

1983

The March 'Blah' had a list of proposals from the Sponsorship Committee for this season. They are: -

1. No entry fees for Club Events or events run with the CDCA.
2. No entry fees for Club members entering any of our Open promotions
3. Juniors and Schoolchildren may claim one entry fee per week-end for an open event started and finished. The onus is on the rider to prove the performance. (i.e. to keep a record of all performances and the result sheet).
4. The Team Points Competition will be 'sponsored' as in 1982
5. Any rider accepted for a National Championship may have part of their costs defrayed
6. Breaking of Club Individual and Team Records will be awarded with prizes with due regard to the age and degree of difficulty of the existing record. (Only one prize per rider, per record, per season will be allowed).
7. Clothing – jerseys and skin suits – riders will be expected to pay 50% of the purchase price of all club clothing. They may purchase as much as they wish.
8. No assistance or prizes will be given to any member WHO DOES NOT WEAR THE CLUB JERSEY/SKINSUITS
9. Two track bikes will be provided (no pedals or tubs) for use of prospective track riders
10. With a view to greater Press coverage it will be arranged for Club photos of all racing members to be obtained
11. All trophies not in boxes will be fitted with boxes. (Any member holding an unboxed trophy, please advise the Gen. Sec.)
12. Existing trophies will be repaired/renovated as necessary. (Any member holding a trophy that requires attention please advise the Gen. Sec.)

From this one can see that the Club Sponsorship Committee was attempting to assist the younger and less affluent members of the Club and would reward genuine success. It was not in the market for giving out free tubulars and would do all it could to ensure our sponsors name was properly advertised in the local and cycling press.

First blood for 1983 went to Steve Rickwood who started and finished the CDCA Hardriders event. He took 1.17.36 for the 26.02 miles for 23rd place behind Richard Hallett (South Eastern) 1.5.52.

The Club 10 miles handicap on the new Holmwood – Clarkes Green course was a Featherstone benefit with Harry , 24.20 beating Dave 25.04. Warren Higgins took 3rd place, 25.23, Graham O'Sullivan 4th, 25.48, and Gethin Butler 5th 27.41. With 7 minutes allowance Gethin scooped the handicap from Warren Higgins and Graham Clarke.

,

Dave Featherstone took 2nd place in the Redmon Novices '25' with a 1.0.59 and followed this with a 1.4.14 in the West Kent '25'. Another '4' came in the Festival '25' with 20 seconds but Harry who came 7th with a 1.2.53 put him in his place.

John Large, son of Alan, came over from Canada to race on the Continent but had an enforced stay in England when his sponsor pulled out. He took part in a number of Surrey League events and on the 13th March he came 4th in the Southern Velo promotion.

In very unfavourable conditions Harry Featherstone finished the Jim Fox '25' in 1.0.58 well in front of 2nd placed man Graham O'Sullivan, 1.4.48 and 3rd man Jack Platts, 1.5.08. Graham took the handicap with a net 57.48 from Harry, 58.58 with Marilyn Butler having 17 minutes to knock off her 1.16.48 claiming 3rd on handicap.

On the 18th April Dave Lovell opened his 1983 season in fine form when he completed the 34th Nomads '25' in 56.33 his fastest time since 1981. Perry Clifton also rode and finished in 1.7.08.

Dave Lovell was in action again on the 24th April with a respectable 22.42 in the Gemini BC '10'. Dave Featherstone, 24.48, and Perry Clifton, 25.26, backed him up. Then on the Sunday (yet another wet one) Dave came 4th in the SCCU '25' on the Portsmouth Road with a 58.07. Dave Featherstone came in with a 1.0.36 and it only wanted a 1.1.23 from Harry Featherstone for us to get the Team race but he was suffering from a heavy cold decided not to start in the wet conditions. Allison Butler won her first time trial when she produced the fastest time in the South West London Ladies (SWLLCA) '10' with a 27.35. Marilyn Butler came in with a 29.17 to take 2nd on handicap and the pair won the two-to-count Team race. This is the first to be won by a ladies team from the Norwood Paragon/Reliance Fernhill. John McNee won the Age Standard award in the Dartford Whs '25' with a 1.7 ride. Graham O'Sullivan finished in 1.5. Neither rider's seconds have been recorded. Dave Featherstone clocked a 24.28 in the Southboro '10'. Perry Clifton came 13th and Dave Lovell 18th in the Surrey League 75 miles road race at Alfold.

