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CYCLE SPEEDWAY MONTHLY

NOV.-DEC. 1949 Vol. 1, No. 9

Editor - G. PAYNE
Asst. Edt. - C. TAYLOR

15 Locket Road, Wealdstone
Harrow, Middlesex
Tel.: UNDERhill 0098

PRESS DAY!

Here's artist Bill Ritchie's impression of the Monthly Staff on Press Day.

GRAHAM PAYNE'S SHOULDER TALK

CYCLE SPEEDWAY NON-STOP DURING WINTER

ALTHOUGH THE LAST OF MANY SUMMER LEAGUE MATCHES HAVE ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED, THERE WILL NOT BE A CYCLE SPEEDWAY "CLOSE SEASON" THIS YEAR. THAT MEANS THE MONTHLY WILL STILL BE KEEPING YOU IN CONTACT WITH THE UP-TO-DATE NEWS FROM THE WINTER LEAGUES.

The evenings are drawing in now, and times of racing will be limited to the week-ends, but the true enthusiast with cycle speedway in his blood will continue to ride despite the attraction of soccer and rugger.

All over the country Control Boards have arranged their Winter fixtures. "We shall carry on as usual," one manager told me. "The only difference is that we shall ride friendlies, challenge matches and trials." That sums up the situation everywhere.

The "close season" is only a closed period for official matches. Some of the well known teams and riders will

take a well-earned rest or undergo various changes in preparation for next season, but the average rider never lets up. From what I hear, there is no fear of returning to the slackness that has come about during past winter months.

PLENTY TO SAY

So you see the Monthly will still have plenty to talk to you about. Of course I have a lot of surprises in store for you all, but I think I will let you find them out for yourselves.

You will still have your favourite team serving you with exclusive reports from the Winter Leagues. And as an added attraction, we will have special articles and photos from Australia, Holland and South Africa. On top of this, there will be special winter features that you will like, some of them begin in this issue. More action photos, competitions, tons of good reading—and all for sixpence.

Just fill in the order form in this issue and Cycle Speedway Monthly will be sent to your house regularly each month. You will be able to draw up an easy chair by the roaring fire and snuggle into the treats we have for you. You cannot afford to miss this chance. We hope as many of you as possible will send

in news and views as often as you wish, we shall publish everything.

Christmas will soon be here and that means more surprises. Our special cycle speedway Christmas cards will enable you all to send greetings to your cycle speedway friends and rivals.

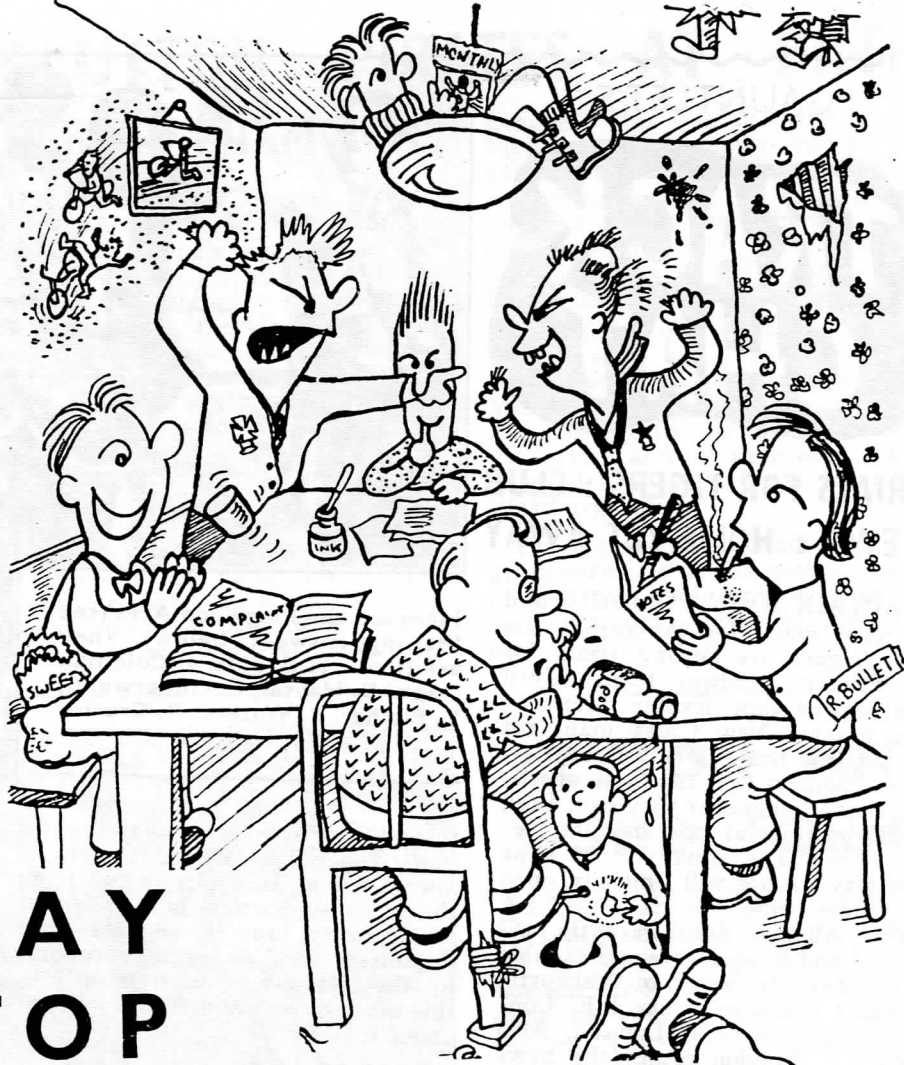
PHOTOS FOR EVERY TEAM

HERE'S the chance of publicity you've all been waiting for. Mr. Henry Messum, our official photographer, is willing to travel to any track in the London & Home Counties area and take a series of photographs.

These photographs may be purchased by the team and might eventually be published in the Monthly. Mr. Messum anticipates a great response to his offer and we advise all teams to contact him at their earliest convenience. Letters should be addressed to: Mr. H. Messum, 58 Claremont Road, Leytonstone, E.11, and NOT to these offices.

Mr. Messum's photos that appear in this issue can be purchased from these offices (addressed to "Glossy Prints") at the following prices:

Postcard	6d.
6 x 4½	1/6
8½ x 6½	2/-



'GAUNTLET'S'

TRACK CHAT

TRIALS FOR TIGERS : CLUB NEWS : HOME YET AWAY

CAPTAIN JOHN POLLARD and team mate Joe Abbott of the Cray Tigers are getting trials for the Exeter speedway team. Cyril Rogers, one time Exeter rider and now famous New Cross man, got the lads the trial. Most of the New Cross Rangers visit the cycle speedway tracks whenever they can. Fred Mockford was at one meeting recently, and The Albany Aces hope that Ray Moore will officially open their new track.

The Albany Aces recently re-formed and have a new and capable manager in Mr. Smith, of Walworth, assistant manager is our S.E. London correspondent, E. Lawson. Also from S.E. London comes the news that Honor Oak Aces are in danger of disbandment. They will soon be heavily hit when most of their present riders join the forces. The Aces were featured in a five minute news reel that was distributed the other month.

HELMETS ARE HEAVY

THERE is much controversy over the S.E. ruling stating that Helmets and protective gearing must be worn. "We realise it is essential that padded clothing should be worn; but the helmets are far too heavy," the S.E. lads are arguing. Ever since one lad fell on a brick that cut to within an inch from his head through his helmet the ruling came into force. And despite the riders petition against them, helmets must still be worn. I am interested to know what our readers' views are.

SUPPORTERS' CLUBS

FOLLOWING Stratford Hammers' footsteps, Dagenham's Wantz Wallabies have formed their own supporters' club. Membership fee is only 6d. per season and the Wallabies hope to arrange fetes, dances, coach trips and socials.

Anyone in the area out for a good time should join the new club. D. W. Baker, 2 Elm Terrace, Dagenham, is the organiser, and all cor-

Here are the Ringwood Aces (see 'Revenge is sweet,' below). They are (l. to r.): B. Best, J. Coleman (capt.) D. Hayter, B. Underwood, V. Pitcher, R. Waters, R. Crosier and J. Poolman

respondence should be addressed to him. The Editor tells me that he is always willing to publish news from the many supporters' clubs all over the country, and I suggest that organisers send in regular reports by the last day of each month to this office to ensure mention. What about it?

