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DE LAUNE CYCLING CLUB

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DE LAUNE
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FRED PEACHEY

1908 - 1969



DE LAUNE NEWS

March 2004

No. 860 -75th Year

www.delaunec.org

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THE PRESIDENTS REPORTS

The De Laune Saga ski team came back in one piece from the slopes. Yes, even Roy Savery! All had a good time. Good weather (sun every day) plenty of snow, but the chalet could have been bigger for our group of 18.

If you had a treble room it consisted of two single beds and a shelf! The shelf was for the third person. It was fun every night seeing Dave Burfoot and Roy Savery making their beds on the shelves.

After the skiing it was good food and a few bottles of the red stuff. You know what it is like after a few drinks, you start talking until the early hours of the morning. One of our members (mentioning no names) had his bedding and pillows thrown down the stairs by his partner because he would not come to bed! Every one enjoyed them selves with a 'Where are we going next year Kav?' If you're interested let me know, as you will be welcome.

Did you read Mike Peel's article in last months DLN? - where he said we could be a eating and drinking club, well the above proves we are. While I am on the subject Pat Burns has organised the OMA lunch at Brighton for Sunday the 23rd of May. All members welcome. More details to follow.

The old saying 'light the blue touch paper and stand back' is so true. You are now sending in your ideas of what to do with the money from the sale of the club. I knew as soon as Malcolm Adams got his new computer we would not hear the last of him. I like the bit about the share-out. Are you saying the longer you have been in the club the more you get from the pot?

Do you know your going to get Monty Watkins coming back from Australia to take the lot (67 years a club member)! I did like most of your suggestions Malcolm they made sense, but I will be sending the van around for you next week.

Please send in your ideas, as it will soon be our June AGM. It is my own personal opinion that the money should be banked and that we should take the interest each year and use it for the benefit of our members. As a one off, I do like the idea of a nice dinner at a good venue for all our members and paid for by the club. Do you know we might get Sir Len Danby turning up to make a speech?

Reading Harry Corbett's Triathlon update makes me wonder how they find time to do all there training. I can remember looking for 100 miles per week on the bike (most of it behind lorries on the Kingston by-pass) to get under the hour, and then when I started running with the Blackheath Harriers I was looking for 40 miles per week to get under the hour for ten miles or beat three hours for the marathon but these guys are doing both, and swimming! Do they ever go home I ask? Thank you for your support Harry it is appreciated.

I hope you have all paid your subs, if not we will be sending the heavy mob around, Bert Collins and Titch Shambrook. That reminds me, I know of a gay club and if you do not pay your subs they send around two guys to criticise your curtains.

Kav.

De Laune Memorial Fund. 1st February 2004.

It has been most interesting to read the various letters and recommendations set out in the DLN concerning uses

and safeguards for the new found wealth of the De Laune Memorial Fund.

For me it has been gratifying to see that the suggestions made so far have been mostly sound common sense. May I please bring out a few points that I feel should always be born in mind when decisions are made.

The Memorial Fund and the De Laune Cycling Club General funds are two entirely separate items and should always remain that way.

It has been pointed out already the Memorial Fund is a Perpetual Fund and as such should only be invested and not spent, any interest, dividends or rents gained from these investments may be used to benefit the De Laune Cycling Club and or its members in the pursuance of sport, this has been the corner stone of the fund in the past and in my humble opinion should continue. Under no circumstances should the Memorial Fund Capital be used other than to generate income, and it is only this income that can be spent.

I thought the suggestion of shares or votes being allocated based on length of Club membership a good one. It is mostly these members by their past efforts that have put the Club in the position that it is today.

How these shares would be legally allocated I do not know, but by having shares it would protect the Memorial Fund in the event that the Club or the Memorial Fund is ever disbanded. In this situation it would be the longest serving members of the Club at that time that would have the greatest say in what happens to the assets.

Whether all this is legal is another matter; however the principal seems to me to be a sound one.

Having established that the Memorial Fund and the General Club accounts are two separate matters it now comes down as to how to safely invest the present cash.

I would suggest a TWO YEAR cooling off period, by this I suggest the money is invested in a totally sound financial instrument that yields the best interest available in the present financial climate. For two years this interest to be retained in the Memorial Fund. The US Dollar is at a very low exchange rate against the Euro or British Pound; it might bear considering investing in US Treasury Bonds in Dollars for in the next year or two the US dollar will rise. Its low point right now is politically motivated to enhance US exports, this will not last.

