



NEWSLETTER

Hours of leisure
Miles of pleasure

GRAVESEND CYCLING CLUB

2001-10 – 50 NEWSLETTER EDITIONS



Andy Gibson at the end of 2009 season Blenheim Palace TT. There were thousands of competitors (Andy no 188) on closed roads, no cars or roundabouts! Nice armwarmers Andy! Read Andy's information later in Newsletter.

The snowy January walk along the Medway. From left to right – Len Brown, Pat, Alan Ralph, Wendy Collings, Jean Coulter, Mike Hickie, Peter Lloyd, Mo Pearson, Mike Coulter and Colin Pearson. Graeme Moir taking photo. See report later in Newsletter



Peter Chubb sent in this photo of a Dinner and Award Presentation taken in the 1950s at the Masonic Hall Gravesend. Nearest table, end on right – Norman Cole, on his right, glasses & facing camera Brian 'Tiny' Horrocks (family who owned Northfleet Coach Co), to his right his wife and on her right Brian Weatherly. Immediately behind 'Tiny' is Peter Dawson former long time Secretary of the GCC. See Peter's article later in the Newsletter.

Gravesend Chit Chat

2010 10 course...?

Ian says that work is about to start on the/a roundabout at Fenn Corner. This may affect the Hardriders events and the proposed Ian's proposed new 10 course for 2010. Watch this space.

Len's Walks (..... have been going since 2001)

These continue successfully still managing to find new routes. The January walk was led by Mo & Colin Pearson starting from Farleigh Green, along the banks of the Medway to Waterinbury and then back. Snow was still on the ground and fell during and on departure from the hostelry – a cold but invigorating walk enjoyed by 10 walkers and a dog. (A song in the offing?)

February's walk had an increased clientele of 13 walkers and 5 dogs for the 7.2 mile walk starting from Eynesford, walking via Eagle Heights, Chelsfield, under, along and over the M25 before descending through Lullingstone golf course and the Roman Villa back for refreshments in the refurbished, modernized and slightly characterless Plough at Eynesford.

The next walk will be on Sunday March 7, leader Mike Coulter 01474 814475. Meet at the Royal OakBeefeater, Wrotham Heath, at the A20/A25 junction 10am. Go round the back of pub for car park.

All welcome for a very social and enjoyable occasion

Commiserations to

....Keith 'collar bones' Ward who unfortunately has had another accident. Keith says

"I was descending down a twisty country road. I was in front. Went round a left hand bend and the next bend was immediately in front of me. The roads were dirty and there was a farm track off to the left. I remember approaching the bend and thinking it was a T-junction and started to brake but ended up going in a straight line, aiming for the hedgerow directly in front of me. As I got near, I came off the road and hit something and somersaulted over the bars and landed heavily on my back & shoulder. The rest is history. The others tried to get me on my feet, but I knew something was wrong and felt dizzy when I stood up, so sat down again. Jason called the ambulance and it took me to A&E in Maidstone. After a lengthy wait, they x-rayed me and confirmed the brake.

Back at work now, but the doctor at the Fracture clinic told me to stay off the bike for 6 weeks. I'll soon be getting on the turbo, very gentle at first and gradually build up.

It's strange really - could be my age, but from 1968 to a couple of years ago, had never fallen off my bike, but since then I seem to fall off about twice a year, but each time I get up, again, so it has not put me off(yet)!"

Belated Happy Birthday too for that 'memorable' age just reached – something to do with transport and passes??

Andy Gibson's Blenheim Palace TT

The Blenheim Palace T.T was easily the best event I've ever done with top notch organizing, even with about two thousand riders there. I stayed in our camper van at the camp site in the grounds so I got a nice lie in! Cycled to the start and signed on, then had a look round. Lots of stalls and stuff going on. The T.T. course was 3 laps around the roads in the grounds - no cars or round-a-bouts!! but lots of other riders to overtake as the event is open to novice riders. The course has a few hills but some great downhill parts but overall quite hard. Great startline, riders going off at 30 second gaps straight up the main driveway to the Palace. Definitely going to enter this year.

Club Kit

While Derek Wright is away Mike Coulter has the kit. See current list towards end of Newsletter.

Well done to

Ian Stone for organizing the GCC/CTC Reliability Ride and being able to send £80 to Kent Air Ambulance.

Can you help.....?

at the Open Events that Graeme Moir and Andy Sangster are putting on? Marshalling, putting up signs, helping with refreshments, etcIf so please let them know.

May 2	KCA 10	Graeme Moir	01634 712278
June 19	GCC 10	Andy Sangster	01474 707747
July 18	GCC 25	Andy Sangster	01474 707747

Patrick McMaster's 2009 touring achievements

Last year Patrick won the Club's touring award but we weren't able to specify all his rides. This can now be partially rectified – I say partially as I am sure Patrick will have done more than be lets on or can remember?! These are his Audax rides.

