Secretaries Notes – October 2010

Another Year.

When you get your next Track Record issue in February the new year will have arrived. So, a little early all the committee would like to wish all our members

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A HEALTHY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Track Record

From this issue Bill Gadsby and myself will endeavour to ensure that the newsletter has 16 pages every issue. To do this we will be relying, to some extent on you the members supplying us with your memories, pictures and any other items you think might be of interest to our readers.

Dinner/Dance - Paradise Park Sat. 20th November

Pete Saunders tells us that ticket sales are nearing capacity and that anyone wishing to purchase tickets should do so quickly so as not to be disappointed. Cheques, for £27.50 per person made payable to the VCSRA should be sent to :- Pete Leckie, 9 Church Road, Harefield, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB9 6DW.

Pete also mentioned that the World Speedway riders D/D at Leicester is on the 5th March 2011 with Eric Boocock taking over from him as President for the next 12 months. Anyone interested should contact Pete on Tel. 01442 247735 or Email saundersprs@aol.com

2011 AGM

We put the committee's proposal to hold our 2011 AGM in the Bar at Rye House Speedway in the afternoon before a race meeting in late March or early April to the Promoter, Len Silver and we are very please to quote from his very positive reply, "*I would be delighted to have the VCSRA using my long bar for the AGM prior to one of my early meetings next season. There would be no question of payment of admission monies, all would be welcome as our guests.*" With the date fixed for the 9th of April we hope to be able to include full details in the next (February) issue of the Track Record.

'Celebration of Speedway' - Paradise Park Hertfordshire Sunday 20th February 2011

The association will be exhibiting their stand in the Pavilion as last year and will, hopefully be sponsoring cycle speedway racing in the car park again although arrangements have not yet been finalised.

Membership Renewals.

Our membership secretary, Malcolm tells me that renewals have gone well with only 9 members having failed to send their cheque, reminder slips are enclosed for those 9, if you do not however intend to rejoin please could you let us know. Our current membership figures are - 196 Full members (189 UK & 7 O/Seas) and 12 Honorary members (10 UK & 2 O/Seas).

VCSRA Archive.

It was in the Jan 2009 issue that I mention that we would like to collate all the memorabilia that we are gathering and hopefully be able to publish a book that somehow evoked the atmosphere of the 'Skid Kid' days. We are still gathering the memorabilia but we have not got very far with collating it. In order to be able to hand it to a budding author/editor it needs to be catalogued by type, date, location etc. We are therefore looking for a volunteer archivist to catalogue and file our collection. Someone who is familiar with a computer and lives in the South Essex area would be ideal. **You've got no chance I hear you say, but you never know**.....my number is on the front cover.

Apologies To Roy Gosling who sent us an article from the '***Plymouth Evening Herald'*** regarding 'Tecalemit 20 apprentices and '***Sparkwell Spitfires***' cycle speedway riders Geoff Foot, Ivan Hurn and John Lubman. We were trying to get a picture of the 'Spitfires' to go with the article but have not yet succeeded. Hopefully by the the next issue we will.

Directory Amendments

John Cross	New Email.	- jhcross321@ntlworld.com
Michael Pedley	New Email.	- pedder3@sky.com
Ray Wilmore	Address should read	- 96 Lower Lambricks
Alan Patterson	New Address	- 53 Wyndley House, Wyndley Place, Montagu, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4RH

3. Thursday 16th September - West Mersea, Mersea Island Essex

Familiar South Essex faces rendezvoused in the seafront boatyard car park at West Mersea and after a quick discussion split to find a table at either the 'Company Shed' fish eatery or the nearby 'Waterfront Café'. Were all enjoyed a meal of their choice. (Pictures by Malcolm Belchambers)

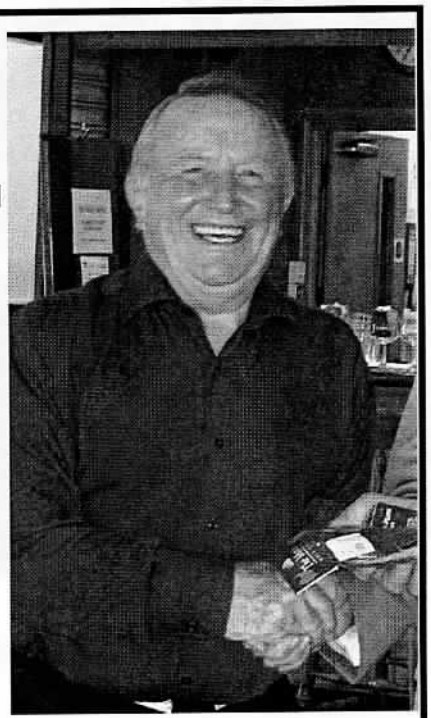
Left. The party gather outside the 'Company Shed' before motoring to the far end of the West Mersea sea-front for a stroll along a deserted beach. Lt to Rt, Sid Kingsnorth, George Wakeman, Colin Booth, Dorothy Belchambers, Stan Stevens, Mary & Pete Chubb, Len Adams, John Brown, Pat Kingsnorth, Shelia Brown and Tony Marsh.

