

1991

There is nothing like getting into the swing of a racing programme early in the season but Dick Wallis and his friend Ian Howard took things to extremes by riding the Southboro and District Tandem '10' on the 8th January. At least they got into the prizes with a 3rd place in 23.12. Not to be outdone Andy Murray came 21st in the Veteran's Cyclo-cross Championships on Shirley Hills the following week.

Gethin Butler lost no time in getting back into winning ways when he won the opening time trial of the season. His 1.3.21 was 4 minutes faster than the 2nd placed man in the GS Stella Hilly '25' held on the hills above Goodwood even though he was riding a single fixed wheel. Jon Jennings came 7th with a 1.11.28 and Allison Butler completed the team with a 1.25.21.

Even while we were celebrating the first win of the season we had to mourn the loss of two stalwarts of the Club. Dick Hare who joined the Club in 1947 after distinguished service with the RAF during the War. He was a keen rider who enjoyed his club runs and touring on the Continent. He preferred the longer distances and in 1950 he was a member of the winning Team in the National 12 hours Championship. After a motorcycle accident curtailed his cycling career he concentrated his efforts into vintage and veteran cars. He drove an 1899 Benz to Brighton on many occasions and had a 1937 Lagonda that he looked after extremely well. After giving a lift to a club member who slammed shut the Lagonda door with enthusiasm, as one normally did with cars of that era, Dick was heard to remark. "With a Lagonda one merely closes the door, thank you".

The other stalwart was Don Allan, a member of the Club since 1933. He had raced at the shorter distances and on the tracks and was Social Secretary both sides of the War. His main claim to 'fame' was that he moved to the West Country and for some years ran the Marina Hotel in Coombe Martin. Before Continental holidays became the vogue many Club Members centred weekends and weeks tours upon this abode. Stories abound about these trips. It would appear that copious amounts of 'Scrumpy' were dispatched with predictable results and with considerable effect on the dart-throwing members. The locals managed to inflict heavy defeats that had to be paid for in even more glasses of the local brew.

Martin Dodgson and Gethin Butler won the Ellesmere 2up '25' with a 55.28. On the Sunday Gethin rode the Clayton Velo Spring Classic but had 'one of those days'. He broke a rear spindle, which meant he had to nurse the wheel and not do any violent attacks. He still managed to get into the chasing group of eight after the two leaders then he punctured...!

On the 3rd March Gethin Butler gave further proof that he had wintered well when he won the East Surrey Hardriders event with a two-minute reduction of the course record. His 1.13.18 was 2.35 faster than Tim Stevens (34th Nomads) and 3.11 too good for Keith Reed (Clarence). Gethin had fitted tri-bars on his low-profile machine the night and had a rear disc wheel. Tony Garner was our second best rider with a 1.24.39 for 31st place. Nick Haynes

came 65th with 1.32.28 and Jon Jennings 71st with 1.35.50 after 'blowing up' at Faygate. Allison Butler was 3rd in the Ladies section with a 1.37.01 and Kate Haynes finished with a 1.44.09 after collecting a puncture.

Jon Jennings finished 15th in the Surrey League race at Bletchingley after having to change a tyre in miserable conditions. In the CDCA '25' our best rider was Paul Straghan with a 1.16.00. Nick Haynes finished in 1.18.25 and Kate Haynes 1.23.52.

The Club '10' on the 16th March was a comfortable win by 2 minutes in 21.54 for Gethin Butler even though it was anything but comfortable in the pouring rain. In 2nd place was Tony Garner, 23.47, and Jon Jennings came 3rd with a 24.12. Jon won the handicap with a nett 21.47 from Gethin with Pete Dankwardt 3rd in 22.22. The following day Gethin came 17th in the Grand Prix of Essex road race. In a very fast race (85 miles in 3.8.55!) the field came together in the last miles and 72 riders fought out the sprint! Jon Jennings rode the Catford Spring road race on the Ashdown circuit and came 18th. Harry Featherstone opened his 1991 campaign with 5th in the Sussex CA '25' with a 1.1.20. In the Surrey League 3rds and Junior road race Allison Butler finished in the leading group and ahead of Tony Garner, Pete Owen and Dave Woods.

