

1947

Forty-three members attended the AGM that was held on Sunday 19th January at the Freemasons Arms, Penge Road, Anerley. Significant motions that were carried were the introduction of a Club Championship Plaque to be paid for from the prize money awarded to the Club for winning the London Track Racing League. Any additional expenditure is to be taken from the Thanksgiving Fund. Albert Webb and Stan Butler proposed that any member riding in the name of the Club who won a National Championship under either RTTC or NCU Rules be awarded a Gold Centre Medal. Team Pursuit wins and those on the Polo field would be awarded as the Committee saw fit.

Founder Member George Colget was elected President and Frank Burton and Alan Gordon were both elected as Vice Presidents. General Secretary was Frank Patterson, Treasurer C Brown, Road Secretary Stan Butler, Track Secretary Albert Webb, Massed Start Secretary Ivor Cox, Social Secretary Don Allan, Polo Secretary George Ongley, Magazine Editor John Dennis, Press Secretary Jack Gunning, Summer Runs were to be looked after by Bill Diplo and the Winter series by Fred Sams.

The Committee was Jack Carter, Monty Southall, Frank Cleeve, Frank Burton, Arthur Sharp and Arthur Bristow. Junior Rep. Was Brian Stephens.

At the first Committee Meeting on the 11th February the Club sent money to the WLCA to assist their prize fund and to support a levy by the SRRA to set this body on its feet after the lean war years.

Racing started after the coldest and longest winter seen in England for many, many years but it did not seem to slow riders down when it came to the actual racing although it must be said that the Balham Rough Stuff '25' was cancelled as the Downland course was impassable.

The Club riders started 1947 with the South London RC Medium Gear '25'. The Paragon collected 3rd Team award but the times we have are Pete Kitchiner 5th in 1.9.54, Don Corry 11th in 1.11.07, Don Chamberlain 1.12.04 and Henry Greatwood 1.13.54 on a very cold but sunny morning. George Fleming (Belle Vue) won in 1.6.14.

There was a little more success in the SCCU Medium Gear '25' on the 9th March. P Crook (Kingston) won the race in 1.6.57. Vin Callanan was close up in 5th place with 1.8.56, Pete Kitchiner 7th, 1.9.35, Maurice Jeffries 11th, 1.11.05, Don Corry 12th, 1.11.26. Henry Greatwood 13th in 1.11.30 that was also good enough for 2nd handicap. Dick Croft won the fastest Novice prize with a 1.13.36 ride that included a 55" late start. Digger Dawson finished with a 1.21.01. Unfortunately the Paragon was again 3rd in the Team race.

Twenty-one entries were received for the Medium Gear '25' on 23rd March of whom 15 started and finished on a freezing, cold morning that was warmer standing around rather than trying to race. Bert Chapman was the fastest man with 1.12.42, Maurice Jeffries was 2nd in 1.13.27 and D Cutler 3rd in 1.15.20. The times speak for

themselves. Maurice Jeffries won the Handicap with a nett time of 1.10.37 from D Geest, 1.11.04 and Bert Chapman 1.12.27.

Such was the strength of the Paragon that the Club had other members riding the Calleva Medium Gear '25' as well. Times were Vin Callanan 9th in 1.8.55, Don Chamberlain 1.9.18, Pete Kitchiner 1.9.43, Don Corry 1.11.32 and Henry Greatwood 1.12.32. No prizes were collected.

On a day of strong, wet, westerly winds the Club had riders in three events. In the SCCU event on the Portsmouth Road the Club times were Bert Chapman 1.9.51, Henry Greatwood 1.13.11, John Vallack 1.15.09, Norman Bonner 1.17.11 (with 3.10 late start), E Lathwell 1.33.16. The Kentish Wheelers Novices was held on the Brighton Road and six aspirants from the Paragon were riding. Paul Quaglia finished with a 1.13, N. Denning 1.16.19, Bill Coates a 1.21, E. Frankland with 1.24.44 and Lusby had 10.18 late start to add to his 1.18.13. . Edmund Stretton collected two punctures that finished his race earlier than expected. Over in Essex Vin Callanan came 2nd in the Forest '25' with a 1.4.48 ride, Pete Kitchiner finished in 1.7.21, Don Chamberlain 1.8.04 and Arthur Sharp 1.8.39. The Paragon was 2nd in the Team race.

April 6th was Charlotteville '50' day. The first '50' of the year was greeted with a very strong westerly wind. This makes for a very hard first 25 miles as the Bath Road course goes due west. The return, of course, is somewhat faster but if you go too hard on the way out there is nothing left for the return. To give some idea of the strength of the wind Charlie Roberts (Addiscombe) was the fastest to in 1.15.48 with Vin Callanan just 11" slower. Pete Kitchiner turned in 1.18.10 Don Chamberlain in 1.19.25 and Don Corry in 1.24.21! Vin only took 57.45 for the return 25 miles to cross the line in 2.13.43 to beat Charlie Roberts by 19". Pete Kitchiner was 8th in 2.16.53 and Don Chamberlain 9th in 2.17.37. These three times added together won the Team race. Even with Don Corry's 2.20.53 for 17th place the Paragon would have won the Team race.

In warmer weather on the 13th April the first Club '25' was held on the Cherry Tree course (Earlswood to Faygate and back). Arthur Sharp and Bert Chapman had a real 'ding-dong' struggle with Arthur coming off best with a ride of 1.6.00 to Bert's 1.6.09. In 3rd place was Norman Bonner in 1.8.12. R Tompkins won the handicap with 8.30 allowance from his excellent 1.10.37 giving him a time of 1.2.27 to win by 2.41. 2nd was Ted Doe in 1.5.08 and 3rd Norman Bonner in 1.5.12. There were 25 entries and 21 finishers. Down on the Bath Road the Club was having more success in the Oxonian '25'. Albert Derbyshire (Calleva) won in 1.2.48 but Vin Callanan was in 3rd place with a 1.4.03 ride. Pete Kitchiner was 7th in 1.5.34 and with Don Corry finishing in 1.7.00 the Paragon won the team race. Our 4th man Don Chamberlain finished in 1.7.06 and the Team would have been ours with him as well.