Right. After their stroll they gathered once again for a photo, this time in front of the well kept West Mersea Beach Huts before adjourning to the 'Seaview Café' for afternoon tea. Lt to Rt, John Brown, George Wakeman, Sid & Pat Kingsnorth, Len Adams, Shelia Brown, Pete Chubb, Tony & Frances Marsh, Dorothy Belchambers, Stan Stvens, Mary Chubb and Colin Booth.

4. Monday 23rd August - Derek's Riverside Walk Wapping East London

19 Members & Guests met as planned at West Ferry station on the Docklands Railway and strolled west past the locks to enjoy a drink at 'The Grapes' and on to 'The Prospect of Whitby' for another but as it started to rain they decided to have their lunch and an excellent meal was enjoyed by all. The rain though continued and later in the afternoon they all made their way to the nearest DLR station. Derek, however has assured everyone he will repeat the walk in the future and hopefully have better weather!

Dennis England



It was with great sadness that we learnt that Dennis had had a heart attack in August and had passed away after several weeks in hospital. Dennis's funeral was held at the Croydon Crematorium on the 22nd of September where many of his family and friends from Cycle Speedway and Golf gathered.

A member of the Association since its inaugural year, 1996. Dennis started his racing with Mitcham Broadsiders in 1947. Moving to the Tooting Tigers in 1950 he spent next few years there apart from short spells with Peckham finishing his racing days in 1956 Dennis was a Mars Silver Helmet finalist in 1952.

A keen sportsman, by the 90's he was a member of the Mitcham Golf Club and he regularly graced the Associations Golf Days with his cheery personality winning our Autumn Trophy in 2003.

Dennis and his smiling face will be greatly missed and long remembered

1. Tuesday 3rd August - Headley - Surrey

By Ron Holvey

It was a bright and sunny morning on Tuesday the 3rd of August, when thirteen of us set off on our annual ramble, sadly two of our regular members Derek (Cattle) and Ray (Gingell) were unable to make it this year. Once again Len (Kitching) came up trumps with a very interesting and pleasant route, across heathland and woodland over Headley Heath. Our lunch this year was at the Cock public house in the quaint village of Headley (Surrey) and a very good meal it was too. I speak for us all when I say thanks again Len, it was a great day out and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Ron Holvey.

Left. Back row Lt to Rt. Ken Archer, Doll Daniel, Len Kitching, Danny Daniel, Roger (?), John Burroughs and Chas Aldrich. Front row Lt to Rt. Peter Page, Martin Willgress, Stan Stevens, Ron Holvey, Eve Willgress and behind the camera Kath Holvey.

2. Thursday 12th August - Heybridge Basin , Maldon Essex

On a not so sunny day nine members and wives gathered for morning coffee at the Wilkin's tea room before embarking on a windy and occasionally wet stroll along the sea wall finishing at '**The Jolly Sailor**' were they enjoyed an excellent lunch where Malcolm was very impressed with the portion size of his home made steak pie! He even took a picture of it (available upon request). (Pictures by Malcolm Belchambers)

Above Left. A fully refreshed party gather for the obligatory group picture, Lt to Rt, Pete Chubb, Stan Stevens, John & Shelia Brown, Dorothy Belchambers, Pat & Sid Kingsnorth and VCSRA President Malcolm Belchambers **Above Right**. In front , Dorothy Belchambers and Pete Chubb seek cover under Stan Stevens's umbrella, while in the background Mary Chubb gamely hangs onto her protection.

LONDON V HAMPSHIRE 9th AUGUST 1952

TWO TEST WINS FOR LONDON

On Sunday afternoon London raced two test matches against Hampshire. The London "A" team won the first match by 69 -39. Skipper Tommy Sweetman scored an immaculate maximum of 15 points. Vic White was also unbeaten by an opponent, in one of his races Vic was "left" at the gate, with both his feet off his pedals, but rode so well he caught up with his opponents and finished second behind his partner.

"Gus" Garrett, the London Champion was also in fine form, scoring 10 points.

