

# DE LAUNE CYCLING CLUB

*Founded 1889*

**OUR ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH FIRST YEAR**

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**MEET OUR NEW  
PRESIDENTS**

**July 2020**



Dulwich and Streatham

In 2014/15 I photographed over 900 pages of our clubs photo album's, then cropped and enhanced them before putting them on a De Laune CC Google plus site for all to see and they got many viewing's. In April 2019 Google shutdown it Google plus site and the club albums were no longer available to our members, and I have been trying to find somewhere to repost them and during June I have been posting an Album a day on the De Laune CC Facebook Wall, so if you are not on Facebook now is the time to join so you can see all the photos and the books of press cutting may follow. Ed.

## AGM

The club AGM was held on the 15th June using ZOOM other than most of the club officials joining the meeting we had Chris Gordon-Cooker and two of our newer members Jean Bergin and. Elain Owen. I think the main happening to report is the election of our new President, members had been asked to vote in advance for this either by email or post the response was disappointing as our secretary only received 18 votes, 8 in favour of Michael Valentine and 10 for the joint Presidents of Val and Tony Peachey. The only other change being that Steve Carter-Smith was confirmed as the club treasurer but we are still having problems making contact with the last one Richard Preece who just does not respond.

It would like to say a big thank you to Bill Wright for setting up the meeting using Zoom, but not only that but for all the other work he does for the Club, and finally being such a good hard working President for the last 5 year, once more a big thank you Bill.

MJB

**CLUB NIGHT  
SECOND MONDAY  
OF EACH MONTH  
HERNE HILL VELODROME  
104 BURBAGE ROAD  
LONDON SE24 9HE**



**PRESIDENT  
VAL & TONY  
PEACHEY**

**CHAIRMAN  
ROY SAVERY  
01959 777455**

**SECRETARY  
JEREMY WHITE  
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London  
SE13 5RQ  
07565 151457**

**TREASURER  
STEVE CARTER  
SMITH  
Winchelsea  
Upper Hartfield  
East Sussex  
TN7 4AN**

**MEMBERSHIP  
BILL WRIGHT  
61a Burns House  
Doddington Grove  
Kennington  
SE17 3SX**



## **Presidential Ramblings**



Well, where do we start, theoretically speaking, we feel we should thank all those members who voted for the pair of us to take up residence on page three of the DLN for the next few years.

Our election was, from our prospective, quite unceremonious, via a Zoom video conferencing meeting where we could see everyone but not hear anything very clearly. We did understand however that, at the end of the meeting, the voting was unleashed that we would be your next sitting tenants.

It appears that we have set a precedent insofar as we are the first dual Presidents and Val, has the honour of being only the 2. female President, the 1. incumbent being Margaret Faunce De Laune who served between 1949-1957 so we have a hard act to follow. We also have a few years of Club experience in our favour, February 1976 (1. Lady member) that is 112 years between, so we are sure we can 'feel' our way through the task as a team, a system we have

*used for a good few years and which has served us well.*

*The nearest we got to the official Chain of Office on the night was for the sacred chain to be waived at the screen by Bill. He did his best !!*

*Our commiserations are extended to Mick Valentine as runner up in a very close call of votes. We are certain that Mick will become an excellent President in the future, his name must be remembered and seriously considered next time around.*

*Lastly our thanks are extended to Bill for his hard work over his term of office for which he has been awarded the honour of Life Membership, so well done Bill.*

*Now that the preliminaries are over I suppose we should consider the future life of the Club which has been the main topic under discussion for decades with not a great deal of change. Let us hope that our financial support for Herne Hill Youth will show dividends in the coming months and years. In the meantime, thank goodness for us oldies.*

*This is a most difficult time for cycling in general with the COVID 19 hanging over our heads. Clearly the scene will not change in the short term with the need for social distancing likely to be with us for some time. Lets face it this is the very reason for migrating to the Zoom system for the last 2 committee meetings. Even club runs of more than 6 riders is debatable though some would say, in our cas, six on a club run would be pleasurable.*

*Clearly this pandemic will also have an impact on competitive riding, strict new instructions have already been published for organisers of all open and club event time trials. In fact the National Secretary Nick Sharpe has posted a plea to all cyclists who support time trials and who are not in the vulnerable age bracket or are not shielding to offer any assistance they can to local promoters as it is recognised that it is, in the main, the older generation who normal undertake these supportive roles.*

I would imagine strict guidelines will also be prevalent for road racing where competitions by its very nature will not allow competitors to be able to social distance. It will be interesting to see how the Tour de France copes with worldwide restrictions. Nothing will be the same for many months but we are sure we will survive.