During the two years mentioned the Trustees or a committee to take a look at the various ways of safely investing the capital that would yield a gain to offset future inflation, while at the same time protecting the capital amount in real terms.

Putting the money in bonds, or government protected securities over a long period of time will not keep pace with real inflation so that in effect the Memorial Fund as it stands today will diminish in value over the years. Shares and the Stock Market are out due to the high risk factors.

For me the best way is to eventually purchase another commercial investment property. Property over the years past has always gained in value, as the value increases so does the return on the investment. How many of us wish we had purchased property twenty years ago, forty years ago or even just ten years ago?

However the property market is also volatile so the "right time" has to be chosen to make such a purchase. How do we know when is the "right time" For sure it is NOT NOW, prices of property have spiralled upwards into another bubble situation that can and will burst at any time.

Nobody knows what will cause this bubble to burst, some world event, a sudden decline in the world economy; this is anybody's guess. Most likely it will be an increase in interest rates; this in turn will increase the cost of mortgages. Now the real problem commences; many people who have qualified for a large mortgage but are managing to repay their mortgage payment now due to the almost unprecedented low interest rates, will likely not be able to continue paying if mortgage interest rates get back to a more realistic borrowing rate of around 8%-10% This in turn will cause the housing market to slow down, then we may well see a repeat of the situation a few years back when borrowers walked away from their mortgages because their property value had fallen below what they owed to the Bank or Building Society.

Now the Banks tighten up on their money lending terms, this will again cause property prices to fall.

It would be at a time such as this that the Memorial Fund could be used to purchases a sound commercial property. This property is then leased providing a solid and regular income by way of rents. Now the Memorial Fund owns a property that will increase in value over time, keeping pace with or exceeding inflation and thus protecting the capital in real terms, while at the same time the Memorial Fund has a solid income to allocate as the Trustees see fit.

What I have described above has been my own philosophy over the years, I have no complaints!

Keep those ideas rolling in, it makes for very interesting reading in the DLN

John Darroch.

"How to spend our newly found capital" any suggestions from anybody is not going to be agreeable to all. Therefore any decision to move large sums of money to either purchase, invest or donate should be a Club decision voted for by the members as a whole after all the money belongs to all of us not just the Trustees, but they have to sign the cheque so they would have the final decision. *(As a past trustee I cannot agree that the money belongs to us all, the monies were given or raised for the Memorial Fund. Ed.)*

My suggestions are (despite Mike's remarks) 1, that the Club subscriptions SHOULD! be reduced to approximately £15, after all we no longer have a clubroom to look after. 2, Secondly the club clothing could be reduced. Obviously we must invest some of the money so as we can run the club on the interest. Maybe out of the interest we could revive the Club dinner and subsidise the cost to club members. I recently attended the Sydenham Wheelers Annual Dinner & Dance where 70 people attended @ £25 per head, admittedly

Alan Rowe

THE GOOD FRIDAY GAMBLE – 1903 TO 2003

The above is a really good A-4 size booklet that has been produced by John Watts, who is President of the Southern Counties Cycling Union. It contains 58 pages of photographs and information, and is a must for anyone who has ever attended a Good Friday meeting at Herne Hill.

Reference is made to De Laune CC on pages 4 and 5 and starts with the paragraph: "Historians usually have to refer to official documents and press reports to describe events that took place 100 years ago. However, an eyewitness account brings the scene to life as Aubrey King, a member of the De Laune CC, wrote his memories of Good Friday 1903 in the De Laune News of April 1940".

Copies of this booklet are available from John at 45 Juniper Road, Langley Green, Crawley RH11 7NL at a cost of £5.70 including postage.

Brian Saxton Club

Archivist



THE KNOCKHOLT

Just a line or two about our visit to the Crown at Knockholt on new years day.

I have lived in South Africa since 1971 and before Christmas, had last visited the UK during 1988 when I remarried.

We came to the UK for my sister's 70th birthday and made Knockholt one of the musts on our visit. What a reception we received when we walked into the bar, a welcome beyond any dream.

It was great to see so many old (long time away) faces, some instantly recognised, others had to put a name to the face first.

Roy Savery, with whom we stayed for a few days, Mick Peel, Brian Dacey my old madison partner, Roy Chittleburgh who was stationed with me at North Weald for national service, Brian Skelton, Brian Saxton, Dot & Ken Fuller, Kav, Maureen Jackson and Titch.

Kav gave us a copy of the De Laune 100 years and a photo of the montage that adorned the club house wall, all on the understanding that I renew my membership which, as Sax reminded me, had lapsed in 1975 (when I got divorced).

