

1937

The cover of the 1937 Handbook tells us that the Headquarters of the Club has moved to the Tavistock Club, West Croydon. Inside there are no changes to the President and Vice Presidents list. Alan Gordon has taken over the Road Secretaries job and Arthur Bristow as the Path (Track) Secretary. Don Allan has become Social secretary and Frank Patterson Reporting Secretary. Cyril Kent-Smith is to help Bill Diplo with the Runs. The new Committee is Stan Butler, George Murray, Doug Perry, George Sagers, Bill Sagers. Ernie Tugwell and Fred Willett. Arthur Bristow appears amongst the Track timekeepers.

A new Club Racing Rule appears. 'A member who, on being advised of the total value due to him in respect of prizes, shall have the option (a) of having a voucher for the amount issued to him by the Hon. Secretary presentable at an approved jewellers, or (b) of drawing cash from the Hon. Treasurer in exchange for a receipt for the purchase of his prize, the nature of which must first have been approved by the Committee'. Are the bastions of Amateurism cracking one must ask oneself? Also if you are riding an Open event or Record attempt you can be credited with 3 points for the Runs prize instead of the former 2 points.

A Club Path Championship was to be run over $\frac{1}{4}$ mile Flying Start, 1000m Time Trial, 550 yards Sprint and 5 miles. Points awarded 1st 3 pts, 2nd 2 pts and 3rd 1 pt. The winner will take the Curry Cup. Jack Gunning will present a prize to the most improved Novice on the Track, Bill Kite will give a prize to the best Novice at 100 miles and Bill Sagers will present a Track Jersey.

It is in 1937 that the practice of printing member's names and addresses in the Handbook begins

The racing season started with a Bang! On a cold day that turned to heavy snow for the later starters Fred Willett won the Balham Rough-stuff '25' in 1.43.45 and Stan Butler was 2nd only 24" behind. Unfortunately our only other finisher was Frank Cleeve who got round in 2.4.14 allowing the Addiscombe, of all Clubs, to win the Team race. Only 75 of the 100 entries started and 57 made it to the finish to underline the severity of the morning. In the Archives is a picture of a snow covered Stan Butler in this event. We also have a copy of the course. Try this some day when you have nothing better to do.

Start at Little Farleigh Green and head south-eastwards. At the T-junction turn left to pass Chelsham Church. Turn right at the T-junction and go straight on down and then up through Beddestead. Turn right at the main road to Botley Hill. Turn left down Titsey Hill and at the bottom of the hill turn *left* at the Church. (We kid thee not!). Go along the Pilgrims Way to Westerham Hill. Turn left and climb the hill then turn right and take the right fork by the Spinning Wheel restaurant (Hawleys Corner). Continue to Scotts Lodge and turn left to Cudham. Opposite the Church drop left down the hill, taking the right fork on the bend, to Downe. In Downe turn left to Single Street. At the T-junction turn left, descend the hill and take the 1st right and return to Hawleys Corner. Go straight over all junctions to 'The Ship' at Tatsfield. Bear right past the pub onto a rough path that descends rapidly. Bear left at the bottom and then turn right up Polesteep Hill. (Today one would have to walk as it is

a One-Way street but then so did most of the Competitors). Over the top turn sharp left and drop back into the valley. Take the rough track (Crown Ash) to the junction with Saltbox Hill. Turn left down Saltbox and up the other side and straight on at the crossroads through New Addington to Addington Church. (New Addington was not there in 1937 but the through roads were). Turn left at the Tram and Bus Station over the roundabout at the bottom of Gravel Hill and up the drag to Selsdon. Turn left at the traffic lights towards Farleigh then left back to Little Farleigh Green. Piece of Cake!!

That afternoon the Polo team defeated the Imperial Wheelers 15 – 5 to avenge their early season defeat and put them back at the top of the Kent League Table. At the end of the Season the Paragon and Imps were tied at the top of the League so a play-off was arranged. The closeness in ability of these two teams was underlined by the fact they still had to play extra time before the Paragon won the match and the League!

The year seems to have started on a particularly foul note as the next week-end the Catford Low Gear '25' was abandoned due to snow.

The Low Gear '10' on 14th March had only 9 entries and of these 5 failed to start. The times too were not as quick as one would have expected. However DS Allan came home fastest with a ride of 28.00 beating E.Horne by 1.23 (29.23) and Bill Coales by a further 20" (29.43). Horne collected the Handicap with a nett time of 27.23 from Allan (28.00) and Sid Mitchell (28.15).