A Cycling result on April, 30th 1983 gave us a bit of a puzzle as a S. Griffiths (Norwood Paragon) came 3rd in the Victoria Ladies '10' with a 31.45. Eventually we found that a Sue Dibben joined the club as did a Malcolm Griffiths who she shortly after married. Problem solved!

On the 6th May Harry Featherstone was 2nd fastest vet with a 1.1.34 in the De Laune '25' whilst son Dave made the mistake of starting without a spare tubular. The inevitable happened and he had a long walk in the rain. Graham O'Sullivan finished this event with a 1.7.03 whilst John McNee had to negotiate a 1.10 after the Timekeeper missed him!

The Redmon '10' saw Harry Featherstone clocking a personal best of 23.29 before returning to Streatham to go to work! Son Dave did a 24.05.

Our vets had a good day in the VTTA (London) '25' with Harry Featherstone taking 2nd fastest prize with a 1.0.10 and a 4th fastest on Age Standard whilst Jack Platts did a seasons best of 1.3.03 to ensure the Team race went to the Paragon.

The Featherstones had another 1 – 2 in the Club '25' on the 15th May. Harry won in 1.2.08 and David did 1.4.03. Graham O'Sullivan came 3rd in 1.5.23 and John McNee 4th in 1.7.14. With an allowance of 6 minutes John took the 1st place on handicap. Marilyn Butler claimed 2nd handicap her 1.16.41 had a 15 minutes reduction and Harry took 3rd handicap from Scratch. In the Dragon RC event Graham O'Sullivan put in a personal best '25' of 1.3.24 whilst the McNees both produced their best time for a few years. John finished with a 1.4.41 and Ethel 1.13.43. Malcolm Griffiths also rode and clocked a 1.9.01. Jack Platts rode the Norland '30' to finish with 5th fastest time and fastest Vet in 1.17.10.

The Ladies picked up another Team win in the SWLLCA '10' on Thursday when Allison came 3rd in 27.30 and Marilyn Butler came 7th in 29.04 that also enabled her to take 2nd handicap prize. Graham O'Sullivan finished the Tooting Sporting 42 in 1.51.27; John Mcnee took 1.57.16 and Ethel Mcnee 2.18.00.

On a cold and misty Saturday morning we had a Club '10' on the Portsmouth Road. It did not look promising but seven of the finishers showed improvements. Harry Featherstone won the race with his personal best of 22.52. Dave Featherstone came 2nd with his personal best of 23.20 and Derek Zanders was 3rd place man on 25.02. Steve Rickwood, 4th, improved to a 25.03, Gethin Butler came down to a 26.14, Graham Clark to a 26.41, Alistair Mitchell is now down to 27.20 and John Fisher to a 28.41. Alistair improved 7 minutes on his previous ride so walked away with the Handicap. Steve Rickwood took 2nd handicap and John Fisher 3rd. Keith Butler rode the Surrey League road race and was quite pleased with his 4th place in view of his lack of training miles and fitness.

On the 6th June the Club promoted two road races on the Loxwood circuit on behalf of the Surrey League. Phil Parkinson and Steve Gowar (both South Western) agreed a tie for 1st place in the 75 miles event. Paul James (Central Sussex) came 3rd whilst John Large, back from a successful racing 'holiday' in France where he won several races, came 6th. Mark Atwell (CC Basingstoke) won the 3rd category race from Mick Coward and Barry Packman (both Southern Velo). Ray Puttick came 15th but Dave Featherstone crashed. The resulting cuts, grazes and bruises curtailed his racing for two/three weeks. In the Vic Dueters Ladies handicap race Sarah Thompson (Central Sussex) came 1st whilst Allison Butler was 4th. Harry Featherstone beat the hour in the Addiscombe '25' with a 59.48 whilst Jack Platts was a mite slower after a non-cycling holiday with a 1.4.02.