A very pleasant couple of hours swapping long, almost forgotten memories were enjoyed. We particularly enjoyed the effort that everyone made not only to speak to us when we arrived but also made the effort to say goodbye as they departed.

It was good to hear Brian Dacey relate on his experience and success at the Nationals and Worlds. We had a lot of success in our early days in Madison's and team pursuits, and while a silver medal in the team pursuit was my only national medal it was but one of many for Brian.

I'm still a cyclist, riding some 4/5 timed road events a year. Riders are seeded nationally and also in age category; the seeding is based on your finishing time divided by the winner's time on a formula. Starting line-ups can be anything from 3,000 to the 35,000 we have for the Cape Argus, the biggy of the year. Luckily we only have between 300-700 starting in each of the many groups!! Your time seems to be of more importance than your position unless you happen to win your age group.

It was great to visit the old country again and to go and see the Spurs even though they chose to lose. My last visit to White Hart Lane was 1975. But we do see an awful lot of Premier league soccer on the TV. It was even nicer to get back to the warm weather of Durban where winter temperatures get as low as 14/16c if we are unlucky. It's seldom we even have to put on tights for a Sunday ride.

Feel free to publish any of my letter in the mag. I would like the Guys at Knockholt to know how much we enjoyed meeting them all and appreciated the welcome.

Regards

Ted & Judi McDonald

IMPORTANT NOTICE



For all club members who intend to race this year and who use inhalers for asthma or other breathing problems should be aware that they must register this fact with British Cycling (for the attention of Jim Hendry).

The inhalers concerned are those containing Formoterol, Salbutamol, Salmeterol and Terbutaline. This ruling affects anyone intending to ride time trials, road racing, circuit racing, and track or off road, held under the rules of Cycling Time Trials (CTT) and British Cycling (BC).

The action anyone using these products should take is to visit your doctor, ask them to provide you with a signed letter that you require this medication. A copy of this letter should be sent to British Cycling at Manchester and you should keep a copy available for yourself which should be taken to all races and produced if requested at a drugs control. Failure to register shall not constitute grounds for any appeal against a charge in respect of a breach of the UCI, CTT or BC Anti Doping Regulations.

Competitors should be aware that it is not only the prize winners who can be drug tested, random selections of other riders occurs when testing is carried out. It is not only championship/international events that maybe tested a random selection of other events may also be undertaken.

TONY PEACHEY

Hillingdon Winter Series 2003/04 Rankings

Points after 16 races

1	Lewis Atkins	Ciclos Uno/PCA	180 pts
2	David Baker	Ciclos Uno/PCA	111
3	Bryan Taylor	Velo Club Londres	90

19 Dan Rudd Edwardes (De Laune) 14

The Mosquito London Cyclo Cross League? FINAL RANKINGS

Seniors ----- the best 8 rides from 13 events.

1	Ian Field	San Fairy Ann CC	748
2	James Dear	In Gear RT	738
3	Ben Lockwood	GS Invicta	717

19 Steve Price De Laune CC 470
20 Bill Wright De Laune CC 458

Veterans

1	Nick Welsh	GS Invicta	571
2	Pat Hayes	PCA Orbea	553
3	Paul Warner	Team Darenth	525

8 Bill Wright De Laune CC 458

SNIPPETS FROM THE COMMITTEE MINUTES

- * The purchasers had renamed the property 'The Old Bicycle Club'.
 - * Steve Price had not been competing in Cyclo Cross events recently due to a dip in form.
 - * Brian Dacey was going to USA in February for 6 weeks training.
 - * It was unanimously agreed to give Brian Dacey a club jersey with world champion insignia, namely rainbow collar and cuffs.
 - * Nick Butler and Howard Coulson had been riding in Richmond Park on Sunday mornings, but no other members had been participating.
 - * The SERRL did not have officials for 2004, it appeared to have been disbanded and it did not appear likely that there would be a programme of events.
 - * PH had agreed to set a quiz in order that a quiz night could be held. He was, however, unable to organise the evening as a whole. The most likely Venue would be Blackheath Harriers clubhouse.
-

????????????????? COMMUNICATIONS ??????????????????????

Today, Sunday 7th Feb I had cause to recollect the words of a certain young lady called Jane about the lack of communication within the club that makes new members feel isolated and frustrated. I had been asked to make up a very poor 4th in the cyclo-cross team this morning to be held at Eastways and was instructed by one of the members that this would take place between 12-12.30pm. So ignoring the siren like call of the claret on Saturday night, I destroyed 2 inner tubes putting on my mountain bike tyres to attend in honour of the club, only to find my arrival at 11.32 am the start had presaged my attendance. Nice.