Only 29 riders finished the WLCA '25'. Seven of these were Paragonians and we also had two non-finishers. It was indeed a Paragon Benefit. Cyril Melhuish was fastest in 1.8.33, Fred Willett 2nd, 1.12.27, Stan Butler 3rd, 1.12.46 and Frank Patterson 4th, 1.13.30. Frank took the Handicap with Cyril Melhuish in 3rd place and it is no surprise to report that the Paragon won the Team race. Our other riders were Val Lewis 1.15.14, Jim Hampshire 1.17.58 and Ron Harris 1.20.01. Frank Patterson's diary tells of NE wind, rain and snow. He turned in 29.55 so he took 43.35 to do the same distance back! We think that says it all!

The lads could not quite get the Hat-trick but it was close. Cyril Melhuish 'only' came 2nd in the Forest '25' in 1.5.08. The winner was future Paragonian George Ely in 1.4.54, but then riding for the Poly. Bert Chapman 1.6.03 and Fred Willett 1.8.08 made up the winning Team with Melhuish and the club had C Young, 1.13.23, in reserve.

In the Calleva Medium Gear '25' Albert Webb was our fastest rider with 1.10.53, Val Lewis 1.11.37 and Doug Perry 1.16.41 made up the Team.

Somewhere about this time the Kentish Wheelers Novices '25' was run and the Paragon supplied the winner in the form of Geoff Dore with others just missing the Team prize.

Good Friday saw some Club action at Herne Hill. Melhuish and Chapman came 2nd in the 10 minutes Tandem Pursuit being bested by Mills and Paul (Addiscombe)

The poor weather at the start of the season had surely affected preparation for the longer races as only 69 riders entered the Easter Classic – the Charlotteville ‘50’. Once again it attracted riders from all over the country but found our riders somewhat lacking in form in spite of their early season successes. Jim Parkes was the best of them in 28th place, 2.22.12 with Stan Butler 43rd, 2.26.12, and Doug Perry 44th, 2.26.23.

There was far more interest in the first Club ‘25’. Twenty-eight riders arrived to worry the Timekeeper on the 4th April. Doug Perry was again fastest time in 1.6.25 putting 1.21 into his ‘mate’ Albert Webb (1.7.46) with Sid Horton 3rd in 1.8.04. With a greatly improved performance Bill Hall won the Handicap his 10’ allowance saw him comfortably clear of Cliff Dore (1.0.56 to 1.3.04). D Kleckham was 3rd with 1.3.58.

All the best Tandem racers went up to the ‘32nd Course’ on 11th April for the University Tandem ‘30’. The event was won by Ernie Mills and Bill Paul (Addiscombe) in 1.5.58 on a hard, wet morning with a NW wind. Later they were to become National and World Hour Record Holders and were probably the best pairing of their generation. The Paragon were not too far behind though. Cyril Melhuish and Bert Chapman were in 4th place, 1.7.53, Jim Parkes and Stan Butler recorded 1.9.29 then Doug Perry and Frank Patterson 27th in 1.11.34. This was good enough for the Paragon to take the Team race by 1.10 from the Addiscombe.

The following week was the Old Portlians Tandem ‘50’ won by Mills and Paul in 1.52.32. Jim Parkes and Stan Butler 1.56.48 and Geof and Cliff Dore 2.5.06 were our only finishers.

Jim Hampshire, Val Lewis and Don Allan won the Team race in the SCCU 25 but no other details are available.

Frank Patterson and Doug Perry rode the Southern Roads Tandem ‘50’. They got back to the Timekeeper in 2.4.28 but had lost about 6’ with a puncture and another slow puncture that required frequent stops to pump it up. The Dore brothers Cliff and Geoff also rode and had a trouble free ride to record 2.2.58.

The Paragon presented their Grand Coronation Cycle Meeting at Herne Hill on the 9th May. We have a programme for that event and it is marked up in a (now) very faint pencil. From what we can decipher Jim Parkes won his heat in the 550 yards Handicap as did E Upton-Cooke but in the Semi-Finals only Jim progressed. Stan Harrison won his Heat in the Invitation 550 yards Sprint but came 4th in the Final. A.R. Dyble and George Butler were first two in their Heat of the Veterans Handicap and ‘Pop’ Butler later won the Final.

Jim Parkes also won the Handicap Final. The Meeting ended with a One Hour Tandem paced event that included Cyril Melhuish and Bert Chapman from the Paragon and George Ely, then Poly. It was billed as a Record Attempt on Frank Southall’s records but by 5 miles Mills, the leader, was 31” down and never looked like breaking any of Frank’s Records. In the actual race Mills won comfortably with Melhuish in 2nd place.

It was an excellent Meeting but the Report said that 'Due to unforeseen circumstances...' We do not know what they were but the crowd was small and the Club lost about £30 on the day.