The Champagne Meeting was run off on the 8th June and had a fine evening and a good crowd. The 500m Handicap for the Stan Harrison slaver went to

Willy Codd (VC Londres) from Simon Barber (CC Bedouin) and Gerald Francis (VC Londres). Dave Lloyd (Manchester Whs), who had won the RTTC 25 miles Championship at the week-end, was scheduled to ride the 10 minutes Pursuit but could not get to the Meeting. His place was taken by his clubmate Daryl Webster who won comfortably from Nick Gritton (VC D'Or) and John Oakes (Anglia Sport). The Grand Prix of London Sprint saw the National Champion Mike Barry (Nottingham) having to qualify through the repechage. Then in the Final he came up against two Frenchmen Fabrice Colas and Phillipe Boyer who proceeded to attack alternatively but he let Colas go too far and had to race hard to salvage 2nd place.

The Champagne '10' was run at its usual very fast pace with the speed making it difficult for breaks to form. That is until about 5 laps to go when Glen Mitchell (West Croydon Whs), who won the race in 1977, took off. There was some reluctance to take up the chase by favourites and Glen took advantage of this. When the final change came he had just enough in hand to hang on to win. Tony Doyle (RMC – Security Grills) came 2nd and Terry Tinsley (Manchester Whs) 3rd. Tony Doyle, Sean Yates (Peugeot) and Tony James (Urban & City) finished in that order in both the 10 and 25 laps Derny paced races. Doyle and Yates also took a 1 – 2 in the Devil. Daryl Webster was on the 15 laps Point-to-point from Phil Rayner and Glen Mitchell. The consolation 20 laps race for those left out of the Champagne '10 went to Nick Barnes (VC Londres) from Ray Hughes (Clarence) and Simon Barber. The prizes were presented by Sharron Davies the international swimmer.

The first Club '50' had eight on the card but only four managed to reach the Finish Timekeeper. Harry Featherstone did a 2.8.25 for his first ride over 50 miles ever at the age of 51 and he took the handicap for full measure off Scratch. Jack Platts finished in 2.18.20 for 3rd on handicap. Keith Butler had a training ride round with a 2.29.02 and Marilyn Butler did a 2.41.16 that with 30 minutes handicap enabled her to take that award. Malcolm Griffiths improved 4 minutes in the Chelmer Middlemarkers '25' with a 1.4.16 following a 25.37 in the San Fairy Ann '10' the day before. Sally Dibben also rode this race and finished in a personal best time of 30.04 as did Steve Rickwood with a 24.49.

The following Tuesday the Paragon promoted at Crystal Palace resulted in a win for Les Rowe (VC D'Or) from Geof Roberts (West Croydon) and Nick Barnes (VC Londres) 3rd.

The Frank Southall '50' was held on the 20th June on the Worthing road and resulted in a fine win for John Withey (VC Etoile) with an excellent ride for the morning of 2.0.46. In 2nd place nearly 4 minutes back came Mike Palmer (Redmon) on 2.4.35 with Andy Murray 4th, 2.11.17, and Ian Murray 5th, 2.11.31. Colin Bateman (VC Etoile) won the handicap with a net 1.54.37 and K Dean (Mid-Devon RC) came 2nd with a net 1.55.48. Mike Palmer got a deserved 3rd place. The Redmon won the Team race. The Paragon 'challenge' came to nought through illness and injury. Only Les Black finished in 2.17.33. On the Ewhurst circuit Keith Butler came 3rd in the Surrey League road race whilst Ray Puttick finished in the bunch. Harry Featherstone only

managed a 1.1.17 in the South Eastern '25' having an early start in rather cool conditions when the later starters had warm sunshine. Derek Zanders clocked a 1.8.02. Steve Rickwood rode the Catford '10' and had the satisfaction of a personal best ride with a 24.05. Later in the SECA race he did his third '24' with a 24.57.

After those fast times reality set in for Steve Rickwood when he rode the Junior '10' on the Crowhurst course. It is noted for its lack of fast road surfaces and speed assisting gradients (and still is in 2004!). The 27.40 that Steve took is a fair reflection of this. Gethin Butler came 2nd in 28.33 riding his first lightweight machine – once owned and ridden by his grandmother! Graham Clark came 3rd in 30.10.