11 March	Otford, Kent	201kms
11 April	Meopham, Kent	301
19 April	Chelmsford, Essex	202
26 April	Lymington, Hants	204
4 May	Chelmsford	201
10 May	Meopham, Kent	200
16 May	Chiddingstone, Kent	403
23 May	Midhurst, E Sussex	606
28 June	Bethersden, Kent	304
4 July	Canterbury, Kent	202
30 August	Meopham, Kent	100
	Total kms	2924
	miles	1828

(..... more miles here than I've had hot dinners Patrick! You certainly deserve the Touring Award and that embarrassing problem of the derriere! Well done and long may it continue.)

Contributors to the past 50 editions – thank you very much for ensuring the Newsletter continues. (1st edition was in November 2001)

(in surname alphabetical order – nothing to do with number of articles, quality etc)

Abbotts	D	Baird	P
Bardoe	D	Brown	L
Chubb	P	Clucas	M
Coulter	M	De Becchi	B
Gibson	A	Graham	B
Haswell	P	Hyde	P
Hyland	P	Lewis	J
Lloyd	P	McMaster	P
Moir	G	Perry	B
Sangster	A	Stevens	R
Stone	I	Tibbs	J
Twyman	N	Vowells	M
Ward	K	Whitehead	I
Williams	P		

And thanks also to all those who have sent in oddments, pictures, cuttings etc. And to those who have been interviewed and featured.

I would like to add my thanks to those who have supported the Newsletter over all these additions. Don was instrumental in helping to resurrect the Newsletter too in those early days.

AGM Update

General Secretary's report

Peter thanked Andy and Mike for their help during the year. Due to ill health he intended to stand down this year. Peter had continued to represent the Club at BC and Cyclo Park meetings. Peter thanked Ian for taking care of the accounts and his timekeeping on the evening 10s and Keith for Clubruns. Membership has remained static at around 40 members. Peter reinforced the need to for the Club to actively engage with the Cyclo Park.

Treasurer's report

Ian presented the accounts, complimented Andy on the money made on the Open events and the use of the on-line entry system.

Election of Officials:

Committee members The following officials were approved:

General Secretary	–	tbc
Assistant Sec	–	Andy Sangster
Racing Sec	–	tbc
Social Sec	–	Patrick McMaster
Treasurer	–	Ian Stone
Membership Sec	–	Roger Stevens
Keyholder	–	Jason Tibbs
Handicappers	–	David Abbotts & Ian Stone
Timekeepers	–	Dorothy Stone, Ian Stone and David Abbotts
Auditors	–	Pete Baird, Mike Coulter
Delegates		BC – Pete Baird: CTT – Ian Stone: KCA - Ian Stone

Proposals:

That GCC affiliate to the South East Road Race League

Proposed: Peter Baird Seconded:

To be discussed at the next committee meeting

That club membership should be free for the first year.

Proposed: Andy Sangster Seconded: Roger Stevens

Carried

That the Club work towards gaining Go Ride accreditation.

Proposed: Peter Baird Seconded: Len Brown

Carried

That Tony Mack be made a life member

Proposed: Peter Baird Seconded: Ian Stone

Carried

Keep the Club nights running throughout the year.

Proposed: Keith Ward Seconded: Jason Tibbs

Carried

Memories - GCC 1953-1957 by Jackie Lewis

Brian Peckham was the first to join the GCC from Hurst Rd, Sidcup. His sister Maureen was to follow shortly after and she, in turn, encouraged me to go along.

Maureen and I had known each other for years as my parents had moved in next door but one to them, in 1939/40, when I was 2 ½. As children we all had bikes and after the War Maureen and I would cycle off here, there and everywhere. Collecting Bluebells somewhere comes to mind, but I have no idea where this was or how we knew where to find them, let alone carry them and ride out cycles.

When we became teenagers Maureen had a racing cycle like her brother. I had a Raleigh Trent Sports which I thought was the bees-knees which I purchased it from my uncle's shop in Greenwich. He belonged to the Eltham Paragon and had several bikes, one a Gillot, and medals galore. Having seen my new purchase Maureen suggested that I went along with her to the Club (Gravesend), and so I did – an event I recall very well!



Our trip to Cliffe, 1941, where Maureen's mother was from. I was 4 or 5, Maureen 7 or 8. Left to right: Brian Peckham (told specifically not to put his tongue out!!), Maureen Peckham, Marlene, myself, Bernard – Marlene and Bernard were Maureen's cousins.

Maureen introduced me to several of the members, who after a short chat with me, who were keen to see my new cycle. Once outside my pride and joy bicycle was criticized from one end to the other! Remarks such as wrong handlebars, saddle too broad, the gears seemed questionable as was the weight and even the colour was not too popular. However all this meant little to me as I was very happy with my new cycle which was costing me 7/6d (37.5p) a week as agreed with my uncle until paid for.