An incident occurred on the club-run around the Boxhill area on 20th April when Edmund Stretton, Ron's brother, crashed into an oncoming car and was killed. While this is a very rare occurrence it casts a cloud over the club's activities for some time after.

That day two SCCU '25's were held. This was to accommodate the number of entries received. On the Pound Hill course (Smallfield/Copthorne area) there were 123 entries with Norman Bonner 1.9.04 and Digger Dawson 1.14.19 being our only finishers. On the Cherry Tree course (Earslwood to Faygate) there were 121 entries with Dick Croft 1.10.54 and N Denning 1.14.33 being our only finishers.

The Tandemists went, as usual, to the University '30' north of Bishops Stortford. Vin Callanan and Don Chamberlain finished in 1.11.04 for 7th place. Pete Kitchener and Don Corry were a little slower in 1.13.45.

At the Kentish Whs Meeting at Herne Hill on the 26th April Albert Webb came 2nd in the 550 yards Sprint. Len Hart and John Dennis were 2nd in the 1 mile Tandem Sprint with Stan Harrison and Jim Hampshire coming 3rd.

The short distance men rode the Apollo '25' on the Sunday with Vin Callanan coming 2nd in 1.2.59 behind Whitbourne (Kingston RC) 1.2.09. Other Paragon times were Don Chamberlain 7th in 1.4.30 Bert Chapman 8th in 1.4.48, Pete Kitchiner 1.6.16, Don Corry 1.6.46 and Maurice Jeffries 1.16.10. The Paragon was 2nd in the Team race. Norman Bonner went off by himself to ride the Marsh '25' where he finished in 1.9.12.

Next week-end the Poly had their Meeting at Herne Hill and during the proceedings Harrison and Hampshire came 3rd in the 1000m Tandem Sprint and Albert Webb 2nd in the 880 yards handicap.

On the Sunday in the Bec 2nd Class '25' Ted Doe was second fastest in 1.7.24, John Vallack 9th in 1.8.53 and Frank Sisley 1.12.04. The event was won by Clarke (Crusader) in 1.6.54 and the Paragon was 2nd in the Team race.

The first of the Club Track Championships was held at the Catford Evening Meeting. The 550 yards Handicap was won by Ivor Cox from Stan Harrison and John Dennis. D Fowler came 3^d in the Open 440 Handicap.

The 10th May was another black day for the Paragon when the Club's genial, pipe smoking, beer drinking, fast riding giant Dave London caught Meningitis and died within hours. Although Dave had only been a member for a few years he left an indelible mark on the Club. The distress when the news reached the writer's home is still etched on his memory. We still remember Dave through the trophy that bears his name.

Racing however did not stop and on that fateful day Albert Webb was collecting 3rd place in the Mile at the NCU Meeting at Herne Hill. Also Albert and D Fowler came 2nd and 3rd in the 550 yards handicap.

A junior '10' was held on the 11th May and a trio of 'to be famous' youngsters headed the Finish list. Ron Stretton won in 26.09; Maurice Jeffries was 2nd in 26.39 and Dan Hadfield 3rd in 26.47. The big boys were riding the SCCU '50'. This race was won by Charlie Roberts (Addiscombe) in 2.8.46 but 2nd fastest was Vin Callanan in 2.10.06. Other Paragon times were 5th Don Chamberlain 2.13.41, 8th Bert Chapman 2.14.58, 9th Pete Kitchiner 2.15.07, Arthur Sharp 2.18.35, Don Corry 2.18.39, John

Vallack 2.22.14, Ron Tugwell 2.23.31, John Diplo 2.25.59, D Greest 2.26.35 and Jack Pearce 2.35.38. The Paragon collected the Team race beating the Addiscombe by 2.33.

The Club met the Marlboro in a London Cycle racing League Match at Herne Hill on the 14th May and demolished them by 35 points to 9!

On May 18th the Club had 6 riders in the Catford '50'. George Fleming won the race in a new Competition Record time of 2.1.31. The Paragon were a little slower than this but Vin Callanan was 3rd in 2.9.34, Don Chamberlain 5th in 2.12.37 and Bert Chapman 6th in 2.14.07. This was sufficient for the Paragon to collect the Team award. However Pete Kitchener was 8th in 2.14.59, Don Corry 15th in 2.17.00 and Arthur Sharp finished with a 2.17.28 ride. These last three times also gave the Paragon the 3rd Team award as well! (The Official Result gives this race as being held on the 18th June!) In another part of the country the Twickenham Novices event was being run with a number of Paragon hopefuls. The Club times were E Frankland 9th in 1.10.14, G Lees 1.11.51, N Denning 1.15.51 and L Oliver 1.20.55.

Herne Hill for the Balham Evening Meeting and Harrison and Hampshire won the 2 laps Tandem Sprint.

Long distance racing started at Whitsun with the Calleva '100'. The Paragon riders were Pete Kitchiner, 8th in 4.41.40, Don Chamberlain 4.48.56, Henry Greatwood 4.53.37 and Don Corry 4.55.21 (including stops for two punctures). The Paragons were 3rd in the Team race. In the Redmon 2nd Class '50' John Vallack recorded fastest time of 2.21.07 and E Frankland was 14th in 2.28.47. The short distance men went to the WLCA event and their times were Ernie Doe 1.8.35, Digger Dawson 1.9.09, R Croft 1.9.52 and R Tomkins 1.12.59. No awards were collected.

