

TRACK

15th Annual VCSRA Dinner/Dance
Saturday 20th November 2010
At the "Safari Suit" in Paradise Wildlife Park,
Broxbourne Hertfordshire

Report By Colin Booth

The 15th Annual VCSRA Dinner/Dance and three reasons to celebrate, the 80th birthday of long serving committee member, Derek Cattle, the investiture of the new President, Pete Leckie and a new venue with fresh organisers in Pete Saunders, Pete Leckie and Derek Cattle helped by our host, Angela from the management of Paradise Park.

Having visited the park in the height of summer when the place was full of families sporting numerous children I was unsure what I expected to find on a rather gloomy November evening. I was pleasantly surprised, the safari suite cleared of it's individual tables with 8 long tables arranged around on 3 sides of the hall it looked more than adequate for the 106 members and guests that I was told we were expecting, a vast improvement on the 60 odd that attended last year.

The guests took their seats at around 6.30 and after being served their melon starter they were shepherded to the servery by our Hostess to collect their main meal, a choice of Braised Beef, Grilled Tuna or Vegetable Lasagne and seasonal veg. The meal was completed with Fruit Cheese Cake and Coffee served at their table.

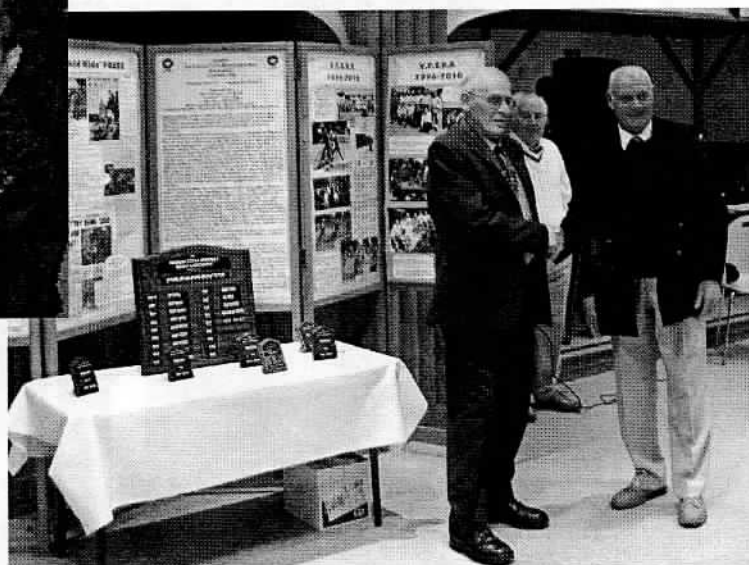
With the dinner over and the tables cleared MC for the evening, Derek Cattle opened the proceedings by calling Roy Garnham to the floor to make the customary toast, 'The Association', then Malcolm Belchambers to the mike, starting with the loyal toast 'The Queen' he continued with a short review of his year as President followed by his introduction of the new President, Pete Leckie. Pete, accepting the honour thanking those who had voted for him and the committee concluded by treating us to a few anecdotes from his early days in cycle speedway. With the mike returned to Malcolm he drew our attention to the magnificent 'Presidents Shield' which bore the names of all the VCSRA Presidents. The shield which was on display and had, we were told had been crafted by none other than Pete Chubb onetime 'Hawbush Hammer' who had in addition made small replicas for each president bearing their names. Malcolm then calling all the ex-presidents onto the floor proceeded to present them to their recipients. The formalities completed Malcolm handed the mike back to Derek who to celebrate his becoming an octogenarian by reminding those gathered of the music of his childhood days with what he called 'Derek's Half Hour'.

Throughout the evening a raffle was held and the princely sum of £225 was collected and donated to Derek's chosen charity, 'The British Heart Foundation'

With the speeches and presentations completed those energetic enough finished the evening dancing to the sounds of the 'Soul Searchers Disco'. And finally those lucky guests who were staying at the excellent local 'Theobalds Park Hotel' were coached back in the mini-bus provided by the Parks management.



Above. On the Left, from the Front, Pete Leckie, John Lambert, Bert Harkins & Wife. On the Right, Eric Hockaday, Stan Stevens, Doreen & Roy Fraser.



Questions & Answers

In the last issue we asked members if they could help with names of riders in some of our pictures and in the case of the Test Match at High Beech if anyone had any pictures of that event.. I am pleased to say that emails from Dennis Daniel, Ron Holvey, Vic White and a letter from Mick Jeffery have helped to filled in a few of the gaps.

1. Dennis Daniel has identified many of the riders and officials in Ron Swaine's picture on page 9 of the Ruskin Flyers (right). Standing at the back, from the left, Joe Bloor (Manager), David Ellery (Secretary), ??? Barber and Terry Vintner. Front row from the left, Stan Miles (on bike), Don Robertson, Mick Griffin, Basil Casey, Ronnie Swaine, Cliff Mogridge and Den Roberts.

2. Also on page 9 **Dennis** tells us that the rider on the inside is Joe (Colin) Goody of the New Cross Rangers and that the match was taking place on the track at East Surrey Grove Peckham. See also item 5 below.

3. On page 7 in the London team picture **Dennis** tells us the rider sitting on the front wheel of the bike is Gussie Garrett of Verney Lions.

4. As for the picture on page 12 after reviewing his records **Dennis** recon's the other 3 teams were Tulse Hill Rockets, Nunhead Dragons and Pegasus. He adds that he believes he was riding for either Nunhead or Pegasus but the person presenting the cups was Mick Denny manager of Nunhead Dragons.

5. Ron Holvey emailed in a copy of a press cutting (see page xx) of the S.E. London Individual Championship held in April of 1950. It identifies the riders in the racing picture we published on page 9 of the last issue (Nov.) as, D. Crowcombe (Ruskin) leading J. Goody (New X) and L. Eastwood (white helmet), (Ruskin) the article did not identify the rider on the outside who we where reliably informed by the man himself is Ron Swaine of Ruskin.

