



THE ICKNIELDER

Newsletter of the
Icknield Road Club



Issue 6

Date 06-Feb-2013

The President's piece

The year 2012 for the Club was a mixture of success, disappointment and sadness. The sadness of the loss of two members Maurice Cray and Roger Queen, and we begin 2013 with the loss of another long serving member Jean Tasker who passed away on New Year's Day.

Obituaries for Roger and Jean are contained further in the Newsletter.

Our disappointment is that we have no Club Champion this year owing to the fact that Tim Davies, through no fault of his own, did not get a 100-mile time in as both events he started in were stopped through accidents. However, on the success side, Tim won on Open road race, only the second Icknield man since Simon O'Brien in the 90s to do so.

On the promotions of events, the Club came out tops as mentioned in previous issues, but special mention must be made of the 'Charity 10' ran by Peter Jones when just over £400 was raised for the Keech Hospice, and the Club Luncheon in January where over 80 people attended at the new venue of 'The Old Lodge Hotel' in Dunstable. "Well Done" TO Tony Baines on another top function.

So we start 2013 with sadness and success, and I certainly hope that we get more of the latter than the former. So I wish you all have a safe and enjoyable 2013, the 80th Anniversary of the Club.

Take care out there.... John Lee

Boxing Day HNCC 10-mile Time Trial (John Lee)

After then recent heavy rain, the weather for this annual event organised by Frank Turner of the Hitchin Nomads was sunny and bright, although a chilly wind started to appear as 48 riders started. The Icknield fielded 9 riders – an excellent turn out.

Tim Davies produced the fastest actual winning time of 24.53, and he was followed by new member Oliver Cocks with 27.59. This was only Oliver's second competitive ride, and a very commendable ride too. Richard Pratt was third fastest out the Icknield riders with 32.18, followed by Charlie Sampford 35.17 (another fine ride by a Junior) over the hilly course. Next Icknield rider in was Club Coach Chris Jenkins with 36.54, followed by Roy Porter who was our oldest rider 37.58 on a 1960s steel Ivor Holmes. Chris Northwood who went off-course recorded 43.28 and Nicola Christianson our only lady competitor, riding her first event for a sometime crossed the line in 46.05. Our ninth rider Maurice Burton went off course and did not finish.

There were 20 Icknield Club members in all, including riders and supporters, and times clocked were encouraging, especially from the two Junior Members.

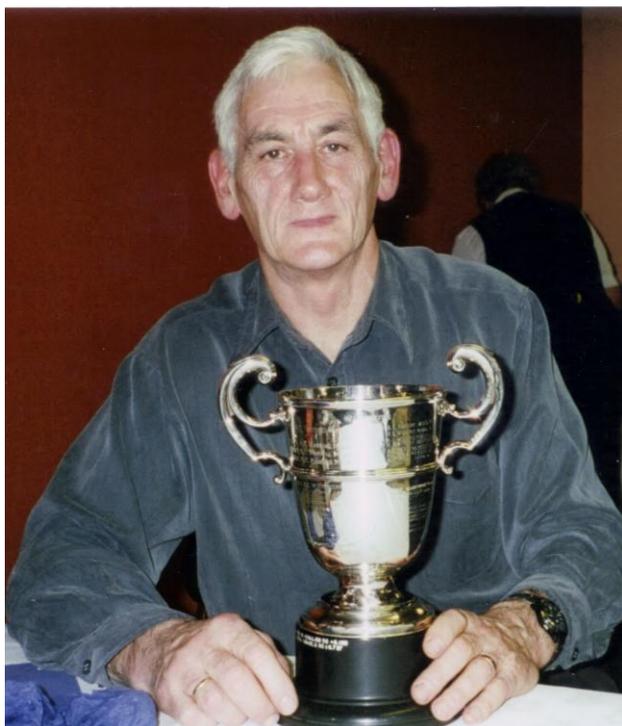
The full detailed timed results of this event can be found on the Hitchin Nomads' website at <http://hitchinnomads.blogspot.co.uk/2012/12/boxing-day-10-2012.html?m=1>.

Roger Queen (John Lee)

It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of Roger Queen after he suffered a cardiac arrest whilst out riding his bike. Those who knew Roger found him a quiet unassuming man who never said a bad word about anyone.

Roger started his cycling days with the Luton Wheelers in the 1960s, clocking a 1.16.30 for his first 25-mile event. That was the only time he was outside evens. Once he got the hang of it he was rarely outside the hour and usually inside 2 hours for 50-mile events.