On the Bank Holiday Monday the News Chronicle held their Meeting at Herne Hill. John Dennis won the 440 yards Sprint and the 1000m Olympic Scratch. Stan Harrison was first in the 10 laps Courses des Primes and the Tandem pairing of Harrison and Hampshire were 2nd in the 100m sprint. At the Poole Wheelers event Ivor Cox and a field day. He won the 1 lap scratch, the 880 yards handicap and the 5 miles. A very nice day by the seaside!

During the NCU Evening Meeting at Herne Hill the Paragon Team beat a French National Team 2.14.6 to 2.15.0. The heroes of the day were Ivor Cox, Len Hart, Stan Harrison and John Dennis. Jim Hampshire was 2nd in the 550 yards handicap and the 'Devil' was a Paragon whitewash with 1st Jim Hampshire, 2nd John Dennis and 3rd Albert Webb.

The Fryco Cup '50' was a win for Johnny Vallack in 2.12.46. He beat Bert Chapman by 2.20 and Henry 'Dagwood' Greatwood by 2.35. Greatwood took the Handicap, although Vallack was faster with 2.11.21. Bert Chapman claimed 2nd spot, 2.15.06 and Ted Doe 3rd in 2.19.53. According to the Club Records this was raced over a short course but no mention is made of how much. North of London the fast men took part in the Marlboro Tandem '50' and won it. Vin Callanan and Don Chamberlain 'nicked' together to produce a ride of 1.53.20 to beat Overton and Early (Kingston

RC) by 53". However the Kingston got their own back by beating the Paragon in the Team race by 14"! Pete Kitchiner and Don Corry finished 8th in 1.56.00.

A note is made here that the Paragon beat Charlton 11-4 in a Polo match on the 3rd June. The next day at Herne Hill D Fowler won the Novices 550 yards Sprint, the 4000m Team Pursuit squad beat the Woolwich 5.29.4 to 5.40.0 and Ivor Cox came 3rd in the Point to Point.

At the NCU Sprint Championships Meeting at Herne Hill D Fowler won the 440 yards handicap with Albert Webb 2nd. F Rickard won the 'Devil' with Ron Tugwell 2nd and Ron Stretton 3rd. Nearby at Selhurst London beat Glasgow 12 – 4 in a Polo Match. Amongst the goal scorers were Bob Reddin 5 and Bert 'Taffy' Carleton 2.

Next day the SCCU 'Syd Gray' '100' was held and another good day out for the Paragon. Pete Kitchener started with a first '50' of 2.15.50 that put him 1.44 faster than Vin Callanan at that point. Vin pulled most of that back during the second half but Pete still had 18" to spare at the Finish to win with a time of 4.35.45 but in fairness one should add that Pete was on his own out in front of the field. It was over 10 minutes before the second man to finish reached the Timekeeper. Vin's time was 4.36.03. The 3rd man Barton (South Eastern) was another 5 minutes slower. Don Chamberlain 4.52.38, John Vallack 4.59.12 and Henry Greatwood, 5.3.10 made up the Team. The Paragon won the Team race beating the Addiscombe by 47 minutes.

11th June at Herne Hill was the Tooting Meeting and Maurice Jeffries won the 550 yards Novice Sash Sprint, The Paragon beat the Addiscombe in a League Match 33 – 12 points and Ivor Cox came 2nd in the Invitation Omnium. Then on the Saturday, 14th June Norman Bonner won the 880 yards handicap at the Becontree Whs Grass track meeting.

There was another win on the 15th June by Vin Callanan when he took the Kingsdale '50' on the North road with a time of 2.8.47. Don Chamberlain was 4th in 2.11.50 but Bert Chapman was unable to start so the Paragon could not annex the Team prize. A time of 2.15.00 was all that was needed. Further south the Team had better luck but not the race winner. In the WLCA '50' Pete Kitchiner came 4th in 2.11.50 behind Burrow (Yiewsley) 2.9.30. Don Corry was 5th in 2.12.02 and Arthur Sharp 6th in 2.13.34 and the Paragon did win the Team race.

Out on the southern roads '100' course the De Laune event wound its way around on the 22nd June. Pete Kitchiner 4.44.42, Vin Callanan 4.45.27, Henry Greatwood 4.58.30 and John Vallack 4.59.36 were the Paragon riders but they failed to win any awards. In the Kent RC 2nd class '25' Ted Doe was 2nd fastest in 1.6.35. Digger Dawson was not far back with a 1.7.19 and B Whybrow was our third man in 1.10.

On the following Monday at the SCCU Meeting D Fowler came 2nd in the 1½ laps Sprint. Then on the Saturday at the NCU London Centre Championships Stan Harrison came 3rd in the 1000m Sprint and Maurice Jeffries won the Junior 550 yards Championship with Ron Stretton in 4th place. The following day was the WLCA Championships and Stan Harrison won the 1000m Sprint Championship. Norman

Bonner and Len Hart were 2nd and 3rd respectively in the 880 yards handicap at the same Meeting.

One thing you can depend upon with juniors is their in and out form. The '15' on the 29th June was no exception. The winner of this race was R Tomkins in 39.33 and 2nd was Maurice Jeffries in 39.48. In the earlier '10' Jeffries beat Tomkins by 1.01. B Whybrow and Paul Quaglia were tied in 3rd place with 39.55 and the winner of the earlier '10', Ron Stretton was 5th in 40.04.

On Wednesday the 2nd July at Preston Park E Watts won the Sussex Centre 5 miles Championship and at Herne Hill The Paragon won their League Match against the Tooting 36 points to 26. At the same Meeting the lads had a clean sweep of the 550 yards handicap with D Fowler 1st, F Rickard 2nd and Stan Harrison 3rd.