6. Vic White also remembers the London team on page 7 and by a process of deduction names all 3 of the missing riders, the team then is, from left to right Ernie Lamacq, Ron Holvey (on back wheel) Johnny Halloran, Tom Sweetman (on Bike), Ron Mitchell, Vic White, Gus Garrett (on front wheel) and Colin Goody.

7. Mick Jeffery questions some of our names for the Arsenal Aces riders in the picture on page 7. He writes -
"On p.7 there is a team photo of the Arsenal Aces of 1952(?). I was just about around in those days and in fact started as a junior at Arsenal Aces in 1950. Some of the fellows in the picture were around then. The 2nd L rear row is Ron Hoskins, next on his left looks very much like Tom Kilbey (but Tom could obviously confirm) and then two more to the right looks to be Bill Davidson, then Preddy and Sweetman, as stated."

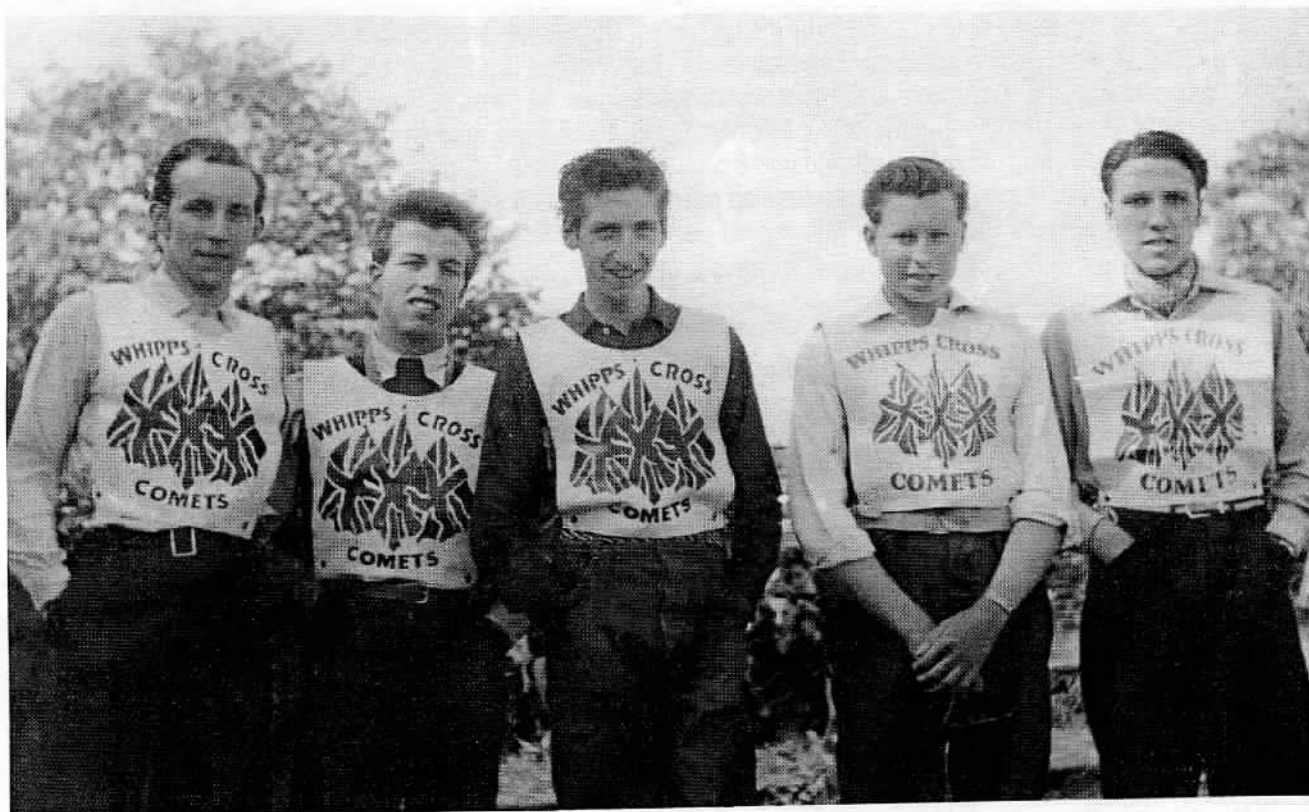
8. Mick also writes about the 1969 BCSF Riders Final referring to Dave Collins Email on Page 12 of the Nov. issue.
"Turning to p.12, Dave Collins puts me straight on my shots taken at Edmonton for the 1969 BCSF British Riders Final. I could not remember the final placings. So thank you Dave for that. I have one more shot of the match which I enclose. This is Dave and Kevin Wilson starting the run-off for first place. So at this point Dave, you are not actually behind Kevin! I didn't realise that this was your penultimate match, the final one being the Tottenham v Edmonton Gold Cup final at Thurrock. Well, I seem to have the programme from this match and can confirm that Dave certainly did go though the meeting unbeaten with 20 points. Donaghy and Hooper got 15 each, John Coppin and Vic Haines had 12 as did my old pal Len Adams with Malcolm reading getting 9. Total points 99. For . Total points 75. It was a verywell presented meeting put on by Bill Gill and his staff."

Right. 1969 BCSF BRITISH RIDERS FINAL AT EDMONTON (Nth. London)

Start of the run-off for first place, on the inside Dave Collins, Tottenham Kangaroos, on outside Kevin Wilson, South London Rangers.



More Answers



Re who were the other teams in the Tulse Hill four a side event in 1953.

Here is a photo of the Whipps Cross Comets entr  e, with one reserve.
L-R J. Brown, J. Clatworthy, S. Sherman, H. Hopwood & D. Hewlett.