I knew exactly how Jane had felt because if the cabal of close members don't involve the rest then there is little point in attending the club. Being a solitary person I am very capable of enjoying my bicycling alone and yet find the membership of De Laune delightful.

If the club is to grow there must be an involvement of all members. The involvement requires notification. To be told 'come along' and not to receive a friendly follow-up makes the individual feel outside of the club.

I'm sure as Jane felt, there needs to be more than the club banner uniting the members and I am sure that Nick Butler's attempts on a Sunday morning are a step in the right direction. But please let's have more involvement and a more welcoming tenure from the established members to those struggling to do their best.

Regards,

Howard Coulson

Sorry to hear that you were given the wrong start time, the start time was published as - 11.00am. Ed

See: www.londoncyclesport.com

London Cyclo-Cross Assoc Team Champs

The London Team champs held on February 8 to mark the end of the cross season at Eastway, London and hosted by Avanti CC

Seniors results

POS.	CAT.	NAME	CLUB	
1	J	Ian Field	Ex LCCA Youth	1st junior
2	V	Ben Lockwood	GS Invicta A	@44 secs 1st
3	J	Rob Whenman	Ex LCCA Youth "	

13 S Ross Fryer De Laune CC

36 S Cliff Steel De Laune CC

40 S Bill Wright De Laune CC

Seniors teams

POS	CAT.	NAME	CLUB
1st team			
1	J	Ian Field	Ex LCCA Youth
3	J	Rob Whenman	Ex LCCA Youth
4	J	William Thompson	Ex LCCA Youth
8		Ex LCCA Youth Total	

2nd team - 1st affiliated team and thus the champions

2	V	Ben Lockwood	GS Invicta A
8	S	Steve Castle	GS Invicta A
9	S	Nick Welsh	GS Invicta A
19	S	Invicta A Total	

11th team

13	S	Ross Fryer	De Laune CC
36	S	Cliff Steel	De Laune CC
40	S	Bill Wright	De Laune CC
89		De Laune CC Total	

**ROSS FRYER****MY FIRST BIKE**

This photograph was taken in August 1943 and as you can see the house railing had been removed to help the war effort.

Bikes were hard to come by and as you will see the left hand pedal is not at a right angle, this was due to the crank being badly worn and it was impossible to get a replacement.

I can remember riding from Brixton Hill to Milkwood Road, this seemed a long way on a little bike to a cycle shop (I think it was called Standivans) that said they would try and fix it. They banged a piece of metal in between the crank and the spindle, but by the time I got back home it had fallen out.

WHO IS THE RIDER?

LET ME HAVE A PHOTO OF YOUR SELF ON YOUR FIRST BIKE AND SEE IF THE MEMBERS CAN RECOGNIZE YOU. Ed.

Royalty and De Laune Cycling Club Members - Continued

On the 13th August 1953 Len Danby first put foot on German soil at Bückeberg, Niedersachsen, by courtesy of his Queen, Elizabeth II. It was here, on 23rd September 1842 that Fraulein Louise Lehzen (daughter of a Lutheran minister) alighted at the same railway station, to retire on a royal pension (Len obtained his in 1984!). She had been Queen Victoria's governess. This lady was given the name of Daisy by Victoria. Unfortunately, Prince Albert feared that she was the reason why Queen Victoria was not sharing matters with him. Albert accused Victoria of being 'infatuated' with her 'oracle' and pressed for her to be discharged. Lehzen left Buckingham Palace.

Lehzen, who in over twenty years had never taken a day's holiday, departed to make her home with her sister in Bückeberg. The Queen visited her. "Saw my poor Lehzen", wrote the Queen in 1862, "She is grown old". She lived for another eight years, dying in 1870 at the age of 86. There is a plaque on the wall above 30 Bahnhofstrasse, Bückeberg, commemorating the fact that Queen Victoria's governess lived there from 1842 until 1870.

With good luck and much fortune Oberstabsfeldwebel Danby (retired) will alight at the same railway station on the 18th August at 20.13 hours, in this year of our LORD for the fifth Bad Eilsen Reunion.



Brighton lunch is on Sunday 23rd May.