In the VTTA '25' on the Portsmouth Road Harry Featherstone was 4th in 58.44, his best time on this course. Out in Kent Marilyn and Allison Butler were in the KCA '25' with Marilyn beating Allison with a 1.12.45 to 1.13.05. Allison had just finished her 'O' Levels and threatened reprisals for this defeat. Keith Butler kept out of the way and rode the Surrey League road race on the Henfold Hill circuit. He finished in 10th place.

Allison Butler rode in the CC Bexley 'Hollies Criteriums' and finished 3rd in the ladies race. Two other ladies rode the Redhill '10' with Ethel McNee putting up a personal best of 26.56 to beat Marilyn Butler on 27.12. In the CC Bexley Brands Hatch Criteriums, (date unknown), Allison Butler was 1st in the ladies race.

The 3rd July was Robin Buchan Memorial Salver '25' and it was blessed with the best morning of the season. Mick Ballard (Unity) won with a course and event record time of 54.12. This was the second time he has won the Salver and he only missed last year by a single second. Ron Keeble (Wren Whs) came 2nd in 54.55 and Ray Hughes (Clarence) was 3rd in 55.14. An indication of the morning was that 17 riders finished with times inside 1 hour. The Handicap went to Steve Barnes (Lewes Wanderers), 50.05, from Simon Prior (Eastbourne Rovers), 50.10 and John Byrne (Wandsworth) came 3rd with a net 51.08. Fastest Paragon rider was Harry Featherstone with yet another improvement to 58.16 with son David, back in action after his road racing crash, on 1.1.11. Les Black finished in 1.2.14, his best of the season, Derek Zanders, coming back to form, 1.4.26, Graham O'Sullivan 1.5.43, Steve Rickwood 1.6.08, John Mcnee 1.6.11, Allison Butler 1.13.00 and John Fisher 1.18.48.

The annual grudge match against the Addiscombe was a disappointment as we lost by just 19 seconds. After early evening thunderstorms that made going out to the race at Dorking somewhat hazardous the actual race was held in very pleasant conditions. Our fastest rider was Harry Featherstone who rose to the occasion with a personal best of 22.47 followed as usual by David with a 24.00. In 3rd spot came Glyn Durrant with a 24.05 but he had not entered in advance and his time could not be considered for the Team award. Ignoring the fact that he was uncertain until that evening if he could get to the race we shall have to blame him for the loss. If his time could have been

included in our total we would have won by 1.33. Derek Zanders came next in 24.51, followed by Keith Butler 24.57 and Gethin Butler with a personal best of 25.57. Allison Butler and Stuart Millington tied on 27.07 just in front of Marilyn Butler, 27.39. Alistair Mitchell, 27.48, beat his brother Nick, 28.36, but it was Nick's personal best ride at the distance. Harry Featherstone took the Club Handicap from the Scratch mark with Gethin Butler 2nd and Nick Mitchell 3rd.

The Southboro '10' and the fine weather brought Paul Quaglia out to play and he showed no loss of form with a 23.17. Allison Butler won the 3-lap ladies handicap at Herne Hill during Monday Competition and then on Thursday clocked a season's best of 26.55 in the SWLLCA '10' and had the satisfaction beating Marilyn by 34 seconds, (27.29).

The CDCA '25' on the 10th did not have the same beautiful morning as the Robin Buchan race and this is reflected in the times. Harry Featherstone went back to a 1.0.10 for 8th place, Dave Featherstone, 1.2.14, Les Black 1.3.26, Jack Platts 1.3.37, Steve Rickwood 1.6.00, Derek Zanders 1.6.07, Malcolm Griffiths 1.9.27 and Ethel McNee 1.12.17. Harry also took the Anerley Cup for the best on Age Standard with a plus of 10.57. Allison Butler rode the Cambridge Ladies road race against some of the top women riders in the country and while being tailed of in the final miles was credited with 32nd place.

Another personal best time for Harry Featherstone in the Addiscomber '10' when he reduced his figures to 22.32 and Dave came in with a 23.58.