Scorers for the "A" team were T. Sweetman 15, E.Lamacq, 12, V.White 10, G.Garrett 10, R.Holvey 8, J.Gooddy 7, J.Halleran 4, and R.Mitchell 3.

In the second match, the London "B" team won by 59-48. The racing was very close and until heat 16 it was undecided who would win. Top scorers for the "B" team were Dave Still 14, R.Lawrence and T.Eldridge 11 each.

"A" team

J.Gooddy (Blackheath Aces), T.Sweetman (Arsenal Aces), R.Holvey (Tooting Tigers), E.Lamacq (Arsenal Aces), R.Mitchell (Warwick Lions), R.Garrett (Verney Lions) A.Halleran (Poplar Penguins), V. White (Arsenal Aces).

"B" team

B.Bottazzi (West End Wanderers) D.Still (Poplar Penguins), R.Jarrett (Blackheath Aces), J.Veal (Warwick Lions), T. Eldridge (Blackheath Aces), R. Lawrence (Verney Lions, J.Preddy (Arsenal Aces) and P.Weston (New Cross Rangers).

Tommy Sweetman

Arsenal Aces
L to R. Wally Benham, H.Anderson A.Anderson, Clive Deal, John Preddy and Manager Robinson
On Bike Tom Sweetman and kneeling W.Perrin.

London.
L to R. Ernie Lamacq, unknown, unknown, Vic White, Colin Goody, on bike Tom Sweetman.
Front Ron Holvey & Unknown
Can anyone name the unknown riders?

CYCLE SPEEDWAY AT HIGH BEECH
Easter Monday 18th April 1949
Compiled By Colin Booth

Amongst a large collection of memorabilia given to me by Ken Archer earlier this year I found the programme below for the inter county match that took place at this iconic location 21 years after the birth in the UK of its big brother. Ken travelled to the track with a party from South London which included fellow Tooting Tiger Arthur Newsom (London Captain) on the back of a lorry. The racing, he tells us was held on the very track used by the pioneers of motor speedway, using the starting gate and part of the home straight with the rest of the circuit laid out on the centre grass. It is believed that only 2 matches of the planned series at High Beech took place, the 2nd match with an Essex/Herts team meeting the London side took place on a Sunday resulting in a win for Essex/ Herts 102 to 90. Both of the matches are mentioned in '50 Years of Cycle Speedway'. However, according to Pete Leckie (Harefield Pirates) the series was discontinued after a protest from the 'Lords Day Observance Society'.

It is interesting to note that with all the riders that day probably dreaming of emulating the motor speedway riders that once lapped the circuit only two moved on to successful motor speedway careers, Len Silver and Eric Hockaday. I have contacted both Len Silver the London team manager and Eric Hockaday who was a late replacement for Johnny Fruin in the Middlesex team and sadly neither could remember anything about the day but Len did email me his thoughts on the match:-

"Hello Colin...this is Len Silver...I fear I am not going to be much help as I hav eno recollection of the match or the venue ... sorry. There are many familiar names in the meeting, Johnny Livings, my team mate at Stratford Hammers, Ray Black of the Beckton Aces and Dennis Bottazzi the North London superstar. And it has to be the longest meeting ever staged with no less than 32 races...wow..what a marathon! I see that Eric Hockaday came in as a replacement and he was riding for Exeter (motor speedway) when I transferred there in 1961, he then went, I think to Stoke, a great guy and a very clean and accomplished rider.
Sorry that I can't help further...Len."

If there is anyone else out there who has memories of these two matches or maybe even a picture or two ... please, please get in touch.

Dons.!

HIGH BEECH
CYCLE SPEEDWAY

PROGRAMME OF FIRST MEETING

(FIRST SEASON)

MONDAY, APRIL 18th, 1949, at 3 p.m.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES' LEAGUE MATCH

LONDON v. **MIDDLESEX**

TEAM MANAGER:
Len Silver (West Ham)

Arthur Newsom (Wimbledon) (Capt.)
Peter Glover (West Ham)
Dennis Bottazzi (Harringay)
Ted Bottazzi (Harringay)
Vic Winter (New Cross)
Peter Woolford (New Cross)
Ray Black (West Ham)
Johnny Livings (West Ham)

Reserves:
John Pollard (New Cross)
Phil Fishon (West Ham)

TEAM MANAGER:
Johnny Andrews (Northwood)

Dud Smith (Wembley) (Capt.)
Roy Howard (Wembley)
Ken Wakerly (Harrow)
Len Dean (Harrow)
Max Bacon (Northwood)
Johnny Fruin (Thames Valley)
Alan Hibbert (Thames Valley)

Reserves:
Dennis Peters (Northwood)
Jim Howes (Wembley)

OFFICIALS

Steward of the Meeting: Clifford Gibbs.
Clerk of the Course: Bob Simpkins.
Starting Line Marshall: Ken Cooper
Judge-Timekeeper: W. Bicknell. ... ...
Announcer: Jim White.
Pits Marshall: L. Shannon.