Over the week-end of the 5th and 6th of July the Club had a Team in the Catford 24-hour event. Three started and three finished and duly collected the Team race. John Vallack came 4th covering 409 miles; Henry Greatwood did 403.50 miles for 6th place and Fred Sams 370.625 miles for a total of 1183.125 miles. Both Henry Greatwood and John Vallack broke the existing Club Record for the distance. On the same day the Paragon had a team in the Velma '50'. Don Chamberlain had the 'Honour' of being first man off but did not capitalize on this. He is marked in the Results as 'DNF' (Did not finish). Vin Callanan was 3rd fastest in 2.7.11, Pete Kitchener 2.12.06 and Don Corry 2.14.25. This event is famous for being the day that George Fleming beat 2 hours for the first time with a Competition Record of 1.59.14. This time also won him the Handicap (from Scratch!) and the Belle Vue the Team race. The Paragon was 2nd Team. The writer remembers standing at the Kings Head Crossroads, Horley watching the Catford '24' when this news came through on the 'grapevine'. It was the subject of conversation for the rest of the afternoon. The men riding the '24' were now a mere side show!

The Club '30' had 22 entries and this event was the inaugural Dave London Trophy event. The Winner on Handicap was to take the Dave London Tankard in memory of one of the best Clubmen the Paragon has had in its ranks. Bert Chapman was fastest in 1.17.45. Bernard Brown, back from the Forces, was 2nd in 1.18.38 and Ron Tugwell 3rd in 1.19.34. Taking full advantage of a seven minute allowance Bernard also took the Dave London Trophy in 1.11.38 by 10" from G Weller. Dick Croft was 3rd with 1.12.29 and B Whybrow 4th 1.12.49.

Next Wednesday at Herne Hill Len Hart and D Fowler were 1st and 2nd in the 440 yards handicap and in an Inter-club Match the Paragon were 2nd but it not recorded to whom. The following Saturday some of the Track lads were at the Acc & Tab Sports where Jack Pearce won the 550 yards handicap and Len Hart the 880 yards handicap. The Hard-track men were at Herne Hill. Ivor Cox won the 440 yards handicap, Albert Webb was 2nd in the 'Devil' and Ivor and F Rickard won the 2000m Tandem Sprint. To finish the Meeting John Dennis and D Fowler won the Olympic Challenge Trophy Tandem Omnium.

Sunday was SCCU '50' day and another win for the Paragon. Pete Kitchener romped round in 2.11.39 to win by just over 2'. John Vallack was 8th in 2.17.21, Bernard Brown 2.18.27, Don Chamberlain 2.21.09, Don Corry 2.21.43, Henry Greatwood

2.24.31 and Frank Sisley 2.25.25. Messrs Kitchiner, Vallack and Brown collected the Team race beating the Addiscombe by just over 3'.

Over on the Slough track Maurice Jeffries won the Junior 660 yards Scratch Sprint and John Dennis finished 3rd in the 880 yards handicap. The following week-end at the NCU Meeting at Herne Hill Ivor Cox and John Dennis paired up to come 2nd in the 20 miles Madison. Stan Harrison and Jim Hampshire won the 1000m Tandem Sprint and Stan, on his own, came 2nd in the 1 lap Scratch Sprint.

The 20th July was another busy week-end. Henry Greatwood rode the Kentish Whs '100' in 4.53.13 but we have no record of any other details. The established long distance men went out to the Bath road for the Belle Vue '50' and saw George Fleming produce another sub 2-hour ride to win in 1.59.51. Vin Callanan reached the turn in 1.5.07 that would have probably given him a 2.4 ride but he punctured and retired on the return. Pete Kitchiner was 9th in 2.7.44 and Don Corry 15th in 2.9.43. The Team race was won by the Medway Whs Team more of whom later! Later that day the Track men were busy at Slough where Ron Stretton won the 20 lap Courses des Primes and Stan Harrison the 5 miles Point to Point. Maurice Jeffries won the 880 yards handicap. Ivor Cox was 2nd and Stan Harrison 3rd in the 550 yards Scratch Sprint. Then to round off the Meeting Ivor Cox and Norman Bonner combined to finish 3rd in the 100 laps Madison.

On the following Tuesday John Dennis was in action in a massed start race in Battersea Park which he proceeded to win in 1.43.28 for the 45 miles. The next day at Herne Hill was the Club 'Bloodbath' 5 miles Championship and it lived up to its name. Harrison, Hampshire and Cox went to Hospital. Dennis and Rickard also crashed. This left, amongst others, Len Hart to win in 11.53 from Albert Webb and Maurice Jeffries. Then at Herne Hill on the Saturday Ron Stretton and Norman Bonner combined to finish 2nd in a 4 miles Double Harness Pursuit.

Next morning everyone was off to Theale for the Paragon Open '50'. The race was won by Albert Derbyshire (Calleva) in 2.2.47 with the Paragon riders coming back with the following times. Don Corry 2.11.31, Vin Callanan 2.11.49, Arthur Sharp 2.12.26 and Pete Kitchiner 2.13.58 that placed the Club as 2nd in the Team race 2.30' behind the Calleva.

August Bank Holiday saw a Team from the Paragon riding the NCU Berks, Oxon and South Bucks Centre '25'. Arthur Sharp recorded 1.2.38 for 8th place; John Diplo did 1.7.25 and Bernard Brown 1.11.58 with a 5' late start. No prizes were taken.