REVENGE IS SWEET

I HEAR the Ringwood Aces avenged their earlier defeat in the World Cup by beating Alpertons Penguins 56-50, the other day. The Aces were formed in 1948, and only held challenge matches that year. This year they joined the Hants & Dorset League, but began badly, losing their first four matches straight off. What's more, they lost their track and had to ride some of their "home" matches on another team's track.

Things are looking up now. They have a new track, and to date, have won all their matches on it. The attendances are going up—they get 400-500 regularly now. The Aces are a team with the urge to get on, you won't find them slacking.

ACES DIFFER

I HEARD from James Brown the other week. James is secretary of the Scotstoun (spelt S-C-O-T-S-T-O-U-N) cycle speedway club, and he tells me that although he has read so much about Scotland's newest team—Pollock Shields—he is going to stick his chin out by saying that Scotstoun will have the strongest team in the league next year.

Reasons for him thinking so are: Scotstoun Aces have recently signed on the "Three Musketeers" from Charing Cross in Bob Browning,

Dave Robson, and Norrie Whitefield. Unfortunately Charing Cross had to disband at the end of the recent season. In addition to this, the Aces already have Ron Braham, their skipper, who has been capped twice for Glasgow. Johnny Braham, his twin brother, who is bang in form.

The Aces are sponsoring a Div. 11 team next year, Victoria Hammers, and this second team have John Stephens, John Collins, Will Lockhead, Alec Campbell, Chris Campbell and Ron Cairns. Well, good luck to you Aces.

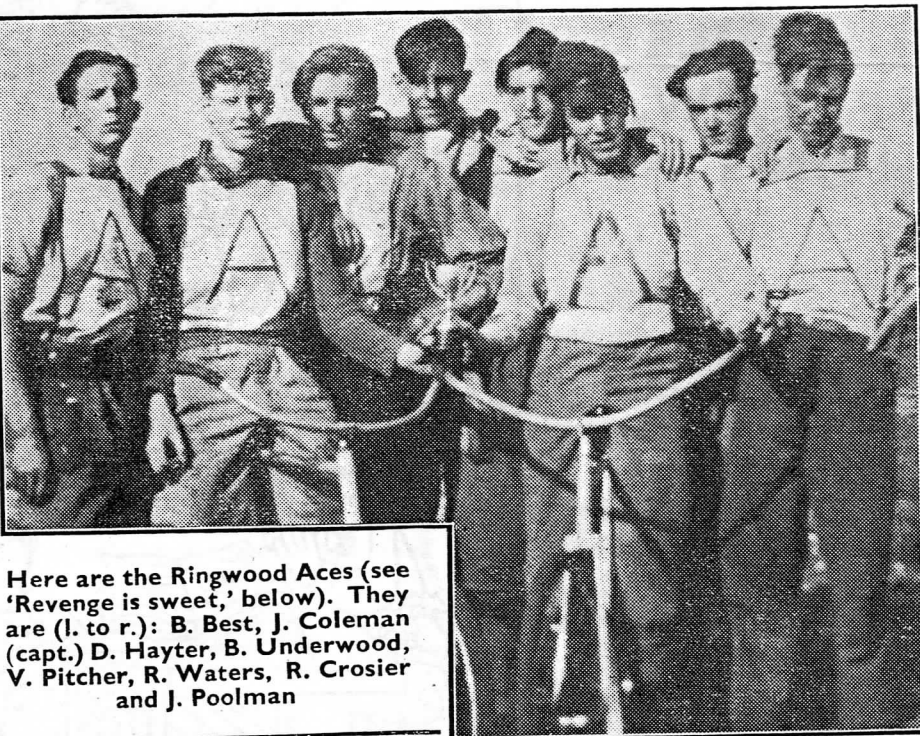
BURNING BRIGHT

I SEE that the Tooting Tigers have a new set of colours. Mr. Cattle, team manager, tells me that he painted them himself. They took two weeks to do, and the result has to be seen to be believed. A snarling tiger's face shows his teeth at you in yellow, brown and other colours. An excellent piece of work. Incidentally, Tooting Tiger Clubs have new colours also.

Mr. Cattle was recently elected Surrey's new chairman following the resignation of Mr. Miles.

RIDE THE TIGERS

A chance for all those boys who would like to race on the new floodlit St. Mary's Cray track. A challenge is issued through this column from the Cray Tigers. They welcome all comers. Those people interested should contact Mr. Forrester, 2 Waldrons Close, Ct. Mary's Cray, Kent.



SHOW THIS PAGE TO MUM & DAD-IT'S FOR

ADULTS ONLY

LAST month we published a letter from adult R. A. Joyce, of South Harrow in praise of cycle speedway. Since then, we have received so many letters from other adults, that we have decided to have a special adult page this month.

If you are 21 or over and interested in cycle speedway, this is the page for you. Whether you are already a manager, secretary, track nurse or chairman get out your pens and answer the following 12 specially set out questions.

It does not matter who you are or what you are, if you are an adult you are asked to simply state YES or No to the questions. At the foot of the column you are invited to send your answers to this office for analysis.

TRY THIS QUIZ

- 1 Cycle Speedway is a five-minute craze?
- 2 Adults, such as yourself, should take no interest or hold any official position in the sport?
- 3 Councils who are trying to help the lads are doing the wrong thing?
- 4 Collecting signatures, worrying the councils and getting up campaigns for spare ground for tracks will give cycle speedway a bad name?
- 5 By signing a petition you would be encouraging the lads to turn against their councils?
- 6 Men are better suited than women as team managers?
- 7 Cycle speedway is a dangerous sport?
- 8 Lads from 18 upwards who ride are childish?
- 9 Having adults in charge would rather spoil this all-youth sport?
- 10 Too much time is wasted by the cycle speedway lads when they could be doing something more useful?

...NOW THAT YOU HAVE answered the questions, we invite you to send the details on a postcard to this office. Just write down the

numbers of the questions and decide them your answer—YES or NO. Your name and address must also be included. Keep a copy of your answers and check with the results given next month.

Send the postcard to: **Adult Quiz, Cycle Speedway Monthly, 15 Locket Road, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middx.,** before Wednesday, November 30th.

ADULTS WRITE

NOT so long ago, I was one of the many harassed parents whose homes had been bespattered with bits and pieces of cycles since the advent of this newest thrill-sport, Cycle Speedway. A wheel here, a tyre there, under the bath, up the stairs, under the beds, in fact in so many places that I was beginning to wonder if the craze-struck son of mine was starting a cycle business of his own. And all for what? I couldn't see anything in it for I've ridden a cycle for over forty years and there can be no fun at racing around and around at speed. I told him he could have a much better time if he took a nice steady ride in the country.

Anyway, at long last they got my weak spot — photography — and kidded me to visit their track to take a few snaps in a match against another local team—the Longbridge Leopards, whom they beat. And I was reformed! In my opinion, never was so much done by so few with so

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little. It's a grand sport for the lads and a real treat for us "old uns." I feel sure that the sport has come to stay, and with plenty of support from us "old crocks" it should eventually pay its way as a future spectacle for the million.

I shall continue to follow the fortunes of our local lads—the Dagenham Aces—incidentally my son Tommy (Basher) Chubb is captain, and they are ready to meet all comers. With best wishes to Cycle Speedway Monthly.—Mr. Thomas Chubb 87 Fitzstephen Road, Dagenham, Essex.

I DIDN'T think cycle speedway had so much fun in store for one. I realised the boys were having the time of their lives, and when I was approached by one of my neighbours to go and watch a local team, I prepared myself for a very boring afternoon. How wrong I was!

I was a keen cyclist 25 years ago, and I suppose I still have that urge for speed. Cycle Speedway is the finest sport of all time. Good luck to the Monthly.—M. Cullen (Mrs.), late Waverley Cycling Club, Balham, S.W.12.

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DOWN AT THE LION'S DEN

By Staff Reporter



GIVE & TAKE YOU GIVE AND WE TAKE IT ON THE CHIN

NO, don't look so happy. Give and Take does not mean you will be getting something for nothing, it means that you will be giving and we'll be taking it—right on the chin. Now's the time to be candid and critical, but please, give us a bouquet if we deserve it.