One other team entered were Southall Hammers, I remember this, because the local mayor was present, his car broke down and Jim Clatworthy being a trainee mechanic, got under the car and fixed it so that he could go home after the match.

From Roy Delany

As a follow up to the November issue of the Track Record, page twelve, I can confirm the names of the other three clubs that were competing in the Queen of England Coronation Cup contest at Tulse Hill on 14th June 1953.

They were:-

Tulse Hill Rockets, Southall Hammers and Whipps Cross Comets.

Both Celebrities at this meeting, Brian Reece and Doreen Lundy were keen Cycle Speedway fans at that time. Doreen even interrupted her North of England tour to attend this majestic meeting.



Edmonton Saints rider Brian Lewis takes the glamorous Miss Lundy on a lap of honour round the Tulse Hill circuit.

15th. "London Old Masters"

Saturday 30th. October 2010 at E. London CSC.

Wednesfield's pocket dynamo Mark Griffiths produced 5 perfect starts to record a debut maximum at the 15th running of the London Old Masters on a fine autumnal Saturday in the Olympic city. The Eurovets GP Series runner up and British Vets podium finalist from the West Midlands' only tricky race was when he came up against last year's victor Gary Brown and local favourite Dennis Hubble in heat 14 but like he had dealt with multi rostrum visitor Norman Venson earlier, got clear of them both. These two former winners tied on 18 points but a shattered Dennis declined run off in favour of the Suffolk rider who gained most of his points from determined overtaking manoeuvres on the damp but grippy surface. Norman finished fourth ahead of Hull's Simon Plows who scored well on an unknown track to him including a dead heat for 2nd, place with former winner Dave Tulloch behind Gary Brown in heat 11 the best race of the day.



Heat No. 1 Left to Right, Steve Woodroof (East London), Simon Plows (Hull), Fred Rothwell (Pedalsport CC) and bring up the rear 72 year old Chic Mackie (Edinburgh)

Despite containing six riders over 60 the racing was as competitive as in their heyday with high speed tumbles for both Tulloch and ex Hawbush rider Chris Riches in a match well controlled by referee Dave Hunting. Steve Woodroof equalled his 6th. position of last year, half a point ahead of Tulloch with 2005 winner Les Stevens a further half point adrift. Eurovets organiser Fred Rothwell was the best of the rest ahead of former British Lions Manager Dave Baxter continuing a season long rivalry with Kevin Smith a point adrift. Usual LOM referee Dave Hughes scored 9 but was in positions in a couple of races to add to that.

The remaining riders enjoyed their meeting with that fall costing Riches a couple of places whilst 72 year old legend, Chic Mackie after driving through the night from Glasgow claimed positional victories over

last minute entry Tony Johnstone and Bury's Steve Jarman and was contemplating driving to Edinburgh straight afterwards to compete in Sunday's Scottish Open at Redbraes Park!

As usual the match was watched by many retired SE riders including former winners Bill Hopkins, Steve Bloxham, Dave Palfreyman and Lee Galley amongst the Cycle Speedway faces hanging over the safety fence. For a second year the trophies were sponsored by Dutchman Johan Koudijs who presented them along with Almere / Hilversum compatriots Donald Reiche and Fred van-den Dolder and the majority of the field partook of some refreshments at the nearby Fox at Connaught docklands bistro afterwards.

With even more veterans racing events planned for next year the LOM will probably be re-incorporated in a Eurovets round to be held earlier in the season now that long term organiser Steve (Jock) Harvie has finally hung up his wheels for good.



Heat No.7 Mark Griffiths (Wednesfield) leads Simon Plows (Hull)

Result – 1st. MARK GRIFFITHS (Wednesfield) 20 Points, 2nd. Gary Brown (Kesgrave) 18, 3rd. Dennis Hubble (East London) 18, 4th. Norman Venson (Leicester) 17, 5th. Simon Plows (Hull) 16.5, 6th. Steve Woodroof (E. London) 14, 7th. Dave Tulloch (E. London) 13.5, 8th. Les Stevens (E. London) 13, 9th. Fred Rothwell ('Pedals Sport') 12, 10th. Dave Baxter (Edinburgh) 11, 11th. Kevin Smith (E. London) 10, 12th. Dave Hughes (E. London) 9, 13th. Chris Riches (ex Hawbush) 8, 14th. Chic Mackie (Edinburgh) 7, 15th. Tony Johnstone (ex Tolworth) 6 & 16th. Steve Jarman (Bury) 5.

Referee – Dave Hunting (Suffolk).



London Old Masters - Saturday 30th October 2010

Back Row - Lt. to Rt. Les Stevens (East London), Kevin Smith (EL), Steve Jarman (Bury), Steve Woodroof (EL), Chris Riches (Ex Hawbush), Dave Hunting (Referee), Gary Brown (Kesgrave), Tony Johnson (Ex Tolworth), Steve (Jock) Harvie (Promoter), Donald Reiche (Guest from Holland), Dave Baxter (Edinburgh), Chic Mackie (Edinburgh), Fred v-d Dolder (Guest from Holland), Johan Koudijs (Hatch Sponsor from Holland) and Fred Rothwell (Organiser of the Eurovets GP Series).

Front Row - Lt. to Rt. Dave Tulloch (East London), Simon Plows (Hull), Dave Hughes (East London), Dennis Hubble (East London), Norman Venson (Leicester) and LOM Winner Mark Griffiths (Wednesfield).

VCSRA - Annual General Meeting

Saturday 9th April 2011 at 4pm

To be held in the Long Bar at Rye House Speedway by the
Kind Permission of the Promoter and the 1st VCSRA President
Mr Len Silver

Members and their Partners will be admitted FREE (*it will be helpful if you bring along your membership card*) and will be welcome to stay for the racing and purchase a supper from the stadiums Fish Bar.