All the depressing comments did not deter me from appearing again at the Club the following week and so I enjoyed several years with Gravesend Cycling Club. Those years were some of the happiest I ever had as my home life was not too good. I forgave all the earlier comments and a year or so on purchased a Youngs machine with a 19" frame, perfect for my 5ft height.

Maureen and I had to make early starts for the Club runs, living 15 miles from Gravesend Clocktower. The 15 miles back was even worse, especially after the ride to Folkestone, which I remember well! The boys were wonderful and one or two would ride back with us to Dartford Heath providing a helping hand on the back going up Swanscombe. Names such as Don French, Bernard Coldwell and Peter Chubb come to mind. No doubt there were others, so I apologise for those not mentioned.

Not having suffered enough Maureen and I would cycle down on Saturday to play netball. Then go to a dance somewhere in the evening.



Myself and Maureen 2007/8 at the annual gathering of the Ruxley Wheelers at the Grasshopper, Westerham.

The friendships I made were many and I still keep in touch with a few today. Maureen obviously – we natter for hours on the phone. Bill Graham writes often and sends us cards from all his travels plus the Newsletter. Don Bardoe contacted us in recent years. Norman Cole phones occasionally, unfortunately now on his own, but always begins his chat by saying “it’s the man who gave you the black eye”. I remember it well- it was an accident I hasten to say.

Norma Jarvis, now Mrs Hicks, now live in the Midlands. They breed Afghan hounds and Norma also judges at Crufts as well as in other parts of the world. Dennis Freeman is now on his own but his family are nearby. When we last spoke he said he had obtained a dog which took him for walks!

When we visit Kent, usually in October, we usually stay near Westerham and always visit the café on the green, which I am sure many of you know. Why do we go there? Because we can guarantee we will meet a few cyclists for a friendly chat and a laugh. A sport that gives you friends wherever you go – just great.

I would not have missed a moment of it all. Best wishes to you all. Especially my dearest friends Bill Graham and Peter Chubb.

Why did we leave GCC? Maureen fell in love with Geoff Wilkins from the Ruxley CC, and I too married a Ruxley Wheeler (ex Mephisto)

Do contact me if you wish – Jacquelin Lewis, Maypowders, Colyton, Devon EX246HA: 01297 553577: Email, but not preferred, jlewiscolyton@hotmail.com

Can anyone tell me where Brian Rowe is now? We last saw him and Jan his wife “at Spittal-Crouch” where they had bought a house and where their first son was born in the early 60s.

OLD EQUIPMENT MOUNTAINS? *By Don Bardoe*

There are many like Roger Stevens who collect and re-build old bikes, and ride them out on the road now and again. Roger searches for parts to go with the frames in order to keep the re-assembled bike as close as possible to the original. In the main these bikes from yesteryear are from the 30's, 40's and 50's but the correct parts to match the finished bike are getting harder to come by.

In the early 80's the bikes most of us knew began to change, at first slowly then rapidly. It started with the desire to be physically more aerodynamic, copying the stance of downhill skiers and triathlon competitors by altering existing bars, then buying purpose made bars in various forms.

New materials made the quest for even lighter frames and equipment available to all clubmen, but at a price. Then the frames that most of us reading this article knew started to change also, and not only in the material they were once made from. A steeply sloping or curved top-tube with a very small front wheel became the style of choice by the leading time trialists of the day, and those who could afford to change.

Disc wheels both back and front are rarely seen on Kent roads now, neither are elliptical chain-wheels plus dog-legged cranks, a fashion that didn't last long as well as the early versions of clip-less pedals.

But where are all those parts and frames now? Is there a parts mountain somewhere? Or a shed behind every cycle shop up and down the country crammed full of various shaped h/bars, brake levers that had the cable fitted at the top, old frames also in many styles of construction and materials, plus all the other equipment?

Are the cycle shop proprietors storing it all for those collectors like Roger to get in touch and start building 80's retro bikes? Or has it all been melted down and re-cycled...?

Most new bikes I've seen through the camera lens over the past two seasons seem a world away from the bikes I was riding in the 50's and early 80's. The frames are now very space age in design and materials, the h/bars and stem, plus the brake levers appears to be moulded as one unit, and far more gears than is decent! There are also many different styles of wheels that seem to slip into and out of fashion and combination.

Where will it all end? How much further can bike design go?

Captain's Log *by Keith "A P" Ward*

13/1/10 – Commuting

True to my promise, I have already ridden a couple of times to work this week. This morning, the snow was trying it's hardest to settle, but the bike made light work of the snow and felt sturdy without a hint of slippage. Must say though that the tyres are the widest I have ever ridden and must be about 2.5 inches wide with lots of nobbles on them. But what you gain on the grip, you lose on the speed and my commute took about 20 mins longer than normal.