The next day was the Bath Road '100'. The Paragon had a full team entered but only two names appear on the finishing list and Vin Callanan collected a couple of punctures. Pete Kitchiner was our best rider. At the first turn he was in 12th place in 58.49 behind Albert Derbyshire's 55.50. By 50 miles he had moved up to 9th place passing the Timekeeper in 2.10.51 some 4.58 slower than Derbyshire. Pete continued his progress through the field until at the 73 miles turn he was in 5th place in 3.13.30 only 4.20 behind. Unfortunately Pete could not hold this pace and on the return he slipped back to finish in 8th place albeit with a superb ride of 4.22.08. Derbyshire was pipped on the line by Rueben Firth (Altringham) by 10" their 4.17.02 and 4.17.12 putting them over 3' clear of the 3rd placed man. To illustrate how close it was it

should be noted that the next 9 men finished within 2½ minutes. Henry Greatwood finished 63rd in 4.47.28. The slowest finisher in this greatest of 100 miles events did 4.55.04. This at a time when to beat 5 hours was the mark of a top class rider.

At Herne Hill on the 9th August Harry Grant won a motor-paced event beating Moretti, Pousse and Fournier. Len Hart was 4th in the Sprinters Omnium and Maurice Jeffries and Ron Stretton were 3rd in the Double Harness Pursuit. Down on the coast E Watts was 2nd in the 3 miles Scratch at the Hove Carnival Sports whilst Norman Bonner was collecting 2nd prize in the Becontree Whs 880 yards handicap.

Out on the Bath road the Dragon '50' had a Paragon team entered. Our fastest rider was Arthur Sharp with a 2.14.26 ride. Bernard Brown finished in 2.16.11 but with a gift of 14¾ minutes he collected 2nd in the handicap section. Bert Chapman unfortunately punctured so no Team prize today. The Rotherham Cup in conjunction with the South Eastern RC event was supported by nine riders of whom six completed the 12 hours of effort on 10th August. Vin Callanan covered 240.50 miles to win. Don Corry was 2nd with 238.41 miles and Henry Greatwood 3rd in 231.52. In the event proper at the front of the race it was a pretty close affair. At 69 miles Harrison (Vegetarian), McCarthy (Fountain) and Vin were separated by 24" but were over 7' faster than the 4th man. At the 129 miles check Vin went through in 6.6.37 followed by Harrison 6.11.57 and McCarthy 6.19.41. Don Corry had taken closer order and was 4th in 6.23.57. Over the second half of the race McCarthy gradually closed on Callanan but ran out time just ¾ mile behind him. Harrison dropped back to 3rd place about 1½ miles behind with Don Corry maintaining his 4th place to finish with 236 miles 716 yards. With Henry Greatwood finishing in 6th place the Paragon won the Team race by nearly 30 miles from the Addiscombe. Bill Dilpo rode the VTTA '12 hours on his own to finish with a 197 miles effort after losing a considerable amount of time with problems with his pedals.

The 17th August was evidently not a good day for racing. In the Archives we have the results of 3 races that day with DNS and DNF scattered broadcast over the pages. Arthur Sharp, 1.15.20 for 6th place and Bernard Brown 1.18.10 finished the Leo RC '30'. John Vallack, 5.5.41, was our only finisher in the SCCU '100' where 63 of the 141 entrants failed either to start or finish. Don Corry was our only finisher in 4.46.26 in the Westerly '100' where another 40 of the 100 entrants failed to record a time.

A sign of the times on the 20th August when Frank Southall's solo 1 hour unpaced record of 26.476 miles was broken by Charlie Marriner (Southern Paragon). It had stood since 1926 and is still a Club record today. At that Meeting the Paragon beat the Kentish Wheelers in a LCRL Match 29 points to 16 and Ron Stretton came 2nd in the 550 yards handicap.

A further blow was struck at the Paragon Meeting at herne Hill when Frank's ½ mile Standing Start Record was broken by 0.2 of a second by Dave Ricketts (Poly). In another part of the Meeting Jim Hampshire won the 2 miles Handicap and Ron Tugwell, partnered by a non Paragon rider S Hughes, were 2nd in the 1 mile tandem Sprint.

There were only four finishers in the Goss Green '100' on 24th August. Stan Butler came back to win in 4.49.09 from John Vallack 4.57.14 and John Diplo 5.16.47. Frank Sisley, M.M., was the fourth finisher in 5.19.44. Stan Butler took the handicap from scratch with John Vallack 2nd, Frank Sisley 3rd and John Diplo 4th. In the Vegetarian '50' Arthur Sharp was 3rd in 2.10.02 behind Albert Derbyshire, 2.7.09. Bernard Brown also finished in 2.14.43. Up in the Midlands the Paragon had a Team in the Leamington '100'. Vin Callanan was the best rider finishing 3rd in 4.34.07 but with Pete Kitchiner coming 6th in 4.37.55 and Don Corry 18th in 4.48.36 the Paragon won the Team race.

The Fountain 100 lap Madison was held on the 27th August and the Ivor Cox/John Dennis combination came 2nd. John followed this up on the Saturday by collecting 2nd place in the 5590 yards handicap at the Combined Kentish Whs and Poly meeting.

On the last day of August Pete Kitchiner finished the Midland C & AC 12 hours with 236.50 miles for 4th place. Judging by the number of finishers and the distances it was not a good day for racing. The same weekend Bill Diplo and brother John finished the North Road 24-hour event with 381 miles 280 yards and 336 miles 740 yards respectively. Better news comes from south of the river with Arthur Sharp winning the Addiscombe '50' in 2.8.56. John Vallack, 2.19, and Digger Dawson, 2.23, also rode.

At Herne Hill on the Wednesday the Paragon Team beat the Poly in a LCRL Match to win the Championship for the 1947 season. Then the following day at Paddington in the NCU London Centre Meeting Jim Hampshire won the 880 yards handicap and the 750 yards Scratch Sprint. The Juniors Ron Stretton and Maurice Jeffries were 2nd and 3rd in the 550 yards Junior Medal Final.