Martin Dodgson and Gethin Butler were on song again on the 24th March when they won the Team Rapide 2up '25' in 53.06 by 3.43 over the second pair. Harry Featherstone was 7th in the 34th Nomads '10' on the Saturday and collected fastest on standard and a new age record for a 58 year old with a 22.10. Then on the Sunday he went down to the Salisbury '25' and finished with his best of the season 58.33. This also took the fastest on Standard. Andy Murray also rode the 34 Nomads event finishing in 23.24 and Tony Garner was disappointed with his 23.49 slowing two seconds on his ride in the Club '10' on a more difficult day. Four riders rode the Redmon '25' and the best of these was Pete Dankwardt with a 1.3.08. Nick Haynes recorded a 1.7.17, Jack Platts 1.8.23 and Kate Haynes 1.14.29. Allison Butler finished in the front group in the Ladies March Hare race at Eastway but was baulked in the sprint by a crash. Jon Jennings was picked to ride a 100 miles event in Belgium but while keeping near to the front and out of trouble eventually he found the distance too long and he retired at 80 miles.

On the 30th March Tony Garner improved to a 22.09 in the Elite '10' and Martin Dodgson came 2nd in the Cumbria '25' with a 1.0.45 even after losing time turning round to pick up his racing cap that had blown off. Gethin Butler won the Mersey Tri '10' in 21.13 by 14 seconds from Richard Prebble. (Gloucester City). Martin Dodgson and Neville Pearson won the Preston Whs 2-up '25' in 57.08. Gethin Butler riding with Judith Cole took 1.1.15 for 11th place and were fastest mixed pair.

At Easter Tony Garner came 8th in the Surrey League 3-day race and Peter Owen came 16th. Allison Butler had a crash on the last lap of Stage1 whilst in the leading group and was unable to finish. Harry Featherstone came 2nd in the VTTA (Birmingham) '25' with a 58.09 and also collected 2nd on Standard. Four riders took part in the Crawley to Shoreham and back event. Gerry Horn

was our fastest with 1.49.30, Jack Platts came next with a 2.1.18, Nick Haynes 2.1.26 and Kate Haynes 2.10.40. Gethin Butler rode the Northern Ireland Milk Race for the North West Centre of Excellence. On Stage 2 Gethin was 23rd at 4.10; Stage 3b he came 31st at 35 seconds on Stage 4 he came 5th at 14 seconds.

The following weekend Tony Garner came 5th in the ECRA '10' in 22.33 with Geoff Wiseman completing the course in some 25 minutes. Harry Featherstone had bad luck in the Trowbridge '10' when he hit a large pothole. This did not do his back wheel any good at all but he still finished in 3rd place (and 1st veteran) in 23.43. On the Sunday he was 5th in the Southampton '25' with a 59.12 whilst Dave Adams finished his first race of the season in 1.6.21. Allison Butler finished 12th in the WLCA race at Ugley whilst Jon Jennings collected two 15th places in Surrey League events at Rowlands Castle and at Rusper. Martin Dodgson came 2nd in the Cleveleys '25' in 1.0.45. Gerry Horn came 8th in the VC Deal 9½ mile time trial with 21.53.

Two more victories came Gethin Butler's way on the next weekend. He won the Barrow Central Whs '10' in 21.26 on the Saturday and the West Pennine Hilly '34' in a course record 1.20.52. Gethin only took 2 seconds from the record but he won by nearly 9 minutes. Martin Dodgson won the Lancashire RC '10' with a 22.50. Josh Ansell improved his '10' time to 24.26 in the Southborough event whilst Gerry Horn finished in 23.01. Harry Featherstone was 4th in the Bournemouth Jubilee '25 with a 59.31 that also earned him 1st place on age standard. Alison Butler was 2nd lady in the Swindon Whs '10' with a 26.23. Strong cold winds hampered riders in the Jim Fox '25' but Tony Garner's 1.4.39 was good enough to take the Trophy and the Handicap prize. The size of his winning margin had not been seen since Robin Buchan was riding but it gives some indication of the severity of the conditions. Jon Jennings came 20th in the Surrey League race at Barcombe. In the Surrey League races on the Withyham circuit Tony Garner came 7th in the morning event and Jon Jennings came 3rd in the 68 miles race in the afternoon. Gerry Horn came 9th in the VTTA (Kent) '10'.