Agenda (Provisional)

- (1) Introduction by the Vice Chairman John Brown
- (2) Approval of the Minutes AGM Saturday 10th October 2009
- (3) Secretaries Report
- (4) Membership Secretaries Report
- (5) Treasurers Report
- (6) Review of Nominations for Committee Posts and status of sitting members
- (7) Election of Committee for 2010/11
- (8) Proposal by Colin Booth/Roy Garnham that the Annual Dinner/Dance shall be replaced by a sit down lunch in late September 2011 and annually thereafter. To be resolved by a show of hands.
- (9) Strategy for Association activities**
- (10) Any other business
- (11) Closing address by New Chairman

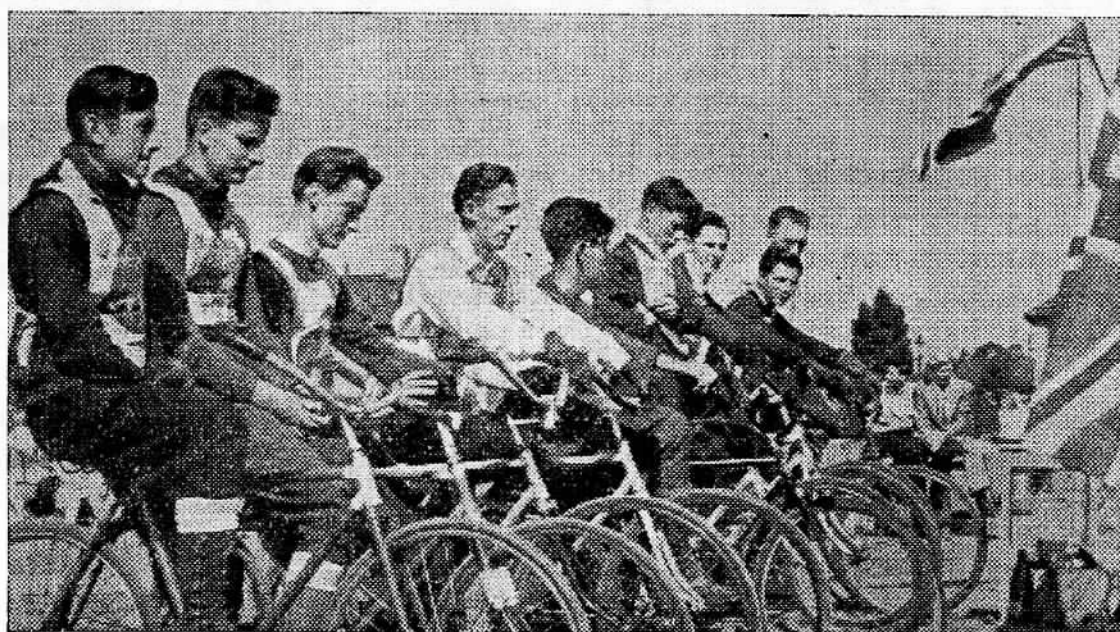
** Members are encouraged to write down their ideas and hand them to the Secretary for discussion.

From Paul Robinson

I first got to know about the VCSRA in 2005, I duly joined and I really look forward to the Track Record. The Watford Observer has a nostalgia page and asked for anyone who had ridden cycle speedway to write in. They had loads of pictures of different teams sent in and this prompted me to write an article and send it in and it was published on the nostalgia page. Jim Bratten, who lives in Great Yarmouth, gets the Watford Observer from a friends cousin, and read my article. Jim is the Cousin of Dud Smith and he sent some pictures of Dud. He informed me that sadly Dud passed away in 1993 age 62.

As you wrote in your last editor notes, Dud was so laid back and such a nice guy. I did ride with Dud in test match at our home track in Mitchell Way in July 1949. We were both in the Willesden team against Wembley. We ran out winners by 61½ to 57½

CYCLE SPEEDWAY "TEST"



L-R Paul Robinson Willesden Comets, not known, Dud Smith Acton Acorns, Ernie Hollis Willesden Comets, not known, Frank Hopcroft Willesden Comets, Dennis Woods Willesden Comets & Eric Willis Willesden Comets Captain.

We all wished that we could have gone on to Speedway like Dud did, I do not know he and others managed it, with wages so low and the sport was quite expensive. Transport seemed to be a problem, Dud lived in Harlesden and had to put his bike in to the guards van at Willesden Junction to travel down to Southampton.

We must have crossed paths many times Bill, as I rode for the Willesden Comets from 1948-1950 also in the Wembley & District League. We were accepted in to section "A" together with the Wembley Panthers, Wembley Hawks, Acton Acorns, Colindale Aces & Kingsbury Tigers. The other Willesden team, Stonebridge Rockets were a younger team and were put into section "B". A week later at an eleventh hour meeting of the Wembley Control Board, it was decided that for the winter league the Comets should compete in section "B", to be replaced in section "A" by the Kingsbury Falcons.

Winter section "B" League consisted of Kingsbury Rangers, Kingsbury Lion Cubs, Hendon Pirates Willesden Comets and Stonebridge Rockets. We would later get promoted to section "A" in 1949.

We never ever wore crash helmets, maybe gloves, gaiters and boots. The first time I came across riders with helmets was when we travelled to race against the Peckham Stars in a cup tie. They had the proper staling gates, stands etc. everything you would associate with speedway.

(Report on opposite page)

From the Willesden Citizen 25th March 1949.

COMETS OUT OF CUP

Willesden Comets journeyed to Peckham on Sunday for the return of their Cycle Speedway Trophy match, when they lost to Peckham Stars by 39 points to 57, and were so dismissed from the competition on aggregate 83 points to 108. The Comets rode much better on the South East London track than they did on their own the previous week and their 18 point defeat by no means does them justice for all the races were close and times on the Peckham track were the fastest since last season, Dennis Woods setting up the fastest time of the match, 48.4 seconds, which was only 2 seconds outside the track record.