Harry Featherstone came 5th in the Brighton Excelsior '25' with a 59.01 and Dave Featherstone was just behind in 7th place in 59.13. With Jack Platts finishing in a season's best of 1.2.16 the Paragon won the Team race. Les Black rode the New Forest '50' and did a 2.2 with unrecorded seconds. John and Ethel McNee rode the Ashford Whs '10' on the 23rd July. The 'Blah' says that John did a 34.41 and Ethel a 27.42. We have a sneaking suspicion that a small misprint has occurred and John's time ought to be 24.41. The next day we had five riders in the St Christophers '25' with John Mcnee being the fastest of them with a 1.5.12. Doug Vacher did 1.7.32, Marilyn Butler 1.10.30, Allison Butler 1.11.16 and Ethel Mcnee 1.11.24. On the same day three riders started the SCCU '100'. Dave Featherstone was trying the distance for the first time and he finished in 4.39.41 to take the Bill Sagggers Novice Award. Graham O'Sullivan finished in 4.43.38 but Les Black found the combination of no sleep and travelling back and forth to the hospital after the birth of his fourth child just five days previously took their toll. He, therefore, desisted after 75 miles to go to sleep! Graham O'Sullivan had the problem of trying to contain his mirth and racing a bike at the same time. As Norman Tyrie was running alongside him to hand up a sponge he, Norman, disappeared. Norman had run straight into a large hole in the grass verge!

The Club Track Championships were run on the 7th August. Dave Featherstone had the satisfaction of winning the Bert Champman Cup for the 4000m individual pursuit in 5.40.2 and beating father Harry in the process.

The first time the tables had been turned this year! Keith Butler came 3rd in 6.16.0. The Sprint Final for the AEU Cup had a surprise winner when in the Final Malcolm Griffiths showed a fair turn of speed down the home straight to hold off Keith Butler and Steve Rickwood. This, of course, affected the handicap and in the Final for the Frank Burton Cup Malcolm could not quite close the gaps. Dave Featherstone (30 yards) held off Keith Butler (10), Steve Rickwood (20) and Malcolm to collect the pot. In the 5 miles Dave Featherstone went about collecting the points and had plenty in hand to ensure he took the George Colget Cup. Keith Butler, being older and craftier bided his time and won the scratch race for the Ravensbourne Cup and with it the Club Track Championship. Dave Featherstone was runner up and Steve Rickwood was 3rd.

Harry Featherstone was 2nd in the Balham veterans '25' in 58.11 and was also 2nd on Age Standard. Jack Platts had a plus of 8.46 and the two of them won the Team award. Marilyn Butler was fastest lady with a 1.11.01. In the Sydenham '10' our times in the Senior event were Rowan Vacher 22.39, Pete Ansell 23.11 and Dave Featherstone 23.13. In the Veterans, Ladies and Juvenile event we had Keith Butler 24.46, Allison Butler 26.13, Gethin Butler 26.38 and Marilyn Butler 25.44

The 1983 edition of the Moon Trophy was a Paragon benefit with the Club taking most of the awards. Harry Featherstone made fastest time with a 57.07, Rowan Vacher came 3rd in 57.58 and Pete Ansell 5th in 58.57. Not a bad ride for his first outing of 1983! Les Black also got 'under' with a 59.07 for 7th. Graham O'Sullivan produced a personal best of 1.0.11 that enabled him to take 2nd on handicap and 9th place. The Paragon was 2nd team on handicap and our riders were Rowan Vacher, Steve Rickwood, Graham O'Sullivan and Jack Platts (10th with a 1.0.18). The Over 30s Tankards also went to us with our counters being Rowan Vacher, Pete Ansell and Harry Featherstone. The only disgruntled member was Les Black who won absolutely nothing with his excellent 59.07.

In the SWLLCA '10' on the Maidenhead Thicket course Allison Butler came 6th with a 26.48 that also took the 3rd handicap award and Marilyn Butler took 27.29. The following morning in an unrecorded '25' (possibly the Kingston Pheonix event) the positions were reversed with Marilyn beating Allison 1.9.42 to 1.10.18.

The Junior '10' on the hard and, on this day, also windy Crowhurst course Steve Rickwood made fastest time with a 27.06 from Gethin Butler 29.33, and Alistair Mitchell 29.49. Alistair took the handicap from Steve Rickwood and Gethin Butler came 3rd.

Times for the Fryco Cup were, at first, very exciting as all our finishers had produced personal best rides. Unfortunately it transpired that one turn marshal was in the wrong place and the course was ½ mile short. Graham O'Sullivan was our fastest man with a 2.8 followed by Steve Rickwood 2.14 and Glyn Durrant 2.15. Harry Featherstone and Les Black desisted after both

had punctures and Dave Featherstone broke his frame. It was one of THOSE days.