What you have to do is to go through the Monthly features and jot down what you think about them. Don't try to be too funny, for we are going by your answers when we prepare future issues of the Monthly. We are out to see what our readers like or dislike and whatever they want—we'll do our darnedest to see they get it!

Send your "sum-up" on a postcard addressed to the Editor. Below you see the sort of thing we want. Barry Shapley, our Glasgow correspondent, sent in a précis of what the Glasgow riders think of some of the Monthly features.

EDITORIAL: Always good and keeps right to the point. **TRACK CHAT:** One of the best articles yet. **ROY BULLET:** He doesn't seem to go very far away from London. **JAMES PRENTICE:** Original, anyway. **MATCH REPORTS:** Too much from London. **MEET OUR FRIENDS:** Excellently written. **LETTERS:** Space should be trebled. **WOMEN & WHEELS:** Nobody reads it!

FREEWHEEL FREDDY: Burn 'im! **RESULTS & LEAGUES:** Always interesting. **GLASGOW ROUND-UP:** Hopeless! (jealousy, vells Barry). **EDINBURGH REVIEW:** At last. **NORWICH NOTES:** Very good.

LIONS AS WELL

Last month in my Down Your Way article, I mentioned that Cray Tigers and Orpington Eagles were the only teams in St. Mary's Cray. I have been notified that there are three, the Cray Lions being the third.—**ROY BULLET.**

MANAGERS' QUERIES COL.

J. LUSTY, of 98 Beverley Drive, Edgware, has discovered an ideal site for a track. He wants to know whether to go ahead with the building on it or seek the permission of the Middlesex County Council. Do the latter John. To my knowledge, M.C.C. are benevolent to cycle speedway clubs in this respect.

Your nearest league is Harrow. All inquiries to: Mrs. Jones, 29 Furness Road, Harrow, who I am sure will set you right. You ask whether cinder or earth surface is best. That can only be found out by actually racing on those surfaces. Earth has a tendency to hold water, especially at the bends. Cinder tracks are good, but require a lot of work to be kept in condition.

What size is the ideal track? This question has been put at me many times before. North and N. West London prefer small tracks, East London favour ones twice as big. Something nearer 100 yards is my idea of the perfect size, especially now that the "snap" starting gate is in use.

TERRY BROWN

FOUR lads, two adults was all the Maidenhead Lions had to begin with; but they were determined to fight on. The four grew to a dozen. The adults—a Mr. Winfield and a Miss Cox—contacted others and soon had a cosy cycle speedway friendship set up in Maidenhead.

They spotted a waste plot of land and found the owner agreeable to its use as a cycle speedway track. After weeks of hard work, the Lions soon had it ready, and started off with a few scratch races. Then in August they held their first meeting. Posters were set up around the district, and a good crowd of over 300 turned up.

The Lions roared, and won 49-35, and Roy Nightingale set up 39.4secs. as the track record for the four laps. This stood for a month, then Nightingale and Crane (Lions) both lowered it to 38.00 secs. At the time of writing the Lions have played 10 matches and won 7.

All the lads are true Wembley supporters, and so they had their coloured modelled round those of this year's Div. I Champions. They smartened the place up and are able to sit back at the result. 800 turn up every week now. They've their own starting gate, neat pits, scoreboard and loudspeaker.

At present their track is on a slight incline, but they are getting the tools to level it ready for next season. They should have one of the best tracks in that area. Riders from Slough, Wargrave and High Wycombe ride at the Lions track in scratch races, soon the Lions hope to play them in a league. Both Miss Cox (who is a bus conductress) and Mr. Winfield, are keen Wembley supporters. Wembley Lions won their league this year—they say it's Maidenhead Lion's turn next.

MILLWALL FLYERS 2nd?

Millwall Flyers are hoping to be in the Second Division of the East London League next year, provided the Control Board are satisfied that they are well enough organised. . . .

Another interesting thing to note is that "Double Header" matches are becoming popular at Janson Road. Who was it said that the public would not watch 30 heats straight off? . . .

Hanworth's new track a big success

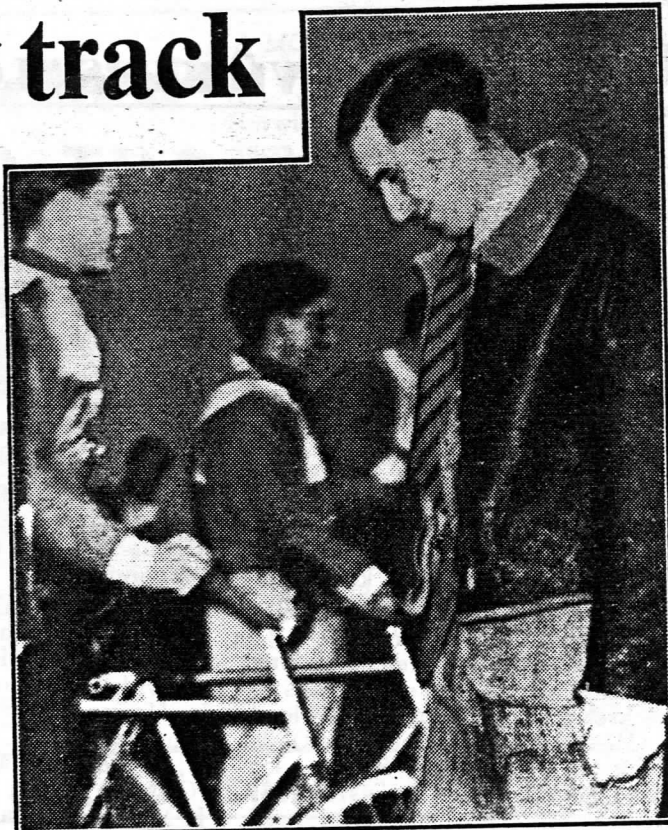
HANWORTH Racers, members of the Thames Valley League, opened their new track at Green Lane, Hounslow last month. Popular Wembley rider, Alf Bottoms was there to officially open the meeting, and was introduced to the riders before the match started.

It was hard to imagine the neat 95-yard circuit, with its clear white concrete line and fenced off pits was once part of the surrounding knee high area of weeds.

The lads worked hard in their leisure hours to have it completed in time for their second birthday, October, 1949.

And I must say they made an excellent show. A trumpeter sounded as the riders left the pits, stewards were ready at the tapes, and as they flew up, a bell was sounded to add to the excitement and crescendo of the huge crowd. Visiting team for this grand opening match were the

Alf Bottoms, Wembley speedway star chats to the riders who took part in the grand opening match at Hanworth. (H. Messum photo, Copyright.)



Roy Bullet's DOWN YOUR WAY

Tooting Tigers, first team to beat Hanworth on their old track last season. And history repeated itself, for the Tigers won this match by 56-46

This is one of the neatest tracks I

Freddie "Split" Perrin receives the Hanworth Challenge Cup from youngest supporter, Miss Hazel Lewis, daughter of the Racers' chairman.

(H. Messum, photo. copyright.)



have seen, and it is as good as some of the council built. The patch of ground is privately owned, and the owner was only too pleased to agree to its use as a cycle speedway track. Although situated in a rather out-of-the-way spot, the public cannot fail to miss the posters and placards the Racers stick up and turn up in their hundreds. I estimated a good 500 were present for this match.

Highlight of the meeting was the run off for the Hanworth Racers' Challenge Cup. Holder Bill Cheshire lost to Freddie (Split) Perrin in a thrilling battle. This cup was presented to the Racers by Mr. and Mrs. Kemmish, of the Wayfarers Cafe, the cycle speedway headquarters not far from the track.

Members of the Racers team are: C. Lancaster, capt., W. Cheshire, V. Lewis, S. Bottoms (related to Alf of Wembley), F. Perrin, M. Dale, R. Milyard, and C. Howell. Mr. K. Rumbold is manager and N. Lewis is chairman and secretary. The Racers have their own special staff members, and they wear a badge to the effect. They have a large supporters' club, in which anyone in that area is invited to join.