So will everyone make a note in their diary, and more details in the next issue

Fred Peachey Memorial 25 Mile Time Trial Sunday, 1st August, 2004

At the half yearly general meeting I volunteered to promote the above event on the Club's behalf. Some may find this strange as I am also deeply involved with my local Club the San Fairy Ann, but Tony and I have been Life Members of the De Laune since the early '80's, subsequently our association with the Club has been a little disjointed. Most of the old members will understand we have a vested interest in this event generally; however, I am aware that it is some years since we 'lost' Fred and therefore newer members will not have had the pleasure of knowing the gentleman in question. This article therefore sheds some light, and hopefully engenders some interest on this special trophy



Frederick George Peachey born 30th December 1908, one of five children. At the age of 16 he started work for Morgan Crucible Co in Battersea and was still employed by them 45 years later as a Researcher in their laboratory He married 'Di' on 26 February 1934, and in August 1936 Tony arrived. Most of the war years the family unit spent in Liandaff in South Wales, where Fred was involved in producing munitions for the war effort, however they returned back to Battersea Rise when peace came.

Fred started his cycle racing career in the mid 1920's with the Velma Cycling Club and later the Tooting BC, however this had to be curtailed when he became a married man with a wife, home and a young family to consider. Being unable to afford motorised transport, cycling became the acceptable mode of transport and the whole family would often ride together, Fred & Di on the tandem with Tony in a sidecar and later on a solo. Soon after the war Fred introduced Tony to boxing, a sport Fred's brother was involved in but this was short lived. Tony then started competitive swimming, locally and inter nationally, and again Fred was there in the supporting role. It was not until cycling became the lead sport for Tony that Fred started to shine. Tony joined the De Laune in March 1952, hastily followed by Fred. Although Fred never attained any official coaching qualification he had years of experience from his involvement in competitive boxing, swimming and cycling, coupled with an inexhaustible bank of energy to get things done. He would be at the clubroom every week encouraging everyone,

offering help for any event whether held on the track, off road, time trials and road races. He was a regular committee member, taking on the roles of time trial secretary and open promoter. He served on the London South District Council of the then RTTC, NCU later to become BCF, Southern Counties Committee and Road Records Assn. In fact what you would call an all round good clubman.

Sadly, on 19th February, 1969 Fred died of a heart attack. He would have been overjoyed at knowing his son Tony had subsequently finished 13th twice, in the National Best All Rounder Competition and that his Grand daughter Claire Silvester (Nee Peachey) clinched the National Junior BAR in 1990 in De Laune colours, but it was not to be. He was and still is affectionately missed.

By way of a tribute to his untiring support for the De Laune Cycling Club a trophy was introduced in 1970 and has been competed for every year since with one exception in 1986. Tony had the honour of lifting the trophy in 1973 and our son in law Ian Silvester took over this mantle in 1983 and 2002.

Clearly in this article I have sought to give some insight to the background of this event generally, however in subsequent months I shall be seeking physical help with running the event proper on 1st August. I shall be looking for marshals, pusher off, tea ladies (men) etc. If you feel and overwhelming urge to volunteer at this stage to offer your assistance I shall be only too pleased to take your names NOW.

Next month I shall let you know further information on the location of this year's promotion, past winners, etc.

Val the Peach

SO WATCH THIS SPACE!



TIME TRIALS - 2004

Well as you can see I have set up a new E-mail address. I have not been set up at home yet but at my local library.

First of all I would like to say at the last committee meeting there was some criticism at the dates of the club Time Trials namely the last two 25's being that they were on consecutive week-ends. This I agreed with but I asked the district secretary to put us off with other clubs so we could share the marshalling as the De Laune with 130 members (approx.) cannot supply enough marshalls!!!!. The week-ends in question were 12th September and 19th September, added to that was the fact that Tony Peachey suggested that we put the Club OMA 10 on the Harrietsham course and he would book it for us at the same time he was booking the Open 25, that was booked on the 11th September, this was now becoming a De Laune Time Trial week, so I have now moved the 25 on the 12th September to 9th May, and we will share the marshalling with the Bec CC. So now the modified dates are as follows:-

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Start Time</u>
Club Champ. &	9/5/04	G25/47	08:00
Novices 25			
Midsummer 25	13/6/04	G25/53	08:24
Open 25	01/8/04	Q25/8	07:00
OMA 10	11/9/04	Q10/22	12:00
Autumn 25	19/9/04	G25/53	07:34
Hill Climb	10/10/04	GH/31	11:00 (Titsey Lane)

