

1943

First thing of note in the Club Handbook was a reduction in the numbers of Vice-Presidents with W Burgin, W Le Grys, A.H. Marshall George Moffat not re-elected but Bill Saggars and Harry Ryan being added to the list.

Club Headquarters for 1943 had moved nearer to London to be in the St Andrew's Hall, Guildersfield Road, Streatham. Stan Harrison has taken over from Arthur Bristow as Track Secretary and the Committee for 1943 was Edward Batt, Den Bradfield, Stan Butler, Bert Holkham, Jack Pearce, Charlie Sapsford and Vic Ware. Two old stalwarts keeping order and a host of youngsters to keep them in order!

Included among the Items on the Agenda at the AGM was a proposal that the Club promote Track events for the Junior riders (Carried) and a Special General Meeting to be called regarding the massed-start problem.

The RTTC with its usual head in the sand attitude had recently ruled that knee length stockings were required for racing. The Paragon Committee had written back to say that a more realistic attitude should prevail and that ankle socks should be worn in road time trials. No answer had been received.

The SCCU held a '25' on 11th April. Ron Tugwell 1.6.31 and Jim Ramsey 1.15.31 were the only Paragon finishers. The affect of the war could be seen on this Result card. There were 35 riders who had entered in the normal way but another 32 who had entered late or were riding time trials.

There were 15 entries for the medium Gear '25' on 18th April and Ron Tugwell started where he left off last season. His time was 1.6.34 4½ minutes faster than the 2nd placeman John Cooke (1.11.04) and Eric Bonner in 3rd place (1.11.28). With that lead he also collected the Handicap prize although some people did get closer to him. 2nd handicap went to Eric Bonner, 1.7.58, 3rd John Cooke, 1.8.04, 4th Ted Batt 1.8.31 and 5th Jack Pearce 1.8.43. This was very close Handicapping for the first event of the season.

The next '25' was held on a Saturday evening, 2nd May. Not that it made a lot of difference as Ron Tugwell still won it. However his time of 1.6.37 was only 16" faster than John Cooke's 1.6.53 with Eric Bonner closing up too win 3rd place with 1.7.07. With 8' Handicap Den Bradfield (59.29) won the Handicap by nearly a minute from E Lathwell (1.00.18) and Eric Bonner (1.1.07) in 3rd place.

The next day the Club ran a Junior 10 mile Time Trial and had five riders. John Cooke proved the fastest in 25.53, E Lathwell 2nd in 27.40 and Ted Batt 3rd in 28.28.

Another SCCU promotion on the 9th May down on the Brighton Road. On what must have been a very bad morning with 35 non-starters from a field of 70! Eric Bonner 1.12.34, D Bradfield 1.14.15, Ed Batt 1.16.42, F Hayward 1.17.54, Frank Patterson 1.18.14 were the Club's riders but all finished with very slow times.

At the Committee Meeting on the 17th May it was reported that Alan Gordon had been elected Secretary to the RTTC London South Council and Stan Butler to the Committee of that body. Also at that Meeting a young Irishman was elected a Junior member of the Paragon. His name was Vincent Callanan. This was, unknowingly, a Red Letter day in the Club's History With Vin's election to the Club it completed the triumvirate of young riders that would eventually put the Paragon back to the top of time trialling sport in this Country.

Solo and Tandem Standards for 30 miles were also set at this Meeting. The times proposed are as follows:-

	Single	Tandem	Trike
Gold centre	1.19.00	1.9.00	1.29.00
Silver	1.24.00	1.12.00	1.33.00
Bronze	1.31.00	1.16.00	1.39.00

The 30 miles Handicap was also held on a Saturday evening, 12th June. And eventually someone got the better of Ron Tugwell. John Cooke came in with 1.21.01; Ron had to be content with 2nd place with his 1.21.50. The class of these two riders is shown by the fact that the 3rd place man was 5' behind. Jack Pearce finished in 1.26.17. Cooke deservedly took the Handicap with a nett time of 1.18.01 from Pearce 2nd with 1.20.12 and Ron Tugwell 3rd in 1.21.50.

On the 28th June the Secretary reported that the Croydon East Ward Electors Association had been in touch with him asking for the Club's support in their endeavour to get the Beckenham Golf Course as an Open Space and Sportsground for Croydon Residents. He had replied pledging the Club's support. (Would this get us our own Track?). This year the Dinner was booked in good time at the Café Royal and further Dances at the Grandison Ball Room on October 27th, January 14th and February 9th.

On the 4th July there were 11 riders down for a Junior '15' and Den Bradfield came into his own again to win in 38.41. 2nd place was John Cooke, 40.04, and 3rd place Eric Bonner, 40.06. Also close behind were Ted Batt, 40.15, and Colin Brown 40.18.