After the match, all club members and their guests were entertained to tea by Mr. Lewis, who is also chairman of the Thames Valley Control Board. In his invitation to this match, he promised laughs and thrills and was confident you would want to make many more visits. You can take it from me you will.

NORMAN
GUEST, last
year's live-wire
Control Board

secretary, put forward his plan for next season at Norwich's big control meeting recently. He is after an all-Norwich Control Board, and among the districts expected to join the scheme are Dereham, Fakenham, Yarmouth, Horning, Reedham, Lodon and Norwich.

Big advantage of the plan is the obvious increase in the popularity of the sport locally, and publicity that it will bring about. Each area will run its own league under the direct supervision of its league committee. There are definitely possibilities in the scheme: inter-district test matches, Norfolk knock-out championships, all-Norfolk Individual Championships, etc.

Out-of-town teams are challenging Norwich clubs, results of matches to date are: Earlham Eagles 46 (Flood 12), Hels Angels (Helhoughton) 38 (Mack 7). Earlham Eagles 45½ (Flood 12), Reepham & District 38½ (Medler 7½). Earlham Eagles 52 (Flood 12), Beetley Stars 32 (Symonds 6). Red Devils versus Beetley Stars was rained off. Now teams from Ipswich are arranging matches.

Records of some of the out-of-town teams are impressive. Hels Angels from Helhoughton was only formed a few months back but has won 7 out of 8 matches played. Chief scorers are Colin Mack with a 10

WOG VICKERS' LOW-DOWN FROM NORFOLK

OUT-OF-TOWN TEAMS BENEFIT BY NORWICH PLAN

point average followed by Dick Seppings and Alan Clarke. The Angels track is 65 yards long and is equipped with track lighting.

The Reepham District Riders' Championship was run off recently. Winner was R. Howes, after a run off with B. Egmore. Final scorers: R. Howes (Ugate) 12, B. Egmore (Sparham) 12, C. Read (Whitwell) 11, K. Neave (Marsham) 11, L. Vout (Cawston) 9½, J. Peal (Sparham) 9, J. Medler (Ugate) 7½, M. Holmes (Cawston) 7, T. Secker (Whitwell) 7, A. Andrews (Ugate) 7, B. Youngman (Whitwell) 6, J. Howes (Ugate) 6, G. Taylor (Marsham) 6, D. Wright (Cawston) 4.

Ray Sutton, who was recently discharged from the Navy is making a successful come-back with Earlham Eagles. He scored 10 points in a recent challenge match.

26 MAXS SO FAR!



INTRODUCING Ray Bradon, South East London and Peckham Stars top-notch rider. Capped for England against Scotland, at New Cross, we never saw him in action owing to the match being cancelled. Top scorer for S.E. London test team, he has notched 511½ points (26 maximums) this year from 42 matches, 146½ in the Speedway World trophy matches. In this trophy he averaged 13.34 pts. per match and won three of his four rides in the final.

THE AUSTRALIAN SCENE

SUBURB WILL HAVE ONE OF THE BEST TRACKS

**MAROUBRA, New South Wales,
Australia**

Says JIM SHEPHERD

Hurstville, a suburb on the outskirts of Sydney, recently hit the headlines over here. The Hurstville and District cycle speedway way club claims to have the most thrilling circuit in the Sydney area, and has an abundance of riders on their books with two teams in operation.

The track is open to everyone who wants to join in their Sunday afternoon practices. A friendly is held once every month and this will go on until a league is formed. The track is roughly 90 yards long and has a special starting surface that is exceptionally fast.

Credit for the popularity is due to two boys—Sam Mitchell and Ken Longman—who built the track, formed the teams and gained a following of over 200 by themselves.

First big event of their programme is a test series between the local side and a good team from Vacluse. Vacluse travel over 30 miles for the match.

The local council have been approached to construct a track in Penshurst Park, but as yet no results have come through. The proposed site would suit riders and spectators, being close to transport facilities, and having a natural surface not unlike a billiard table.

Highlight of a coming test match will be the exhibition ride by two local riders who have mounted mid-gut Cucciolo motors (48 c.c.) to their cycles. The extra speed should provide many thrills and everyone is looking forward to this new experiment.

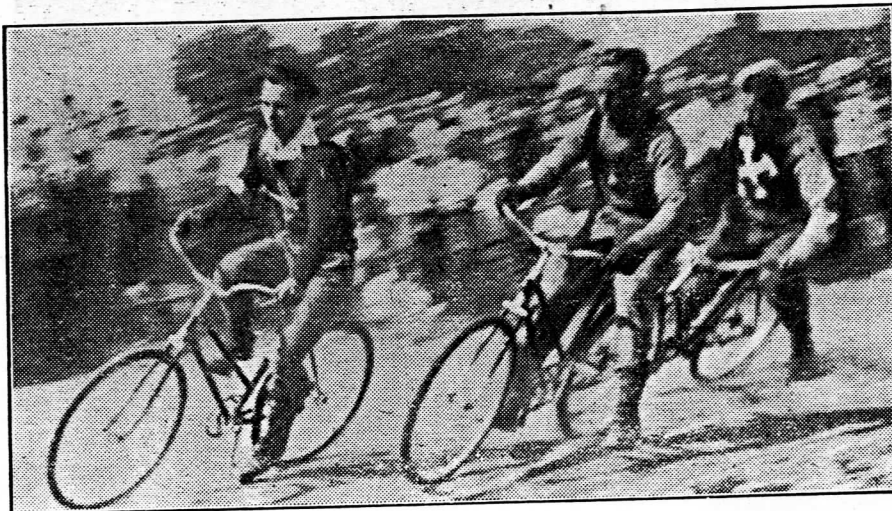
COUNCIL TAKES AN INTEREST

Bexley Council are considering at their next meeting whether or not to recognise cycle speedway on an official basis. The newly-formed Kent A.S.C. Association approached the council and have offered to receive two members on their board to watch the sport.

A Bexley business man is offering a suitable site, and the local road safety organiser has submitted a favourable report to the council on cycle speedway.

Teams affected will be from the Welling, Abbey Wood, Bostall Heath and St. Marys Cray areas.

Jack and Alf-'pinched'



J. Barnes (outside) and A. Ramsbottom in action.

AMONG the seasonal rumours of retirements, comes one which, it true, will prove a great loss to the Norwich League. Two top class riders, stylists and sportsmen, are concerned. Both started their cycle speedway careers two years ago after their demob from the Navy. They are Alf Ramsbottom and Jack Barnes, who ride for the league champs, Harvey Lane Rangers.

In 1948 they were the shining lights of the Earlham Hawks, finishing top scorers. This season they transferred to the Rangers and were two of the strongest riders. In the Norwich Test team versus East London, they scored 14 pts. in a partnership. Jack was the highest scorer that day but later Alf beat Malcolm Flood at Flood's track—the only person to do so.

Recently they have been trying to make the grade—the hard way! They were "pinched" while riding a real speedway bike on a patch of waste ground. **WOG VICKERS.**

LOSING THAT FORM

YOU have all gone through with it. One week you score a maximum, break the track record, control a terrifying broadside. Next there is a nought by your name on the score chart. Queer, isn't it? Nevertheless, the best of us lose our form at one time or another. As in speedway proper, there are some riders who are in the limelight always. Reason? Either they don't suffer from nerves or they're born lucky. Now I have heard of many ways of how to recapture that lost form. Get a different frame, try a new gear, change your style or give cycle speedway a rest. But I am inclined to disagree with all these and suggest you do not worry about losing tip-top form—it will return.

One of the disturbing points about the loss of form is the fact that you never know how long it will last. I have known riders who are at the point of giving up the sport as they are positive they will never return to their match winning ways. Plug away and keep trying, take no notice of your team mates or supporters, if they scowl at you and say you are not trying.

And a word to those rotters who barrack their riders. Wherever your chap finishes, give him a cheer for it encourages him to know that his efforts are being appreciated. And you managers, if you have to drop a rider through loss of form, explain to him just why you have done so. It has been known that managers have kicked themselves afterwards when the rider they considered a "has been" turned out to be another team's match winner when he returned to form.