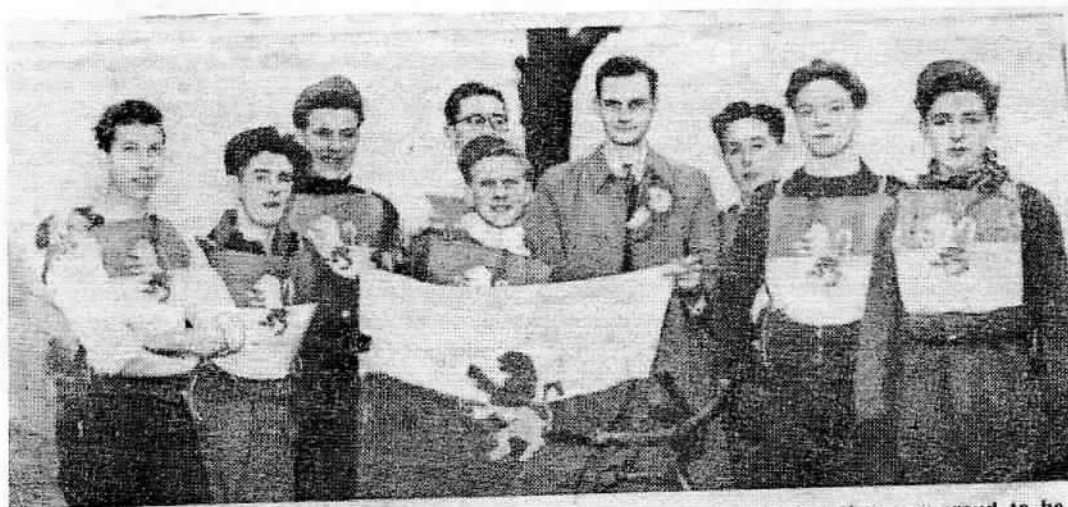
Eric Wills had his unluckiest day and recorded only one point, falling in his first three rides. Paul Robinson maintained his improved form and Freddy Hopcroft fully justified his promotion from reserve to the team proper and scored 7 points. Robinson and Hopcroft were the outstanding pair of the match and were placed in every race, sharing points in two, winning one 4-2 and recording the Comets only 5-1 success.

Comets scorers: Dennis Woods 8, Paul Robinson 8, Freddy Hopcroft 7, Ernie Hollis 6, Roy Humphreys 4, Roy Clarke 3, Dennis Downs 2 and Eric Willis 1.

A couple of years ago, I visited the Cricklewood Library and also the Colindale Newspaper library and found all the results for 1948-1949 in 1950 it went dead and I could not find any more results for the Willesden Comets.

The last time I saw my partner in the Willesden Comets, Frankie Hopcroft was when I met him at the Wembley Stadium in 1970, when the Lions had been reformed. But it was not the same, as the crowds were only about 15,000 not like the good old days of 90,000. By now I had a car and managed to visit Hackney, Wimbledon, and the White City on a regular basis, also quite a few away matches.

The Willesden Comets had three tracks during their time in the league. The first was in the Gibbons Road Recreation Ground, shared with the Stonebridge Rockets, we shared the Stonebridge track for a while with the Rockets and eventually we had our own track in Mitchell Way. I met my wife to be, as she lived in Mitchell Way and in late 1950 and my cycle speedway days came to an end. I got called up for National Service in September 1951. I got married in on demob leave on 26th September 1953. I have three daughters, eight Grandchildren and six Great Grand children. I am now at the grand old age of 77 and still today I often think about the good old day of cycle speedway and also of the real sport of speedway. I do not get to see the sport as much as I would like. I have been to Rye House a couple of times recently and admire good old Len Silver for all his enthusiasm for the sport. He has done it all, Cycle speedway, speedway, promoter and is still going strong.



Maybe these lads are the Wembley Lions of to-morrow. For the time being they are proud to be wearing the famous crest and carrying the well-known Lions' roar into cycle speedway conflict. This is the Wembley cycle Test team which went down fighting gallantly at West Ham last season but won the return match. Group includes Buster Brown, Del Green, Fred Smallwood and Mr. T. A. White, Control Board Manager.

Buster Brown centre on bike, Dud Smith 2nd from right.

PEDALS to POWER DUD SMITH



Dud Smith on bike.

Dud rode cycle speedway for the Acton Acorns and was one of the top riders in the Wembley League and a Test Match regular.



SNAPSHOT No. 41—Dudley Smith.

The first mention of Dud as a speedway rider was in the Stenner's Speedway annual 1952, where among the list of Southampton Riders, it lists "Smudger" Smith from the British Army of the Rhine Speedway. The photo on the left is from the same issue.

From the book *Southampton Speedway* by Paul Eustace:-

Southampton speedway reopened in 1952 in the new Southern League, on a new cinders track in new race jackets of red & white stripes, with reduced prices and a new promoter, Charles Knott. After holding trials for dozens of aspiring speedway riders, many riders were tried, most without success. Youngsters Maury Mattingly and Dudley Smith showed flashes of brilliance, Smith capturing the track record.

Stenner's annual for 1953, showed Dud holding the track record in a time of 63.80 seconds for the 333yard track. This beat the 1951 previous record of 64.40 jointly held by Bob Oakley and Jack Young.