Medical Attendants: St. John Ambulance Brigade.

This meeting is held under the Cycle Speedway Regulations of the Southern Region Cycle Speedway and Youth Association.

BETTING STRICTLY PROHIBITED

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME; SIXPENCE

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS
SOUTHERN COUNTIES' LEAGUE MATCH

LONDON (Red & Blue Helmet) v. **MIDDLESEX** (White & Yellow Helmet)
LONDON PAIRS NAMED FIRST

Heat	Helmet Colour	RIDERS	RESULT & TIME	Race Points Lond.	Race Points Mdx.	Progressive Total Lond.	Progressive Total Mdx.
1	Red	Arthur Newsom (Capt.)	2				
	Blue	Peter Glover	1				
	White	Dud Smith (Capt.)	3				
	Yellow	Roy Howard 49.6	EF.	3	3	3	3
2	Red	Dennis Bottazzi	1				
	Blue	Ted Bottazzi	F.M				
	White	Ken Wakerly	2				
	Yellow	Len Dean 46.2	3	1	5	4	8
3	Red	Vic Winter	2				
	Blue	Peter Woolford					
	White	Dennis Manucci	1				
	Yellow	Max Bacon 46.0	3	2	4	6	12
4	Red	Ray Black					
	Blue	Johnny Livings	2				
	White	~~Johnny Fruin~~ E. HOCKADAY					
	Yellow	Alan Hibbert 45.8	3	2	4	8	16
5	Red	Arthur Newsom					
	Blue	Peter Glover	EF. 3 F				
	White	Ken Wakerly	2				
	Yellow	Len Dean 46.6	1 F.n	3	3	11	19
6	Red	Dennis Bottazzi	1 2				
	Blue	Ted Bottazzi	1				
	White	Dennis Manucci					
	Yellow	Max Bacon 46.8	3	3	3	14	22
7	Red	Vic Winter	2				
	Blue	Peter Woolford					
	White	~~Johnny Fruin~~ E.H.	3				
	Yellow	Alan Hibbert 46.0	1	2	4	16	26
8	Red	Ray Black	1				
	Blue	Johnny Livings	2				
	White	Dud Smith	BORIN 6				
	Yellow	Roy Howard 46.4	3	3	3	19	29
9	Red	Arthur Newsom	3				
	Blue	Peter Glover	OVER LINE. F				
	White	Dennis Manucci	TAPES				
	Yellow	Max Bacon 46.2	2	3	2	22	31
10	Red	Dennis Bottazzi	2				
	Blue	Ted Bottazzi					
	White	~~Johnny Fruin~~ E.H.	1				
	Yellow	Alan Hibbert 47.0	3	2	4	24	35
11	Red	Vic Winter	2				
	Blue	~~Peter Woolford~~ J. POLLARD.	3				
	White	Dud Smith	1				
	Yellow	Roy Howard 52.6	TAPES.	5	1	29	36