The last big Track event of the Season was the Meeting of Champions at Herne Hill on the 6th September and the boys were in the hunt for the prizes. Ivor Cox won the 550 yard handicap with Jim Hampshire in 3rd place, F Rickard was 2nd in the 550 yards Medal Final, Harry Grant attacked the 5 miles record behind the Motors but was 16" adrift. Then to finish the Meeting Ivor Cox and John Dennis finished 2nd in the 20 miles Madison.

Out west of London the RTTC held their 4th National 12 hours Championship and the Paragon had a team entered. At 50 miles our team was very closely bunched in time and riding steadily. Albert Derbyshire (Calleva) the eventual winner went through this point in 2.17.41 with Vin Callanan at 1.51, Pete Kitchener at 2' and Don Corry at 3.08. By the 100 miles point they had slipped back a little. Vin was at 4.45, Pete at 6.30 and Don at 7.45 behind the 4.41.45 of Derbyshire. While Derbyshire continued to lead for the whole event to finish with 245.515 miles Vin slipped a little over the second 100 miles to finish with 240.015 miles for 6th place. Don Corry was 19th with 232.273 miles but Pete Kitchiner had blown a bit but managed to finish with 217.958 miles for 31st place. This gave the Paragon a total of 700.346 miles and 2nd Team. Down in Somerset John Diplo collected a 2nd place and 2nd handicap with a 1.5.19 ride in the Trowbridge '25'. Nearer to home there was another Team success in the Redhill '50'. Arthur Sharp was 5th in 2.9.54 Stan Butler was 6th in 2.10.46 and Bernard Brown 13th in 2.15.01 and John Vallack 2.18.20. The Paragon beat the Addiscombe by nearly 19'. On the same day there was a handicap '10' for the

Juniors. Paul Quaglia romped round to record 25.19 a minute clear of P Rogers, 26.20, and Ken Forrest 26.50. Ken also took the Handicap prize from E Frankland, 23.50 to 24.22, with P Rogers 3rd in 24.35.

The Club had riders in three events on the 14th September. Around the roads of Surrey and Sussex the SCCU 12-hour event went its wandering way. This proved to be a comfortable win for Vin Callanan who covered 237 miles and 44 yards to win by 8¼ miles. Behind Vin were John Vallack in 4th place with 226 miles 662 yards, Don Chamberlain 8th with 220 miles 791 yards and Fred Sams 28th with 211 miles 565 yards. This ensures another Team race for the Paragon. Also this race concluded the SCCU BAR competition. It left Vin Callanan as the winner with an average speed of 21.515 mph Don Chamberlain was 4th, 20.440 mph and John Vallack 6th, 20.257 mph and the Paragon were the best Team as well. Over on the Bath Road the lads were riding the WLCA '50', 7th was Arthur Sharp 2.14.23, 14th Bernard Brown 2.16.33, Don Corry 2.22.32 and Ted Doe 2.22.58. No prizes were won. The 'old fellas' were riding the Bec Veterans '25' on an unknown (today) course, Bill Diplo recorded 1.11.41, our ex footballer, come Polo player, come road racer J Hugo did a 1.13.33 and our Vice President, Timekeeper and Handicapper Bill Pett at 74 years young did a 1.19 something.

We had a number of tandem pairs entered for the Old Portlians '30' on the 21st September. Best of them was the Kitchiner/Corry crew who finished 4th fastest in 1.5.51 just 1.17 behind the Medway Whs pairing of Joy and Beardsmore (1.4.34). Other times were Stan and Len Butler 1.9.27, Henry Greatwood/JohnVallack 1.10.22 and Cliff and Geoff Dore 1.10.40. On the other side of the Thames we had four riders in the Comet '25' but one did not start, one did not finish and so no possibility of the Team race. Arthur Sharp finished in 1.4.00 and Bernard Brown in 1.7.33.

A record entry of 45 riders were down for the Mayne Cup on 28th September but it could not have been one of the best days of the year for only 40 riders started and only 33 reached the Finish. Fastest rider was Vin Callanan with 1.3.25; Arthur Sharp was 2nd with 1.4.09 and Pete Kitchiner 3rd in 1.4.48. This year it was the back-markers who led the field for the Mayne Cup. A maturing Fred Sams was given 7' handicap and had a nett of 1.0.26 to be Man of the Day. A newcomer Dick Hare was 2nd in 1.1.49 and, another rider back from the Forces, George Murray 3rd with 1.1.52.

Three Paragon riders were happy to extend their season into October to ride the NCU Essex Centre '25'. Whilst not winning any prizes they performed well. Vin Callanan finished in 1.4.28, Pete Kitchiner 1.5.31 and Bernard Brown 1.5.42. Others rode the West Kent '25' on the Cherry Tree course with a similar lack of success. Bert Chapman finish with a 1.7 ride and Don Chamberlain 1 1.8. The interest comes from outside that bare result. First of all Stan Butler got his entry returned! This had not happened since he was a young whippersnapper and the times on his form were far faster that the majority of the accepted field. The vagaries of race organisers are beyond question. Secondly Arthur Sharp was a non-starter. This was a rare occurrence for Arthur but he did have an extremely unusual excuse. It would appear that he was due to stay the night with Alan Gordon in Hevers Avenue, Horley. Turning off the Brighton Road at The Chequers Arthur thought he would quench his thirst with some of the excellent Scotch Ale that they served. (Horley is, after all, some distance from Camberwell). After slaking his thirst Arthur repaired to the fresh

air where he found, or rather did not find, his bike. A local lad was also berating all and sundry as his machine too was missing. A quick phone call to the Police disclosed the information that two patients from the local Mental Hospital had escaped and in all probability had taken the machines. But do not despair The (motorised) Force was on the chase. The patient on the local lad's bike was very quickly apprehended but the other was on Arthur's best bike with his best sprints and fastest tubs and was last seen heading northwards to London and flying! Arthur returned to Chez Gordon rather chastened a) because his was a top class machine and b) he was not insured! So a DNS for Arthur.