A further SCCU '25' on the 11th July received 100 advance entries with some 7 riders doing time trails. Again it must have been a bad morning as 34 riders failed to start and another 17 failed to finish! Charlie Sapsford 1.9.41, Vin Callanan 1.10.08, John Cooke 1.10.19 and Ted Batt 1.22.28 were our finishers. Vin Callanan, however, came away with a prize as with 7½ minutes handicap he claimed 2nd in the Handicap section.

The following week the London Clarion promoted a Longmarkers '25'. Vin Callanan 1.9.05, Ted Batt 1.13.04 and E Lathwell 1.14.35 were the Paragon riders. Vin won the 'Class 1' award but we do not have any record as to what that actually meant!

The 25th July was the day of the Paragon Open '50' down on the Bath Road. Eighty-eight riders were due to face the Timekeeper of whom 78 actually started. Arch Harding of the Middlesex RC won the race in 2.7.21. (The Middlesex RC modelled themselves on the Norwood Paragon having as their colours, black, green and gold

plus a club badge in the shape of a capital 'M') Club times were Ron Tugwell 2.20.27, Charlie Sapsford 2.32.39 and D Sharp 2.39.42.

Ron Tugwell benefited from the '50' for in the Apollo '25' on the 1st August he came 3rd in 1.5.37. Vin Callanan was also in the prizes with his 1.8.07 taking the Group F award. (No, we do not know how the field was grouped!) It was a very bad day as there were 18 non-starters and 32 non-finishers from the 100 entries. Other Paragon riders were John Cooke 1.8.46, Jack Pearce 1.8.59 and E Lathwell 1.13.22. The times of Tugwell, Callanan and Cooke were good enough for 2nd Team award.

The Inter-Club '50' on the 8th August saw a win for young Vincent Callanan in 2.20.00. As mentioned before with Vin's arrival the Paragon had completed a team that, after the War, was to bring the Club back to being a force in long distance time trialling. They did not know that in 1943 but it is fascinating to watch the pieces drop into place. 2nd to Vin was Ron Tugwell with a 2.24.17 ride and 3rd Ted Batt in 2.32.25. Someone had given Vin 6' Handicap so he won that section of the race rather easily with a nett time of 2.14.00. Ted Batt was 2nd (2.22.25), and Ron Tugwell 3rd (2.24.17).

The Juniors had another race on the 15th August and this time it was Eric Bonner's time to shine as he passed the Timekeeper in 26.20. Tied for 2nd place were Ted Batt and Ken Lee in 27.04 with Den Bradfield close up 4th in 27.24.

A scheme for Handicapping the Junior members by age was proposed at the Committee Meeting on the 17th August. Under 17, 17 to 18 and Over 18 were the bands. This would be attempted at the next Junior event. Also at this meeting there was a note regarding the speeches at the Club Dinner. Those speeches that embarrassed members or those that included suggestive remarks were to be discouraged. The Secretary was asked to keep this in mind when seeking speakers for the various toasts.

The next week-end the Club held a Tandem '30' with four teams competing. The Tugwell brothers, Ron and Maurice, won in 1.8.21 from Eric Bonner and John Cooke who clocked 1.9.58. The Old gang Webb and Bristow were 3rd in 1.11.53 and Bill Diplo rode with new boy Vin Callanan in 1.13.50. The Handicap result was almost the same as the Scratch result except that the Diplo/Callanan pair just got in front of the Webb/Bristow combination.

In the '25' on the 12th September Ron Tugwell was back to his winning ways – just! His time of 1.6.36 was 7" too fast for Eric Bonner with John Cooke a little way behind in 1.8.20. Eric improved sufficiently to take the Handicap with 1.3.58. The next seven riders were within 50" of each other. Vin Callanan 1.5.46, Maurice Tugwell 1.5.47, John Cooke 1.5.50, Don Chamberlain 1.6.01, Charlie Sapsford 1.6.02, Ted Batt 1.6.28 and Ron Tugwell 1.6.36. That is superb handicapping.

Please note the name of Don Chamberlain we will read more of this gentleman at a later date.

A Junior 20 miles event was held on 19th September. The Club Record for that distance had stood since 1908 mainly because since World War I the distance had not

been raced. Perhaps this event put George Moffat's time in perspective as only one rider managed to beat that record time. John Cooke came in with a 56.10 only 50" faster. What we did not know when that sentence was written was that the Course was about a mile too long! So one could subtract between 2.30 and 2.45 from the recorded times to give a more accurate assessment. However, John Cooke won by over 3' from Den Bradfield, 59.29 and 3rd was Maurice Tugwell 1.2.20.