Arriving at the office and hearing tales of others struggling to get into work by car and slipping in the car park – and seeing the look on their faces when I turned up on a bike made it all the more satisfying.

10/1/10 – Snow Club Run

The first week of the year has seen plenty of snow. The WKRC Reliability has been cancelled, so no club run this Sunday. However over the last couple of weeks, I have been fixing up an old and very heavy mountain bike and eager to try out the heavy steed, I set off on Sunday morning by myself in search of snow. I was not disappointed, it began to snow and as I went through Fawkham Green and up to the Dogs Home the roads were packed with snow and I soon warmed up as I crunched through the snow. Only did about 12 miles, but it gave me confidence and I promised to myself that I would commute to work next week.

1/1/10 – New Year's Day Ride



Four of us were out today: Jason, Ray, Alan and myself. Although intending to do the Longfield to Whyteleafe and back route, with a lot of frost on the roads, we decided to stick to the main roads and took shorter and pleasant circuit down to Otford, along the A25 and back through Wrotham to Meopham.

In places there was still ice on the roads and snow in the hedgerows, but we all stayed upright as we sped round. The pace was quite fierce, I seemed to have lots of energy in my legs – must have been all the Christmas pud I had eaten and Jason was his usual self, soaring up all the climbs, making it look easy. So the first ride of the year under our belts and good training for the reliability events coming up over the next few weekends.

5/12/09 – The first Saturday Run

With tomorrow (Sunday 6th) being a first Sunday of the month and a “Walks Day”, we decided to try out a ride on the Saturday. Just the two of us turned up for the first run – Alan and myself, but with a lot of promises for future Saturdays from other members. I hope it will give a bit of variation and entice a few others out.

We took an old favourite route of mine, through the lanes to Eynsford, then towards Otford and taking the Pilgrim's Way to Wrotham and then back to Longfield via Meopham. A brisk ride, taking just over 90 mins and left us with plenty of time to spend the rest of the Saturday with our families.

When does it start? *by Peter Chubb*

What, you might ask? Not the silly season, although some might think it so, but the Social Season. Once it was considered applicable after the Eldridge, and on one occasion, happened on the same day, with weary wobbly cyclists cycling on to Wateringbury, where an inter club boat race was due to be held that afternoon. It was essential that the unwary keeper of the row boats didn't cotton on to the fact of what was about to happen – he might have thought it odd so many boats were being hired out within such a short period of time.

My brilliant memory cannot remember what actually happened, or, who won the race, although I don't recall any boats being either lost or damaged. Luckily for us it was wonderful day weather wise.



Not having a surfeit of hilarious enjoyment on the water, everyone was invited back to a pub in Northfleet for a knees-up – a dance for the uninitiated, with a live dance band, none of your modern day been invented at that point in time. If one was lucky, one might have got back home by midnight before being turned into a pumpkin.

Photo taken of a Dinner & Prize presentation in the 1950s at the Masonic Hall Gravesend. The top table with (back of heads trio on right "Uncle" Bill Graham, and on left, probably, Mike Gambriill, Clarence Wheelers CC, guest of honour. 1956 National 25 mile Champion. Peter Chubb is first person on right hand side of long table on left, on his right is Derek Lamb, Mercury CC, then top lady GCC rider Norma Jarvis. On the left hand side the first man with head turned to camera is long time stalwart Ken O'Connor and one up from him again with head turned to camera is Bernard Coldwell.

An aside.....

In a recent email correspondence with Peter regarding motorcycles I was commending the road layout from Chattenden to Grain, the roundabouts and dual carriageways for being able to open the throttle in a low gear and lean the bike over round the roundabouts. Peter's response was *"I regret I don't know this new road out to Grain from the top of Chattenden Hill, but it sounds ideal for the purpose of a little speed. My last association with Grain was a Christmas 10 way back, either in 1959 or 60, when Roger Wilkins was removed from the prize list, because his rear wheel and gears got enmeshed with a telephone cable, which had been brought down in a gale the previous night - he was not a well pleased man!"* So the hazards of this course are not confined to the level crossing of our time!

FRANCE 2010?

Last season a number of us went over to ride some of these audax/randonneur style events. It was good riding – hassle free, traffic free, cheap (E3-5) and with lots of different club riders. So here is a list for 2010. I have the French booklet from which I have drawn these to provide a ride a week in the Pas-de-Calais area. The 6.20 Channel Tunnel crossing is about the right time to get there for an 8.30-9am start (1hr time difference)– no earlier than a time trial!! Speak to Mike, Len, Jason or Derek for those who went last year.

