



## Keeping up with the Redmon Cycling Club

### Editor's Comment

J A

Welcome to our last newsletter for 2020, and what a peculiar year it has been - no Redmon events and not much racing either. Let us hope 2021 will be better, and hopefully with a bit more cycling – we are planning the usual list of events, racing and club rides.

In this issue we are reporting some incredibly sad news, long time club member, and organiser of the club events series, Derek Wardle has passed away. Malcolm, Richard and Geoff remember some great times with him. His funeral was two weeks ago.

With the year having been a bit of a 'non-starter' the Committee have made a few *important decisions about the AGM and membership renewals* for 2021. So please do read this newsletter, if only this page, as it is the only notice that you will get of this. We outline the proposals for next year's committee and the AGM, and next year's membership fees.

There is a little bit of cheery news: Jean Walsh recently celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, and we all wish her many happy returns!

The next issue of the newsletter should be on your (virtual) doorstep in February, so please let me have your contributions by around 20<sup>th</sup> February. So you have quite some time to think about it! I need articles about cycling, our club or your reminiscences. If each member sent me just a paragraph or two, there would be enough to keep the newsletter interesting for the next few issues.

### Important News from the Chairman

C B

It has been a strange year with the outbreak of Covid19 affecting many parts of our lives and daily routines and with the number of restrictions that have been placed on what we can and can't do. Our racing season and the way in which we as a committee manage and run the club has been adversely affected to the extent that meetings have not taken place for obvious reasons.

There have been no club events or open events run by the club and it is getting close to the time of year where we would be turning our attentions to organising the Club's AGM. Due to the present restrictions we will not be holding an AGM as it is not possible to hold it via an online meeting as not all members would have access to such technology so we are proposing the following.

All present serving committee members will retain their role for 2021 - including all executive and non-executive positions. I am aware that this is somewhat outside of

the clubs constitution but I strongly believe that we don't really have any other option as we cannot safely hold any form of meeting that would be compliant with the Covid19 restrictions. I would like to ask for the membership support in doing this and would request that should any first claim member have any objections to this being done that they contact me in writing before the end of November but please bear in mind that if we don't carry the present committee forward we will not have any club officials therefore we will not have a club as we cannot function without a committee for many reasons.

I have spoken to all committee members who are willing to continue for a further twelve month period and with the very sad passing of Derek Wardle there is a vacancy for a committee position which will be discussed at the earliest opportunity once we are in a position to hold a committee meeting but it is most likely that vacant position will remain until we can once again hold an AGM late 2021.

As the 2020 season has basically been written off the club has taken the decision to suspend the awarding of any trophies for the 2020 season as many of the counting events towards our trophies have been lost for a large proportion of the CTT racing calendar.

There are other areas regarding the running of the club for the 2020/21 season that I could mention but I will leave those as I know others will be providing information regarding various areas of the club.

All that remains for me to say is I very much hope that you all stay safe and I look forward to better times when we can once again meet up to socialise and to ride and race as Redmon Cycling Club.

Stay Safe

### Membership Renewals for 2021

J A

Like many organisations, 2020 events for the Redmon Cycling Club seem to have been missing from the calendar. And since no activities have really happened for us, your committee has decided that the 2020 membership year will be extended to 2021.

The upshot of this means that if you renewed your membership in 2020, you will not have to for 2021, unless you decide to cancel, in which case please contact me. If you wish to race in 2021 as Redmon CC and you didn't renew in 2020, you will have to rejoin the club, and pay the appropriate fee.



## Happy Birthday Jean!

Many of you will know that it was Jean's birthday in September.

Congratulations Jean for reaching the grand age of 90, quite an achievement!

*Redmonster birthday card courtesy of David Eccles.*

## Redmon Events 2021

**R H**

The club has applied to CTT London South to run an Open Time Trial on Saturday 8 May 2021 at 2 pm on the G10/42. It will be a standard Time Trial with sections for Road Bikes, Hub Gears and Tandems.