The flying mental patient was eventual caught somewhere around Merstham and brought back to Redhill Police Station where Arthur was summoned on Sunday Morning. Arthur, who was meticulous with his equipment, was aghast when he viewed his once gleaming machine. In breaking Arthur's padlock the escapee had wreaked havoc on the paintwork. It was in vain that Arthur called for the immediate hanging, or worse, of said mental patient but to no avail – and he was still DNS on the Result Sheet.

Two weeks after the Mayne Cup the Juniors had their last race of the season with a handicap '15'. Maurice Jeffries obliged with the fastest time of 39.42. Ron Stretton was 2nd in 40.02 and B Whybrow 3rd in 40.36. R Mortimer won the handicap. With 3' allowance his 41.46 became 38.46 to put him in front of Maurice Jeffries, 39.42 and Ron Stretton 39.47.

Four Paragons entered the Catford Hill Climb. Their times were Maurice Jeffries 2.39, Ron Stretton 2.44 and E Frankland 2.46. Ivor Cox blotted his copy-book by pulling his wheel over at the start – and he a Trackman!

The Hill Climb up White Hill was held on the 24th October and had 10 anti-gravity merchants competing. The records say that Ron Stretton showed everyone how to do it with a 1.54.8 ride. (The Time Trial Secretary's notebook lists Ivor Cox as climbing White Hill in 1.52.1). Ron's time was 15" too good for E Frankland and 19" too fast for Digger Dawson. Frank Cleeve rode the hill, albeit in last place, on a bike with no clips or straps and wearing boots.

The Season finished with 13 Team race wins in Time Trials and 6 Individual Race wins. The Club Road Champion was Vin Callanan, 22.332 mph, from Pete Kitchiner 22.272 mph. John Vallack took the Club Events Championship. Paul Quaglia led the Juniors to win the Ben Davis Plaque.

In the January 1948 'RAG' the Track Team is list as having won 102 awards in the 1947 season. In Handicaps – 15 1st places, 12 2nd places and 12 3rd places. In Scratch Events 2 1st places, 16 2nd places and 13 3rd places. In Tandem Events 4 1st places, 5 2nd places and 3 3rd places.

The Champion was Len Hart with Albert Webb 2nd and Ivor Cox 3rd. Len Hart took the AEU Sprint Cup and the 5 miles Curry Cup, Ivor Cox the Frank Burton Handicap and B Whybrow took the Junior Track Championship. Also the Club were the London Cycle Racing League Champions.

11 Gold Centre, 17 Silver and 5 bronze medals were awarded. There were also special awards. Arthur Sharp collected a replica of the Fryco Cup to commemorate his 3 wins in 1937, 1939 and 1946. Pete Kitchiner was awarded a special medal for his 4.22.03 in the Bath Road '100' - the fastest time ever recorded by a Paragonian.

Club Time Trial Results

	Scratch Result	25 h/c		Handicap Result		
		Medium Gear				
21	Entries	23.3.47				
15	Starters					
15	Finishers					
1	Chapman H	1.12.42	1	Jeffries M	3.00	1.10.37
2	Jeffries M	1.13.37	2	Greest D	6.30	1.11.04
3	Cutler D	1.15.20	3	Chapman H	0.15	1.12.27
4	Stretton R	1.16.50	4	Cutler D	1.30	1.13.50
5	Greest D	1.17.34	5	Stretton R	3.00	1.13.50
6	Thompson F	1.18.40	6	Tomkins R	8.00	1.13.57
7	Sisley F	1.19.09	7	Sisley F	5.00	1.14.09
8	Goring J	1.19.46	8	Thompson F	4.00	1.14.40
9	Bonner N	1.20.01	9	Goring J	5.00	1.14.46
10	Vallack J	1.20.51	10	Vallack J	4.00	1.16.51
11	Cox I	1.21.02	11	Bonner N	3.00	1.17.01
12	Tomkins R	1.21.57	12	Cox I	2.45	1.18.17
13	Sams F	1.26.37	13	Sams F	5.00	1.21.37
14	Parsons AJ	1.29.04	14	Parsons AJ	5.00	1.24.04
	Scratch Result	25 h/c		Handicap Result		
		13.4.47				
25	Entries					
23	Starters					
21	Finishers					
1	Sharp A	1.06.00	1	Tomkins R	8.30	1.02.27
2	Chapman H	1.06.09	2	Doe E	5.00	1.05.08
3	Bonner N	1.08.12	3	Bonner N	3.00	1.05.12
4	Doe E	1.10.08	4	Vallack J	5.30	1.05.13
5	Vallack J	1.10.43	5	Chapman H	0.15	1.05.54
6	Greatwood H	1.10.51	6	Sharp A	Scratch	1.06.00
7	Tomkins R	1.10.57	7	Dawson D	6.00	1.07.00
8	Thompson F	1.11.43	8	Greatwood H	3.30	1.07.12
9	Greest D	1.11.53	9	Thompson F	4.30	1.07.13
10	Sisley F	1.12.39	10	Greest D	4.30	1.07.23
11	Dawson D	1.13.00	11	Frankland E	10.00	1.07.32
12	Diplo J	1.13.14	12	Sisley F	5.00	1.07.39
13	Quaglia P	1.13.29	13	Gunning J	8.00	1.08.15
14	Webb A	1.15.05	14	Parsonson J	11.00	1.08.58
15	Lees G	1.15.16	15	Lees G	5.30	1.09.46
16	Sams F	1.16.14	16	Sams F	6.00	1.10.14
17	Frankland E	1.17.32	17	Webb A	4.00	1.11.05
18	Hampshire J	1.19.44	18	Diplo J	2.00	1.11.14
19	Parsonson J	1.19.58	19	Lathwell E	8.00	1.12.57
20	Lathwell E	1.20.57	20	Hampshire J	4.30	1.15.14
21	Gunning J	1.26.15	21	Quaglia P		T.T.