A few years back in the early 2000's we survived the Foot and Mouth outbreak which severely restricted all travel plans, and had a devastating effect on competitive cycling etc. COVID 19 is just be another hurdle which we will overcome.

In the mean time we all need to be very sensible, remember the government instructions and make the best of a bad world. As restrictions are lifted remember to exercise your new freedoms with caution and stay safe.

Val & Tony

***JOHN POUND***



***GRAHAM CROCOMBE***



***TWO EX MEMBERS***

John made an appearance on our Facebook Wall,  
Graham was mentioned in an email from Terry Lack



Hi Mark and Malcolm,

Thank you so much for the article in the DLN - that is very flattering! I wish I had a better photo of me in the beautiful De Laune kit (which I helped to design with Christian). I've attached a few from another time trial in Bristol from the same season (2018), together with a picture of the bike I rode the 20 minute 10 on - a big fixed gear ;-)

I'm aware that I am not well known to

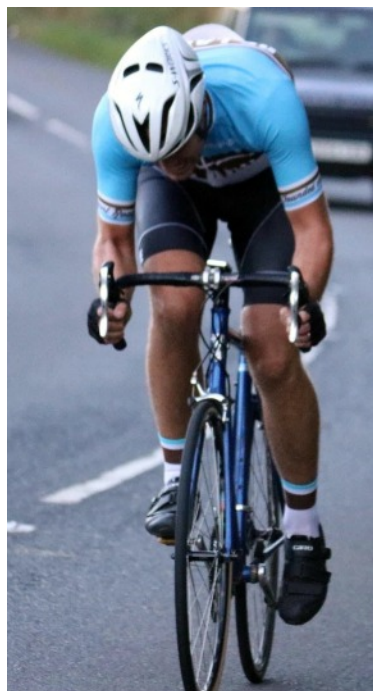
many club members, but I have actually flown the flag for some time now - small change compared to most members, I appreciate ;-)

I rode the De Laune 25 back in around 2004, and then joined a small racing team (Citihub), alongside Danny Rudd and others. I had a few reasonable years of racing with them, getting an Elite licence for road racing, and picking up a few open TT wins, concluding in a 4th place in the British Time Trial Championships in 2008, then for AgiskoViner, as per your picture in the DLN. I rode a few more races, and remember chatting to Franny Rudd after one particular hill climb, who suggested I sign up to the De Laune and get a team together with Matt Geddes. I was excited by the prospect, but unfortunately, for personal reasons, I then stopped competing and moved out west to Bristol, where I still reside.



I think it was around 2010 that I finally signed up to De Laune. I was renting a room from Christian Rudolf in Peckham, while I was up in London for work during the week. But for the next 8 years, it was pretty difficult to get properly fit again, and I let things slide. Christian did convince me to ride the Paris-Roubaix sportive a few years ago, which hurt a lot, on no training.

So a few years ago, I dusted off my kit properly, and started training again. I still work in London, so took advantage of being away from home during the week to put in some training, and in the summer months started competing again. Living in Bristol and working in London meant that my time is limited, and training needs to work around this. I normally drive up on a Tuesday morning, park in West London and cycle 10 miles each way to the office. On top of this, in the winter months, I would go to the gym after work or early morning to do some intervals – which are a lot more interesting than they used to be as there is a big video screen to have something to look at and motivate. Having given up the rented room, I now sleep in my campervan, and sometimes this would mean parking and sleeping in the gym car park so I could get all the training in. At the weekend, I have been doing a local Bristol club ride – a Dad's ride early Saturday morning – 50 miles before breakfast!