Once again there was a truly 'delightful' day of racing on the 9th May. The Catford had their Open '50' with 100 names on the Start Sheet. Of these 77 started and 55 finished. 'Raining hard' says Stan Butler's Diary. 'Hard wet East wind' says Frank Patterson's. Stan did 2.19.43, C Young 2.24.21 and Frank Patterson 2.27.32 but no prizes were collected. Interestingly seven riders are marked on the Finishing list as 'Disqualified' but nothing is said about 'why' or 'what for'?

The Paragon had three riders in the University '100' on Whit-Monday 17th May. Stan Butler was fastest in 4.41.20, Val Lewis did 5.4.05 and Doug Perry 5.5.56.

The Club '30' on 23rd May saw Fred Willett on song as he flattened the field to win by 3½ minutes. Fred crossed the line in 1.18.56, Frank Patterson was 2nd in 1.22.28 and Bill Coales 3rd in 1.23.36. Jack Gunning took the Handicap with a nett time of 1.13.02 just 19" too fast for E Horne (1.13.21) yet well clear of 3rd placed man Bill Coales (1.16.06).

On the same day Stan Butler won the WLCA '50' in 2.14.48 from 164 other riders. Doug Perry 2.22.15, Len Bydowell 2.26.09 and C Young 2.32.45 were also riding but we were only 3rd in the Team race.

Five teams went to ride the Marlboro Tandem '50' but two pairs did not get their wake-up call from the Landlord so failed to get to the Timekeeper. W Hall and Arthur Sharp recorded 1.57.20, Cliff and Geof Dore 1.58.09, Doug Perry and Frank Patterson 1.59.14. These collected 3rd Team award.

The Cycling report on 2nd June that that evening was the Bicycle Polo Championship of Great Britain Final between the Norwood Paragon (winners in 1933,4,5 and 6) and the Tooting BC (winners in 1931 and 32). Although not reported we do know that the Paragon won. The Club were also at the top of the Summer London League but had lost in the Final of the Sunday Pictorial Tournament to the Imperial Wheelers. 3 – 2.

Two little bites of Club humour noted in the Magazine. Someone put a house brick into the Treasurer's (Fred Lee) saddlebag at Sutton Benger and he did not find it until he got to Newbury. Strong man our Fred!

Arthur Bristow complained bitterly that in the three man crash at Ravensbourne Bill Mills was unharmed, Don Allan only broke a collar-bone but he, Arthur, wrecked an irreplaceable top class front sprint wheel. 'Ain't there any justice in the world?'

Stan Butler had better luck in the Addiscombe '100' this year even though he was again on Scratch. He came home a comfortable winner in 4.40.02 and 4'09 faster than Fred Willett (4.44.13). These two plus Vic Lewis (5.1.44) collected the Team prize by 10 minutes from the Bath Road. Just to rub it in Fred Willett, with an allowance of 18', also won the Handicap section! Doug Perry 5.5.59, Frank Patterson 5.14.27 and Sid Orrell 5.15.01 were the other Paragon finishers. In the Archives we

have the course for this race. It is a truly adventuresome course and stretches from Lowfield Heath across to Leigh in Kent.

The following week was the Shaftesbury '50'. Stan Butler was 5th in 2.11.31, his season's best. Bert Chapman 2.23.18 and Cyril Melhuish 2.24.09 were our other finishers.

The London Grand Prix was held at Herne Hill on the 19th June. Representing the Club with distinction was Stan Harrison. He won the 550 yards handicap

Up in the Crystal Palace grounds Fred Willett won the 40 miles Massed Start Circuit race in 1.43.33. This was a World Championship Trial on a 2-mile circuit. Stan Butler also rode but punctured and finished a lap in arrears.

In a Time Trial held on 20th June Frank Patterson and Doug Perry set new figures for the Club Tandem 100 Record. They were timed home in 4.17.01. This beat Shaw and Hamilton's 1933 Record by 2.44.

The Moon Trophy '50' was held on the 27th June and the Paragon supplied the Winning Team of the fastest four riders on Handicap. They were Bob Hoy, Bill Hall, Bill Coales and D Kleckham for a nett time of 8.43.50 that was over 5' too good for the West Croydon Wheelers. Actual times were Bill Coales 2.20.51, C Young 2.21.49, W Hall 2.23.48, Fred Willshire 2.25.13, Len Bydowell 2.25.16, Geof Dore 2.25.19, Bob Hoy 2.25.43, Cliff Dore 2.25.47, Sid Mitchell 2.32.49 and D Kleckham 2.33.28.

Just to confuse matters it was also the Fryco Cup '50' Arthur Sharp won the Cup by over 3'. Arthur's 2.15.07 beat Bill Coales (2.18.31) and C Young (2.21.49) by a distance. Arthur's time would also have won him the Handicap by over 4' but the Club Rules awarded it awarded to Bill Coales (2.16.31) with Bob Hoy 2nd in 2.17.13 and D Kleckham 3rd in 2.18.25. It needs to be understood that not every rider rode the Moon Trophy but that the Club added a number of non-counting riders to the rear of the field. However all Paragon riders counted for the Fryco Cup and our own Club handicap. The Paragon handicap allowances were, of course, different from the Moon Trophy allowances. We do not make life easy for ourselves!