Event name	Start	Distances available
April		
4	18e Ran C/touriste Anserienne	Oye-Plage (C) 15/30/60/90km
11	Ran Snvr Francis Schoonaert	Vieille Eglise (C) 30/60/90km
18	Les Coteaux de la Hem	Zutkerque(C) 30/60/90;MTB45
	Randonee Marquisienne	Marquis(C/B) 25/50/75
May		
2	Ran de la St Michel	Roquetoire(StO+) 35/50/70/100;MTB25/35
	Sur traces de Napoleon	Le Portel (B) 50/90/150
9	Randonee des 2 Caps	St Martin-Boulogne 50/80/120
16	Carre de Vallees	Ardres (C) 25/60/100/150
23	Ran de la Baie St Jean	Wimereux (B) 30/70/100
30	Dante-Vicini	La Capelle/Boulogne ??
June		
6	La Reinette	Boulogne/Mer 30/55/75/95
	La Ran du SCB	St Martin-Boulogne 30/60/110
	La Francois 1 st	Ardres (C) 25/65/95
13	Trophee Snvr M Poiret	Calais 30/70/100
20	Ran de la Fete des Peres	Calais 20/35/65/90
	Monts & Vallees du Boulonnais	Boulogne/Mer 60/80/100/115/130
27	Balade Etaploise	Etaples (LeT) 30/60/90
July		
4	Ran de la Mouette	Neufchatel-Hardelot (B)30/60/80
11	Ran des Estivants	Cucq (Le T) 30/60/90
18	Ran Estivale	Le Portel (B) 50/75/100
25	Ran de la Fete de la Moule	Wimereux (B) 40/70
August		
1	13 th Ran de la Ducasse	Gonnehem (StO+) 15/30/60/90
15	Ran des Monts	Cucq (LeT) 40/80/120
22	Ran de L'Oree du Bois	Berck (LeT+) 35/80
29	10e Ronde des Frauders	Steenvorde(StO) 25/50/80
	FJEP Fort Vert C/Tourisme	Marck(C) 15/45/60/90/120
September		
5	Cap Gris Nez & L'Audomarois	St Omer 50/70/100/125/150;MTB 25/35/45
12	Concentration du CC Marquise	Ferques(C) ??
18	20e Ran des As	Isbergues (StO+) 32/67/96/128
26	Ran D'Automne"La Mer"	St Martin-Boulogne 60/70

(C-nearest Calais; B-nearest Boulogne; StO-nearest St Omer; LeT-nearest Le Touquet)

SEAN YATES: LOCAL HERO *by Roger Stevens*

The following extracts are taken from a lengthy interview with Sean Yates, published in the ROULEUR magazine November 2007, the interviewer being Matt Seaton. Sean comes from Ashdown Forest in Sussex and Matt from North Kent – so both are ‘local’ heroes really.

SEAN AS SUPER-DOMESTIQUE

Sean rode with enough world-class cyclists to know that he had neither the temperament, nor, ultimately the talent, to be a team leader – someone of whom it was expected to win day after day. He didn’t want that pressure. As his career developed he settled to the task for which he seemed best suited: the super domestique.

“Yeah, I was happy with that” he says. “I knew I could be with the best on certain days, but I knew I couldn’t do it every day or every other day. So I realized that if I did my job properly I’d always have a job. If I did it well, I’d always get good pay. If I helped guys like Lance, they’d always look after me – like bringing me to Discovery later on, and that was a payback. The principle was that I’d always ride until I dropped, and I took it upon myself that if we had a race leader in Tour of Ireland or Tour of Britain, or whatever, no one would be getting away that day, basically. Even if I died trying to stop it. So I’d just ride on the front, and I had the physical attributes to be able to do that, so I’d rise to the challenge.”

SEAN IN 1994 PARIS-ROUBAIX

One of the achievements he is perhaps most proud was his fifth in the 1994 Paris-Roubaix.. Recent weather has allowed us to forget why it is known as the Hell of the North, but the 1994 race had proper Belgian winter weather. Here is Sean’s account..

“I woke up and it was snowing. I had good form that year. I’d been doing 8 hour rides at the training camp in Tuscany. We’d do six-hour rides and I’d go and do another two. I’d spent the winter in Belgium. The year before I’d been 8th. I’d been staying with Lauritzen and I’d go out and do these six-hour rides in the pissing rain. I used to wear a wetsuit-waterproof tights. The wind was so f...g strong I got blown off my bike at one point. Then in January we had a training camp in Lanzarote. There was me, Dag Otto Lauritzen, Sciandri, Rebellin, Vanzella, Riis, Sorenson. Then back for a week and then off to training camp in Tuscany.

So that day I knew I was good; I knew I was up for it. I started off and I had this Patagonia fleece under my jersey. It id actually warm up a little bit later. I remember on the second of third sector I was in about 20th place and the guys are going off all over the shop. I had to chase and chase, but I got back on. But then I thought ‘I can’t afford to do that again’.