Heat	Helmet Colour	RIDERS	RESULT & TIME	Race Points Long.	Race Points Midx.	Progressive Total Long.	Progressive Total Midx.
12	Red	Ray Black	1				
	Blue	Johnny Livings	2				
	White	Ken Wakerly	3	1	5	30	41
	Yellow	Len Dean 45.2					
13	Red	Arthur Newsom	2				45.
	Blue	Peter Glover					
	White	~~Johnny Ervin~~ E.H	3	2	4	32	44
	Yellow	~~Alan Hibbert~~ D.P 45.8	1				
14	Red	Dennis Bottazzi	2				
	Blue	Ted Bottazzi	1				
	White	Dud Smith	DIS.	3	3	35	
	Yellow	Roy Howard 47.0	3				
15	Red	Vic Winter	1				
	Blue	~~Peter Woolford~~ J. POLLARD	2	1	5	36	82
	White	Ken Wakerly	3				
	Yellow	Len Dean 47.0					
16	Red	~~Ray Black~~ P. FISHON	2				
	Blue	Johnny Livings	1				
	White	~~Dennis Manucci~~ J. HOWES	3	3	3	39	55
	Yellow	Alan Hibbert 45.2					
		INTERVAL					
17	Red	Arthur Newsom	1				*
	Blue	Peter Glover	2				
	White	Dud Smith	3	3	3	43	58
	Yellow	Roy Howard 44.6					
18	Red	Dennis Bottazzi	3				
	Blue	Ted Bottazzi	2				
	White	~~Ken Wakerly~~ D. PETER		6	1	48	59
	Yellow	~~Len Dean~~ J. HOWES 46.8	1				
19	Red	~~Vic Winter~~	3	3			
	Blue	~~Peter Woolford~~ P. FISHON	1				
	White	Dennis Manucci	2	4	2	52	61
	Yellow	Max Bacon 46.2					
20	Red	Ray Black	2				
	Blue	Johnny Livings	3				
	White	~~Johnny Ervin~~ E.H.	1	5	1	57	62
	Yellow	Alan Hibbert 47.2					
21	Red	Arthur Newsom	2				
	Blue	Peter Glover	3				
	White	Ken Wakerly	1	2	4	59	66
	Yellow	Len Dean 46.6					
22	Red	Dennis Bottazzi	3				
	Blue	Ted Bottazzi	LINE				
	White	Dennis Manucci	2	4	2	63	68
	Yellow	Max Bacon 47.8	1				
23	Red	Vic Winter	3				
	Blue	~~Peter Woolford~~ P. FISHON	2	4	2	67	70
	White	~~Johnny Ervin~~ EH					
	Yellow	Alan Hibbert					

Heat	Helmet Colour	RIDERS	RESULT & TIME	Race Points Long.	Race Points Midx.	Total Long.	Total Max.
24	Red	Ray Black	3				
	Blue	Johnny Livings					
	White	Dud Smith					
	Yellow	Roy Howard 48.2	2	3	3	70	73
25	Red	Arthur Newsom	2				
	Blue	~~Peter Glover~~ J. POLLARD	1				
	White	Dennis Manucci	F.	6	1	76	74
	Yellow	~~Max Bacon~~ D. PETERS 53.0					
26	Red	Dennis Bottazzi	3				
	Blue	Ted Bottazzi					
	White	~~Johnny Ervin~~ E.H	2	3	3	78	77
	Yellow	Alan Hibbert 47.0.	1				
27	Red	~~Vic Winter~~ P. FISHON	3 F				
	Blue	Peter Woolford					
	White	Dud Smith	2	3	3	81	80
	Yellow	Roy Howard 46.8	1 FN				
28	Red	Ray Black	2				
	Blue	Johnny Livings	3				
	White	Ken Wakerly		5	1	86	81
	Yellow	Len Dean 49.6	1				
29	Red	Arthur Newsom	2				
	Blue	~~Peter Glover~~ P. FISHON	1				
	White	~~Johnny Ervin~~ E.H		2	4	85	85
	Yellow	Alan Hibbert 46.2	3				
30	Red	Dennis Bottazzi	F				
	Blue	Ted Bottazzi	2				
	White	Dud Smith	3	2	4	90	89
	Yellow	Roy Howard	1				
31	Red	Vic Winter	2				
	Blue	~~Peter Woolford~~ P.F	TAPES				
	White	Ken Wakerly	3	2	4	92	93
	Yellow	Len Dean 46.4	1				
32	Red	Ray Black	3 F				
	Blue	Johnny Livings					
	White	Dennis Manucci	1	3	3	95	96
	Yellow	Max Bacon	2				

RIDERS' INDIVIDUAL SCORE CHART

Riders	LONDON Rides 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Arthur Newsom	2	3	3	2	1	2	3	0	16
Peter Glover	1	0	0	0	2	0	PF	F	3
Dennis Bottazzi	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	0	16
Ted Bottazzi	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	2	7
Vic Winter	2	2	2	1	PF	1	PF	2	10
Peter Woolford	0	0	DP	DP	PF	PF	0	PF	1
Ray Black	0	1	1	PF	2	0	2	3	9
Johnny Livings	2	2	0	1	3	3	3	0	14
John Pollard	3	0	2						5
Phil Fishon	2	3	3	3	2	0			13

Riders	MIDDLESEX Rides 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Dud Smith	3	0	1	0	3	1	2	3	13
Roy Howard	0	3	0	3	0	2	1	1	10
Ken Wakerly	2	2	2	2	DP	3	1	3	15
Len Dean	3	1	3	3	DN	1	0	1	12
Dennis Manucci	1	0	0	DN	0	0	1	1	3
Max Bacon	3	3	2	3	2	2	DP	1	17
Alan Hibbert	3	1	3	DP	1	0	1	3	12
Dennis Peters	1	1	0						2
Jim Howes	0	0							0

Two Generations
Ruskin Flyers 1940's - Crawley Tigers 1970's

Compiled by Colin Booth

A few weeks ago I received a letter from Ron Swain who said he had just been given a copy of the Track Record and thought I might be interested in the 3 pictures he had enclosed.