During the following week a Team went to the Manx Cycling Week. In the two lap Mountain race Stan Butler finished 15th at 4' 47" after a puncture on the mountain and chasing all the rest of the way. Fred Willett was 20th at 8' 17" and won a medal for finishing within 10 minutes of the leaders and Bert Chapman came in 50th. 80 riders had entered and 53 finished.

One hundred and thirty six riders entered for the WLCA '100'. Stan Butler had the unusual experience of being caught! The eventual winner Triance (Old Kent) did the deed but shortly after he had done so Triance punctured and Stan gave him his bike. This actually enabled him to win by just 26". Stan crossed the line in 4.53.40 that meant he had lost about 5 minutes changing tyres. Our other riders were Val Lewis 5.5.38, C Young 5.10.05 and Bob Hoy 5.18.43 amongst the 92 finishers.

Better luck came Stan's way in the Velma '50' with a season's best of 2.10.23 for 5th place. Cyril Melhuish 2.12.04 and Arthur Sharp 2.18.17 made up the Team but they were some 4' adrift for the Team prize.

A further improvement for Stan came the next week-end in the Ealing '50'. This time he moved up to 2nd place with a ride of 2.9.35. Fred Willett 2.13.16 and Arthur Sharp 2.13.51 completed the Team but it was only good enough for 2nd place award.

The 18th July was Club '100' day and 3 Paragonians took to the Southern Roads for 5 hours of glorious physical enjoyment (perhaps). Fastest to the Finish line was Val Lewis who just failed to beat 5 hours with a time of 5.0.13. In 2nd place came Bob Hoy in 5.1.05 and 3rd place C Young 5.5.11. Sid Mitchell came from 6th place on Scratch to win the Handicap. An allowance of 35' gave him a time of 4.40.49. Bob Hoy was 2nd in 4.45.05 and R Ash 3rd in 4.46.33.

Stan Butler was our only rider in the Belle Vue '50' on the 25th July. He came in with 5th fastest time of 2.11.47 but some 5' slower than Mills (Addiscombe). A puncture in the closing miles accounted for most of this.

The Bath Road '100' this year was somewhat different in that the declared winner was later relegated to 2nd place. It appeared that the Timekeeper had miscalculated a time by 2 minutes. This is not up to Bath Road Standards. The report of the race shows Stan Butler right up with the leaders in 6th place only 2' back in 1.1.30 at Abingdon. Fred Willett turned in 1.2.45 and Sid Orrell 1.5.45. At 50 miles Stan was not even listed in Cycling's report but on the Result sheet he was in 5th place in 2.13.38. Fred passed by in 2.17.32 and Sid in 2.22.13. Out to the far turn Ernie Mills (Addiscombe) was the fastest in 3.14.45 with Stan still close at hand in 3.16.40. Fred was still handy in 3.22.00 but Sid was a long way back with 3.31.00. Mills 'died' on the last stretch back to Pangbourne Lane, Theale. Hey (Bronte Whs) came home very strongly to win in 4.30.18. Stan maintained his 5th place to finish in 4.31.51. '1'33" covered the first 5 riders for the closest Bath Road 100 yet. Fred Willett finished in 18th place with 4.42.09 and Sid Orrell 61st of the 65 finishers in 4.55.15. Only one rider took longer than 5 hours.

Three times had Stan Butler finished in 2nd place in the Anerley 12-hour event but this year counted for all. After 55 miles he was in the lead never to be headed. It was Fred Willett's first 12 hour event and he started very sedately so at 133 miles he had been riding for 7 hours and 5 minutes against Stan's 6.41 but then Fred started to gain confidence and pulled back time on those in front of him. Stan, meanwhile, was pulling away from the field but had dropped to about 5 minutes slower than 'evens' due to the heat and strong winds. However he reached 193 miles 13' quicker than Shillibeer (Vegetarian) to that point. From the 193 miles point Stan put in a sensational finish covering 47 miles in 2hours 16 minutes. His last 50 miles took 2.23.00 against his first 50 miles of 2.21.00. He ran out time with 240.125 miles the first time that 20 mph had been beaten on southern roads. Shillibeer completed 233.875 miles and Fred Willett 229.625 miles for 3rd place. Ron Harris did 204.625 but the Club needed 206 miles to win the Team race so the Paragon were only 2nd Team.