CLIFF ROSE

JACK CULLEN'S EDINBURGH REVIEW

Supporters to have own teams

THE Edinburgh and Lothians C.S. League and the Meadowbank Monarchs supporters clubs are to join up together. This should give

the sport the boost it badly needs in Scotland. Each branch of the Monarchs supporters club is to field a cycle speedway team and be officially represented on the Board. There is no intention to depart from the rules laid down by the Board or to interfere with the sport in any way. The idea is to strengthen cycle speedway and to keep the supporters' clubs active throughout the winter season, for up here cycle speedway has no close season.

I would like to see this become a big success, and some branches have already got under way. Wallyford Aces, Stockbridge Cobras and Bonnyrigg Jags are teams under the wings of supporters clubs. Mr. Combe, Cobras manager and Colin Campbell have set up another new team for supporters, the Prestonpans Pirates. Matches are being arranged, and there is a silver cup for the winner of the Individual Riders Championship starting soon.

During the winter we intend to build a safety fence at the Wallyford track and make new pits and a judges box. New secretary to the Edinburgh Board is Miss Nimmo, of 118 Forthview, Wallyford, and all correspondence should be sent to her. Capt. Bill Bird and Jack Parker of Newcastle, whom we played recently, have left cycle speedway. Bill into the Forces, and Jack retired. We in Edinburgh are to press the councils for recognition and tracks, and we'll wait and see what happens.

BILLY HOLE GIVES PRIZE

Southwick Tigers won the Bath League, Norton Knights and Odd Down Rockets were second and third respectively. The Bath & District Riders' Championship held last month at Odd Down was won by G. Pitt (Knights) and the cup was presented to him by Billy Hole, Bristol Speedway captain. Complete scores: G. Pitt 13, J. Lander 11, P. Kelson 11, J. Millett 10, S. Curtis 10, B. Jones 9, T. White 9, G. Angell 9, J. Allen 6, A. Moon 6, K. Brown 5, D. Tucker 4, P. Anstey 3.

* * *

WYCOMBE TROPHY

K. Rutson (Wycombe Flyers) won the High Wycombe Riders Championship at Bellfield recently. He notched 13 out of a possible 15 points. D. Benham (Bellfield Boomerangs) and B. Hames (Flyers) had a keen tussle in the decider for a second place. Benham (who has had a trial for Liverpool) won by a wheel. Bellfield Boomerangs' manager, Den Arnot, presented the trophy.

B. Hames came second in the Hazlemere Championship and not A. Page, as reported last month.

SON TAKES HIS DAD'S PLACE

LIKE father, like son. Surrey organisation drove home this maxim at their first Annual General Meeting recently. L. A. Miles resigned his post as secretary, but the headed paper will still read Mr. Miles, secretary, for L. A. Miles' son George has taken over the post. George still rides and elsewhere in this magazine is a report of the Surrey Third Div. Championship which he won.

L. A. Miles, however, accepted the newly instituted post as official Press Representative for the Board. It was hoped that this would prevent recurrence of unauthorised reports that had appeared in various newspapers and periodicals.

The following were elected on the new Surrey and S. W. London Board: W. J. Cattle, Chairman; G. W. C. Miles, general secretary; L. A. Miles, assist. gen. secretary and press representative; B. Keynes, treasurer and Home Counties rep.; C. J. Malyon, Div. I rep.; C. J. Baker, Div. II rep.; J. Simpson, Div. III rep.

The following officials were appointed for test matches: Selection committee: C. J. Malyon, B. Keynes, S. Dunnett. Team manager, C. J. Malyon. Stewards, Mr. Boundey and Mr. Moss. Starter, Mr. Coe. Timekeeper, B. Keynes.

This month should see the completion of the leagues and a series of inter-league friendly matches are now being run off by those already finished. In this way newly-admitted clubs will be able to put in some hard practice.

Wimbledon Wildcats won the Div. II honours in which little separated the five teams. Originally there were seven, but three withdrawals due to track problems spoiled a really close struggle. Div. III has already been won by Washington Wasps, who have lost only once in their 15 matches. Manager Mrs. E. Everett and captain son are proud of their team's achievement.

Div. I is almost certain to be won by Morden Meteors. At the time of writing they are unbeaten in 10 matches, we shall have to wait and see whether they will be the only undefeated team in the three leagues. Tooting Tiger Cubs, with a fixture in hand can still pull it off. Applications to join the Surrey organisation has been received from teams in the Milford and District, but it has not yet been decided whether they will have a league of their own.



Old photo of the Morden Meteors so far unbeaten in the Surrey & S.W. London First Division.

Wimbledon Boro' News photo.

EX-STARS AT THE KURSAL

EX-CYCLE Speedway stars Pat Clarke and Les McGillivray, both Rayleigh Rockets, were at the Rockets dance held at Southend's famous Kursaal. Lads from many teams were present and a good time was had by all, writes D. Winch.

Southend has two leagues. In the first, Eastwood Meteors, Southend Lions, Hawkwell Hammers, Hawkwell Flyers and Hullbridge Vampires battle it out. Div. II consists of Eastwood Meteors II, Hawkwell Aces, Prittlewell Pirates, Rayleigh Rovers, Daws Heath Devils and Thundersley Thunderbolts.

Eastwood Meteors are unbeatable, and have already made sure of the Div. I honours. Southend Lions are at the foot of the table due mainly to the calling up of their captain, Dave Thomas. Thundersley Thunderbolts, who recently beat the Rayleigh speedway team, head the Div. II table. Their captain, Johnny Burrage has notched many maximums and is really first division standard. Trackless Daws Heath Devils are at the bottom and have yet to record a win.

Control Board is to be known as Southend & District instead of Southend and Rayleigh area, and twenty two new teams will line up next season. Johnny Murch, England's captain versus Scotland at Rayleigh Stadium has been suspended for the rest of the season for fighting.

SECRETARY WINS

Surrey held their Div. III Individual Riders' Championship recently, winner was G. W. C. Miles, new Control Board secretary. He won his five races in good style. Prominent among the estimated crowd of 500 were Dick Harris and Keg Trott, famous Wimbledon speedway stars, and Ron Howes, of Rayleigh Rockets.

Luck was with George Miles. He drew 1 1 3 2 1 berths, and when lying third in his last race, another rider caused the heat to be re-run. Miles made no mistake this time.

Final scorers: G. Miles 15, J. Pavier 13, L. Herrick 11, H. Matthews and F. West 10, E. Traver and R. Lindup 9, R. Manning and M. Ranford 7, T. Everett 6, E. Leone, P. Ashman and L. Musgrave 5, R. Mercer 3, S. Mercer and L. Shackles 2, J. Mills 1.

SURREY TABLES DIVISION I

	P	W	D	L	Pt
Morden Meteors	10	10	0	0	20
Tooting Tiger C.....	9	8	0	1	16
Clapham Panthers ...	10	4	1	5	9
Tooting Tigers	11	4	1	6	9
Manor Aces	12	4	1	7	9
Wimbledon Wolves .	10	3	1	6	7
Chessington Eagles .	10	1	0	9	2

DIVISION II

Wimbledon Wildcats	8	5	0	3	10
Streatham Wolves ...	8	4	0	4	8
Wandsworth Eagles .	8	4	0	4	8
Manor Stars	8	4	0	4	8
Wimbledon Stars ...	8	3	0	5	6

DIVISION III

Washington Wasps .	15	14	0	1	28
Wandle Wasps	15	10	2	3	22
Wandsworth Aces ...	15	9	1	5	19
St. Helier Saints ...	16	9	0	7	18
Putney Panthers ...	14	7	0	7	14
Thornton H. Tigers .	16	7	0	9	14
Battersea Rockets ...	14	4	2	8	10
Carshalton Comets .	15	4	0	11	8
Colliers W. Wolves	16	1	1	14	3

MEET OUR FRIENDS

A New Series in which we Introduce



DIXIE DEAN



JOHN POLLARD

IN one of the streets behind Holborn Station is the office of our consultant, Mr. "Opportunity" Knox. He is a small fellow, a shade absent minded, and likes to think he knows a lot about everybody. It is for that reason that we had decided to hire him as a "watch out" for personalities in the cycle speedway circles.

We visited him the other day, and we were hanging up our raincoats to dry, when his secretary came in. We were shown into a small office, with books and papers everywhere, and I fancied that one of the masterpieces on the wall winked at me.