On the 19th April Gethin Butler won the VC Halton '10' in 21.03 after a mid-week win in the Preston Whs '10' in 21.10. Martin Dodgson came 2nd in the Lancashire RC '25' with a 58.33. On the Sunday Gethin rode the Hope Valley Grand Prix over 95 miles. He broke clear after the first prime with 7 others and by 26 miles had a lead of 1.41. At this point Chris Boardman (Manchester Whs) and Matt Postle (Abergavenny) counter-attacked and set about pulling Gethin's group back. As the chasing pair caught the breakaways Gethin went away on his own over the Stiperstones climb and the 1 in 4 climb of the Drum and Monkey. At the Prime line Gethin had a lead of 1.08 on Boardman who was in the process of dropping the rest of the group. After 10 miles of chasing he caught Gethin and at 69 miles they had a lead of 1.52 on a chasing group of 9 riders. Boardman did not stay with Gethin for long jumping him on one of the many short sharp hills. Crossing the Finish line with a 20-mile loop still to cover Boardman had a 26 second lead with now 12 chasers at 2.26. Boardman stayed away to win by 1.58 from Gethin with the next rider, Pete Longbottom (Manchester Whs) 2.50 in arrears.

Harry Featherstone went down to the New Forest for the weekend. He came 5th in the Poole Whs '25' in 58.15 and then went even better on the Sunday with a 56.14 in the Bournemouth Arrow for 4th place and best on age standard. In the SCCU '25' conditions were somewhat better than in the Jim Fox event and season's improvement were legion. Tony Garner was our fastest with 1.2.00, which ought to have been a 1.1 but he decided to do two laps of the North Southwater roundabout by way of a change. Nigel Everett came in with a personal best of 1.6.27 that also earned him 2nd on handicap, Josh Ansell did a 1.7.31 and Peter Cox a 1.14.16. Allison Butler came 6th in the WLCA road race at Ugley. Tony Garner and Pete Owen finished equal 12th in the Surrey League race at Dawes Green with Dave Wood further back. On the previous Thursday Allison Butler (2nd) and Kate Haynes (6th) rode the SW London ladies '10' finishing with 25.44 and 26.27 respectively to win the Team race.

Gethin Butler won the Icknield '25' on Saturday afternoon the 27th April with a 50.56 beating the 2nd placeman by 2½ minutes. Martin Dodgson also improved by 5 minutes with a 53.55 for 5th place and with Gerry Horn recording a 58.30 they just missed Club 25 miles Team Record by 11 seconds. On the Ashdown Forest Circuit Tony Garner came 3rd in the 3rd category race with Ian Tombleson 7th and Ray Puttick 12th. In the afternoon race Jon Jennings finished 3rd. The next morning in the Surrey League event on the Staplefields Circuit the Paragon riders were 3rd, Ian Murray, 4th Dillon Adams, 5th Mike Clarke and 7th Tony Garner. Allison Butler came 16th and Ray Puttick 22nd after puncturing on the last lap. Gethin Butler rode the Welwyn Hatfield Grand Prix. It is not a race that favours his style, as it is fairly flat with wide roads and a big field. He finished in the second group on the road 2 minutes down on the winner Simon Lillistone in about 25th place. Josh Ansell improved to a 24.09 in the Sydenham Whs '10'. Harry Featherstone won the VTTA (Surrey & Sussex) '25' in 1.1.05 and took the age standard award. Dave Adams did his best of the season with a 1.5.30 and with Jack Platts coming in with a 1.9.45 the Paragon won the Team race. Martin Dodgson came 3rd in the Viking '25 in 55.37, Gerry Horn finished in 59.26 and Kate Haynes did her best of the season with a 1.7.26. Ray Runham and Dillon Adams came 4th in the Surrey Road CC Tandem '10' with a 21.44.