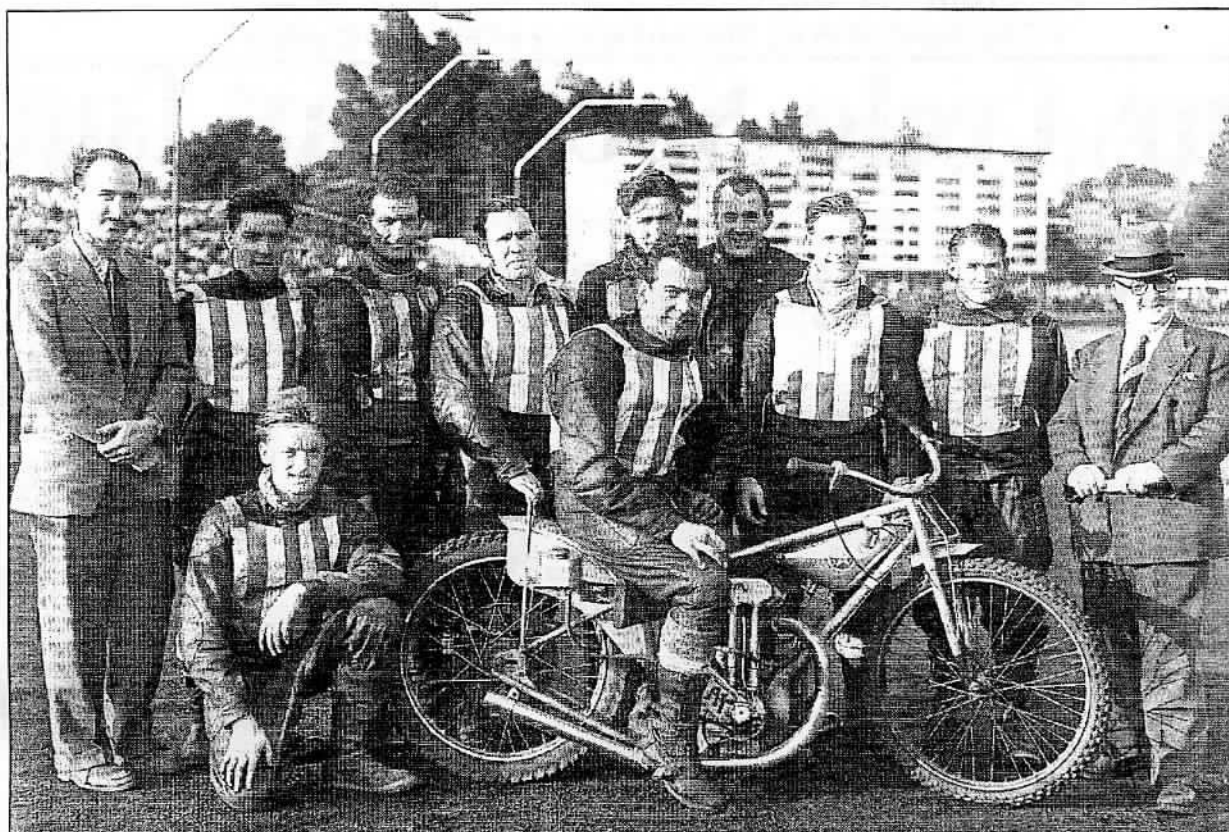
The following year Dud set a new time 63.20.

In 1954, Southampton joined the newly formed National League division 2. Several riders were signed in an attempt to bring the Saints up to Second division standard. The team struggled on away tracks, losing every match. Although Doug is included in the 1954 team photo, but to quote "Southampton Speedway" again:- It is a mystery why track record holder Smith had only one outing in Saints colours.

The cycle speedway photo above and the match report below were from Paul Robinson.

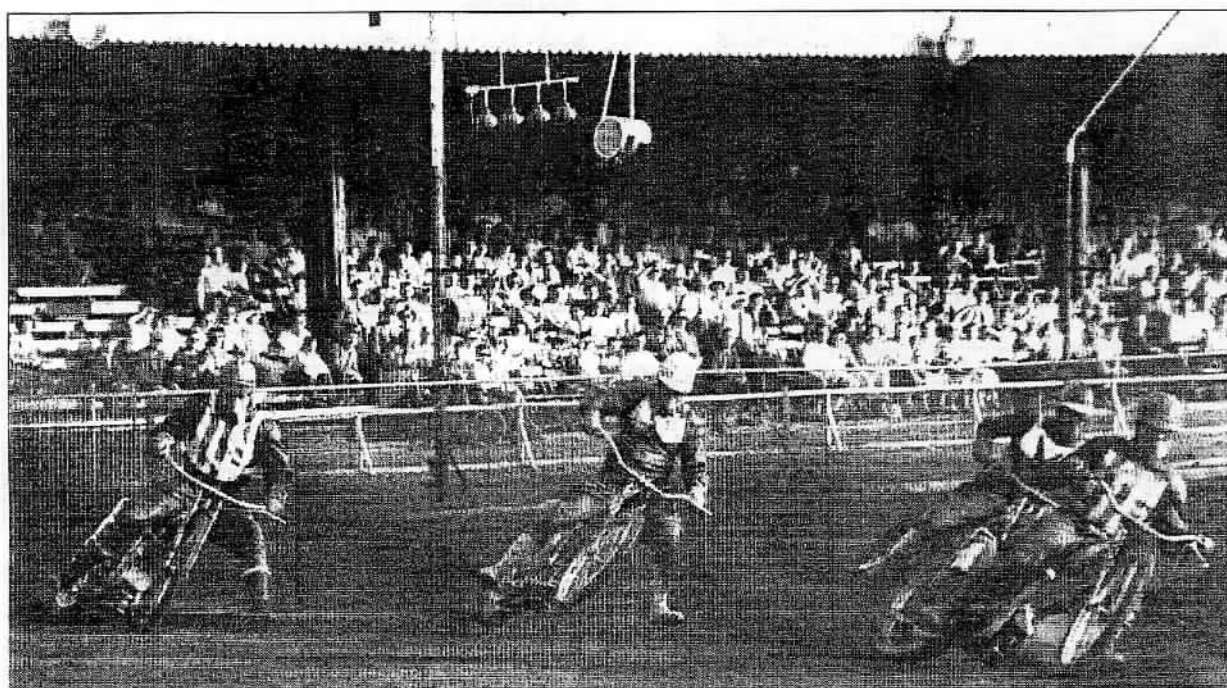
Biggest victory gives them a lift up the table.