Then I started doing some 'Evening 10s', with various clubs in the home counties – proudly showing off my new De Laune TT kit. I met a great bunch of folk from Bath Road Club, Farnham RC, Newbury RC and A3crg, when in London, and Bristol South and Severn RC when I'm home in Bristol. To make it more interesting, I have been doing these TTs on a fixed gear - 116". And before you say something about today's new-fangled technology, the only tech I had on-board is my analogue wrist watch ;-)

Today, I am nearly back at racing weight, and I have a 20'49" '10' to my name as well as a 54 minute '25'. I'm hoping to maintain some form and discipline over the coming year to target a sub-20 minute '10' and take a few minutes off my 25 mile PB too.

I'm really pleased to have achieved what I have these past few years, and especially in such glorious De Laune club kit! For now, I've had to succumb to Zwift on rollers. But maybe those records will fall again one day!



Thanks again for your note.

Kind regards, Tom



Hi Mark

Thank you for a great edition of the DLN. Surprised it's still going after all these years – thanks to you! It was good to see the photos of myself and other lady competitors in the National 10 mile TT Champs in 1986. Brought back memories! I wonder if you could send me the photo please as I can't save it from the mag?

Suzanne Ridding ( Dot Fuller's daughter)



## **FROM THE 34TH NOMADS CC FACEBOOK WALL**

### **Bill Fullilove is with Sean Yates.**

Recently Steve Sefton wished a Happy 60th birthday to Sean Yates. I would like to share a memory of the time in Philadelphia, USA, when Sean won one of his most outstanding victories.

This took place on June 5th, 1994. The event was called "The CoreStates US Professional Cycling Road Race Championship." It was advertised as the largest one day cycling event in the world. The course was over a 14.5 mile circuit for a total of 156 miles, in which the riders faced ten grueling climbs up a killer hill, known as "Manayunk Wall". In the list of

175 riders, was the strong Motorola team, which included Lance Armstrong, Frankie Andreu, George Hincapie, Steve Bauer, Phil Anderson, and Sean Yates. There were a number of British riders on other teams, including Malcolm Elliott.

Not only was I able to watch the race in person, but I could see it on the television in the VIP Lounge, where I spoke to Phil Liggett who was doing the commentary. The result of the race was pleasing, for Sean Yates was the winner! He rode away from his chasers in a good time trialing fashion. The



prize that Sean received was worth the effort, \$25,000. Attached is a photo showing Sean holding up his king sized cheque. At the exchange rate back then, \$1.50 to the pound, it works out at around 16,670 pounds.

The other photo shows myself, an ex Nomad member congratulating Sean on his victory. The photo was taken by Paul Sherwin.



## **eBay Finds: 1886 52in Humber penny-farthing**

**By Ellis Bacon 5 hours ago**

### **A vintage bike from the famed Beeston, Nottingham-based manufacturer**

We've taken a step back in time for this eBay Find: a genuine, 1886 penny-farthing built by the esteemed Beeston, Nottingham, UK bike-builder, Humber. The '1:1' gearing of the direct-drive, pedal-driven wheels on the more conventional-looking velocipedes, or boneshakers, which preceded penny-farthings – also called ordinaries – meant that as roads, and riders, improved, so appeared the need for higher gearing. And the way to do that was to make the front wheel bigger.

The 'high-wheelers' began to appear in the 1870s, and had their heyday in the 1880s, with this being a fantastic example of one built by Humber. The company was started by Thomas Humber in the late 1860s after Humber – a Nottingham-based blacksmith – started building, and selling, his own velocipedes, and later penny-farthings and safety bicycles.



Humber-built bicycles were wildly popular, and the company also later built motorbikes and then cars as the popularity of four-wheeled machines boomed, and in the 1930s the company was sold to the even-better-known Nottingham bike company, Raleigh.

The 52in description of this eBay listing of course refers to the diameter of the front wheel of the penny-farthing, sitting somewhere in the middle of the size-standards seen on such machines.

The subsequent emergence of the chain-driven safety bicycle – with its smaller, equal-sized wheels – was a return to something more akin to today's bikes, and in fact not much has changed since their introduction in the 1880s, with

penny-farthings soon to drop out of fashion, with more conventional gears later appearing.



That's not to say that penny-farthings should be forgotten about – far from it. While many wrongly assume them to have been the first type of bike, their spectacle is undoubted, and images of them being raced at the height of their popularity have inspired modern bike collectors and enthusiasts to re-enact such escapades every now and again, and it's a spectacle well worth witnessing – or taking part in – if you ever get the opportunity.