In addition to the above, I now have the dates for the inter-club time trials

May 19th	9ml.	QS/30	19:00
June 26th	25ml	Q25/20	08:00

Sept 11th (OMA 10)	10ml	Q10/22	12:00
Sept 18th	10ml	Q10/19	07:00

Alan G. Rowe

Time Trial Manager

*I think it would be a great help to get marshalls if you told the members where these courses are and not just give a number. But lets get it right the hill climb is **on White Lane** and not Titsey Lane. **Ed.***

THE RAMBLINGS OF AN OLDIE



About ten days ago while eating lunch on my lap and flipping the TV channels, I saw "The Tour of Langawi 2004" come up on the screen. Quite accidentally I had happened to tune in on a professional Cycle Road Race. As you probably know the Tour of Langawi is really the "Tour of Malaysia" to my very pleasant surprise I found that there was 1-1/2 hours of uninterrupted cycle racing every day for all of the ten stages.

To further add to my enjoyment the commentators were Phil Liggett and Paul Sherman who do the "Tour de France" so well. These two are the best cycling commentators I have ever heard; they know their cycling and make the commentary very interesting. I guess the Tour of Langawi is a second division professional bike race, not quite up to "Le Tour de France" standard but none the less very exciting to watch with some good up and coming riders from around the world and especially from Asia. During the ten stages there were some great sprint finishes, great time trailing, many breakaways and great mountain riding. There were also a lot of crashes, some very severe.

Some of the riders came from countries not usually associated with cycle racing. Iran had a great team and one very good rider in particular, Mizbani. There were Japanese riders and some Chinese riders all of a very high calibre. I would think that in the future the Chinese may make great inroads into the sport of cycle racing, watch out for them in "Le Tour de France" in a few years time or the next Olympic Games in Beijing. The stage I enjoyed the most was the ninth stage, which started in Kuala Lumpur almost at sea level and finished at the Gentin Highlands Casino some 6000 feet up in the clouds. This mountain stage ranks with the most severe climbs in Le Tour de France, the last 25 kilometres are all up hill and in the last 10 kilometres the climb severity increases to 25% gradients. It really sorted out the field of over 100 riders starting the stage for by the end only a handful of riders remained with two Columbians taking 1st and 2nd places in the stage.

The final stage through the streets of Kuala Lumpur was a "cycling feast" for we had the entire race broadcast from start to finish with the bare minimum of breaks. Several breakaways occurred during the twelve laps but it the sprinters all there at the final lap. Ruben Borgiano decisively won the final stage; he sprinted to a brilliant victory after receiving a terrific lead out by his team mate Brett Lancaster.

The Tour of Lankawi results: overall Tour winner was Freddy Gonzalas of Colombia; he rode a very consistent race throughout the entire Tour. Overall team winners were Team Barloworld from South Africa, sprint points competition was taken by Gordon Fraser, best Asian rider was Chader Mizbani from Iran and the King of the Mountains was Ruber Marin from Colombia. I cannot ever remember watching so much great cycle racing on TV.

It was made all the more interesting for me because on my several trips to Malaysia I have driven on many of the stage roads, in particular the Gentin Highlands road. Last time I went up to the Casino Jead and I parked the car and used the cable car!

I once played golf at the exclusive golf course near the top; the course is built into the side of the mountain. If you drive your ball just off the fairway it is dense jungle on one side or a rushing river in a ravine on the other. Between the four of us playing we ran out of golf balls having lost 44 golf balls between us, and we had only reached the fourteenth hole! We did not have 44 golf balls but had found some other balls while searching for our own, as you can see in the end the course got the better of all of us. The last ball was driven down the fairway by one of my Australian friends, after that we headed back to the Clubhouse for some iced cocktails. On one of the holes I hit my ball right down the middle and just short of the slightly elevated green. I took my nine

iron and hit quite a decent shot onto the centre of the green, probably just a little too hard for the ball trickled off the other side. When we went onto the green and I went to look for my ball it had gone down a steep bank and into a raging river, another ball lost! We all had a spectacular day out for the scenery was stunning and a lot of laughs; anyway what are a few lost golf balls!

Watching the cycling started me thinking back to my racing days, not just how the bikes themselves have improved but the attitudes and ideas. I recall the days when in a time trial everybody dressed in black and rode a fixed wheel, now it is all 18 or more gears. If one thinks about it the change is really quite elementary but back in the 1950's nobody rode gears in a time trial.