The May Bank holiday weekend saw Gethin Butler achieve a hat trick of wins. He won the Cleveleys '10' in 21.04 on the 4th May, The Ribble Valley '25' in 53.47 by 3.29 and the Holme Valley '25' in 52.15. The worth of that ride is that he won 2nd handicap prize whilst on Scratch and he beat Ian Cammish (Raleigh) by 2.10. Martin Dodgson has been riding with Gethin and he came 4th in both 25 miles event with 58.09 and 56.56 respectively. On the Saturday the Paragon had seven riders in the Epsom '10'. Dillon Adams was the fastest with 24.19 followed by Jon Jennings 24.24, Ian Tombleson 25.39, Jeff Wiseman 25.54, Allison Butler 26.21 (and 1st lady), Nick Haynes 27.03 and Kate Haynes 27.21. A team of veterans went up to Biggleswade for the VTTA (London) '25' and the best of them was Dick Wallis with a 1.1.30. Jack Platts went nearly 6 minutes faster than last week with a 1.3.58 but Gerry Horn punctured and failed to finish. Harry Featherstone came 2nd in the Hillingdon '25' in 59.33 and, as usual, took the age standard award. At the other end of the scale Josh Ansell won the fastest Junior prize and first handicap with his 1.7.31. In the Surrey League road races Tony Garner was in the winning

break and came 6th in the final sprint in the race at Dawes Green. Ray Puttick won the bunch sprint for 10th place, Allison Butler came 13th whilst Dave Woods and Pete Owen were credited with 16th equal. Dillon Adams and Ray Runham rode the Surrey Road CC '10' on a tandem and finished 4th in 21.44.

Harry Featherstone won the VTTA (Surrey & Sussex) '10' on the 10th May with a 21.57 but only came 2nd in the age standard section. Ian Murray was 4th in 23.17 and Steve Cox a 25.54 and the Paragon won the Team race. He was extremely unlucky on the Sunday, along with all the other riders in the VTTA (Essex) '50', when a missing marshal resulted in all riders covering only 45.3 miles instead of 50. Harry's 1.43.04 for 2nd place would have been worth a 1.52.00 for the full course and this was to be a cause for concern in his attempt to defend his VTTA BAR Championship. Jack Platts also rode finishing in 1.52.16 that is the equivalent of a 2.3 ride. Tony Garner made fastest time in the Moon Trophy '25' with a 1.00.25 but it was the others in the team that won the 'Pot'. Mike Clarke finished with a 1.1.34 and a handicapped time of 56.34, Josh Ansell produced a personal best of 1.4.28 (Handicap 58.58), Ian Tombleson 1.7.46 (59.46), and Steve Roach 1.7.50 (59.58). These times ensured the Paragon of the Team race. The day before Tony Gamer put up a personal best in the Catford '10' with a 22.47 and Steve Roach also improved to a 25.08 in an Addiscombe time trial. Allison Butler rode the ECRA '10' and collected 2nd lady prize with her 25.15 then on the Sunday she was 9th in the Easterly ladies road race at Ugley. Dick Wallis won the 50+ award in the Dartford Earlybird 31.5 miles event with a 1.34.39. Ian Murray came 10th in the Bournemouth & District '25' with a 58.27.

Gethin Butler won Stage 1 of the Irish Milk Ras from Dublin to Enniscorthy. He broke away with 10 other riders whom he later dropped to cross the Finish line eight seconds in front. He held the lead until the penultimate day eventually finishing in 3rd place. Mike Clarke came 5th in the Addiscombe '25' with a personal best of 59.12 followed by Ray Runham 1.1.17, Jack Platts 1.1.58 and Peter Cox 1.11.56. Harry Featherstone came 3rd in both fastest time and on age standard with a 1.0.18 in the Sotonia '25'. Allison Butler went of to Holland to ride an International Ladies road race but got involved in a crash and broke her arm. Kaye Haynes was 5th in the SWLLCA '10' with 26.17.