We have also applied to run 10 Club Evening 10's plus a Hill Climb. The dates are as follows, 27 May to 29 July for the Time Trials and 5 August for the Hill Climb. We have thrown in the option of two 15's during the season on the GS/483. All being well these events will take place and Covid19 will have been blown back to China.

## 2020 Season Racing Report

**J A**

It's been a funny racing season, with not many results, and until July only four to report, but now another ten are added to the list. Only three club members have raced in open events this year, with Peter being the most enthusiastic. Shame there's no trophies this year!

02-Aug	P.Horsfield	Sussex CA G50/10	2:33:13
16-Aug	P.Horsfield	Bec CC G25/93	1:10:24
23-Aug	P.Horsfield	Southdown P901/25	1:11:03
31-Aug	P.Horsfield	Sussex CA G25/49	1:15:17
06-Sep	P.Horsfield	SCCU G25/55	1:14:37
12-Sep	J.McGlashan	VTTA National 10	26:05
19-Sep	P.Horsfield	Sussex CA G15/92	43:08
27-Sep	P.Horsfield	Epsom CC H25/8	1:14:33
03-Oct	P.Horsfield	Kingston Phoenix 10	27:53
18-Oct	P.Horsfield	Brighton Mitre 25	1:15:33

## Goodbye Derek

**R H**

Derek Wardle: 28 October 1941 - 23 September 2020

Derek's funeral took place at The North East Surrey Crematorium on Friday 16th October at 11.20 am. There were readings and prayers and two hymns, which we were not allowed to sing for obvious reasons. It was a very comforting and peaceful service, beautifully conducted by the Rev. Margaret Legg.

The Club was represented by Clive Walton, David Eccles, Malcolm Pearson, and Peter Horsfield (on his bike in club kit,) Mike Wakely, Geoff and Brenda Goat and Susan and Richard Hoskin. Derek's two sons Phil and Alan were there with their families, plus some family friends. Gary Miles, a family friend, gave two readings. I read a poem by Michael Ashby "The Tour de Universe" and Margaret Legg read the Eulogy, which was composed by Liz Wardle. The entry music was "The Music of the Night" by The Shadows and on leaving the Crematorium we heard "Beat Route", the ITV Tour de France theme. All very appropriate although I didn't know that Derek was a Shadows fan!

Derek was our Club Treasurer and more recently, Time Trial Secretary. Unfortunately, there was no Club racing this year, but Derek was planning to organise the Club 10's in 2021. He was an enthusiastic reliable member of our Club and our Club Committee. He fought back after his first stroke and continued to take an active part in club activities, organising the Evening 10's in 2019. He will be much missed by all his Clubmates.

## Memories of Derek

*Malcolm Pearson:* Derek was originally from Coventry and rode for Coventry Cycling Club. He was a draughtsman by trade.

When he moved South, he joined the Redmon Cycling Club and was a member for almost 29 years. He was Treasurer of the Redmon for much of this time.

Stubborn determination was evident throughout his life. Derek was driven to do his Personal Best, be it in running, cycling or kindness. He competed in 6 marathons, 3 of these in London in aid of Birmingham Children's Hospital, 4 half marathons, numerous cycling time trials, reliability trials and 100km cycling tours. He kept meticulous training diaries.

After his first stroke in 2013, competing became more challenging, so Derek turned his hand to supporting his cycling club as Time Keeper. He was a stalwart of the Redmon and did not want to see the club fold in 2018 so, in spite of health challenges, he took on more responsibility as Time Trials Secretary.

A good deal of challenge affected Derek's life, but he always exhibited vast reserves of fortitude and he will

be remembered eternally for his positive response: "I'm fine".

*Richard Hoskin:* Derek and I did venture out on his tandem, just the once. It was a Thursday Evening 10, probably about 15 years ago. I don't think that we took it too seriously. David Boyd took a good picture of us with Derek doing all the hard work! I enjoyed the experience but unfortunately, we didn't have another try and I have no idea what time we did, I don't think that any records were broken!