As an aside it was noted in the 'Rag' that Jim Hampshire had had a bad crash. While sympathy was asked for it eventually transpired that he had noticed that one of his fork blades had cracked. Being rather short of funds he did not immediately wend his way unto his favourite bike shop but wrapped insulating tape around the break. Traversing Redhill one day the inevitable happened and thus he spent some time in Redhill Casualty. Fred Lee's comments after the incident were not complimentary. They were even worse after they arrived at Redhill General Hospital for Jim spent all his time chatting-up the pretty nurses leaving Fred to sort out the paper work and get his own and Jim's bike back home!

Next week was the Westerley '100' with another star class field assembled on the Bath Road. At the first turn Stan Butler was in 7th place in 1.1.35 but only 30" slower than the race favourite 'Shake' Earnshaw (Monckton). By the time the racers had returned to the Bath Road proper and 50 miles had been covered Stan was still in 7th place (2.12.20). But he had reached that point 2.52 slower than Lipscombe (Century) and 2.46 slower than Earnshaw.

Out to the Savernake turn at 73 miles the battle continued and there Earnshaw turned in 3.12.55. Stan Butler turned in 3.14.15 but Mills (Addiscombe) took 3.14.37, Lipscombe 3.14.50 and Fenn (Port Talbot) 3.14.55. It was anybody's race.

Mills finished the first of five in 4.34.09, Lipscombe was the next home in 4.34.50 and then Earnshaw crossed the line in 4.28.23 for all intents and purposes the Winner. When Fenn came back with 4.31.22 it looked a certainty. Then a car drew up at the Finish line with the news that Butler was 1' up on Earnshaw with 5 miles to go! It was a hard finish that morning but they were the conditions Stan Butler revelled in and once again he stormed back down the last 25 miles to cross the line in 4.26.47 to win in what appeared to be a new Competition Record. 'Twelves must be good for you' he said afterwards. Unfortunately it was not to be Competition Record as Cyril Heppleston (Yorkshire RC) had finished his own Club's Open 100 in 4.26.09 a few minutes earlier than Stan.

Bert Chapman, Cyril Melhuish and Doug Perry won the Team race in the Galena '25' and Fred Willett, Bert and Cyril won the Team race in the Velma '25' but that is all the information we have.

Albert Webb covered the greatest distance in the Club 12 hours on 22nd August to win the Rotherham Cup. Sid Mitchell was nearly 8 miles back in 2nd spot but he beat Val Lewis by only 501 yards. However this ride was good enough to get him the Handicap from Albert Webb and Bill Diplo.

In the Vegetarian 12 hour event on the 29th August the two best 100 milers were to meet again and it was Heppleston who had the 'home' advantage. Information on the Start Sheet showed ample feeding arrangement but – no provision will be made for sit down feeding! This was extremely unusual as 'everyone' stopped for food in long distance races. It was perhaps a sign that competition was becoming extremely fierce and no unnecessary time should be sacrificed sitting by the side of the road. Every minute a fast man wastes is at least 1/3 of a mile less distance covered.

Heppleston started as he meant to go on and he had the confidence of the previous week's 100 behind him too. At 50 miles he passed the Timekeeper in 2.11.00. (You could win Open '50's with that time – never mind the first part of a 12hour race!) Stan was 5.20 slower in 4th place and George Ely (Poly) 6th at 6.28. By 100 miles (covered in 4.28.48 and only 2.39 slower than his Record time of the previous week) Heppleston had increased his lead to 9.42 over Stan in 3rd place and 11.27 over George in 5th place. Cyril's relentless pace continued into the 3rd 50 miles covered in 2.27.01. Stan lost another 3.53 and George another 4.39 but they held their places in the race.

At 208 miles Heppleston had 2 hours 9 minutes still to ride and to give the Vegetarian Club their due the Course Sheet was measured out to 255 miles. They knew what to expect! Stan passed this spot 12.40 behind but in 2nd place and George 23.15 behind in 4th place but still well 'inside' the magic 'evens'. Heppleston ran out time with a new Competition Record distance of 251 miles 5 furlongs and 148 yards (251.709 miles). Stan rode into 2nd place with a personal best of 247 miles 6 furlongs 106 yards (247.810) and George Ely 3rd with 243 miles 5 furlongs and 125 yards (243.696).

Cyril Heppleston rode an 86" fixed wheel (48 x 15) whilst Stan rode variable gears of 79, 84 and 90" (50 x 15,16 and 17). Neither rider stopped during the 12 hours and only 33 riders finished but the last rider covered nearly 209miles such was the standard of the field and course.

The Epsom CC held their Tandem '30' on the 29th August as well. The Paragon had four pairs entered. Mills and Paul (Addiscombe) won in 1.3.14. Bert Chapman and Cyril Melhuish 1.7.55, Bill Hall and Arthur Sharp 1.8.48, Geoff and Cliff Dore 1.9.57 and Frank Patterson and Doug Perry finished with 1.10.03 after stopping at the turn to replace a broken toestraps.