On Tuesday 21st May Neville Pearson and Martin Dodgson came 2nd in the Pendle Forest 2up in 21.46 and Gethin Butler and Judith Cole came 11th in 23.30 for 2nd mixed pair. Gethin came 3rd in the Ribble Valley Goosnarch handicap road race. Martyn Dodgson was 10th in the Lune Plantation road race.

Over the May Bank Holiday weekend the Paragon had a purple patch. Gethin Butler won the Central Lancashire '10' in 21.17 by over a minute and then won the Horwich '50' on the Sunday with a course record time of 1.50.55 and having 4.51 in hand over the second fastest rider. Harry Featherstone clocked a 53.49 in the Unity '25' to set a new Age Record for 58 year olds. Kate Haynes knocked a minute of the Club Ladies 10 miles Record with a 23.44 in the Hainault event whilst husband Nick did a 23.07 and Jeff Wiseman a 22.09 (personal best). A Team race was collected in the Kingston Whs '10'. Tony Garner came 2nd in 22.07, Mike Clarke was 3rd in 22.09 (both personal best

rides) and Jon Jennings made up the Team with a 23.42. Also competing were Ian Tombleson 24.39, Steve Roach 24.44 and Allison Butler 26.37. Allison also took fastest lady prize.

On the Sunday was the Frank Southall '50' and past winner Jeremy Short (Antelope) won again with an outstanding ride of 1.54.40 to beat the course record. In 2nd place was Mick Marchant (Portsmouth North End) with 1.58.39 and in 3rd place was Harry Featherstone with a 2.1.55. Just behind Harry was Mike Clarke with a 2.2.14 that was also good enough to take the Group B prize. Tony Garner came 7th with a 2.6.35 to clinch the Team win for the Paragon. Other Paragon times were by Jack Platts (2.9.06), Nick Haynes (2.20.51) and Roger Amer (2.23.47). In the Veterans Section Harry Featherstone was 1st both on scratch and age standard and Jack Platts was 2nd in both sections. Not surprisingly they won the Team event.

On the Bank Holiday Monday Josh Ansell produced a personal best '10' of 23.44 in the maidenhead event that also took the best Junior prize as well. Another Team race was won in the London Fire Brigade '10' when Ian Murray came 3rd in 22.47, Tony Garner 6th, 23.02, and Mike Clarke 9th in 23.20. Tony Garner won the Tuesday evening '10' with a 22.33 followed by Dillon Adams 23.12 and Jeff Wiseman 24.37.

In preparation for the National Championship '25' on June 2nd Gethin Butler and Martin Dodgson were 1st and 2nd in the Team Rapide '10' with 20.59 and 21.40 respectively on the Tuesday night. On the following evening they did it again in the Preston Whs event with times of 20.38 and 21.40. In the actual Championship Gethin, No.80 on the Start Sheet was the race leader when he reached the Finish with a 53.17. At half distance Gethin was 7th fastest but he pulled up towards the end to be 5th a time that was only 34 seconds slower than the rider in 2nd place. Unfortunately it was 4 minutes slower than the winner Chris Boardman who finished with a 49.15. Martin Dodgson crossed the line in 57.27 to be placed 51st.

Harry Featherstone won the South Western '10' on the Saturday afternoon with 22.48 and Tony Garner came 3rd in 23.06. Then on the Sunday Harry was 8th in the Wessex '50' in a season's best of 1.56.08. Jack Platts also achieved a season's best with his 2.3.07. Mike Clarke came 4th in the Surrey Road CC 25 miles event with a personal best of 57.56. Josh Ansell took the Junior prize with a 1.1.00 and Nick Haynes chipped in with a 1.6.51 to enable the Paragon to take the Team prize. Dave Woods and Kate Haynes also rode to finish with a 1.7.11 and 1.10.28 respectively. Allison Butler rode the Southend & County '25 to finish with a season's best of 1.4.39. Mike Clarke won the Club '10' on the Saturday morning with a 22.51. In 2nd place was Jeff Wiseman, 24.29, and 3rd was Pete Danckwardt 24.53. Clarke took the handicap from Pete Danckwardt with Richard Keys 3rd. Earlier in the week Jon Jennings won the Tuesday evening '10' on a cold and blustery day. Jon covered the distance in 24.41 beating Mick Clarke, 25.22 and Pete Owen 25.38. Tony Garner rode the Surrey Divisional road race Championship and was the best of the Paragon riders in 20th place.