Jack Pearce had the idea of a Roller Contest at the Clubroom in November and was requested by the Committee to contact Cycling for use of the Rollers and a small sub-committee was formed to go into the organisation of the event. Unfortunately the Catford had booked the Rollers on the same night and no other date was available so the idea had to be held over until 1944.

Alan Gordon also outlined the work of the Croydon Youth Movement under the auspices of George Brake (Manager of Bloomfields Bakeries, Bicycle Polo Association and Wren Wheelers). A Fund was to be opened for the purchase of equipment. It would be in the Club's interest to subscribe to the Movement as it could mean a steady stream of members.

The last SCCU '25' of the year was run on the 3rd October. Twenty-four of the 95 entries failed to start and another 18 failed to finish. Paragon times were Vin Callanan 1.8.10, Eric Bonner 1.8.23, Maurice Tugwell 1.11.09, Don Chamberlain 1.11.26, Den Bradfield 1.12.28 and Ed Batt 1.13.44.

The last '25' of the year, still referred to as the Mayne Cup although the Cup was not being awarded, was on 10th October. John Cooke produced fastest time with 1.4.51, Eric Bonner was 2nd in 1.6.45 and Vin Callanan was 3rd in 1.7.14. It was that man Chamberlain who took the handicap in 1.2.36. John Cooke, 1.2.51 was 2nd and Vin Callanan 3rd in 1.4.44.

Rounding off the Club Events for 1943 was the Hill Climb but it only attracted three entries. Ron Tugwell beat younger brother Maurice, 1.50 to 2.02 with Vin Callanan in 3rd place in 2.13.

The first Dance raised £3 3s 6d for the Club Funds. The Club Dinner attracted some 86 members, wives and friends but made a small loss of £1.14s 3½ d.

A small furore on the Polo Fields as the Secretary reported that a Team playing under the name of the Paragon contained several non-members. Bob Reddin had been advised of this and Messrs Len 'Shaggy' Butler, Maurice Taylor and Len Adams joined the Club as Second Claim Members.

Also the Croydon Youth Movement appeared not to be well organised financially. Fred Lee had drawn up a set of Regulations that ought to put matters to rights. In the meantime moneys held by Paragon members would not be passed on.

John Cooke came up with a good idea regarding Club Prizemoney. Would it not be possible for the Club to hold the money and issue a credit note to that value. This could be redeemed after the War when goods would be more readily available. This matter would be handled by the Treasurer.

Club Time Trial Results

	Scratch Result	25 h/c		Handicap Result		
		Med Gear				
15	Entries	18.4.43				
13	Starters					
11	Finishers					
1	Tugwell R	1.06.34		Tugwell R	Scratch	1.06.34
2	Cooke J	1.11.04	1	Bonner E	3.30	1.07.58
3	Bonner E	1.11.28	2	Cooke J	3.00	1.08.04
4	Pearce J	1.11.43	3	Batt E	7.00	1.08.31
5	Harrison SV	1.12.27	4	Pearce J	3.00	1.08.43
6	Ramsey J	1.12.32	5	Patterson FH	4.00	1.10.03
7	Patterson FH	1.14.03	6	Harrison SV	1.45	1.10.42
8	Diplo J	1.15.20	7	Ramsey J	1.30	1.11.02
9	Batt E	1.15.31	8	Hayward FV	5.00	1.13.41
10	Bradfield D	1.16.29	9	Bradfield D	2.30	1.13.59
11	Hayward FV	1.18.41	10	Diplo J	Scratch	1.15.20
	Scratch Result	25 h/c		Handicap Result		
		22.5.43				
11	Entries	(Sat.Eve.)				
10	Starters					
9	Finishers					
1	Tugwell R	1.06.37	1	Bradfield D	8.00	0.59.29
2	Cooke J	1.06.53	2	Lathwell E	10.00	1.00.18
3	Bonner E	1.07.07	3	Bonner E	6.00	1.01.07
4	Bradfield D	1.07.29	4	Hayward FV	10.00	1.02.29
5	Pearce J	1.09.33	5	Cooke J	4.00	1.02.53
6	Lathwell E	1.10.18	6	Pearce J	4.30	1.05.05
7	Callanan V	1.11.46	7	Callanan V	6.00	1.05.46
8	Hayward FV	1.12.29	8	Tugwell R	Scratch	1.06.37
9	Ramsey J	1.13.46	9	Ramsey J	1.30	1.12.16
	Scratch Result	10m Junior				
5	Entries	23.5.43				
5	Starters					
5	Finishers					
1	Cooke J	25.53				
2	Lathwell E	27.40				
3	Batt E	28.28				
4	Marks J	28.40				
5	Cutts S	31.59				
	Scratch Result	30 h/c		Handicap Result		
		12.6.43				
6	Entries	(Sat. Eve.)				
6	Starters					
5	Finishers					
1	Cooke J	1.12.01	1	Cooke J	3.00	1.18.01
2	Tugwell R	1.21.50	2	Pearce J	6.00	1.20.12