	Scratch Result	10 Scr				
		Junior				
8	Entries	11.5.47				
8	Starters					
8	Finishers					
1	Stretton R	26.09				
2	Jeffries M	26.39				
3	Hadfield D	26.47				
4	Croft R	27.20				
5	Tomkins R	27.40				
6	Frankland E	27.47				
7	Holsman K	28.21				
8	Rogers P	28.50				
	Scratch Result	50 h/c		Handicap Result		
		Fryco Cup				
12	Entries	1.6.47				
10	Starters					
8	Finishers					
1	Vallack J	2.12.46	1	Vallack J	6.00	2.06.46
2	Chapman H	2.15.06	2	Greatwood H	5.00	2.11.21
3	Greatwood H	2.16.21	3	Chapman H	Scratch	2.15.06
4	Butler SM	2.19.45	4	Doe E	5.30	2.19.53
5	Doe E	2.25.23	5	Goring J	8.00	2.22.13
6	Goring J	2.30.13	6	Thompson F	8.00	2.31.11
7	Thompson F	2.39.11	7	Lathwell E	10.00	2.39.05
8	Lathwell E	2.49.05	20	Butler SM		T.T.
	Scratch Result	15 Scr				
		Junior				
9	Entries	29.6.47				
9	Starters					
9	Finishers					
1	Tomkins R	39.33				
2	Jeffries M	39.48				
3	Whybrow B	39.55				
4	Quaglia P	39.55				
5	Stretton R	40.04				
6	Croft R	40.22				
7	Blake E	42.02				
8	Frankland E	42.23				
9	Rogers P	43.49				
	Scratch Result	30 h/c		Handicap Result		
		6.7.47		Dave London Trophy		
22	Entries					
20	Starters					
20	Finishers					
1	Chapman H	1.17.45	1	Brown B	7.00	1.11.38
2	Brown B	1.18.38	2	Weller G	8.00	1.11.48
3	Tugwell R	1.19.34	3	Croft R	8.00	1.12.29
4	Weller G	1.19.48	4	Whybrow B	8.00	1.12.49
5	Croft R	1.20.29	5	Hugo J	13.00	1.14.11
6	Doe E	1.20.33	6	Frankland E	8.45	1.14.54

	Scratch Result	25 h/c		Handicap Result		
		28.9.47		Mayne Cup		
45	Entries					
40	Starters			Record Entry		
33	Finishers					
1	Callanan V	1.03.25	1	Sams F	7.00	1.00.26
2	Sharp A	1.04.09	2	Hare R	6.00	1.01.49
3	Kitchiner P	1.04.48	3	Murray G	7.00	1.01.52
4	Chapman H	1.05.19	4	Croft R	6.30	1.02.11
5	Corry D	1.06.18	5	Frankland E	6.45	1.02.30
6	Chamberlain D	1.06.29	6	Forest K	6.15	1.02.31
7	Vallack J	1.06.43	7	Denning N	9.00	1.02.39
8	Tugwell R	1.07.03	8	Cleeve F	7.00	1.02.47
9	Diplo J	1.07.04	9	Callanan V	Scratch	1.03.25
10	Sams F	1.07.26	10	Diplo W	8.00	1.03.48
11	Hare R	1.07.49	11	Sharp A	Scratch	1.04.09
12	Brown B	1.08.22	12	Dore C	5.30	1.04.10
13	Croft R	1.08.41	13	Sisley F	6.30	1.04.12
14	Forest K	1.08.46	14	Vallack J	2.30	1.04.13
15	Greatwood H	1.08.51	15	Kitchiner P	0.30	1.04.18
16	Murray G	1.08.52	16	Chapman H	1.00	1.04.19
17	Frankland E	1.09.15	17	Hayward J	11.00	1.04.38
18	Dawson D	1.09.26	18	Pike T	4.45	1.04.47
19	Pike T	1.09.32	19	Greatwood H	4.00	1.04.51
20	Dore C	1.09.40	20	Corry D	1.15	1.05.03
21	Cleeve F	1.09.47	21	Tomkins R	5.00	1.05.13
22	Weller G	1.10.03	22	Diplo J	1.45	1.05.19
23	Tomkins R	1.10.13	23	Dawson D	4.00	1.05.26
24	Sisley F	1.10.42	24	Chamberlain D	1.00	1.05.29
25	Denning N	1.11.39	25	Brown B	2.00	1.06.22
26	Diplo W	1.11.48	26	Parsonson J	6.00	1.07.43
27	Bonner N	1.13.05	27	Weller G	2.00	1.08.03
28	Parsonson J	1.13.43	28	Gunning J	11.00	1.08.11
29	Hayward J	1.15.38	29	Lathwell E	12.00	1.08.18
30	Arnold W	1.16.02	30	Bonner N	3.30	1.09.35
31	Gunning J	1.19.11	31	Arnold W	6.00	1.10.02
32	Hopkins A	1.19.51	32	Hopkins A	6.00	1.13.51
33	Lathwell E	1.20.18		Tugwell R		T.T.
	Scratch Result	Hill Climb				
		24.10.47				
10	Entries					
10	Starters					
10	Finishers					
1	Cox I	1.52.2				
2	Stretton R	1.54.8				
3	Frankland E	2.09.8				
4	Dawson D	2.13.4				
5	Hadfield D	2.16.4				
6	Whybrow B	2.18.4				
7	Croft R	2.19.8				
8	Pike T	2.23.1				
9	Hare R	2.25.1				
10	Cleeve F	2.39.4				