The big battle was Museeuw and Tchmil. As we went through the feed zone I managed to get my jersey off and take this fleece off because it had warmed up. When we went through the Arenberg Forest my brakes were clogging up. You’d be squirting down with your bidon because the clearance wasn’t enough.

So then it had thinned right out and Tchmil went away at the second feed. And then Museeuw tried to bridge across. He got to within 25m and couldn’t make it. We cam to about 60k to go and then shit hit the fan. Duclos-Lasalle and Ballerini went up the road and then we came to this sector and the motorbike cameraman crashed. There was just chaos and I thought ‘This is it. I’ve got to go as hard as I can for the next 45k’. So me and Baldato we just f....g went. Ballerini and D-Lasalle bother punctured in that section. We went past them.

So in front there was Tchmil, then there was Museeuw, then there was another guy from Gewiss, then me and Baldato riding two-up hard as we could. I was puking up on the bike. We came to the last sector and caught Museeuw and the other guy and came onto the Carrefour de L'Arbre. There I dropped the others, so I was second on the road – with the crowd and just going for it, that was the ultimate experience to be second on the road in the Paris-Roubaix in shit weather, covered in shit.

Tchmil was two minutes up the road. He was unstoppable that day. I got caught at the end of the sector and then Lasalle and Ballerini came back and Ludwig. Museeuw lost nine minutes from there to the finish, which was about 15k – he just blew.

When you come out of that last sector there's this long drag and I knew Ballerini was going to attack but I just did not have the legs. He attacked and Baldato went with him and beat him in the sprint. And there was a sprint for fourth and Ludwig won that.

That was an epic day. I was hard, but when you're feeling good it's a different type of pain. I was there with the hitters, you know; that was a serious bloody group"

For those who haven't seen ROULEUR magazine it excels in capturing the essence of competitive cycling. No news items or race results – that's not what it's about. Just superb articles and photography

This & That

i) I had read about, at the same time Patrick sent me this website, regarding one of the more infamous winners of the Tour – 'onest guv, it weren't me, it was my identical unborn twin stitching me up' Floyd (I'm clean you're gullible, right) Landis! Racing with OUCH Racing he is now back on the bike and competing..... but for how long. An arrest warrant has been served by the French authorities (those American bete noires) on the basis he illegally obtained private and sensitive information from their computer files. He, or an associate hacked. Have a read on <http://www.bikeradar.com/road/news/article/updated-arrest-warrant-issued-for-floyd-landis-25039>

ii) Andy Sangster forward this circular:
We would like to invite you to BikeRadar Live 2010 (see www.bikeradar.com/live). Now in our second year and at a new venue in Kent – we'd like to offer all of your members and colleagues 20% off event tickets.

To show my appreciation for you passing on this email, if anyone signs up from your club, we will issue you with a free pair of weekend tickets to the event which include free weekend camping. To ensure you receive your free pair of tickets, please ask your members and colleagues to use promo code **CL520** to receive their 20% discount at www.bikeradar.com/live or by phoning 0871 230 1085 before the **28th February 2010**.

We've got a fantastic array of attractions including both a 100mile and 100km Sportive through the spectacular Kent country side, cross country mountain bike challenges, Hot Laps for the speed demons, workshops, exhibitions... anyway – I'm sure you'll acquaint yourself with our website for further info on what will be a fantastic summer weekend of cycling and fun.

GRAVESEND CYCLING CLUB CLUB EVENTS 2010

[Proposed schedule/draft]

Date	Distance	Course	Start
March 6	14*	QS/9**	1400
20	14	QS/9	1400
April 11	25(Champ/Eldridge)	Q25/8(KCA)	0700
13	14	QS/9	1830
20	14	QS/9	1845
27	14	QS/9	1845
May 4	10	Q10/9	1845
11	10	Q10/9	1900
16	25(Champ)	Q25/8 (Medway Velo)	0700
18	10	Q10/9	1915
25	10	Q10/9	1915
June 1	10	Q10/9	1915
6	50(Champ)	Q50/11(KCA)	0600
8	10	Q10/9	1915
15	10	Q10/9	1915
20	100(Champ)	Q100/5(KCA)	0600
22	10	Q10/9	1915
29	10	Q10/9	1915
July 6	10	Q10/9	1915
13	10	Q10/9	1915
18	25(Champ)	Q25/20(Gravesend)	0600
20	10	Q10/9	1915
27	10	Q10/9	1915
August 3	10	Q10/9	1900
10	10	Q10/9	1900
15	50(Champ)	Q50/1(KCA)	0700
17	10	Q10/9	1845
22	25(Champ)	Q25/12(VTTA)	0700
24	10	Q10/9	1845
Sept 4	Hill Climb (Snr Champ)	QHC/1	1400
19	25(Champ)	Q25/10(KCA)	0730
25	10	Q10/9	1400