At the Meeting of Champions at Herne Hill on 4th September Fred Willett rode the 20 miles Madison with Bill Harvell (Poole). While enlivening the race with repeated attacks Harvell and Willett lacked the sprinting ability required and came 3rd. In the Sprint Matches Stan Harrison was riding against those that had ridden the World Championships and came 3rd in all four races. The National Team Pursuit Championships were also decided at this Meeting. The Paragon won their Semi-Final against the North Manchester team but lost in the Final to the Catford by 2.8". A disappointing day from the Paragon perspective but an excellent days sport held in superb sunny weather.

In the Bideford (!) Regatta Sports P. Dyble won the 880 yards Handicap, the 1 mile Handicap and came 3rd in the 5 miles. That should have paid for his holiday!

The same copy of 'Cycling' reports the birth of a son to Arthur Bristow - 'A future Paragon sprint champion'. Alan did win the 550 Handicap Championship on one occasion but preferred time trialling. It was Arthur's second son Graham that collected the silverware.

Fred Willett came 5th in the Velma '25' on 12th September with a 1.4.54. Then with the services of Cyril Melhuish, 7th in 1.4.59, and Bert Chapman, 1.5.35, they took the Team race.

Stan Butler was our only entry in the Forest '50' and duly collected 2nd place behind Mills (Addiscombe) with a 2.9.41 ride.

Thirty-three names down for the Mayne Cup of whom 31 faced the Starter and 29 reached the Finish. Fred Willett made fastest time by over 2' in 1.3.06. Arthur Sharp came 2nd (1.5.09) and Doug Perry 3rd in 1.5.11. Man of the Day was Arthur Sharp but in a very close packed Finish. Arthur's handicap time was 1.2.24, Bob Hoy 1.2.53, Doug Perry 1.2.56, Cliff Dore 1.3.05, Fred Willett 1.3.06 and D Kleckham 1.3.08. Six men within 44" of the winner – that is Very Good Handicapping indeed!

Some other racers were still interested in Open events and they rode the Southend '25' instead – not that they won anything! Stan Butler 1.4.19 and Bert Chapman 1.5.09 finished the race but Cyril Melhuish failed to reach the final Timekeeper. The lads made up for the next week-end in the Comet '25' as Bert Chapman came in with 1.3.30, Cyril Melhuish 1.3.46 and Stan Butler 1.4.23 to take the Team race away from the Addiscombe by 22".

Eight riders assailed White Hill near Caterham for the Hill Climb. 7 of them made the Finish with Bill Coales ascending fastest in 1.56. C Young was 2nd (2.06) and Sid Horton 3rd (2.09). Doug Perry did not finish – what happened?

Stan Butler and Fred Willett attacked the SRRA 100 miles Tandem Record to set new figures. Although delayed by a puncture at 57 miles they passed the Timekeeper in 4.9.46 to set a new Club record as well as the SRRA Record. They beat the old record by 7.26.

On the Track the 550 yards Handicap was won by Jim Parkes from W Whitcher and in 3rd place E Upton Cooke. The 5 miles Championship was won by Stan Harrison from Vic Lewis and Fred Willett in third place. The 550 yards Scratch Sprint was a win for Vic Lewis from Stan Harrison and Arthur Bristow.

Stan Butler was 2nd in the BBAR with 22.096 mph. The winner was C Heppleston (Yorkshire RC) with 22.348 mph.

Close to home the Championship and Special Prizes were allocated as follows:- Val Lewis was the Track Champion with Stan Harrison as Runner-up. RAF Harris won the Club Road Championship with Bob Hoy as Runner-up. Cliff Dore won the Frank Patterson Prize for the best Novice in Club Events over 25 and 50 miles. Sid Mitchell won Bill Kite's Special prize for a Novice in the Club '100'. Jack Gunning's Prize for the most Improved Novice on the Track was won by Val Lewis. Bill Sagger's Track Jersey for the most Improved Rider on the Track went to Stan Harrison. The Club Runs Attendance Prizes were won by Bill Diplo (Winter Runs) and F Willshire (Summer Runs).

The Bicycle Polo Champions of 1937 were Ching Allin, Ron Mitchell, Bill Henn, Dick Ongley and George Ongley.

The Bicycle Polo Summer League Winners (Division 2) were Taffy Carleton, E Horne, Bob Reddin, T Stanley, P Martin and AE Allin.

Forty-three Standard Medals were awarded of which 7 were Gold Centre medals, 20 silver and 16 bronze. These cost the club some £46 out of an Income of £114 and the Club made a loss of £2. 1s. 1d over the year.