In 1972 and 1973 he was a member of Luton Wheelers National Championship 25-mile winning teams. He later joined the V.C. Slough winning two National Championship 25-mile Team medals, three National Championship 50-mile Team medals and won the National 50-mile Championship outright in 1978 with 1.53.46.



Roger with London Vets Champion Trophy 2003

Roger broke the Competition Record at 30-miles with 1.02.07 in 1978, leading the V.C. Slough to three team competition records in the same event. He also finished in the top 12 of the B.A.R. and Roger was known as "The King of the North Road" as when he entered a 25-mile event, people were only left the crumbs.

Roger's racing tapered in the 1980s due to family commitments but he never lost contact, always helping out and when the Icknield Road Club promoted the National 50-mile Championship, Roger presented the prizes.

In 1998, Roger joined the Icknield and started racing again, helping the club to win three Veteran National Championship Team awards ; one at 10-miles, and two at 30-miles, as well as many more Open team wins, and in 2003 Roger was the London Veteran Champion.

Roger was an inspiration to all riders and when he was a member of the team, everybody tried that little bit harder.

I first met Roger in 1963 at the Good Friday track meeting at Herne Hill when he was a young man just starting out and we were both spectators. I finally had the pleasure of riding in many teams with him in the Icknield and sharing together a pint afterwards.

Roger was held in very high esteem which showed with over 200 people attending his funeral, 30 of which were Icknield Road Club members.

I will miss you my friend....

Our condolences go to his wife Joan and all members of the family.

I would like to thank all of the Club Members who attended Roger's funeral at the Vale crematorium on 2nd January 2013. Their attendance was much appreciated.

- John Lee (Club President)

Jean Tasker (Muriel Holgate)



It is with deep sadness that I write about Jean Tasker who died in hospital on January 1st, just a day after her 75th birthday, having been admitted a month earlier.

To those of us who knew her well, her death comes as a real shock. Although Jean did not become a cycling member of the club until 1997, she was always there in the 80s and early 90s at the many Icknield functions – helping with all the food at the barn dances, BBQs and many Christmas parties that have been held. She was a frequent cake baker and the bread pudding that is such a favourite of racing and touring cyclists alike, was one of her famous recipes.

Jean was also a great help to her husband Peter whenever he was running both Club and Open events. It was in 1996 that Jean and Peter had a ride on our tandem. They enjoyed it so much that they went and bought one themselves. From then on there was no stopping her. She loved cycling and we spent some wonderful holidays on the tandems in France, as well as many Youth Hostel weekends with the club.

Although we haven't seen so much of in recent years, she did still ride occasionally, and her last one was a mile tandem ride with Peter at the end of October.

Rest in peace Jean – we shall miss you.

Our condolences go to husband Peter and all of the family.

- *Muriel Polgate*

EMIT "LITE" 2012 (Roy Porter)

Five Club members set off just after 10.30 on the 28th October 2012 to ride the Stevenage 42 mile Emitremmus lite (end of summertime) from Fairlands Valley Park following the wheel tracks of a reported near five hundred riders. It was cold but only slightly windy.

The route as usual went through Aston End, Benington and Westmill to Hare Street for the first check. Refreshed with coffee and donuts then along the B1368 to turn after Barkway to Reed, crossing the A10 to Therfield for the second check, more food and drinks, then into the hilly and narrow lanes to Kelshall passing Cromer Windmill to Lufenhall and Halls green then up the hill to Weston, question check point. Maurice punctured on the hill, our one and only !

On through Damask Green, then slightly lost (as usual) we missed the cycleway and underpass, to finish in the fading light as the drizzle started. More drinks then home after an enjoyable day.

Hope to see more Icknield riders next year.

New Year's Day BRCC 11.3 mile Raffle Time Trial (Mo Burton)

There were 12 Icknield riders on the day, the riders were Lauren, Roger Day, Tim, Alan Davies, Mo Burton, Martin B, Martin N. Roy Boy, Paul V, Nigel C, Richard P. Dick Copperwaite, was there to cheer us on, from inside the club room, while having a cup of tea ! The sun was shining and there was not much wind. A good ride was had by all. It would be good to see even more members on such rides.

Membership Fees are now overdue !!

If you wish to retain your membership of the Club please forward / send your subscriptions to Gordon Hart, Club Treasurer immediately to 19 Riverside Rd., Luton, LU3 2LY.

Alternatively use bank transfer to 20-05-74 acct 50090093. Please include your name in your reference, last year it took over 6 months to identify who one payment was from.

