herne Hill.

It is not a great book, but it will have taken a great deal of courage to write. Though the process of doing so may have been helpful to this resilient woman in coming to terms with the drama of her life.

The book is signed by both of them and if anyone would like to have it, it's going free to the first comer.

La Hubert Arbes, Cyclo Club Lourdes

J C

I think it was Joe Brown, the great mountaineer, who when asked why he wished to climb the South Face of the Eiger replied 'Because it is there'.

It was this mentality that persuaded a few crazy cyclists from the Molesey B.B.T /Redmon and other assorted clubs to enter the above event which takes in three daunting climbs, ie. Col du Tourmalet, Col des Borderes and Col des Soular and is part of Stage 11 of the Tour. There are three distances: La Hubert Artes 159km, La

Petita 107 km and La Cyclotouriste 65km. Well it is one thing to sit in a cafe at Henfold Lakes discussing this and deciding which distance you will do, or even climbing the Zigzags at Box Hill knowing that the Col du Tourmalet is equivalent to climbing that particular hill ten times, but if you take it easy so what!

So eleven crazy cyclists set off to Lourdes settling ourselves in a comfortable hotel and on the Saturday prior to the event we all went but for a gentle spin. Well, it was supposed to be gentle but knowing cyclists it soon turned into a mini tour and several small cols were ridden leaving a few slightly knackered.

We also had a few mechanical problems which was fortuitous because we were able to get them rectified before the event. We visited Hubert Arbes cycle shop in Lourdes who apart from being the proprietor was also organising the event. His main claim to fame was being a domestique under Bernard Hinault for many years. What a great guy! He fixed all the bikes, was delighted to know that eleven Brits had come over to ride his event and wished us all the best, and although we didn't know it at the time we were in for a special surprise at the presentation the next day. We all went out on the Saturday evening and downed loads of beer and dined on great food - a great preparation for the next day.

A six o'clock alarm call on the Sunday brought us back to our senses and after stuffing a load of food down we filled our bottles and rode to the start. Hundreds of riders had assembled in the correct pens ie. fastest and longest route at the front, then middle route, etc., etc. The flag went up and a surge started with riders going like bats out of hell right from the start. Needless to say, lots of riders got shot off the back; so what there's plenty of time and it's not a race!! Ha-Ha. Peddling through the villages that led to the Pyrenees was quite pleasant with lots of 'Bonjour, monsieur' as the police stopped traffic and waved us through. It then began to look ominous. What are those snow capped mountains ahead? There must be a tunnel or something, surely. It wasn't to be and then began the most painful crawl up the mountain part walk for six of us. It was very hot at 30° plus and no shade. We all managed the Tourmalet, other mad fools carried on to complete the longer route.

There were great refreshments at the top and even local French Television to interview riders who looked half—dead and couldn't even speak. The descent was exhilarating and eventually in dribs and drabs we made it to the finish, where the food was plentiful.

The presentation in a huge marquee went on for ages, but we felt obliged to stay because of the kindness Hubert Arbes had extended to us. Towards to end, the compere in perfect English announced there was to be a special award for the best foreign entry. Well, guess

what - it turned out to be us! We all tramped on to the stage and were presented with a large cup, amid lots of applause. Great Stuff!

That's about it. We came down to earth after watching England exit from the World cup. It was nice to come back with a trophy which caused lots of interest in the airport lounge and on the plane. Brilliant!

2019 Trophy Competitions

CB

Chris has kindly put together a draft list of the trophy events for our main competitions.

Sporting Courses Trophy

Kingston Wheelers	14m	GS/292A	10-Feb
Redhill CC	18m	GS/478	17-Feb
Sussex CA	25m	GS/195	03-Mar
Dorking CC	30m	GS/491	10-Mar
SCCU	10m	G10/46	23-Mar
SCCU	21m	GS334	17-Mar
Kingston Phoenix	10m	G10/42	06-Mar
Crawley Wheelers	42m	GS/196	19-Apr
Sussex CA	10m	G10/45	24-Aug
Sussex CA	25m	G25/49	26-Aug
Brighton Mitre	10m	G10/44	22-Apr

Club Events Championship

Farnborough & Cam	H10/8	02-Mar
Kingston Phoenix	H10/42	06-Apr
Farnborough & Cam	H25/8	13-Apr
East Sussex CA	G10/87	27-Apr
Charlotteville CC	H50/8	28-Apr
Redmon CC	G10/42	11-May
Newbury RC	H25/1	12-May
Farnham RC	H10/8	18-May
Horsham CC	G10/97	22-Jun
Reading CC	H25/1	07-Jul
Epsom	H10/8	13-Jul
Southern Counties	G100/61	21-Jul
Newbury RC	H15/1	21-Jul

Club Championship 10

Club Hill Climb

VETS Championship

VTTA	G10/41	28-Apr
VTTA Ldn+Home	H10/2	30-May
Lewes Wanders VTTA	G30/88	09-Jun
East Sussex CA VTTA Sry/Ssx	G50/90	16-Jun
Alton CC/Owens VTTA	H10/8	22-Jun
VTTA Ldn+Home	H10/2	08-Aug
Bec CC	G25/93	18-Aug
VTTA	G25/89	22-Sep
VTTA Ldn+Home	H25/2	06-Oct

Memories

J W

Why do you always support Mansfield or Nottingham football teams instead of West Ham or Chelsea my two sons demanded? Well, as I was evacuated to Mansfield during the last war I can still remember my foster father who worked down the mines, returning with black streaks down his face having left the house at 4am for his shift.

My younger brother had no choice but to be evacuated with me, and in the end we both grew to like Nottingham, although he is a strong West Ham fan! I kept in touch for years with my foster parents until they passed away and did not want to come back here – much to my parents annoyance!

And so, although Chelsea is now my team, you just can't write the past off, so I will always be sort of interested in the Mansfield and Nottingham teams for sentimental reasons. Blame the war!

Surrey Hardriders 30m TT

J A

2019 will see the 55th running of the East Surrey Hardriders TT, and we've had a reminder from the organiser. It's on 10th March over the usual GS/491 29.9mile course, with ride HQ being at Leigh village hall, near Dorking. The first rider will set off at 8.00am. So if you want to enter, it's not too late.

Your Article?

J A



So where is it?

Club Rides

J A

Don't forget John Chatterton and other club members meet on Wednesdays for a gentle ride of 20 miles. They meet at 11am by the junction of Blundel Lane and Stoke Road, in Stoke D'Abernon (opposite the pub). Ring John on 07767 811701, before 9.30 on the day.

Vice Presidents and HLMs

J A

Following details in previous newsletters, the committee confirmed the 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.

And Brian Beckwith, Jean Walsh, David Boyd and Doug Conroy will join them if they don't renew this year.

Note: to maintain status: HLMs must complete a membership form, and VPs pay first claim subs.

Diary Dates

March '19	Prize Presentation
02-May-19	First evening 10 on G10/42
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?

J A

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)

J A

Note: GDPR applies to us: 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.

Committee Members

Chris Brewer (CB)	chris.brewer@redmoncc.co.uk
Eddie Allen (EA)	eddie.allen@redmoncc.co.uk
John Allen (JA)	treasurer@redmoncc.co.uk
Richard Hoskin (RH)	richard.hoskin@redmoncc.co.uk (020 8642 4778/07748 835907)
Alistair Lang (AL)	coach@redmoncc.co.uk
M Wakely (MW); D Wardle (DW), J Chatterton (JC)	

Other Newsletter Contributors

David Eccles (DE), Jean Walsh (JW)

And lastly: many thanks to 'Mrs A' for proof reading; and making the corrections to my 'typos' as usual.