Club Time Trial Results

	Scratch Result	10 L/G		Handicap Result		
		H/C				
9	Entries	14.3.37				
4	Starters					
4	Finishers					
1	Allan DS	28.00	1	Horne E	2.00	27.23
2	Horne E	29.23	2	Allan DS	Scratch	28.00
3	Coales WJ	29.43	3	Mitchall SA	2.00	28.15
4	Mitchall SA	30.15	4	Coales WJ	0.10	29.33
	Scratch Result	25 h/c		Handicap Result		
		4.4.37				
28	Entries					
27	Starters					
25	Finishers					
1	Perry DG	1.06.25	1	Hall W	10.00	1.00.56
2	Webb A	1.07.46	2	Dore C	7.30	1.03.04
3	Horton S	1.08.04	3	Kleckman D	12.00	1.03.58
4	Bristow ACG	1.08.20	4	Horton S	4.00	1.04.04
5	Sharp A	1.08.21	5	Sharp A	4.00	1.04.21
6	Lewis V	1.08.51	6	Mitchall SA	6.00	1.04.36
7	Patterson FH	1.09.27	7	Perry DG	1.15	1.05.10
8	Bydawell L	1.09.30	8	Patterson FH	4.00	1.05.27
9	Young C	1.09.30	9	Barnes F	7.00	1.05.45
10	Dore C	1.10.34	10	Dore G	5.00	1.06.12
11	Mitchall SA	1.10.36	11	Murray G	5.00	1.06.32
12	Harris RAF	1.10.44	12	Clare W	8.30	1.06.39
13	Hall W	1.10.56	13	Harris RAF	4.00	1.06.44
14	Dore G	1.11.12	14	Lewis V	2.00	1.06.51
15	Murray G	1.11.32	15	Bydawell L	2.30	1.07.00
16	Barnes F	1.12.45	16	Webb A	0.45	1.07.01
17	Gardiner K	1.12.48	17	Hoy RJ	7.30	1.07.13
18	Allan DS	1.12.58	18	Young C	1.45	1.07.45
19	Hoy RJ	1.14.43	19	Barkus EA	7.00	1.07.59
20	Barkus EA	1.14.59	20	Bristow ACG	Scratch	1.08.20
21	Clare W	1.15.09	21	Gunning J	10.30	1.08.34
22	Kleckman D	1.15.58	22	Allan DS	3.00	1.09.58
23	Allan DJ	1.18.40	23	Allan DJ	7.30	1.11.10
24	Gunning J	1.19.04	24	Gardiner K	1.15	1.11.33
25	Horne E	1.19.27	25	Horne E	6.00	1.13.27
	Scratch Result	30 h/c		Handicap Result		
		23.5.37				
17	Entries					
16	Starters					
13	Finishers					
1	Willett F	1.18.56	1	Gunning J	15.00	1.13.02

2	Patterson FH	1.22.28	2	Horne E	12.00	1.13.21
3	Coales WJ	1.23.36	3	Coales WJ	7.30	1.16.06
4	Harris RAF	1.24.16	4	Patterson FH	5.30	1.16.58
5	Hall W	1.24.17	5	Woolley LC	13.30	1.17.13
6	Willshire J	1.24.53	6	Hall W	6.30	1.17.47
7	Horne E	1.25.21	7	Willshire J	7.00	1.17.53
8	Ash RJ	1.25.23	8	Roscoe W	6.30	1.18.55
9	Roscoe W	1.25.25	9	Willett F	Scratch	1.18.56
10	Henn W	1.26.08	10	Henn W	7.00	1.19.08
11	Phillips D	1.26.31	11	Ash RJ	6.00	1.19.23
12	Gunning J	1.28.02	12	Phillips D	6.30	1.20.01
13	Woolley LC	1.30.43	13	Harris RAF	4.00	1.20.16
	Scratch Result	50 h/c		Handicap Result		
		27.6.37		Fryco Cup		
22	Entries					
20	Starters					
13	Finishers					
1	Sharp A	2.15.07		Sharp A	3.30	2.12.23
2	Coales WJ	2.18.31	1	Coales WJ	2.00	2.16.31
3	Young C	2.21.49	2	Hoy RJ	8.30	2.17.13
4	Hall W	2.23.48	3	Kleckman D	15.00	2.18.25
5	Willshire J	2.25.13	4	Dore C	7.00	2.18.47
6	Bydowell L	2.25.16	5	Young C	3.00	2.18.49
7	Dore G	2.25.19	6	Dore G	6.30	2.18.49
8	Hoy RJ	2.25.43	7	Hall W	3.00	2.20.48
9	Dore C	2.25.47	8	Bydowell L	3.00	2.22.16
10	Ash RJ	2.27.51	9	Willshire J	2.45	2.22.28
11	Mitchall SA	2.32.49	10	Ash RJ	4.30	2.23.21
12	Kleckman D	2.33.25	11	Mitchall SA	8.00	2.24.49
13	Gunning J	2.38.50	12	Gunning J	10.00	2.28.50
	Scratch Result	100 h/c		Handicap Result		
		18.7.37				
13	Entries					
13	Starters					
11	Finishers					
1	Lewis V	5.00.13	1	Mitchall SA	35.00	4.40.49
2	Hoy RJ	5.01.05	2	Hoy RJ	16.00	4.45.05
3	Young C	5.05.11	3	Ash RJ	30.00	4.46.33
4	Perry DG	5.05.57	4	Woolley LC	40.00	4.50.26
5	Harris RAF	5.09.09	5	Young C	8.00	4.57.11
6	Mitchall SA	5.15.49	6	Lewis V	3.00	4.57.13
7	Ash RJ	5.16.33	7	Gunning J	40.00	5.03.15
8	Diplo W	5.29.45	8	Diplo W	25.00	5.04.45
9	Woolley LC	5.30.26	9	Perry DG	1.00	5.04.57
10	Gunning J	5.43.15	10	Harris RAF	Scratch	5.09.09
11	Roscoe W	5.46.43	11	Roscoe W	16.00	5.30.43
	Scratch Result	12 hours		Handicap Result		
		h/c		Rotherham Cup		
10	Entries	22.8.37				
10	Starters					
6	Finishers					
1	Webb A	221.54	1	Mitchall SA	18.00	231.64