A first step could be to acquire this Humber. At the £3,200 (US\$3,940) that the UK-based seller (collection only) is asking for it, you could find cheaper alternatives, but this is the real deal from the height of penny-farthing popularity and craftsmanship.

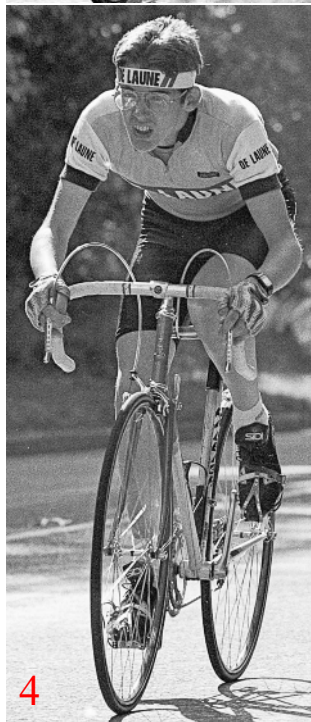
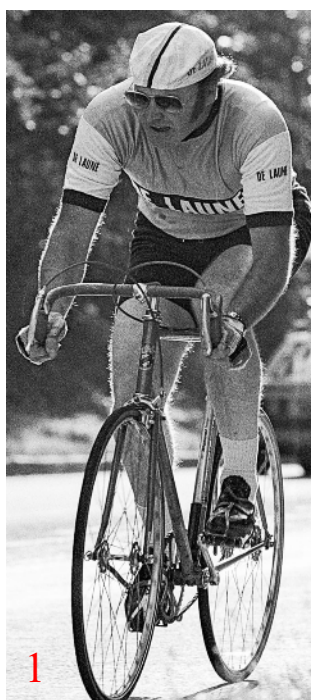
#### Photo details

An 1886 52"-wheeled Humber penny-farthing on eBay (Image credit: hiwheelbicycle / eBay)



The badge shows that it was built at Beeston, Nottingham-based Humber Cycles (Image credit: hiwheelbicycle / eBay)

The suspended saddle provides an early form of bike suspension (Image credit: hiwheelbicycle / eBay)





## De Laune Open 10 1983

- 1 Terry Deeley
- 2 Malcolm Adams
- 3 Andy Castle
- 4 Alan Dent
- 5 George Dent
- 6 ?
- 7 ?

*All of these photos are by Phil O'Connor, Phil would very much appreciate you buying him a COFFEE. Go to*

<https://ko-fi.com/philocphotos>



## De Laune Open 25 1983

**Alan Hales**



**SWRC 25 1985  
Alex Bedford**

## **Max Dod's Memorial Ride and BBQ. (Reminiscing)**

*As we are still a long way from being able to socialise, our annual Max Dod's Memorial Ride and BBQ will obviously not be taking place this year.*

*This got me thinking, when did we start running it, and to be quite honest I cannot be exact, but it could have been a milestone this year as it might have been the 30. birthday.*

*So get yourself a cup of tea and I will relate how it all came into being.*

*Back in 1989 we had the Centenary Ride from the Old Windmill, Clapham Common and it was great riding with old club mates, after so many years. The following year we had a 'President's' ride (if my memory serves me right), it was from these rides that I said to Lyn, "Why don't we have a ride out down here"? (Herne Bay), and that was the start of this social gathering.*

*As I said I am not sure what year we started and it was possibly 1991, but the earliest photo I found was taken in 1992, which you will see. As the years went by the gathering grew, but more walkers than bike riders, plus those who came just for the social occasion.*

*In the early days the bike rides were up to 40 odd miles, but in recent years we have ridden at a more modest pace and not much more than 25 'flatish' miles. I remember one year somebody remarking that they thought there were no hills in our area. They found out differently, especially when I took them the other side of Canterbury. My memory does not afford me exact details, but I do recall the year that 2 of the club 'youngsters' joined us, Bill Wright and Matt Goodes (see photo). Matt had a new fangled (was in those days!) computer, and told us the exact amount of climbing we did that day, which was quite considerable.*

*The run became a memorial for Max, after he sadly died on the 20. July 1998. His last ride with us is shown in the picture where he is between Mike Peel*

and Lennie Brown taken on 27. July the previous year. I also thought it was an opportunity to show the photo of club members who attended Max's funeral. (Arthur How also attended, but did not go back to Max and Mary's house in Fulham afterwards).