"Opportunity" Knox beamed and shook our hands. "Good afternoon," he smiled. "I take it you want some information about someone." He folded the football pools he had been finishing into his waistcoat, and adjusted his glasses.

"Yes," I told him. "No doubt you have read recent copies of our magazine and have seen the 'Meet Our Friends' feature." He nodded. "Well, we want to give our readers a more detailed report on those lads we feature each month."

He told us he would do all in his power to help, and sure enough the very next day we had a phone message from him to come round to his Holborn office.

"Sit down," he said as we entered. "My investigators found two lads worthy of mention on your 'Meet Our Friends' page." He went over to a thick bound ledger marked "cycle speedway," and flipped over a few pages. "Ah, yes," he exclaimed. "Here's a good rider, Leonard Dean's his name. His friends call him Dixie and he rides for the South Harrow Greyhounds, who are in the Wembley League."

He flipped another page. "He's an apprentice carpenter and he always wanted to become a footballer—that is, of course, before he

heard of cycle speedway. He had good schooling at the local Eastcote Lane Secondary, and is 16 years old."

We nodded in approval. Here was something good. "Do you—" I began, but our consultant waved me aside. "Don't rush me," he said. "It's all here in the book. Dixie is a good sportsman, and he thinks cycle speedway ranks high because it brings young lads together and creates new friendships everywhere. Hmm. A good point that don't you think?" We did. "He often scores maximums and can be an excellent team man as well. He likes Tommy Price and Wembley Lions speedway team and would give anything to be wearing a Wembley breastplate."

Funny chap "Opportunity" Knox, loves the sound of his own voice. "He would like to see more local councils taking an interest, and he would like to see more council built tracks. Dixie's pet aversion is bad sportsmanship."

I thought it high time to question our consultant. "Right, now what do you think of Dixie?" I asked. The other frowned. "Undoubtedly a good mixer," he replied, "and one with his heart in the game."

We finished our notes and waited for "Opportunity" Knox to continue. "The other personality I have chosen," he said, "is John Pollard, captain of the Cray Tigers. John is nineteen and an established rider.

HELP!

BUCKS (Slough)

Slough Flyers would like to hear from teams within 7 miles of Slough for matches on Sunday, home or away. Write to: C. F. Swatton, 45 St. Paul's Ave., Slough.

* * *

MIDDLESEX (N. Harrow)

Newly formed Eastcote Eagles want riders, aged 15 or under. Also matches with teams of that age. Enquiries to: T. Debarbara, 57 The Drive, Nth. Harrow, or phone Pinner 6701.

* * *

LONDON (Walthamstow)

Whipps Cross Comets have vacancies for riders. Those interested contact J. Brown, 16 Lansdowne Rd., Walthamstow, E.17.

He used to ride for New Cross and then secured a transfer. He works in a shipping office, and tries to make a regular habit of collecting his wages on Friday and a maximum on the Saturday." He smiled at his joke then went on: "Born in Charlton, John went to Colfes Grammar school and dreamt of becoming a speedway star. Besides reading the Monthly he likes Sherlock Holmes and detests inquisitive girls."

"He has had many successes, winning the Golden Helmet at New Cross and the Cray Tigers' Individual Championship. His biggest thrill was receiving the cup presented by Bert Roger. I see here that he broke the track record at Cray a little while back, doing the four 94 yard laps in 49 secs." Here he stopped and beat to a little mental arithmetic. "That's about 15 m.p.h. He's had some amusing times on the track as well. Once he had most of his breeches ripped away by another rider in a crash! Still you can always bring him round to your way of thinking if you offer him a plate of roast lamb, new spuds green peas and sauce. Favourite rider is Jack Parker."

Here our consultant slammed his books and moved towards us. "Well, gentlemen," he said, "that's all for this month. But if you would like to come round a month to-day, I will have some more riders for you to mention on your pages."

We shook hands and hurried away to decipher our notes.

HAVING heard so much about the Cray Tigers track, I thought it would be well worth while going down there to see for myself the club that had been so much in the news recently. Well, I started out and got without mishap to London Bridge. Going into the station to get my ticket to Orpington, I found I had just missed a train, and would have to wait another half hour for the next. So lighting a cigarette, I settled down to wait.

Approximately two minutes before the train was due to arrive I discovered I was reclining on the wrong platform, and only by doing the hundred yards in record time did I manage to fling myself into a compartment just as the engine was bidding adieu to the station. Breathing hard I settled myself in a corner of the carriage.

After this small incident I arrived safely, and left Orpington station to join a queue just outside waiting for a bus. After ten minutes I was informed by a well meaning couple that if I was waiting for the bus to Reynolds Cross I would wait some considerable time, as they didn't stop there. So after a while I arrived at the stop prescribed. Well, the conductor of the first bus that came along blandly informed me that the next 477 would be along in 30 minutes.

ONLY TWO MILES!

Not being the sort of person who likes to wait half an hour, I enquired from a passer-by if there was another route that would transport me anywhere near my destination, and was informed that if I walked a little way and caught a 51a I would end up quite near the track and would be able to walk from there to it. So valiant as always, I caught the bus, and from there commenced to walk. Walking for a quarter of an hour (all the while consoling myself with the thoughts of how much in expenses I could fiddle) I thought I had better ask again to see whether I was still on the right road, for I am one of those people who can lose their way on the simplest of routes.

From the first person who came along I gained the heartening news that I hadn't far to go, but he then spoiled the illusion by adding "only about two miles." Perhaps he meant that to help me along, but strangely enough I had a peculiar urge to break his neck!

However, the man was a pessimist for in five minutes I heard a concentrated roar in the distance and from that I knew I was reaching the track. And what a track it is. Never have I seen a club more deserved of

EVEN MY BOOTS LAUGHED

Says

C. F. TAYLOR

success. The journey was forgotten after five minutes racing and I was watching the match with all the fervour of a supporter of the Tigers.

It was hard for me to retain an impersonal view of the game, for the track was perfect, and the racing was fast and full of thrills.

The crowd as well were the essence of fairness and enthusiasm. While I was there they were singing popular songs with wording changed to spur the team on. The announcer Mr. Mick Slater joked with the crowd in the intervals between the racing, and a party atmosphere was kept throughout the meeting.

Even when the meeting had finished and the crowd were preparing to make their way homewards, members of the team gathered round the microphone and proceeded to give startling imitations of

Al Jolson and Bing Crosby, thereby preserving the friendly atmosphere to the end.

Afterwards, I had a long talk with Mr. Forrester (secretary) and Mr. Slater, and I was introduced to the other stalwarts who have helped to put Orpington in the news with the building of the track. I found them to be very enthusiastic about the team in particular and cycle speedway in general. They are also very ambitious, for they are already making arrangements for the team to travel to Holland next year to compete against the Dutch boys. And I am sure that they will, as they have done here, make the public sit up and take notice.

DON'T WORRY

By the way, if anybody thinks that the track is particularly hard to get at, don't worry. It was only that I'm in the habit of taking the wrong turnings, and it just happened that I missed the trains. Besides this, negotiations are already under way to have a bus put on to take supporters from the station. So all you people who have been considering making the journey to see the Tigers, go right ahead, it will be well worth it.

JAMES PRENTICE HERE . . .

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY SINCE '46

I AM amazed at the amount of people I come across in my travels who seem to think that cycle speedway has made no progress. This is a ridiculous assumption made by people who have not taken the trouble to study the subject at all. Of course we have made progress, and I can say, in all modesty, that I should know something about it, and am quite qualified to give an honest opinion on the matter. For after all I have followed cycle speedway through all its stages, and through all the growing pains that accompany a sport that is fighting for national recognition.

For with a gradual awakening of interest in the national press, the coming into being of cycle speedways' own press, the recognition and assistance given to us by the London County Council, televised and the making of a film on the subject. And more recently, an inclusion of the sport

in a radio programme given to youth shows we have taken enormous steps in the right direction.

Although it is essentially an amateur sport (and we wouldn't want it any other way) it has almost reached the importance of professional status. Test matches with Holland, and with our Scottish pals from over the border are all helping to establish cycle speedway on a national basis. You have only to look at the number of up-to-date tracks that have been formed, tracks that were once dumps for old rubbish.