2	Mitchall SA	213.64	2	Webb A	10.00	231.54
3	Lewis V	213.36	3	Diplo W	20.00	222.97
4	Diplo W	202.97	4	Lewis V	5.00	218.35
5	Hoy RJ	199.29	5	Hoy RJ	12.00	211.29
6	Barkus EA	179.23	6	Barkus EA	27.00	206.23
	Scratch Result	25 h/c		Handicap Result		
		3.10.37		Mayne Cup		
33	Entries					
31	Starters					
29	Finishers					
1	Willett F	1.03.06	1	Sharp A	2.45	1.02.24
2	Sharp A	1.05.09	2	Hoy RJ	8.30	1.02.53
3	Perry DG	1.05.11	3	Perry DG	2.15	1.02.56
4	Harrison S	1.05.43	4	Dore C	5.15	1.03.05
5	Lewis V	1.07.24	5	Willett F	Scratch	1.03.06
6	Dore C	1.08.20	6	Kleckman D	8.30	1.03.08
7	Harris RAF	1.08.23	7	Harrison S	2.00	1.03.43
8	James E	1.09.02	8	Hall W	6.00	1.03.50
9	Allan DS	1.09.42	9	Lewis V	3.15	1.04.09
10	Cleeve FL	1.09.45	10	Hardy A	6.15	1.04.16
11	Hall W	1.09.50	11	Harris RAF	3.45	1.04.38
12	Hardy A	1.10.31	12	Horne E	6.00	1.04.45
13	Horne E	1.10.45	13	James E	4.15	1.04.47
14	Hoy RJ	1.11.23	14	Phillips D	6.30	1.05.01
15	Phillips D	1.11.31	15	Barkus EA	8.30	1.05.23
16	Kleckman D	1.11.38	16	Allan DS	4.15	1.05.27
17	Mitchall SA	1.11.50	17	Walker F	7.30	1.05.35
18	Willshire J	1.13.03	18	Wooton H	9.00	1.06.24
19	Walker F	1.13.05	19	Cleeve FL	3.00	1.06.45
20	Patterson FH	1.13.21	20	Mitchall SA	5.00	1.06.50
21	Barkus EA	1.13.53	21	Gunning J	9.00	1.06.57
22	Woolmer AG	1.14.24	22	Saggers WJ	8.00	1.07.04
23	Robson H	1.14.41	23	Woolmer AG	7.00	1.07.24
24	Saggers WJ	1.15.04	24	Woolley LC	9.00	1.07.33
25	Wooton H	1.15.24	25	Robson H	7.00	1.07.41
26	Gunning J	1.15.57	26	Patterson FH	4.15	1.09.06
27	Woolley LC	1.16.33	27	Willshire J	3.45	1.09.18
28	Barnes F	1.19.22	28	Barnes F	8.00	1.10.22
29	Cooke P	1.26.44	29	Cooke P	7.00	1.19.44
	Scratch Result	Hill Climb				
		10.10.37				
8	Entries					
8	Starters					
7	Finishers					
1	Coales WJ	1.58				
2	Young C	2.06				
3	Horton S	2.09				
4	Cleeve FL	2.26				
5	Clare W	2.28				
6	Mitchall SA	2.33				
7	Kent-Smith	3.23				