Southampton speedway team gained their biggest win of the season when trouncing Exeter 62-21 in a Southern League match at Southampton last night and thus move away from the bottom of the table. Dudley Smith, who scored a maximum was outstanding for Southampton. (photo opposite page)



1952 Southampton team.

Left to right: Mike Erskine (team manager) Dennis Cross, Dudley Smith (kneeling) Mike Tams, Dennis Hayles, Bert Croucher (Captain, on bike) Jack Vallis, Aston Quinn Maury Mattingly, Brian McKeown & Charlie Knott (Promoter)



Saints v Falcons Southern League match 1952. Southampton's Dudley Smith hugs the white line ahead of Exeter's Jack Geran, while Bert Croucher powers around Neil Street

From the 'Southend Standard' - May 1964
Cutting sent in by Austen Horrex of Estuary Eagles

Our Cycle Speedway Cup for Derek

OFFERTON DEVILS' "track-twins"—Derek Garnett and Vic Hinchcliffe—scorched home into first and second places in the Golden Jubilee Cycle Speedway Grand Prix at Southchurch Park (East) on Whit Monday.

Grand Prix winner Derek Garnett was on top form and dropped only two points in five races to win the title with 13 points.

The two points he dropped were in his first race, when he came third to Phil Furness, Galley Pirates' winner in the junior Grand Prix, and World Champion Mike Parkins (Norwich Stars).

After that he made his fighting comeback and won his next four races.

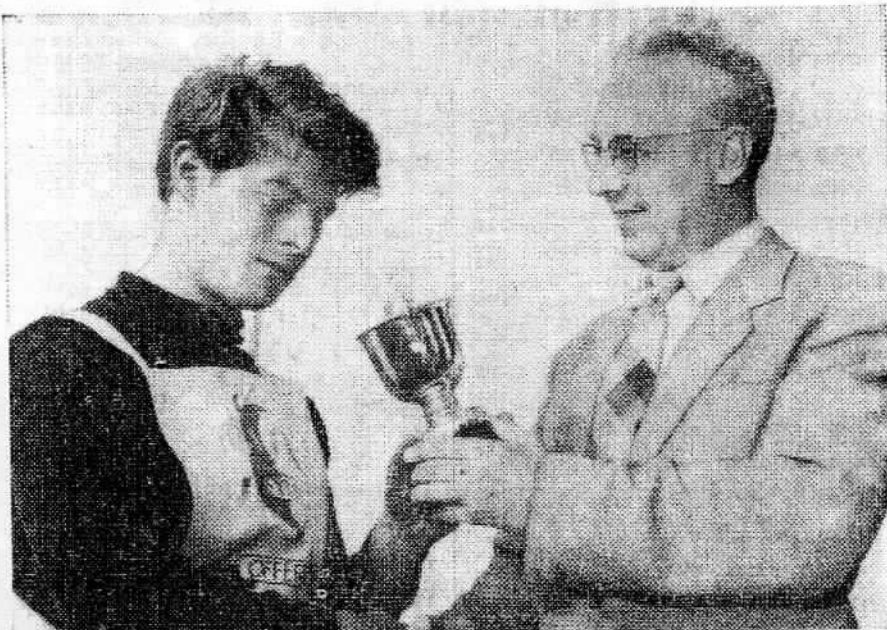
But it was his team-mate Vic Hinchcliffe who at first looked like being on the winning streak.

In his first three rides he did not drop a point, but in the fourth he was riding against Garnett, Jack Pinkerton (Scottish Rangers) and Pete Boxhall (Norwich Stars) and finished third.

Then it was anybody's guess for the trophy. Hotly-tipped was 18-year-old Johnnie Brooks (Galley Pirates), who had dropped two points in three races.

But his hopes slumped when he was excluded after an incident in the fourth race.

Final result: 1, Derek Garnett (who was presented with the "Southend Standard" Cup by Ald. A. V. Mussett); 2, Vic



• Derek Garnett (left) receives the "Southend Standard" Cup from Ald. A. V. Mussett.

Hinchcliffe; 3, Norman Smith (Rayleigh Rockets).

In the Junior Jubilee Grand Prix, Phil Furness (Galley Pirates) dropped only one point to win the Mike Webb Cup.

Offerton Devils' Tony Hardy was second, and Chris Hunt (Wembley Lions) was third after a run-off between himself, John Dicks (Norwich Stars) and Val Hockley (Estuary Eagles).

Four-a-side

Grand Prix champion Garnett led his team to a fine victory in the four-a-side team tournament final.

He won all of his six races and team mate Tony Hardy was second in four of them.

The other half of the Offerton team—Vic Hinchcliffe and Angus McKenzie—did not do quite so well—but well enough to ensure an Offerton victory.

They finished with 43 points but Estuary

Eagles gave them a good fight and ended only five points behind.

Third were Tolworth Tudors with points, and fourth were gallant Rayleigh Rockets, a second division team who put up a good show throughout the two-meeting.

Annual event?

It is hoped the meeting will become an annual event—and there is no reason why not from the weekend's showing.

Said Estuary Eagles' Manager; organiser Den Winch: "This has been a very good meeting, and there is doubt about that. We are virtually certain to have one every year now."

Also enthusiastic was Mr. Albert M. bridge, Chairman of the National Amateur Cycle Speedway Association, who said Southend was an ideal venue for future meetings and he would welcome them.

"It's a nice place and teams can come down for the weekend," he commented.

RESCHEDULED

CELIBRATION of SPEEDWAY at PARADISE PARK

Will now take place on Sunday 17th April 2011 at 10pm

It will be a joint event sharing with the 'Bikers in Paradise' day.