* actual distance 13.8 miles

** 2 laps of circuit

+ see separate page for **Club Championship** details

S E OPEN & ASSOCIATION EVENTS 2010

Feb 28	V.C. Elan 22 (Dist TT Series)	QS/7	0900	£7.00
March 6	VTTA 10 (All ages)	Q10/22	0730	£7.50
21	Kent Cycles 25's	Q25/20	0700	£7.50
	Kent Cycles 25 2up TTT	Q25/20	0700	£15.00
27	Southb & District Whs. 10	Q10/33	1430	£7.00
April 4	Sydenham Whs. 25 (B)	Q25/20	0630	£7.00
5	Thanet R.C. 9.5 2up TTT	QS/3	0900	£14.00
11	Kent C.A. 25 (B)	Q25/8	0630	£7.00
14	Kent C.A. 25 3up TTT	Q25/20	0700	£21.00
17	West Kent R.C/DCB-Demelza RT 10	Q10/22	0730	£7.00
24	Catford C.C. 10	Q10/19	0615	£7.00
25	San Fairy Ann C.C. 25 (B)	Q25/12	0700	£7.00
May 2	Kent C.A. 10 (A)	Q10/22	0730	£7.00
9	Wigmore C.C. 25 (B)	Q25/8	0630	£7.50
15	C.C. Bexley 10	Q10/22	0730	£7.00
23	San Fairy Ann C.C. 50 (B)	Q50/11	0600	£7.00
30	VTTA (Kent) 30 Championship.	Q30/2	0630	£7.50
June 3	V.C. Elan 10 (1/ 4)	Q10/30	1900	£7.00
6	Kent C.A. 50 (A)	Q50/11	0600	£7.00
10	V.C. Elan 10 (2/4)	Q10/30	1900	£7.00
12	Woolwich C.C. 10 Spoco	Q10/33	1500	£8.00
13	G.S. Invicta 25 (B).	Q25/8	0630	£7.00
17	V.C. Elan 10 (3/4)	Q10/30	1900	£7.00
19	Gravesend C.C. 10 (on-line entries)	Q10/22	0730	£7.00
20	KCA/VTTA (Kent) Championship 100	Q100/5	0600	£7.00
24	V.C. Elan 10 (4/ 4)	Q10/30	1900	£7.00
26	Thanet R.C. 10	Q10/42	1500	£7.00
27	VTTA (Kent) 25 (B).	Q25/8	0630	£7.50
July 3	San Fairy Ann 10	Q10/22	0730	£7.00
4	Thanet R.C. 25 (B)	Q25/8	0630	£7.00
10	Kent C.A. 10	Q10/42	1500	£7.00
	GHS 10 (SEDC Dist Champ)	Q10/42	1430	£7.00
11	VTTA (Kent) 10 (Champ)	Q10/30	0700	£7.50
18	Gravesend C.C. 25 (B) (on-line entries)	Q25/20	0630	£7.00
24	De Laune C.C. 10 (on-line entries)	Q10/22	0730	£7.50
25	VTTA (Kent) 50 Champ	Q50/11	0630	£7.50
31	VTTA (Kent) 10	Q10/22	0730	£7.50
August 1	De Laune 25 (B)	Q25/8	0630	£7.50
15	Kent C.A. 50	Q50/1	0630	£7.00
Sept 4	Velocity 10	Q10/22	0730	£7.00
5	KCA/VTTA (Kent) Champ 12 Hour	Q12/	0600	£10.00
12	VTTA (Kent) 25 Champ	Q25/12	0730	£7.50
19	Kent C.A. 25 (A)	Q25/10	0730	£7.00
October 3	Wigmore C.C/KCA. Hill Climb	QHC/11	1030	£7.50
10	VTTA (Kent) 15	Q15/20	0900	£7.50
17	Team Larkfield Cycles Hill Climb (on-line entries)	QHC/1	1000	£7.00

(All open time trials qualify for the KENT CYCLING ASSOCIATION LEAGUE. Bonus points will be awarded in some races. Contact Kent C.A. officials for details. (A)...Association. (B)...BBAR)