Left. Circ 1950 Ruskin Flyers at Peckham. Ron Swaine is on the far left. The opposition are wearing New Cross jackets ? The crowd beats some of the motor speedway crowds of today! Any comments?

Right. Circ 1946/47 Ruskin Flyers in somebodies back yard? Ron is 3rd from left in the front row. The 2 on the left at the back are probably Joe Block and David Ellery. Perhaps one of our readers can name the rest

Left Circ 1949 Ruskin Flyers v Holland on their 1st track in Wyndham Road Camberwell on the site of a school that was about to be rebuilt. Ron is 3rd from left. (The school now possibly The Archbishop Michael Ramsey Technology College.)

Ron continued his letter with a short profile of his Cycle/Motor speedway career, *"I rode for Ruskin Flyers for a few years, did my national service 1947 to 1949. I dreamed of riding on the real speedways for years. 1952 I rode for a season for Exeter then four seasons for Swindon speedway then sort of retired and rode Sunday meetings at Eastbourne and Aldershot. After riding for ten years and having four children I called it a day, to concentrate on a real job.*
I also managed Crawley Tigers cycle speedway team for ten years in the 70's. I am now eighty one years old so I don't ride a lot, only on buses now and then."
I rummaged through my files and found the piece below, one of the highlights of Ron's managerial career. I also noted that 2 of his sons and the son of the late Clive Elmer rode for the Tigers.

TIGERS END WITH DOUBLE VICTORY

CYCLE SPEEDWAY

ASC CRAWLEY are the new Radio London Cycle Speedway League champions, following their crushing victory over Morden Monarchs at Langley Green on Sunday by a 125-55 points margin, and their Reserves made it a great club double, beating Morden easily.

Tigers opened up with all guns blazing and a succession of maximum wins. Despite the ease of victory, the Crawley side fought tooth and nail for every point, and whenever a Morden rider led the race he found a pair of avenging angels right on his tail.

Just as it seemed that Crawley would record a total whitewash against their opponents, a Morden rider achieved second place in heat 17 to rob Tigers of an all-time record score.

Morden were not even able to match the determination of their hosts, tho maoy of their riders being unfit, and with the Langley Green circuit being one of the fastest in the country this did not exactly help the Monarchs cause.

Scorers: Adam Bird 20, Phil Clark 19(1), Ian Swaine 17(3), Chris Madden 17(3), Malcolm Lane 16(40), Lee Butler 15(3), Mark Elmer 11(1), Brian Cnudde 10(2).

The reserve side carried on where their senior counterparts left off, totting up 77 points in the course of an easy victory. Keith Madden managed the crash of the season when he raced flat out into the starting gate in one race, but despite extensive damage to man and machine, Keith returned to the foray later in the match.

Scorers: Russell Mikrut 14(2), Daren Bird 14(2), Murat Findikdali 12, Andy Swaine 11(1), Keith Madden 11(10), Tony Selby 10(2), Mark Hudd 5(1).

The reserve match was a triumph for Murat Findikdali, who took the chance to record three wins from his three races, and display his best form of the season.

On Sunday the last match of the season at Langley Green sees the Southern Roller Hockey Association Trophy at 2 pm, followed by the MG Trophy.

Crawley Tigers have every reason to be pleased with themselves, they have just clinched the Radio London Trophy, and club captain Ian Swaine is feeling on top of the world. Pictured with the trophy after their Langley Green success, left to right, Russell Mikrut, Malcolm Lane, Mark Elmer, Phil Clark, Ian Swaine, Chris Madden, Adam Bird, Lee Butler and Brian Cnudde.

A Picture from Lancashire

Once in a while we receive emails with pictures attached from veterans who have come across our Web Site this is the latest, from Jim Worswick, an Ex-Clayton Cobra up in Lancashire.

Left Pictured at the Moston Pirates track to the north west of Manchester sometime during 1954/55. Left to right, Derek Tegg Carrswood Hunters, Keith Simpson Moston and Freddy Watson Carrswood

DON'T FORGET PICTURES FROM ALL OVER THE UK FOR INCLUSION IN THE 'TRACK RECORD' ARE ALWAYS WELCOLME.