Derek and I had a couple of trips to Herne Hill. On the first trip Derek and I rode over, and back, with Mike Wakely to one of the Redmon Sunday track events. I made an attempt at riding the track, I'm not so sure about Derek and Mike but I remember it as a good day out. On the second trip Derek and I caught the train to Herne Hill to watch the Good Friday Herne Hill Meeting. Unfortunately, these meetings are now defunct, it was another good day out and a typical Good Friday at Herne Hill, wet, windy and cold!

Thanks for the ride Derek and thanks for your company.

*Geoff Goat:* I knew Derek for a good many years.

After his first stroke, for several years, on alternate Saturday afternoons, living not far away, I would walk down to Derek's. We would have a chat about the Redmon, cycling and the way of the world. Liz would join us and we would have a cup of tea and a piece of cake. It was company for him and a fresh face. We often exchanged cycling books. Derek's dog Mitzi would go mad when I arrived and would sit at my feet asking to be made a fuss of. Derek would tell her to stop it and behave.

When I lost my licence for a while, Derek would pick Brenda and me up and take us to the events.

Derek and I had an arrangement to save him going round the 10/15 course twice, putting out the cycling road signs. After the event, I, being the Clarks Green Marshal, would pick up all the signs and bring them back.

What now do I do with my alternate Saturday afternoons ..

God Bless Derek - he was a good friend.

## **Geoff's Reminiscences**

**GG**

*Part 2 of My Journey to the Top:* Back in Spain again, and once Brenda goes back home, I intend to do another tour. This time its going to be the big one in the Sierra Nevada that I failed last time to do.

Having spent the night in digs at Guadix, the next morning I take a hard climb by the way of the main road up through Purallina. There are many homes of the Trogydte people in this area. The road sweeps up now

to Puero El Moginillo at 1280m. From now it's a gentle roll down to Granada, everywhere there's people and traffic. I watch for the sign Sierra Nevada, my destination for today. I take a lunch break, then start to look for a hostel for the night, before I make my way for the big climb.

I find digs in the village of Pinos Genil. After a wash and brush up, I have a wander around the area. There's a small stream with nesting boxes along the edge and loads of screaming young ducks.

Dinner is served at 8:30, and very good too. The owner speaks very good English, I ask him about the road up to the "Roof of Europe". He takes me out to his garage and show me his bike – wow, what a machine. He tells me the road ahead is hard and at my age I should think again. He has been up all three routes and they are all hard. He says the climb will take me at least five hours and that a bottom gear of 28" is needed, my bottom gear is 32". I ring Brenda, and then off to bed.

The morning comes all too soon. After breakfast, having paid my bill, I bid my thanks and say goodbye.

Leaving the white buildings of Pinos behind, I start climbing a twisting road up from the river. The views start to open up, all over the hillside are white washed farms and homesteads. I now leave the last of the hostels and a few restaurants, and civilisation.

The countryside now gradually becomes bleak, arid, with fewer trees and barren rocks. Every so often the steepness eases, but there's a long way to go. I am now above Granada and I spy the landmark of "Our Lady of the Snows", an archway framing the Picacho Del Veleta. The sky is so clear apart from a few puffy white clouds and drifting mists.

The turn off for the Sierra Nevada ski village is where the Tour of Spain finished one year, this is my route. Every so often I stop and check my heart beat, and my breathing, I am now over 2,000m.

The road continues upward still twisting and turning. I catch sight of the summit every so often round the



bends. The last 200m to the top, I walk – this is the "Roof of Europe" at 3398m (11,128 feet).

A group of us study maps which way each of us

will leave the summit. I intend to go south, a guy tells me, it is all downhill for 34km, by way of Capileiria. Shortly, it becomes like the surface of the Moon - this is the rough stuff of Spain, I've seen nothing like it before.

To my left is a sheer drop, to my right the towering Veleta. The track slowly descends, I pass a small lake, then up again El Chorrillo, 2,715m. Down and down now, greenery at last and some trees. In the distance I see the early evening lights of Capileiria, and at long last, a tarmac surface. The first hostel I come to, is there space for someone who has been on the road for 10 hours. I have made it.