On one flat stage of the Tour of Langawi the field was averaging over 50 KM an hour for the 140 kilometres of the race. They were all pushing huge gears; well over 110 inches or more. Today I can barely average 30 KM an hour on my morning bike ride. Pushing high gears made me think about "Digger Downs" at Herne Hill Track, he used to push a 96" gear when he raced on the track, everybody laughed at him and said he was crazy, in essence he was well ahead of his time; I wonder what happened to "Digger" I rode in two 12-hour events although my best racing distance was only a 5-mile scratch race on the track. I did these 12-hour time trials as a result of a bet one night at the Clubroom, the road lads always said "track" riders had no stamina.

In my first 12-hour event which was the Southern Counties Cycling Union 12-hour, around the roads near Guildford and Crawley. I did not have a decent road bike to use so I rode my track bike as it was and fitted with a front brake and a bell to make it legal. I was pushing an 84-inch fixed gear using inch pitch chain. I did close to 225 miles on this my first attempt; at least I managed to prove my point that track riders do have some stamina. Looking back I don't know how I managed it for I could not sit down for a week after that event!

When up at the clubroom collecting my bets I was then told it was a fluke and I could not do it a second time, so it was that the next year I did it all over again. I think I did over 230 miles on my second ride, again using the same equipment, my track bike fitted with a front brake. Together with Charlie Yiewsly and Bob Prosser we still hold the Club 12-hour team record.

About three hours into the event I caught an older rider named Joe Crawley of the Kentish Wheelers, he had started several minutes ahead of me, I passed him, then about fifteen minutes later I got a severe dose of the "bonk" I had used up all my food and it was some 15 miles still to go to the next feeding station. We were out in the back roads of Guildford somewhere, quite hilly and not a good place to get the bonk. Joe caught me up again, he could see I was in a bad state, for I was trembling and barely doing 10 mph. I asked if he had anything to eat, he gave me a "Mars" bar. It worked wonders, for after about another ten minutes my sugar level rose and I was back feeling OK again.

I owe a great deal to my cycle racing days, for many of the things I learnt then have stood me in good stead in later life. It is quite amazing that fifty years later I still have a lot of good friends in what must be one of the best cycling clubs in the world, the De Laune.

Well enough of my ramblings for now, keep those results coming in and above all enjoy the camaraderie that the sport of cycle racing offers.

John Darroch.

MEMBERSHIP

If you have not received a membership card with this copy of the DLN then, as yet, I have not received a cheque for your 2004 membership subscription.

For those who have received a card (designed and produced by Mike Peel - my computer does exactly the same but goodness knows how!), they will note that the card does not, as in previous years, have a membership number as Mike Rice of our sponsors, Evans, thought this unnecessary. Evans has a few details of members, which, if confirmed, will allow you to benefit from the club discount on purchasing goods from their outlets.

Members who have paid their subs will have noticed that their cheques have not yet been debited to their bank accounts. This is because I would like to pay these cheques into the bank with just a couple of visits; therefore, until I receive the majority I will delay crediting them to the DLN account; this will also cut down on the amount of paperwork to be forwarded to our treasurer, James Lett.

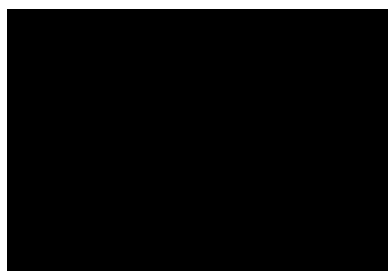
Incidentally, those members who did not indicate as to whether they wished to receive the DLN by post or via the club website will continue to receive it by post until I hear to the contrary.

