

THE RETURN OF THE PARAGON

1920

When Fred Lee began his researches he attempted to contact all the known members of that era. He was also especially interested in how and why this club re-formed as many club did not. He received quite a detailed letter from George Moffat, one of our founder members.

George Moffat wrote: "After the War I came back to Croydon. I used to wonder where the old members had got to. I hadn't a bike, so didn't get out on the road, until one day coming home from work on a train I met Bill Kite and learned from him the fate of the Club. He, George Colget and Bill Hitchmough had joined the Catford CC and they were riding in a '25' the next morning. Bill invited me to come out to the start on a tandem with his brother George. I did and met George Colget and Bill Hitchmough again. After the event we chatted about old times and prospects of reforming the old Club. We eventually went over to Penge and there met Norman Upton, Ernie Sheppard and Jim Fox. We decided to pay 'Pa' Green a visit and obtain from him the address book and see if we could rake up the old members to reform the Club. I had it in mind that Norman Upton would again be the Hon. Secretary but he definitely declined. There was nothing for it but do the job myself. So, with their help, I set about it.

It was late in the season that I sent a circular letter to the old members asking them to turn out on an impromptu run to the "Old Man's" at Coulsdon on a certain Sunday morning. To my delight about 30 turned up and it was good to meet old friends again. I had a Runs Card printed and so we carried on through the winter."

Thus the story begins again. While the Norwood Paragon was well known locally we were just another South London Club, stronger and more active than many but not a force to be recognised in any sphere of the racing side of the sport. The next decade was to change all of that!