Seniors £20, Senior Citizens (all over 60) £13, Family £30, Juniors (under18) £9 and Juveniles (under 16 £5)

There are still about 30 2012 senior members who have not renewed their membership as yet.

Annual Club Luncheon (and Awards Ceremony too) (Richard Pratt)

This year's event was held at the Old Palace Lodge Hotel in Dunstable on January 13th 2013. Our thanks must go to Tony Baines who organised the event, and to the hotel and staff who served us well on the day.

Despite the cold weather, people started arriving quite early and soon the hotel lobby and bars were filled with the joyous sound of IRC members enjoying the hospitality.

Lunch was served at 1 o'clock and we all trooped obediently into the dining room ready to tuck into the food. The seating was arranged in round tables with most tables holding 8 people. We were all seated and set about eating and gossiping about the Christmas and the year past, as well as what are plans are for the coming year too.

After the meal, the annual Awards Ceremony started with Gordon Hart in the MC role. The individual club prizes and awards were presented by Barbara Dixon, but the event started with the presentation of a signed British Cycling shirt to Icknield Road Club, and was accepted by Club President John Lee. The Club won the shirt in British Cycling's Autumn nationwide competition ran to attract new BC members ; the Club managed to attract 35 !!!



IRC President John Lee accepting the shirt from British Cycling

Evening League cash awards for regular support of the events were presented to *Phil O'Leary, Richard Pratt, and Paul Richardson* who each rode 14 of the 20 events.

Chris Northwood was presented with a medal for the **Club 10 Handicap** on June 12 (28:17) and *Peter Harridge* was also presented with a medal for the **Club 10** on April 10.

Chris Jenkins won the **2012 Sheila Humphries cup and medal** for his contribution to Clubroom activities during the year with Circuits and other kinds of training.

Tony Baines won the **2012 Skidmore 25 Trophy and medal**.

Richard Pratt was presented with a **plaque** to commemorate winning the Club 10 on June 12, and the Interclub 15 and Interclub 25 awards.

Lauren Randall was presented with the **2012 Meritorious Performance Cup and medal**. Lauren who is one of the younger members of the Club, rode all of the Central League cyclo-cross events throughout the winter. Since she is now over 16 she had to ride in the main event, which was an hour long and very tiring.



Lauren being presented with the 2012 Meritorious Performance Cup by Barbara Dixon

NOTE : The following are extracts from Gordon Hart's introduction for presentations to *Tim Davies* and *Ray Morgan*

We now come to the Lion of the afternoon once again. There are now only 15 100-mile events held throughout the country, 3 of these were cancelled/abandoned because of inclement weather or accidents on the road, as a consequent of this no one in the Club completed a 100 ; this straight away wipes out the possibility of 3 cups being awarded, namely the Club TT Championship, the Intermediate championship and the 100 mile cup. Despite this Tim still won 10 cups, this year he won an Open road race on the road, the 1st member to do so for many years.



Tim's thanking people during his acceptance speech

- 2012 Sanderson Bowl 1.50.45
- 2012 Doug Egger Cup 1st Open 28k
- 2012 Ken Brooker Handicap Cup
- 2012 Major Gareth Rhys Evans Memorial trophy
- 2012 Baines 12hr Handicap Cup 271.12 miles
- 2012 Trevor Humphries Memorial Cup
- 2012 Hill Climb champion
- 2012 John Dryerre Inter-Club cup
- 2012 Alan Ettwell Memorial trophy
- 2012 Road Race champion
- 2012 Club 10 on April 10 - 1st with 21.52
- 2012 Club Record Certificate for new 12 hour record of 271.12 miles

As is customary the final award is Club Person of the Year trophy, this is decided by a small sub-committee within the Club, this year it was a very easy and quick decision.

For his work into recruiting youngsters into the Club and his recruitment of 35 new British Cycling members and hence winning the Autumn nationwide BC competition. *Ray Morgan* – winner of **2012 Ron Willett “Helper of the Year” Cup** and **2012 “Club Person of the year” award**.



Ray Morgan with his wife accepting the well-deserved awards

Award winners not present :

Martin Nevill: medal and cup All-in 10 winner

Ian Mackerness: medal Club 10 April 12 2nd

After the prizes had been presented Dick Copperwaite gave an appreciation of club activities over the past year. Dick's summary was very amusing, with quotes from various Club Members of many of the events held this year, and them being compared to previous years. He finished by doing an impression of (now Sir) Bradley Wiggins, complete with sideburns. Long may the club have such characters within its fold !