Harry Featherstone took the fastest vets prize in the Salisbury '25' with a 1.0.24 and Rowan Vacher was 3rd in the Eastbourne Rovers event with a 1.0.19 and Marilyn Butler won the ladies prize with a 1.11.07.

On the 31st August Harry Featherstone took the fastest Veterans prize in the Bec '25' with a 57.34 and Les Black came into form with a 58.18 for 6th fastest. Harry was also 3rd in the Belle Vue '25' and took the Age Standard award with a 59.47 ride.

Marilyn and Allison Butler rode the SWLLCA '50' and Marilyn just got the better of her daughter with a 2.27.25 to 2.28.45 and she collected the handicap award as well.

The Junior 15 miles time trial was held on a most uncomfortable morning with rain and a strong wind to hinder all and sundry. Steve Rickwood won with a good ride on the course and morning of 40.10 and took 3rd handicap with this ride as well. In 2nd place was Allison Butler with a 43.30 just beating her brother Gethin by 10 seconds. However the tables were turned as Gethin won the handicap, 39.55 to Allison's 40.05.

On the 25th September Harry Featherstone came 7th in the SCCU '25' with a 58.50. Dave Featherstone returned from his honeymoon could only manage a 59.51. Steve Rickwood slowed to a 1.4.48 whilst Marilyn Butler just had the edge over daughter Allison with a 1.10.24 to Allison's 1.10.42. It was closer still in the Holdsworth '10' when Marilyn had only 3 seconds to spare over Allison their times being 27.12 and 27.15. In this event Glyn Durrant was 3rd in 24.14, Keith Butler 4th, 24.41, Alistair Mitchell produced a personal best of 26.52 and Eric Bonner had his annual race with an excellent 27.41 that scooped the handicap.

The November 'Blah' tells of the death of Frank Burton, a Past president of the Club. Frank joined the Paragon in 1923 being a close friend of the Saggars brothers and working at the West Norwood Sorting Office with George Colget. Due to the long and unsocial hours he worked and the studying that he also undertook Frank's days of competition were not numerous. The first record we have of him is in the May Club '25' of 1925 when he finished in 1.14.10 and was 4th on handicap. His next ride was the Club 12-hour event when he covered 188.25 miles! His most famous ride was being in the winning team in the University '100' of 1931 with Frank Southall and Stan Butler. That year he also came 2nd in a Club '25' with, we think, his personal best time of 1.7.40. Frank also rode tandem on the track partnering George Ongley in many of Frank Southall's tandem paced successes. Once he had passed all his Civil Service exams he transferred to the white-collar end of affairs and married Mae. Now that he had so much free time we made him Assistant Secretary then Social Secretary, organiser of the Old Paragonians Association and on up to General Secretary from 1939 to 1946. He was one of those who kept the Club going through the War

Years. He was made a Vice President and in 1968 he became President. A post he diligently carried out with zest and enthusiasm. He toured extensively with Mae, the Saggars brothers and Fred Lee and never lost his enthusiasm for cycling and the racing world of the Paragon.

THE race of the year was held on the 10th October when the Mayne Cup was up for competition. Fastest time was, not surprisingly, achieved by Harry Featherstone with another 57 with, this time, 49 seconds to add to it. Son Dave came 2nd in 58.31 and Glyn Durrant came out of the woodwork with a personal best of 1.3.06 to be 3rd. This ride made him Man of the Day as he had a 7 minute allowance giving him a net 56.06. Second on handicap was Stuart Millington riding his first '25' and finishing with a 1.7.48 to give him a handicap time of 56.48. There was a tie for 3rd place between Graham Clark, whose first time effort at 25 miles took him 1.8.28 and a handicap time of 56.58, and John Fisher who had a personal best ride of 1.12.58 and 16 minutes allowance.

The following week the anti-gravity lads gathered at the bottom of Ranmore Common for the annual hill climb for the Les Black Cup. Les was in attendance to watch Graham O'Sullivan scorch over the top to win comfortably (?) in 4.22 from Glyn Durrant , 4.50, and John Smiles in 3rd place with 5.20.