3	Pearce J	1.26.17	3	Tugwell R	Scratch	1.21.50
4	Lathwell E	1.28.56	4	Lathwell E	7.00	1.21.56
5	Hayward FV	1.33.26	5	Hayward FV	10.00	1.23.26
1	Cooke J	1.12.01	1	Cooke J	3.00	1.18.01
	Scratch Result	15m				
		Junior				
11	Entries	4.7.43				
11	Starters					
11	Finishers					
1	Bradfield D	38.41				
2	Cooke J	40.04				
3	Bonner E	40.06				
4	Batt E	40.15				
5	Brown CA	40.18				
6	Lee K	41.26				
7	Marks J	42.12				
8	Gidden L	42.16				
9	Lathwell E	42.24				
10	Cutts S	43.18				
11	Blackshaw A	44.27				
	Scratch Result	50 h/c		Handicap Result		
		8.8.43		Inter-club		
5	Entries					
5	Starters					
5	Finishers					
1	Callanan V	2.20.00		Callanan V	6.00	2.14.00
2	Tugwell R	2.24.17	1	Batt E	10.00	2.22.25
3	Batt E	2.32.25	2	Tugwell R	Scratch	2.24.17
4	Diplo W	2.35.40	3	Diplo W	10.00	2.25.40
5	Sharp D	2.44.58	4	Sharp D	14.00	2.30.58
	Scratch Result	10m				
		Junior				
11	Entries	15.8.43				
8	Starters					
8	Finishers					
1	Bonner E	26.20				
2	Batt E	27.04				
3	Lee K	27.04				
4	Bradfield D	27.24				
5	Jones FH	28.01				
6	Cutts S	28.03				
7	Hayward FV	28.54				
8	Marks J	30.04				

	Scratch Result	30 h/c		Handicap Result		
		Tandem				
5	Entries	22.8.43				
4	Starters					
4	Finishers					
1	Tugwell R & M	1.08.21		Tugwell R & M	1.00	1.07.21
2	Bonner/Cooke	1.09.58	1	Bonner/Cooke	1.00	1.08.58
3	Webb/Bristow	1.11.53	2	Diplo/Callanan	2.00	1.10.50
4	Diplo/Callanan	1.13.50	3	Webb/Bristow	Scratch	1.11.53
	Scratch Result	25 h/c		Handicap Result		
		12.9.43		Inter-club		
12	Entries					
11	Starters					
10	Finishers					
1	Tugwell R	1.06.36	1	Bonner E	2.45	1.03.58
2	Bonner E	1.06.43	2	Callanan V	3.30	1.05.46
3	Cooke J	1.08.20	3	Tugwell M	4.00	1.05.47
4	Sapsford C	1.09.02	4	Cooke J	2.30	1.05.50
5	Callanan V	1.09.16	5	Chamberlain D	4.00	1.06.01
6	Tugwell M	1.09.47	6	Sapsford C	3.00	1.06.02
7	Chamberlain D	1.10.01	7	Batt E	5.30	1.06.28
8	Batt E	1.11.58	8	Tugwell R	Scratch	1.06.36
9	Bradfield D	1.15.55	9	Diplo W	6.00	1.11.49
10	Diplo W	1.17.49	10	Bradfield D	3.00	1.12.55
	Scratch Result	20 miles				
		Junior				
8	Entries	19.9.43				
6	Starters					
5	Finishers					
1	Cooke J	0.56.10				
2	Bradfield D	0.59.29				
3	Tugwell M	1.02.20				
4	Batt E	1.02.48				
5	Jones FH	1.08.29				
	Scratch Result	25 h/c		Handicap Result		
		10.10.43		Mayne Cup		
10	Entries					
9	Starters					
8	Finishers					
1	Cooke J	1.04.51	1	Chamberlain D	4.45	1.02.36
2	Bonner E	1.06.45	2	Cooke J	2.00	1.02.51
3	Callanan V	1.07.14	3	Callanan V	2.30	1.04.44
4	Chamberlain D	1.07.21	4	Tugwell M	4.30	1.04.49
5	Tugwell M	1.09.19	5	Bonner E	1.30	1.05.15
6	Stent R	1.09.29	6	Sapsford C	2.00	1.08.05
7	Sapsford C	1.10.05	7	Stent R	Scratch	1.09.29
8	Bradfield D	1.12.37	8	Bradfield D	2.30	1.10.07

	Scratch Result	Hill Climb				
		17.10.43				
3	Entries					
3	Starters					
3	Finishers					
1	Tugwell R	1.50				
2	Tugwell M	2.02				
3	Callanan V	2.13				