Following a brief break, the tombola was help with prizes donated by club sponsors and local businesses. It was also good to see the late Roger Queen's family at the luncheon, and our thoughts and best wishes stay with them all. The luncheon formally closed, and we all had a good social before and we made our way through the winter weather back home.

All in all, it was a very enjoyable event which was enjoyed by all. Both my wife and I thoroughly enjoyed it, as did many others who were “first-timers”.

Well done to all those involved in organising and helping run the event !!!!

Club Forum on Facebook

The Club has an interesting and expanding forum on Facebook with almost 50 members. Postings regularly get viewed quite quickly by around the members of the group.

Please note that the IRC Facebook Group is a '**Closed Group**'; anyone can see the group and who's in it but only members see posts.

Go to <http://www.facebook.com/groups/426878257329030/> and have a look. Link is also on the club website.

London Bike Show at Excel (Roy Porter)

Ten Icknield members set out on a snowy morning of 18th January to go to The London Bike Show at Excel. Unfortunately, one failed due to train cancelations, but four made it on the train by having a 10 'clock start. They arrived at a snowy Excel with no trouble due to their new found guide and carer, Nigel !!!



Nigel even had a go at removing and replacing a tyre and inner tube on a mountain bike against the clock at one of the stands at the show.

He was not the fastest (1 minute 18 seconds), but was not the slowest of the day. So if you puncture on a Club run he is your man as he needs more practice before next year's show. ☺

We met the others who had travelled up by car as we looked around the many stand of bikes and goodies.

The show closed for the day with three races of 25 minutes +5 laps of the 500 meter in door circuit. We only saw one crash in the fixed wheel event, but there was some keen close racing. The top corner in the Elite Women's criterium seemed to hold our interest as we studied form !!!

After a long enjoyable day our carer got us back to Luton with only a slight train delay. Many thanks to Ray for organising the group ticket and Nigel for not getting us lost in London.

Report of the 2012 Annual General Meeting (Gordon Hart)

The Annual General Meeting for 2012 was held on 29th January 2013 in the Culcheth Room at Redborne Upper School.

The following 29 members were in attendance :

John Adams, Ken Ayers, Tony Baines, Maurice Burton, Nigel Cole, Dick Copperwaite, Tim Davies, Roger Day, Gordon Hart, Peter Holgate, Muriel Holgate, Chris Jenkins, Nick Jones, Hilary Jones, Dick Lyon, Jean Lyon, Andy Maddox, Ray Morgan, Andy Parrish, John Pfeifer, Roy Porter, Richard Pratt, Will Randell, Lister Williams, Ian Beale, Chris Northwood, Steve Chapman, John Lee, Freda Lee.

The following Committee officers were elected

Chairman	Lister Williams
General Secretary	Peter Tasker
Treasurer	Gordon Hart
Racing Secretary (CTT events)	Peter Jones
Racing Secretary (BC events)	Ray Morgan
Social Co-ordinator	Steve Chapman
Club Runs Co-ordinator	Nigel Cole
Youth Officer	Chris Jenkins

There were 4 nominations for the 3 General Committee positions. It was agreed that the first 3 nominations will fill the 3 positions, with the 4th nominee Nick Jones being co-opted by the Committee.

The following people elected as General Committee members are :

Maurice Burton
Vivien Haestier
Tim Davies

The following Non Committee Officers were elected

Newsletter Editor	Richard Pratt
Press Secretary	Lister Williams (assisted by Ray Morgan)
Evening League Recorder	Gordon Hart
Club Recorder	Gordon Hart & Peter Jones
Custodian	Peter Jones
Auditor	Eileen Cray
Club Coaches	Chris Jenkins, Ray Morgan, Peter Jones & Richard Noon
Club Clothing Custodian	Tim Davies
Timekeepers	Ken Ayers, Eileen Cray, Peter Tasker, Gordon Hart, Peter Richards and Denise Parsons
Website Controller	Tim Davies
Handicappers	TBA <u>Committee to sort out</u>

There was an election for Website Controller, Andy Parrish and Tim Davies; Tim being elected.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Andy Parrish who had been Website controller for past 9 years.

And Finally....

WANTED : *News Articles* (Richard Pratt)



If anyone has anything they would like printed as part of the IRC Newsletter, then please pass the items or photos (or both) to me, then that would make life easier for me, and hopefully for you too !!

I can be contacted by email <mailto:richard.pratt59@btinternet.com>, or by snail mail : Richard Pratt, 13 Rosamond Road, Bedford. MK40 3SS

.... or simply give me a call on 01234 326761.