The Fifteenth Running of
The most prestigious Veterans Event in Cycle Speedway
" The London Old Masters"

Saturday 30th October 2010 from 3pm
At Canning Town Recreation Ground, Prince Regent Lane, London E16 3JJ
(Just off the A13)

For full details contact Steve Harvie Tel. 01634 668180 (Mobil 07730 283522)
or Email stephenr.harvie@btinternet.com or East London Cycle Speedway Club
www.freewebs.com/eastlondoncyclespeedway

VCSRAGS Autumn Golf Trophy - Thursday 30th September 2010

Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club Essex

The weather forecast said it would be the one fine day in a week of rain and as the players took to the course for the 14th Autumn Trophy Competition the sun was shinning. 5 members and 10 guests teed-off for a game that was to prove a very close contest with Len Adams taking the trophy with 34 points. Runner-up was Harry Thompson with 32 who narrowly beat Fred Evans (G) also on 32 on count back. The prize for the longest drive went to Malcolm Cooper (G) For the ladies Ann Thompson on 30 pts reversed last years result by beating Jackie Adams who was not at her best. The players were joined for their evening meal by George Wakeman, Pete Chubb, Stan Stevens and the 2009/10 President Malcolm Belchambers who presented the prizes for the Golf and the well subscribed raffle.

Left. Winner Len Adams receives the Trophy from the President

**Singer Doreen Lundy and Brian Reece (T/Vs. PC 49)
presenting a Viking Speedway Special to the winners of a
four team event at Tulse Hill in June 1953**

An international four team speedway event (one member from each team in each heat) was held recently at Rye House. The winners were Denmark, the other teams were from Sweden, Poland & Great Britain
The Tulse Hill Cycle Speedway event, was held 57 years ago, when the winners were Edmonton Saints, but who were the other competing teams?
From Tom Kilbey

Received this email from Dave Collins, regarding the photos on the back of the August issue of the Track Record.

My copy of the Track Record has just arrived and just by chance I was clearing out a cupboard and sitting on the table in front of me was the programme for the 1969 BCSF British riders final. From that I can tell you that the four riders shown, were in heat 8, and from the inside are, Clive McCormick (Southampton), Ray Foy and Arthur Ellis (both South London) and Neil Tullberg of Bristol.
The bottom photo is heat 18, with John Cobbin (Tottenham) leading Clive Hurrell (Norwich).
The Final finished with a run off between Cobbin and Vic Haines for third, and another run off between Kevin Wilson and Myself for 1st and 2nd. The end result being 1st Wilson, 2nd Collins and 3rd Haines.

I remember this meeting well, as it was one of the last that I competed in, the last being the Gold Cup Final 2 weeks later at Thurrock, where I bowed out with a 20 point maximum, before moving to Cyprus with the R.A.F..

I would be interested to know if there are any photos of me at that meeting, unless they show me behind Kevin.

Best Wishes Dave Collins ex Tottenham Rider.

Editors Notes

Was very interested to see the programme of Cycle Speedway at High Beech on page 9. Although I was not at the match, four of the names in the Middlesex team brought back some memories.

KEN WAKERLY.

Ken and I formed the Kenton Hawks in 1947. We had a track in the field immediately in front of our home. It was rather narrow, as we were restricted by a garden fence on one side and bushes on the other. We did not race against any other teams, but there were always enough riders, to pick two teams. In 1948,we were invited to become founder members of the Wembley & District League. The other teams were:- Acton Acorns, Hendon Pirates, Kingsbury Lions, Kingsbury Tigers, Sudbury Court Flyers and the Wembley Panthers. Just before the League started, Ken and family moved to South Harrow. He did say that he would cycle over each week to ride for us. Then the South Harrow Greyhounds started up , so naturally he opted to ride for them instead. He soon became their top rider, (although Len "Dixie" Dean might not agree with that!)

ROY HOWARD

Roy was an apprentice electrician with the electricity board. We had a large shed in our garden, which, being just opposite the track, was very useful for storing and repairing bikes. As we usually rode until after dark, not having electricity in the shed was a problem. Roy offered to connect the shed up so that we had a light. This worked well, except that when we switched the light on in the shed, all the lights in the house went out!

Roy rode for the Kingsbury Tigers, and as luck would have it they were the first team to visit our track. In the first race their two riders shot out of the gate, right into the bushes. They refused to race on, saying that the track was not suitable for league racing. The Control Board upheld their complaint. So in two weeks, we had lost our best rider and now our track. We shared the Tigers track for a few weeks, then moved to the Paddocks, just round the corner from Wembley Town Hall and Stadium.