Like Peter Horsfield, I achieved my goal.

### **Dave Worsfold**

**G G**

It's late Friday afternoon, the phone rings, and it's a voice that I haven't heard for years, it's Ian Murray - Hello Geoff, you're the only Redmon member that I now have contact with – I've got some sad news, Dave Worsfold died today after years of ill health.

A lot of current members will not have known Dave, but he was a very good rider, and a record breaker at a national level.

His best Club Hilly 73 was seventh when the Redmon took the team prize. Riding his tricycle on the A1 road in a 10 mile TT Dave took the National Competition record of 23m 27s. With this Dave held four National Competition records for tricycle at 10 miles, 25 miles, 50 miles and 100 miles. His 25 miles time was 59m 41s.

In the classic "Grand Prix des Gentlemen", he paced Roger Strutt Redmon three times running, their best time was 43m 43s in 1980. He was also a great one for the mass start races with Surrey League.

We all thought he was a bit of a miser, I looked after him in a 12 hour event, and he never offered me a penny for my petrol, but that was Dave.

### **The 2020 President's Run**

**R H**

The Redmon Cycling Club President's Run took place this year on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Sorry no President!

We met in the carpark of The Parrot Inn, Forest Green at 10 am and got going around 10.15. it was a good turnout with nine members, John Allen, Chris Brewer, David Eccles riding his Dursley Pedesen, John Hales, Peter Horsfield, me, Eric Palmer, Mike Wakely and Clive Walton. The weather was good, warm enough for

shorts. Unfortunately, our President Geoff Goat wasn't able to make it.

We set off towards Ruser Brick Works and criss-crossed some very familiar roads, part of the G10/46 I believe. As you know I have a very poor sense of direction so tend to rely on others to lead the way. There were not too many nasty hills and we arrived back at The Parrot, after a couple of hours riding, not a vast number of miles, let's say just short of 20! The weather was fine and we sat outside the pub and drank a socially distanced pint or a cup of coffee. A very pleasant and friendly ride, thanks to all those who rode.

On the following Monday, 14th September, I was driving south out of Sutton to a gardening job, when who should I overtake but our Club President riding his bike. Well done Geoff, 87 years young.

### **Letter from Jean**

**J W**

First time for everything! One of the first rides I did when I joined the Redmon was to Runnymede

On a Sunday morning as my mother was waving me off, she shouted "dinner is at one o'clock Jean, don't be late!" I laughed as someone shouted back "you'll be lucky Ma!" The Club Captain at that time was our old friend Bert Lowe, a stolid, serious guy, but nice with it. He knew we wouldn't be back at one.

We stopped for elevenses for tea, cakes and again at three o'clock for more tea and cakes. I didn't mind that, but with all that stopping and starting, I had hoped that we would perhaps get a glance of a local actress Diana Doors – no luck there! However, I enjoyed the ride and was hooked on riding the bike, and the Redmon seemed the perfect club – so I joined, along with a friend, named Joan, who lived across the road. The two of us enjoyed many years with the Redmon. Up the reds!

Next Edition: **25-Feb-21** Copy date: **15-Feb-21.**

### **Committee Members**

Chris Brewer (CB)	chris.brewer@redmoncc.co.uk
John Allen (JA)	treasurer@redmoncc.co.uk or webmaster@redmoncc.co.uk
Richard Hoskin (RH)	richard.hoskin@redmoncc.co.uk (020 8642 4778/07748 835907)
M Wakely (MW); J Chatterton (JC); Clive Walton (CW)	

### **Newsletter Contributors**

David Eccles (DE); Geoff Goat (GG) – Club President;  
Jean Walsh (JW); Malcolm Pearson (MP)

**Data Protection:** the presumption for GDPR is being as a paid up member, you consent to receiving communications from the Redmon Cycling Club relevant to your membership. To opt out you must contact one of the committee members in writing.