Brian Saxton Membership Secretary

Here under is a list of members as at the 31st December 2003

MALCOLM ADAMS	ADAM GLASSER	CRAIG PORTER
SAM ARMOUR	MATT GOODES	STEVE PRICE
JULIAN BAIRD	CHRIS GORDON-COKER	TONY PURSER
MATTHEW BAKER	YVONNE GREGORY	LES PYNE
ROSIE BAKER	DAVE GRIFFITHS	MIKE RICE
JASON BALLAMY	PETER GUNNELL	JAMES ROGERS
MARK BALLAMY	DAVID HAGGART	MARK ROSSI
ALAN BARCLAY	CHRIS HARRIS	ALAN ROWE
SAM BAXENDALE	PETER HARRIS	DANIEL RUDD
SIMON BEDDOW	RACHEL HEDLEY	DAVE RUDD
TOM BEWSEY	ARTHUR HOW	FRANCIS RUDD
GARRY BIRCH	MAUREEN JACKSON	JOSEPH RUDD
DEREK BOON	PETER JAQUES	CHRISTIAN RUDOLF
STEPHEN BRIERLEY	PETER JENN	ROY SAVERY
JEREMY BRIGGS	JOHN KAVANAGH	BRIAN SAXTON
LEN BROWN	KEN KNAPMAN	NIGEL SCALES
PAT BURNS	RUPERT KNIGHT	BRIAN SHAMBROOK
NICK BUTLER	GEORGE LAGUILLO	PETER SHEPHERD
CHAS CARLTON	DAVID LAW	ANDREW SIMPSON
CHARLOTTE CARTER-SMITH	ALARIC LESTER	GEOFF SINNETT
HENRY CARTER-SMITH	JAMES LETT	LEE SNOWSILL
STEVE CARTER-SMITH	LEN LYES	ALAN SPELLING
VERONIQUE CARTER-SMITH	JAMES LYON	PETER STAFF
ROY CHITTLEBOROUGH	KIZ MACKISACK	EDDIE STARSMEARE
KATIE CHOWN	ALAN MALE	CLIFF STEELE
GRAHAM CLARK	PETER MALLIN-JONES	CAROL TAYLOR-STEELE
BERT COLLINS	GEOFF MARGETTS	BRYAN TIDBURY
HARRY CORBETT	CHRIS MARSHALL	DAVE TWEDDELL
HOWARD COULSON	RICHARD McBRIDE	DEBBIE VALENTINE
BRIAN DACEY	DYCE McCAIRN	MICHAEL VALENTINE
LEN DANBY	HAMISH McINTYRE	JAYNE WADSWORTH
JOHN DARROCH	BILL MILES	BRIAN WALLER
DANNY DAVENPORT	MICHAEL MOORE	AMANDA WALSH
TERRY DEELEY	ALEX MORRIS	RUPERT WALSH
JOHN DODS	BEN NEVILLE	TOBY WALSH
MARY DODS	JOHN O'BRIEN	MONTY WATKINS
LEN DOUBLE	SIMON PAGDIN	SCOTT WELLCOME
JENNIFER EVANS	TONY PEACHEY	DON WHITE
ROSS FRYER	VAL PEACHEY	JEREMY WHITE
DOT FULLER	JAMES PECKHAM	BERYL WILLIAMSON
KEN FULLER	MIKE PEEL	GEORGE WOOD
BOB GARWOOD	CLIF PENDLETON	BILL WRIGHT
JOHN GEOGHEGAN	AMY PIDDINGTON	CAROLINE WRIGHT

NOTICE BOARD



Evans Cycles Opens News Store in City of London

London based cycle retailer Evans Cycles opens its 14th Store in Cullum Street in the heart of the City of London on Monday the 16th of February. To celebrate they are giving away a 10% in store discount!

I HAVE GOT 8 CTT HANDBOOKS LEFT IF ANYONE WANTS ONE THEY ARE £5 IF YOU COLLECT THEM FROM ME AT THE CLUBROOM OR BY ARRANGEMENT OR £6 IF I SEND THEM TO YOU.

Alan G. Rowe Time Trial Manager, De Laune C.C.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Diary Social/Club for 2004

Sun 23rd May	OMA Lunch, Brighton
Thurs 17th June	AGM
Fri 29th October	Belgium Night/OMA

Diary of Club & Inter-Club Events for 2004

Sun	9th May	Club Champs & Novices	25m	G25/47	08:00
Sun	13th June	Club - Mid-summer	25m	G25/53	08:24
Sat	26th June	Open Track Meeting Herne Hill			
Sun	1st August	Open - Fred Peachey	25m	Q25/8	?
Sat	11th September	OMA	10m	Q10/22	12:00
Sun	19th September	Club - Autumn	25m	G25/53	07:34
Sun	3rd October	Downhill		Tillburstow Hill, Godstone	11:00
Thurs	7th October	Roller Competition			
Sun	10th October	Hill Climb		GH31 Titsey	11.00

THE LAST DAY FOR COPY TO BE
INCLUDED IN THE NEXT ISSUE IS
WEDNESDAY 24 March 2004

THIS SHOULD BE SENT TO:
MARK BALLAMY
41 MAYES CLOSE
WARLINGHAM
SURREY CR6 9LB

Phone & Fax 01883 627809 . e-mail
mark.ballamy@virgin.net

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end



De Laune Cycling Club



Questions, comments, suggestions?... then please Email the [Webmaster](#). Site designed and maintained by [robin-web.co.uk](#)