DUD SMITH

Dud rode for the Acton Acorns, and was one of Wembley's top riders. I might have mentioned that I once partnered Dud in a Wembley Test Trial. I may have "forgotten" to mention I scored my only point by forcing him off the track! Dud went wide, meaning to cut in on the riders ahead, I charged into the space, leaving him nowhere to go. Fortunately Dud was very laid back and easy going and did not begrudge me my point. I should not really have been in the Test Trial, but it was felt that there should be a representative from each team. It had to be me, because as soon as any of our team showed any promise they were "poached" by the Kingsbury Lions. (They eventually signed me towards the end of the 1949 season!)

In his notes Colin said that only two of the riders featured in this match moved on to speedway, but Dud was captain of Southampton and was also the track record holder. I remember seeing him riding at Rayleigh, scoring double figures.

I rode in the Wembley League from 1948-1950, for the Kenton Hawks and Kingsbury Lions, but have virtually no memorabilia, photos or newspaper cuttings for that period. I did find this report of the Wembley Riders Championship in the Oct. 1949 Cycle Speedway Monthly.

The fine win by Ken Wakerly was no surprise-he rode like a champion and only dropped points to Hopcroft and Baldock, scoring 13 points out of a possible 15. More than 500 were present to see the final. The prizes 15/-, 10/- and 5/- were presented by Mrs Brooks. The favourites, Roy Howard, Roy Rogers, Fred Smallwood and Dixie Dean all had an off night. The surprises came from Eric Marshal and Stan Baldock of Kingsbury Stars, they came second and third consecutively. Even more remarkable is the fact that Stan Baldock could have won the final if he had not broken the tapes in his last ride.

The complete scorers:-

K. Wakerly 13, E. Marshal 12, S. Baldock 11, S.Luke 10, D. Dean 9, Hopcroft 9, R. Howard 8, L. Alford 8, F. Smallwood 8, D. Morris 5, R. Rogers 5, J. Kidd 4, P. Rhodes 4, R. Palmer 4, Humphries 3.

Buster Brown was also there to watch the racing.

The pictures on the following pages and on the front cover, have travelled round the world. They were sent by Roy Small, who lives in Arizona to Chris Trediдgo, who lives in Australia, and then on to me!

Roy Small (left) and Johnny Hill
of the Wembley Panthers

Johnny Hill (who caused the crash) with Roy Small & Colin Gray on the deck.Rider going by is Ernie Leggett.

Wembley Panthers
Back row L to R Ray Baxter, Lionel Alford, ? Johnny Hill and Del Hollick.
Front Roy Small and Tommy Nelson

RUSSELL EAGLES
Top left Roy Small, Bottom left Johnny Hill

The Picture of the Wembley Panthers on the opposite page would be from 1949. So far as I can remember I never raced against Roy Small, as in 1949 the Kenton Hawks were in the second division, having finished the previous season bottom of the league with nil points! When it became one division again in 1950, Roy Small and Johnny Hill had moved on to the Russell Eagles in the Hertfordshire League. Johnny Hill was one of "my" 1948 Hawks, he was the one that got away, being the only one not to join the Kingsbury Lions. In fact I did not know where he had gone until I received these photos.

A Panther going in the opposite direction was Del Hollick, after he had a short spell with the Cricklewood Cobras, I signed him for the Kingsbury Lions mid 1950.

BILL GADSBY

World speedway star with cycle speedway roots in Suffolk

NOT many of you will know this, but I used to ride cycle speedway. Indeed I used to ride for Woodbridge, on the Fen Meadow. I alert you to this because laid low in our archives here at Archant Suffolk, is this wonderful photograph of the Woodbridge Wildcats circa mid-70s I reckon. Look closely because the third boy from the left is that late, great Long Track and Speedway ace, Simon Wigg.

Wigg went to school in Suffolk for a time and obviously grabbed the opportunity to race cycle speedway locally. Wigg died almost 10 years ago now, after suffering a brain tumour. He was just 40.

As a rider he was brilliant, and his professional approach to the sport was years ahead of its time.

If you take a trip to Paradise Park, at Broxbourne, in Hertfordshire, there is a speedway museum there, with a plethora of Wigg's trophies and garlands.

Come on, let me have your memories of this picture? Mike Bacon, Love Speedway, 30 Lower Brook St., Ipswich IP4 1AN. Or e-mail: mike.bacon@archant.co.uk

From Alan Doggett

An interesting cutting from one of our local papers. A good clear team photo of a typical team of the time and a smashing grinning shot of dear old "Wiggy". A lovely rider and a really nice bloke. Cycle Speedway is still going steadily in Suffolk and I'm still building the odd bike whenever asked, for riders large and small. Keeps me from getting rusty!

Regards "Sprocket"