Regular articles are given to cycle speedway in countless numbers of national and local newspapers and magazines. Cups are presented by many too, and yet they still say we are an unorganised body. They do not take into consideration the initiative and hard work that have gone into building tracks forming leagues, and generally getting ourselves known.

Firework kills Mr. Bottazzi

Exploding before its time, a firework caused Mr. Bottazzi, well known father of Dennis and Ted of the West End Wanderers, to step backwards off his garden shelter to his death on November 5. He was giving members of the Wanderers a firework display. Mr. Bottazzi never missed a Wanderers match, home or away, and was always doing his best to help the team. His death came as a shock to them, and they cancelled their coming matches. His younger son, Dennis, was North London Champion and International Prix winner. The lads gave a wreath in the Wanderers colours. "He'd want it that way," they said.

CLUTTON PIRATES AT BATH DEFEAT CHAMPIONS

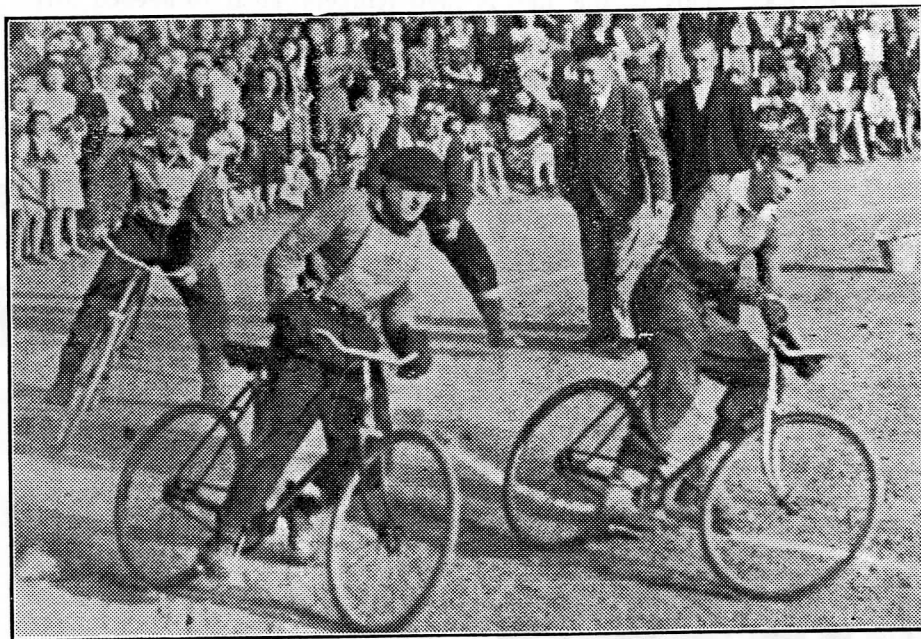
THE Clutton Pirates recently made the journey to Trowbridge, Bath, to compete against the pick of that district. They arrived in the afternoon and soon got down to business. In the first heat they showed their quickness at adapting themselves to the track by winning it 4-2. This was a sign of things to come, for after a terrific battle, with both teams giving of their very best, the Pirates came out winners by 58 points to 37.

After a short interval, in which the boys made full use of the refreshments at hand, the Pirates again prepared to do battle. This time with the Southwick Tigers, who were the winners of the Bath

League. This was also won by the Pirates, and strangely enough by exactly the same number of points. A worthy feat of the Pirates, and one well worth remembering. For to beat two teams in the same afternoon, and one of them the League Champions, was racing indeed.

A couple of weeks later the Pirates were again sallying forth. This time to engage the Westbury Monarchs of Wiltshire. A coach was provided for the riders and their supporters, and off they went. They received a warm welcome from the Westbury lads.

The Pirates had the advantage of being very fast at the gate, and this proved to be their biggest asset, for they came out winners by the small margin of 3 points.



LEYTON HIT GOOD FORM

ALTHOUGH the Leyton Aces recently struck a bad patch and did not do too well in the North London League, they have since come back to form with renewed vigour. To their credit goes victories over the West End Wanderers, and the Arsenal Aces (whom they have beaten twice). They have lost matches to the very formidable Caledonian Lions, and a special challenge match with the Walthamstow Wolves, who beat them by five points.

Showing brilliant form for the Aces is Terry Clarke, who is their highest point scorer. Terry is essentially a player to the crowds, and gives many thrills to the fans with his hair-raising riding. However, sad to say, it will not be much longer before Terry will be forced to leave the Aces, having passed A.1 for the forces he is even now waiting for the papers that will take him away from cycle speedway for a while.

Although Terry is riding at his best, skipper of the Aces, Bert Parsons, has struck a bad patch, and is well below form. In an endeavour to recapture his form he has gone to the expense of buying a new pair of wheels, and with them he hopes to regain his old reputation.

On their form now they should soon be showing their paces to the rest of their rivals in the League, and raise themselves to a favourable position in the table.

Oz Osborne (Eagles) leads in an Eagles v. Wasps match at Plymouth

Plymouth prepare for '50

PLYMOUTH are getting ready for next season. A big meeting was held recently and many important points were discussed, writes E. Osborne. Instead of eight teams, it is expected there will be double the number in the league next season. Representatives at the meeting drew up a new set of rules which should abolish many incidents that occurred this year.

Foulston Eagles will be greatly strengthened next season with the inclusion of Alan Dabinett (captain of Manadon Lightnings) and team mate Young Ginger Friend. Alan will be no stranger on the Eagles track as he held the track record for quite a while. Ginger is one of the youngest riders in Plymouth and should do well with the Eagles.

Plymouth lads want to have a go at some of the London teams next

season, and preparations are being made for the lads to spend a long week-end in Town playing London teams.

We are happy to announce that our Plymouth Correspondent, Jimmy Bricknell, who met with a serious accident and sustained severe head injuries leading to loss of memory, is now out of hospital and well on the road to recovery.

NOTTINGHAM LIVE IN HOPES

IN Nottingham cycle speedway can make no progress. D. F. Kirk from Sherwood, is desperately attempting to instill the thrill-a-minute sport into the hearts of many—but without success. The public seem to take not the slightest bit of interest at all, and until Mr. Kirk gets their support and a good track will any progress be made.

At the moment he can barely scrape together enough lads for two teams. He tells me that he is doing his very best to get the sport going—but he tends to lose hope at times. There seems to be no support from any side in Nottingham. Mr. Kirk will keep us in touch with the latest movements—if any.

I am making an appeal to all the people of Nottingham who read this. Try to show some interest, come to some arrangement with Mr. Kirk, who lives at 40 Bonnington Crescent, Sherwood, Nottingham, and let's see cycle speedway become a regular Nottingham week-end sport as it has become in London and other big cities.

BARRY SHAPLEY'S GLASGOW ROUND-UP

BILL CALLS IT A DAY

BILL (It's that Maximum Again) Ritchie recently announced his retirement—and he meant it! Bill started racing way back in '46, when the Shieldhall Stars were called the Greyhounds. In those days, Bill was just another rider, and in '48 in that year's Olympic Trophy, he scored his first maximum—and from then on made it a regular habit.

This year was his best. He was the league's highest scorer with an average of 2.9 per race. He was Glasgow's highest points scorer versus Edinburgh, and was outstanding at Southend in the Tour. Bill retires with the Scottish Match Race title. And although Bill usually means what he says, I've a funny feeling we'll soon be seeing him in the saddle. . . .

Little can be done about Crossmyloof Giants close-down. Their ground owners say no more racing, but to add insult to injury, a football club have a pitch marked out just next to the track! Crossmyloof's second team will be captained by George Green (ex-London Pirates) and will be called Lions, not Pygmies.

Parkhouse Dragons will be in the Div. II next season, and have had a track bought for them by a gentle-

THE Dagenham Touring team visited Hastings again and played four matches in one day, winning them all. The first match took place early on the Sunday morning at 9.30, the tourists lining up against the Baldstow Boomerangs. Dagenham pulled the game round to a 52-34 win. Tom Clifton scored 13 and Timson and Polly 9 each for tourists.

Piling their bikes into the lorry, they were off again, this time to the Sidley Cy-clones. Young Brian Evans, fourteen year old Dagenham rider rode well to notch 10 points, being beaten only once when he fell. Kid South was on brilliant form and unbeaten. Dagenham won 56-39.