On a miserable morning Harry Featherstone punctured on the line in the Epsom '25' and decided not to bother. Dave Featherstone got round in 1.0.08 for 9th place; Steve Rickwood managed a 1.6.39 and Malcolm Griffithsd a 1.6.34.

Harry and Dave Featherstone proved themselves to be the fastest Father and Son combination in the Redmon 'Grand Prix des Gentilhomme' winning this section by 4.20. Their time was actually good enough for 4th place and 7th on Age Standard.

Len's '10' was run off on the Polhill course on a sunny but blustery morning. Glyn Durrant was our fastest men with a 26.15, John Fisher was nest with a 29.01, Allison Butler did 29.14 and collected 2nd lady prize and Alistair Mitchell finished in 32.31. Glyn durrant had a rush of blood to the head and went off to ride the Croydon RC Cyclo-cross at Woldingham. Not surprisingly he complained of aching legs and finished a lowly, for him, 32nd and two places behind Steve Rickwood.

The Annual Map Reading contest was centred on 'The Parrot' Forest Green but it didn't help us at all. Dan Burgess romped round in 1.9.05 some 3 minutes faster than our best man Graham O'Sullivan who recorded 1.12.29. Keith Butler finished 4th in 1.18.23 after losing a lot of time when he found a locked 5-bar gate with barbed wire on top across one of his former short cuts! Glyn Durrant came 7th in 1.19.47 but we lost the team to the Century with 3.50.39 to their 3.42.45. Keith had the consolation of taking the Veterans Medal for the over 45s. The best part of this competition is listening to the

tales of woe in the bar afterwards. There have been some wonderful excuses given.

The last week-end of competition was used by Harry Featherstone in a last ditch attempt to win the EE Cleeve Cup for the fastest 25 of the year. Dave Lovell was in the lead with a 56.23 so Harry had to give it all in the Hillingdon event but it was not to be. Wind and weather conspired against him and he had to be content (!) with a 57.04 to complete a season of steady improvement at all his distances.

Warren Higgins who has not done a great deal of racing this season due to his studies getting in the way was not only a surprise entry in the Bec Hill Climb but an excellent surprise to the Paragon when he finished in 6th place in 2.07.1 just 10 seconds adrift of the winner Phil Mason (San Fairy Ann).

A Club Institution began in November when Graham O'Sullivan proposed a walking week-end. A walk on the Saturday, this year from Findon to Arundel and back, stay overnight at Trueleigh Hill Youth Hostel and then on the Sunday trek over Cissbury Ring and Chanctonbury Ring. The effect on a group of cyclists who rarely walked anywhere was aptly demonstrated after the Tea stop in Steyning at the end of the weekend. You have never seen such a bunch of cripples hobbling the 50 yards back to their cars. However, notwithstanding that, every year since a group, varying from 15 to 30 have taken a week-end to see at close hand (or foot) a different part of the country.

The 18th December was the Club Christmas Lunch previewed by the Downhill/Freewheel competition on Tilburrow Hill. Keith Butler won this in fine style. He had the luck to be passed by a car half way down the hill! Need we say more? John McNee came 2nd and Perry Clifton 3rd. After that everyone repaired to the Lloyd Hall Outwood where Keith Butler had organised a willing band of cooks etc to provide us with a Christmas Lunch.

The winner of the new Arthur Sharp Plaque for the fastest '50' of the year is Les Black with his ride of 2.2.52 in the New Forest event on the 17th July.

No rider completed a 12 hour event so we have no Best-All-Rounder. Allison Butler was the only rider to win an Open event and the only person to beat a Club Record with a 25.55 in the Surrey Road CC Event and she won the SWLLCA BAR. The Club had 6 Team race wins 3 in Veterans events and 3 in ladies races. Steve Rickwood won the Junior BAR and the Brian Hunt Shield for the fastest 10 for an under 20 year old.

The Team Points Competition went to Harry Featherstone who scored 14. There was a tie with 13 points between Dave Featherstone and Allison Butler.

Gethin Butler took the Aubrey Hill Shield as Juvenile Champion. Keith Butler won the Track Championship, Glyn Durrant took the Mayne Cup, Steve Rickwood was Junior Time Trial Champion, Graham O'Sullivan the Club Events Champion.