Entry is FREE to all Speedway Fans

A Primarily Motor Speedway event it features extensive Speedway Memorabilia Stalls and Speedway Bike Demonstrations

The VCSRA Exhibition Stand will be there manned by members of the committee who will be happy to answer any questions you may have about the activities of the association.

We are also hoping to feature a cycle speedway challenge match for the 'Fred Paul Cup' but as yet arrangements have not been finalised.

From the South London Local Press April 1950

Trophy won in last heat thriller

TWO thousand spectators saw Ray Braddon win the S.E. London Individual Championship and the Crossman Cup at East Surrey Grove, Peckham recently. The issue was not settled until the 20th and last heat, when J. Lunan (New Cross Rangers) needed to beat Braddon to force a decider. But he failed, and instead dead heated with R. Brand (P. Stars) for second place. In the run off, Lunan fell and gave Brand a walk over.

The Mayor of Camberwell, Ald. A. F. Crossman presented the trophy to Braddon and Mrs. F. Corbett, M.P., L.C.C., presented miniature cups and medals to the first three riders. Ray Braddon was only beaten once in his five rides, that by L. Luck (Orpington Eagles) in Heat 11. Luck was the day's unluckiest rider. He beat Braddon, Brand and Lunan and when well placed for another win crashed with C. Buckingham.

Ald. Crossman said that he hoped the sport would never get big names, but would always stay as it was, with the work done voluntarily. In all 16 riders took part and the final scores were: R. Braddon (P. Stars) 14, H. Brand (Stars) 12, J. Lunan (New X) 12, J. Luck (O. Eagles) 11, T. Vinter (Ruskin) 10, D. Crocombe (Ruskin) 8, C. Buckingham (Stars) 7, S. Adams (Sydenham) 7, T. Jarratt (Stars) 6, L. Eastwood (New X) 5, A. Palmer (Albion Aces) 5, E. Camp (Sydenham) 5, J. King (A. Aces) 4, E. Cox (O. Eagles) 4, J. Goody (New X) 4, E. Moore (Stars) 3.

Mr. Bloor, manager S.E. London C.B., on behalf of all the riders would like to thank C. Gibbs of E. London for the splendid way he stewarded the match.



(Above) Winner Ray Braddon (Peckham Stars) is chaired team mate R. Brand, runner-up.

CUTTING FROM THE COLLECTION OF
RON HOLVEY



**Monday 18th April
1949 at the Birth
Place of British Mo-
tor Speedway,
High Beech in the
Heart of Epping For-
est in Essex**

**Southern Counties
League Match**

London v Middlesex

We asked if anyone had any pictures of the test match at High Beech and here are 2 sent in by Dennis Daniel.

Above.

A general shot of the pits, a London rider holds up a tree!

Right.

The riders parade before the match, Vic Winter of the London team is presented to the V.I.P. In the background can be seen the Kings Oak Pub where the 'Celebration of Speedway' event used to be held.



From Bill Punter

High Beech 1949

Congratulations to Ken Archer and Colin Booth for bringing back such fantastic memories. I was there that day. Me being a 15 year old junior rider for South Harrow Greyhounds Cycle Speedway Club. I rode for the Whippets, the second team. The club ran a coach of supporters to the match, including Ken Wakerly and Dixie Dean.

What memories, we beat London by one point. After the match I borrowed Dixies bike and had a couple of laps of the track, before officials stopped me.

Thank you once more for Magic Memories

Bill Punter

From John Mann (Robertsbridge Rocket.)

You featured Barry Shapley from Scotland in one of your earlier editions. I have great memories of Barry when he toured our area with a Scottish Touring team, made up from riders from Musleburgh Giants and an Edinburgh team that Barry rode for. When we rode against them, Barry was unbeaten, scoring a maximum and won the scratch final.

Here is some information regarding riders who competed for teams in the Sedlescombe League in East Sussex.

Sedlescombe Saints:- Arthur Puxty, Tony "Ticker" Taylor, Lennie Larkin, Jack & Roy Chapman, Charley Thomas, Dave Gammon & Ron "Wangy" Hudson.

Robertsbridge Rockets:- Guy Robinson, Bobby & Gidge Crouch, Roy "Ticker" Thomset, Micky Luck, John Pennells, Charlie Wilmer, Alan Stone, Lou Wilson, Ronnie Mitchell, Brian Martin, Eric Beany & John Mann.

Battle Bulldogs:- Jimmy Spray, Jimmy Pierce, Roly Beaney & Roy Marriott.

Rye Aces:- Rex Swain (Now the RYE TOWN CRIER), Brian "Gus" Gutsell & Micky Robins.

Sandhurst Invictas:- Chris Moore (Who later rode for the Hawkhurst Hawks), Alan & Dennis Best.

Udimore Tigers:- Ronnie Banks.

Westfield Wolves:- Ceaser Fellowes.

Ridge Eagles:- Bertie Gurr.



BATTLE BULLDOGS 1952/53



John Cobin, Clive Hurrell (Norwich) & Harry Glover (Leicester)
South London British Riders Final (1965?)



Colin Wheeler & Barry Briggs
Southampton Grand Prix 1967

Southampton Grand Prix 1967



John Cobbin & Dave Butcher
British League match Southampton v Tottenham 1967.



Ron Souch (Southampton), Wally Deighton (Beckenham)
John Cobbin (Tottenham) & Colin Wheeler (Southampton)
Southampton Grand Prix 1964.



L to R. Ron Souch & John Knock (Leicester) Mike Vernon (Southampton)
& Dave Butcher (Southampton) Southampton Grand Prix 1964.



Colin Stilwell (Southampton), Mike Vernon
Ivor Walsh (Kingstanding)

Photos and front cover from Dave Butcher (Southampton)