

## 1922

The first page of the 1922 Handbook tells us that the Country HQ had moved to Tom Smiths, Northgate, Crawley and the Club was now affiliated to the West London Cycling Association in addition to the four bodies mentioned previously.

The Vice Presidents had changed considerably. The three ladies had gone and so had B Foster, H Grist and W Pacey. In their place we find Freddie Grubb, H 'Goss' Green, George Laver, Tom Mayne, C Norrington, C Roy, G Webb and E C Woodall. That is 17 in all. E.C. Woodall ran Leader Cycles from premises at 22a St James' Road, Broad Green, (Racing machines from £10.15.0). George Laver was a Photographic Artist who had a Shop/Studios at 2 Bensham Manor Road, Thornton Heath and Freddie Grubb had his own cycle shop at 31 Robsart Street, Brixton.

Three pages of Runs are listed. Summer Runs including three week-ends to Brighton, Worthing and Littlehampton, Saturday afternoon Runs from March 11<sup>th</sup> to October 28<sup>th</sup> and Winter Runs from November through to February. The Freewheel Contest was on 5<sup>th</sup> November, the S.C.C.U. Concert was November 15<sup>th</sup>, on Christmas Eve there was a 5 mile Walking Handicap with a 7 mile Walking Handicap on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

G E Millard, Tailor of 6 Lodge Road, West Croydon advertised in the Handbook 'specialises in Wearing Apparel for Touring and Racing. Complete Racing Kits supplied.' but gives no prices.

Coming to the racing season there were extra prizes and medals on offer. In addition to those also mentioned in 1921 the Palmer Tyre Company offered a 'Prize' for fastest time in the first 25 miles Handicap, Freddie Baker offered a 'Prize' to the Novice who gains most points in Time Trials and Handicaps and George Taylor put up a Gold Medal to the Member who wins an Open Event (Scratch or Handicap) on Southern Roads.

In 1922 the first 25 mile Handicap was also the Mayne Cup race. It must have been a foul day as while there were 24 on the Start Sheet 8 of them failed to finish. Fastest time was P Chard in 1.12.14. 45" in front of Bill Kite and 1'9" up on R Corner. Man of the Day was C Ball (or Beall) his 1.15.24 with 9 minutes allowance gave him a 1.6.24, George Kite came 2<sup>nd</sup> with 1.7.55 (7'50") but it was rather close behind him. F Adams was 3<sup>rd</sup> with 1.8.49 (9'), L Bignall 4<sup>th</sup> - 1.8.50 (9'), Ben Mason 5<sup>th</sup> -1.8.51 (4'40") and R Corner 6<sup>th</sup> -1.8.58 (4'25"). Ball (or Beall) also collected the Novices Prize. Quite a day.

The second 25 mile Handicap was run on May 14<sup>th</sup> with 29 on the Start Sheet. It produced the same winner only this time Chard improved by 1" to record 1.12.13, nearly 2' quicker than his main rivals who were very closely matched. A. Ives recorded 1.14.09 for 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest, Arch Allin was 3<sup>rd</sup> fastest in 1.14.13, George Colget 4<sup>th</sup> in 1.14.22, Ben Mason 5<sup>th</sup> in 1.14.37 and George Kite 6<sup>th</sup> with 1.14.41. The Handicap was also rather close with S Hinds 1.5.06 (11') winning by only 3" from Ives 1.5.09 (9') with N Rose 3<sup>rd</sup> in 1.6.60 (11').

On June 11<sup>th</sup> the 50mile Handicap was run in probably bad conditions judging by the fact that of the 21 names on the Start List only 10 managed to reach the finish timekeeper. P Chard got his hat-trick of fastest times when he came back in 2.34.16 beating Bill Kite by nearly 2' (2.36.09) and J Francis by 3' (2.37.06). The handicap was collected by Arch Allin who had a generous 23 minutes allowance. His time of 2.14.45 was just a bit too fast for N Rose 2.15.12 (also 23') but they were well clear of Ben Mason who had 2.19.37 (17.45).

The second 50mile Handicap was on July 16<sup>th</sup> and in complete contrast to the June event had only 2 non-finishers from 16 riders. John Carter stopped P. Chard from getting four wins in a row. Whilst Chard improved 4'37" on his June event time Carter came in with a 2.29.09 ride beating Chard by 34". Ben Mason was 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2.31.04 but that was good enough, with 10' allowance, to win the Handicap Award. John Carter was in 2<sup>nd</sup> handicap place with 2.21.35 (7'30") and R Corner 3<sup>rd</sup> with 2.25.31 (17'). Messrs Allin and Rose suffered for their rides in the first 50 miles Handicap having their allowance cut from 23' each to 10'45 and 11' respectively!