**L-R Mike Peel, Roy Chittleborough, Roy Savery,  
Brian 'Stack' Saxton. Alan Rowe, Malcolm Adams, Mary Dods,  
Dave Hughes, John Geoghegan, Alec Bedford, Geoff Sinnett,  
Brian Waller, Brian 'Tich' Shambrook, John Dods.**

As the years have gone by, the members on bikes has sadly reduced, so I invited my local cycling friends to join us to swell the number of bike riders. The other 'outsiders' but in club name only were regulars Brian and Val Skelton and Dick and Jean Berkeley of the 34 Nomads.

The most epic ride of all was not the one I organised, but that of Terry Deeley's, who thought he had better do a bit of training for the forthcoming 12 hour (2001) that he had decided he would ride along with Alan, Charles Curthoys and myself. So he rode from Croydon to Herne Bay (and back), and on arrival, shattered, he found no one at home, bike riders still out and the rest gone for a walk, still he survived after some refreshment on everyone's return and in the subsequent 12 hour event he did a creditable 194 mile, on more or less no other training. I can't believe this was 19 years ago!

I am not sure now whether it started by accident or by design but it became the highlight of the day. I am referring to the fact the BBQ was held on the last day of the 'Tour' and around 4 o'clock our lounge was packed full to see

the final sprint up the Champs-Élysées. The most memorable of these were those involving Mark Cavendish. Those four consecutive years, the cheering from our house must have been heard all over Herne Bay. The most memorable for me was the last one when Bradley Wiggins in 'Yellow' led him out.

I was going to give a Who's who of attendees, but deemed it not necessary as you all know who you are, suffice to say nearly a third of the club members attended over the years. I counted 32, but sure to have missed someone. The furthest travelled must be Mick & Sarah Jones & Dick Gates both from Basingstoke.

The person making the greatest effort to attend (apart from Terry Deeley) goes to Daphne Chippendale who travelled down from Farnborough by train on two occasions. Somehow, she managed to hitch a lift from the station by a complete stranger to our house, on both visits

We will miss seeing many of you this year, plus I will personally miss the bread pudding Lyn makes every year, as it is the only time she is keen to make it.

Hoping we will be back to normal in 2021 when Lyn & I can again enjoy a pleasant day socialising with old friends.

*Malcolm*

Over ►►►►

*Don't forget if you like Phil O'Connor's photos then buy him a cup of coffee, I have in fact bought him two.*

<https://ko-fi.com/philocphotos>

Ed.





*This is the earliest recorded*

*21st June 1992.*

*Alan, Me, Max Dods, Stack, Mike*



*27th July 1997.*

*John Dods, Me, Alan, Mike, Max Dods & Lennie in his Gravesend top Terri Shotton, Marion Dods*



*In early 2000s, I believe.*

*Stack, Roy, Alan, Brian Waller, Bill Wright, Mike, Matt Goodes, Me, and Kav's leg! Ladies at back Jean Rowe, Terri.*



*Earliest photo of full gathering June 1992*

*Max, Mike, Stack, Me, Lyn, Jean Rowe, Mary Dods, Alan, Val Peel.*



*1996*

*Max at front teaching the latest craze of line dancing. John Dods, (Brian Waller hidden), Stack, Jean Rowe, Alan, Barbara Waller, Marion Dods*

over





*Some of the gatherings over the years*

## ***Social Club Events for 2020***

Nov		<b>NEWNHAM MEMORIAL SERVICE &amp; LUNCH</b>
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## ***Club & Inter Club Events for 2020***

15 <sup>th</sup> Aug		Club 10	Q10/24	
12. Sept		OM 10	Q10/24	

**Members may like to know that it is now possible to join, or to renew your Club membership online.**

**Simply follow this link**

**<https://www.riderhq.com/groups/delaunec/join>**

**or click on the button on the membership page of the website.**

**SEE MESSAGE BOARD to keep UP TO DATE**

**<http://mikepeel.proboards67.com>**

**CLOSING DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

**Anything for inclusion please send to:**

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