The third match of the tour was at Ridge Eagles track, and Dagenham won 52-43. This is the first match the Eagles have lost for three years, and tempers were a little frayed. The Eagles had never come across team riding and appealed to the steward for dirty riding.

Tourists were 9-14 down after four heats, but caught up 14-15

Dagenham break three year old record at Hastings

By
Glen Dower

by the seventh. Good riding enabled Dagenham to pull away. The Eagles attempted to copy Dagenham's successful team riding, but got themselves into a nasty mess. Calling all the riders into the middle, the steward gave them a talking to and told them to ease their tempers. Heat 10 needed three re-runs before the steward was satisfied.

The crowd began to take a hand in the proceedings and the Dagenham riders were consistently barracked and one spectator hit Pete Batty, Dagenham's reserve. Dagenham's top scorers: Ted Jones 11, Glen Dower 10.

Last watch was to Rockamore Rockets at 4.30. The tourists were prepared for another victory, but the Rockets had other ideas. Came the last nominated heat and Dagenham were one behind 45-44. Jones and Dower were picked for Dagenham, White and Rogers for the Rockets. Dower got out first from the bend with Jones third and into the last bend White fell in passing Dower leaving the Tourists with a somewhat lucky 5-1. They won the day with this 49-46 win being unbeaten.

Riders who travelled from Dagenham were: R. Pracey, D. Baker, R. Thurnell, D. Polly, R. Timson, T. Spence, and R. Martin, from Wantz Wallabies. T. Risley, T. Jones and B. Evans from Stadium Stars. K. South and Glen Dower from Foxland Panthers. T. South and P. Batty from Dagenham Diamonds.

The first maximum to be scored against the Foxland Panthers was notched by Alan Stacey riding for the Dagenham Aces. The Aces won 56-40. Kid South was Aces top scorer with 11.

Members of the newly formed Control Board are: K. Phillips, Chairman; S. Kippen, vice chairman; A. Stacey, secretary; G. J. Phillips, assist. secretary; Mr. Bond treasurer; Councillor Sweetland, president; W. P. Boughton, vice president; Miss P. Smith, minute secretary; Committee, G. Ross, Mr. Bond, D. Baker, Glen Dower, T. Coell, A. Wallace, A. Parker.



"ITMA" Ritchie.

man from Lambhill. Lucky Dragons, Lambhill Lions are to have a team in Div. I next season and another in Div. II as are Pollockshields.

John Ferguson was transferred from Shieldhall to Pollockshields. P. Jackson from Lambhill to Crossmyloof.

WEST RIDING TAKES TO RIDING

NEW KENT LEAGUE

TEAMS in the Kent area will be interested to know that the Cray Tigers (owners of the country's most up-to-date track) are forming a Kent League.

The League will compose of as many teams as possible, and there will be a representative from each team on the Board. Fees for membership will be half a guinea, and operations will start next spring. Work will be going on throughout the Winter months, and it is hoped it will be one of the most successful leagues in the country.

League rules will be after the style of the standing regulations governing cycle speedway, but there will probably be a few amendments. Mr. Forrester, secretary of the Cray Tigers is fully confident of the new league's success, and is looking forward to the coming season, which should prove him correct.

The Tigers were formerly members of the S.E. London League, and broke away only because they had such a distance to travel for some matches.

HE HEARD CHALLENGE ON THE RADIO

STAN LEEDS, the West End Wanderer's team manager was at home listening to a recent Down Your Way broadcast relayed from Whitstable, Kent, and heard announced Richard Dimpleby ask the local team (Whitstable Wasps) captain whom he would like to challenge to a match. Stan was surprised to hear the answer, "Oh, the West End Wanderers from North London."

Stan, who took a team to Whitstable earlier this year, wrote at once accepting the challenge and the match was run off the other week.

The Wanderers received a big welcome on their arrival, and the big crowd cheered them after they had beat the Wasps 79-34. The Wasps were riding their first match of the season, for their track is council owned and after April it is to be used as a car park for Whitstable's summer visitors.

Unlike most teams, the Wasps do not favour the inside berth or "white lining," but the Wanderers, who hugged the inside most of the time found they had their work cut out

CYCLE speedway has got its grip in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and latest developments in the sport come from Halifax. This is not surprising for the re-introduction to the town of speedway racing this year after an absence of almost 20 years, has again aroused the interest of cyclists. Mr. Rourke, former speedway rider, and Mr. E. Howley are forming an official cycle speedway league. It will be called the Halifax, Brighouse and District Cycle Speedway League, and there will be 12 clubs operating.

A control board and committee have already been appointed and rules drafted, though much work remains to be done before the organised meetings get into full swing. At the moment there are about eight tracks in the town. The tracks will be standardised either 60 yards or 85 yards in length, and minimum width at any point will be 10 feet. The surfaces will be either cinders or red shale, and standard starting gates will be used. It is also proposed to use floodlighting, and the matches will be run on very similar lines to speedway racing. Clubs well established in Halifax at the moment are the Crossroad Panthers, Northowram; Norton Tower Hurricanes, and Tanner Byke Cobras. Boys between the ages of 14 and 18 years will be eligible, and it is also proposed to have a junior league for boys between 12 and 14 years of age.

In the neighbouring town of Sowerby Bridge two more clubs are established, the Beech Cycle Speedway Club and the Hollywood Tigers, and permission is sought by the former for use of part of a local recreation ground on which to construct a new cycle speedway track. The matter is being considered by the Sowerby Bridge Council.

B. HARWOOD.

to win. Individual scorers: **West End Wanderers** (79): T. Bottazzi 14, T. Sweetman 13, D. Bottazzi (capt.) 12, J. Adams (res.) 10, G. Smithson 9, S. Hallett 9, T. Marsh 8, S. Smithson (res.) 4.

Whitstable Wasps (34): G. Marsh 12, R. Adams (capt.) 10, A. Tutton 5, N. Enright (res.) 3, V. Fenlon 2, S. Bentley 2, C. Hook 1, M. Taylor (res.) 0.

B.B.C. FAN

Incidentally, Richard Dimpleby is contacting Stan Leeds with a view to becoming a regular Wanderer's supporter. That's the style, Richard.

AUSSIE STAR'S GOOD DEED

BIRMINGHAM stars, Graham Warren and Arthur Payne, were present at the Birmingham versus Manchester test match, writes G. W. Fernyhough. Everyone was in a furtive mood, and the spirit of co-operation was made apparent when one Mancunian had the misfortune to damage his rear wheel beyond immediate repair. An appeal was broadcast on the loudspeaker for a wheel and the rider had rather a difficult task in selecting one from over a dozen offered.

In the Graham Warren scratch race, prize for which was an autographed photo of the Aussie star, Dave Smith (Birmingham) damaged his wheel and Graham Warren wasted no time in presenting Dave with a cheque to repair it.

The match was a triumph for the Birmingham team, who ran out winners by 79-41. Manchester took an early lead but were never at home on the sandy surface. Dave Smith was the day's most successful rider, he scored a maximum for Birmingham and collected the Graham Warren scratch race prize.

After the match, the riders of both teams together with league representatives were entertained to tea by the Brum Control Board. Complete scores: **Birmingham** (79): D. Smith 18, C. Anderson 12, V. Halliwell 11, J. Banks 10, R. Adams and G. Bunton 8 each, B. Webster 7, J. Hanbon 5. **Manchester** (41): L. Grepp and J. Pennington 9 each, B. Maston 7, W. Green and D. Maynard 6 each, R. Smith 3, D. Newton 1, K. Hutchinson 0.

The October holder of the Match Race Championship is Belle Vue Kangaroos, captain Brian Rotron. He beat Lew Grepp, captain of the Cheadle Hulme Racers 2-1.

With the League Championship virtually settled, and the knock-out championship in its final stages, interest is now centred on the Individual Riders' Championship final, full report of which will be published next issue.

XMAS NUMBER

Our next issue is our bumper Christmas Number—don't miss it. There will be lots of fun and surprises in store for you and still at the same price 6d. Freewheel Freddie and Chums Corner have both been held over until next month, so don't forget to order your copy to-day.

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