Thirteen riders entered the Handicap 100 on July 30<sup>th</sup> and eight of them managed to complete the course. John Carter had a Good Day. He came in with 5.25.25 for 1<sup>st</sup> place to collect the Dunlop Cup and collected the Handicap for good measure with 11' allowance giving him a nett time of 5.14.25. 2<sup>nd</sup> in the race and in the Handicap was Bill Kite. His 5.31.04 reduced to 5.18.04 (13'). This was too good for George Colget 5.35.19. who did 3<sup>rd</sup> fastest time and 3<sup>rd</sup> on Handicap went to R Corner with 5.21.49 (19').

The last 25 mile Handicap of the year was held on 8<sup>th</sup> October. Ben Mason produced the fastest time of the 26 listed entries with a 1.14.09 ride. 2<sup>nd</sup> with 1.15.05 was Bill Kite and 3<sup>rd</sup> R Corner 1.15.51. However the Handicap went to F Nightingale whose 1.20.44 with 10' allowance got him in front of Ben Mason 1.11.09 (3') and F Corner 1.11.25 (7') with Bob Bevan 4<sup>th</sup> 1.11.33 (9') and R Corner 5<sup>th</sup> 1.11.51 (4'). There was some pretty close Handicapping during this season a sure sign of a Handicapping Committee really watching their riders! (Damn their eyes!)

The Club Championship was won by John Carter with 339 points with Bill Kite second, some way back, with 221 points. They were the only two riders to complete all four qualifying distances.

The Time Trials that occurred between the 'official' Handicaps produced some points of interest. On September 17<sup>th</sup> 9 riders are down for a 12 hour time trial. No one finished! What happened? Who can tell us 82 years on?

But one of the most significant events in the Club's History occurred on August 27<sup>th</sup> 1922. Six riders were down for a 50 mile and five for a 25 mile time trial. Bill Kite was fastest of those doing the '25' but just behind him, recording a time of 1.13.26, that won him a Gold Centre Time Trial Standard Medal, was a young lad named Frank Southall. Who would have thought that it was this youngster who would still be talked about with reverence and awe in National cycling circles 80 years on? It was this man who was the catalyst responsible for turning the Paragon from a good local club to a nationally known and respected Club where it has remained to this day. In our archives there is a picture of him, with the club, taken at 'Ivydene', Epsom

(now The Magpie) and dated 1922. It could have been taken on that day as the Club Runs list shows an afternoon run to that venue and Frank was ever the Club Man.

Thirty four Standard Medals were awarded during 1922 but only four of those were Gold. Three of them went to John Carter for his 2.29.40 ride at 50 miles, his 5.31.27 ride at 100 miles and his Club Record for 12 hours with 205 ¼ miles. P Chard got the other one for his 2.30.10 '50'

Membership of the Club in December was 119.

### Club Time Trial Results

	<b>25.6.22</b>	<b>50 tt</b>
1	Ewart A	2.39.50
2	Francis J	2.40.56
		<b>25 tt</b>
1	Mason E	1.12.34
2	Ives A	1.13.07
3	Corner R	1.15.01
4	Gillard J	1.17.02
	<b>23.7.22</b>	<b>50 tt</b>
1	Kite W	2.33.22
		<b>25 tt</b>
1	Ewart A	1.13.11
2	Allin AE	1.13.24
3	Davis A	1.17.05
4	Corner J	1.17.09
5	Maggs A	1.18.04
6	Lansbury G	1.20.18
	<b>20.8.22</b>	<b>50 tt</b>
	Potter/Hinds (Tand)	2.19.20
1	Ewart A	2.40.26
2	White	2.56.00
	<b>27.8.22</b>	<b>50 tt</b>
1	Carter J	2.29.40
2	Colget G	2.33.34
3	Mason E	2.33.42
		<b>25 tt</b>
1	Kite W	1.12.04
2	Southall F	1.13.26
3	Potter A	1.16.27
4	Goring J	1.26.29

	<b>3.9.22</b>	<b>100 tt</b>
1	Colget G	5.30.21
2	Carter J	5.31.37
3	Kite W	5.35.24
4	Corner R	5.44.21
5	Hitchmough W	5.52.10
		<b>50 tt</b>
1	Potter A	2.36.12
	<b>10.9.22</b>	<b>50 tt</b>
1	Chard J	2.30.10
2	Southall F	2.39.02
3	Davis A	2.45.06
4	White	2.51.20
	Hitchmough/Allin (Tan)	2.16.26
		<b>25 tt</b>
1	Mason E	1.12.11
2	Carter J	1.14.59
3	Corner R	1.15.40
4	Kite G	1.16.50
	<b>17.9.22</b>	<b>50 tt</b>
1	Davis A	2.40.15
	<b>24.9.22</b>	<b>12 hour</b>
1	Carter J	205.25
2	Kite W	173.50
		<b>50t</b>
1	Ewart A	2.40.28
		<b>25 tt</b>
1	Colget G	1.11.33
2	Davis A	1.16.15