S E Club Events

Apr	7	San Fairy Ann (SFA)	10	Q10/5	1830
		VTTA	10	Q10/38	1000
	14	SFA	10	Q10/5	1830
	21	SFA	10	Q10/5	1830
		Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1900
	28	Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1900
	29	SFA	10	Q10/22	1900
	May	2	Catford	10	Q10/18
5		Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1900
6		SFA	10/2TT	Q10/22	1900
12		Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1900
19		SFA/Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1900
26		Catford	10	Q10/26	1930
		SFA/Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1930
June		2	SFA/Wigmore	10	Q10/22
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1930
	9	SFA/Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
		34 Nomads	10	Q10/18	1930
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1930
	13	Catford	10	Q10/18	0800
	16	SFA/Wigmore	25	Q25/20	1900
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1930
	23	Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1930
July	6	Southboro & Dist	10	Q10/18	1930
	7	SFA/Wigmore	15	Q15/20	1900
		34 Nomads	10	Q10/18	1930
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1930
	14	SFA/Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1930
	21	SFA/Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
		CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1930
	24	Catford	10	Q10/24	1400
	28	SFA/Wigmore	10	Q10/22	1900
	CC Bexley	10	Q10/26	1930	
29	G S Avanti	10	Q10/18	1930	

GCC CLOTHING (as at Feb 2010)

Sweatshirt/fleece	l/s	M	2	£15
Polo-neck shirt	s/s	L	1	12
Jacket Roubaix		M	1	45
Armwarmers		S/M	1	13.50
Overshoes(racing)			1	11.50
Jerseys	l/s l/z	3	1	35
	s/s s/z	2	1	20
		3	1	30
		4	1	30
		5	1	25
		6	1	25
		M	1	36
		L	1	36
Bibshorts		2	2	20
		M	1	42
		L	1	42
Skinsuits		2	1	30
		4	1	40
		6	1	30
Shorts - (non bib)		3	1	15
		4	1	15
OLD STOCK/DESIGN				
Shorts		5	4	10
		6	1	10
Skinsuits	s/s	3	2	30
	l/s	6	1	20

2009 Men's* Awards – what you are competing for!

(* there are also similar award structures for ladies and juniors)

Gravesend BBAR (Best Allrounder)

This is the fastest combined time for a 25, 50 and 100 mile rides in Championship designated events.

Senior Men's Championship

The highest number of points accumulated over any 5 Gravesend Championship events

Veterans' Championship

The highest number of points accumulated over any 5 Gravesend Championship events. Points will be calculated **based on veteran age standard times.**

Evening 10 Championship - Seniors

The highest number of points based on the (?)⁺ fastest times.

Evening 10 Championship - Veterans

The highest number of points based on the (?)⁺ fastest times based on age standard

Handicap Championship

The highest number of points from (?)⁺ fastest rides based on Club allocated rider handicap

Hardriders' Championship – Seniors

The highest number of points based on the (?)⁺ fastest rides.

Hardriders' Championship – Veterans

The highest number of points from (?)⁺ fastest rides based on veteran age standard times

The Tom Taylor Trophy

The best improvement in a 10 mile time in the first year of Gravesend CC membership

The Tom Medley Trophy

The time nearest to the hour in any event without breaking the hour

Hill Climb Championship

The rider with the fastest time in the Gravesend Hill Climb event.

The Eldridge Memorial Trophy

The first Gravesend rider in the designated Eldridge 25 mile time trial

Attendance Trophy

For the Gravesend member who has accumulated the most points by attending the most Club activities. Attending any one activity gains 1 point. All activities carry equal points – riding, Club night, marshalling, time keeping etc

Pym Hill Trophy

For outstanding contribution(s) to the Club during the season.

Half Wheel Trophy

Awarded by the Runs' Captain at his/her discretion for half wheeling or other generally provocative tendencies with the bunch!

The Sydney William Goldsmith Trophy

Awarded at the discretion of the Club for any special achievement.

The Road Race Award

Awarded by the Club to recognise achievement(s) by a Gravesend rider in road racing.

The Touring Award

Awarded by the Club to recognise achievement(s) by a Gravesend rider in cycle touring.

The Mountain Bike Award

Awarded by the Club to recognise achievement(s) by a Gravesend rider in mountain biking.

Ramsay Cup

A team award, awarded to the fastest team of 3 riders in the Ramsay Cup 25.

Wooden Spoon

Awarded, at the Club's discretion, for an event or action which has caused a 'stir'!

(+ number of counting events is up for review)

Ground Rules for Competitions

1. In riding in these competitions it is expected that, if a winner, you will receive your award at the annual Club Dinner and Presentation. This is just showing respect to those that have competed but have not been successful, and often those who attend the Presentation anyway, as well as it being an important part of the Club's social life.
2. It is *your responsibility* to send **any** event results, GCC, Open or otherwise, to Ian Stone. Neither Ian nor the Committee will trawl around to find your results. You need to provide Ian with (i) the promoting club (ii) course code (iii) date (iv) your time. If you are submitting road race, mountain bike or touring results or information then the corresponding information is required.
3. Important dates for 2010:
 - Last date for submission of results Friday 8 October 2010
 - Finalisation of Award Winners Friday 29 October 2010
 - Annual Dinner and Presentation Friday 26 November 2010 - proposed

so don't say you haven't been told or warned!!