On the 8th June Tony Garner won his first Open event when he finished the SCCU '10' in 22.41 and he led home the winning team. Mike Clarke was 3rd in 22.58 and Jon Jennings finished in 23.37. Jeff Wiseman clocked a 24.46 and Allison Butler won the ladies prize with a 25.23. Ian Murray won the VTTA (Kent) '10' with a 23.01 and followed this on the Sunday with 6th place in the South Eastern '25' in 1.0.47. Tony Garner was 3rd in this event with a 1.0.26. Other rides were by Steven Roach, 1.6.37, Ian Tombleson 1.8.14 and Dave Woods 1.8.43. Allison Butler finished the ECRA '100' in 4.59.42 on a day of strong SW winds. Gethin Butler started the Mens race but a broken spoke in his small front wheel put pay to his efforts, as he had no spare available. Most infuriating as at that time, 31 miles, he was leading. Jack Platts beat his best time of the season with a 59.03 in the Team Chiltern event and Mike Clarke came 5th in the Harp '25' with a 58.36. Martin Dodgson came 4th in the Cokermouth road race for 3rd category riders after being away for some 35 miles on his own.

Tony Van Den Dyck promoted the Tour de Tandridge Grand Prix using 10 laps of the Bletchingley Circuit. The winner was Andy Lyons (Olympia Sport), Martin Kelly (Gemini) came 2nd and Gary Foord (Wembley) was 3rd. Kate Haynes finished the Ladies 25 miles Championship in 1.21.43.

Tuesday evening Gethin Butler broke the Club 10 miles record with a 20.20 in the Ribble Valley event. On the Holmwood course Jon Jennings produced the fastest time of the night with a 23.32 from Dillon Adams 24.50 and Pete Owen 25.36. Chris Kennard won the sprinter's Mansfield Novice Shield at the SCCU Evening Meeting. Martyn Dodgson came 5th in the VC Cumbria Appleby road race.

In spite of rain and wind Mike Clarke and Ian Murray came 3rd and 4th in the KCA '10' on the Saturday afternoon clocking 22.23 and 22.33 respectively. Jeff Wiseman came in with a 25.26 and Ross Bartlett a 28.51 in the East Surrey event. Allison Butler and Jon Jennings came 2nd in the Maldon & District 2up time trial over 18 miles in Essex. Their time was 44.49 then on the Sunday Allison came 6th in the Cycles Gitane Ladies race at Welwyn. Jon Jennings produced a personal best of 57.16 in the Whitewebbs '25'.

The Club '50' Record went on the 16th June when Gethin Butler came 3rd in the National 50 miles Championship. This was a new venture for the Championship as it was not a straight out and home course by a large circuit with only left hand turns to make. Mick Bradshaw (GS Metro) was the first to show the course potential when he finished in a course record of 1.50.31 from an early start number. Matthew Purhouse (Royal Sutton) improved on this with a 1.48.04. Then Pete Longbottom (Manchester Whs) broke the Championship Record with a 1.45.54 but this was to last just under 10 minutes as Gethin Butler came in with a 1.45.15. Gary Dighton, who was 4 seconds slower than Gethin at half distance, managed to pull a few extra seconds out of the bag in the final couple of mile to finish in 1.45.01. Then Chris Boardman came in with a 1.43.51 to win. Gethin was only 1.24 slower than Chris Boardman in this race but was beaten by 4 minutes in the 25 miles Championship. That is quite an improvement. Martin Dodgson finished in 31st position with a 1.57.04.

The Club also had a field day in the SCCU '50' with Mike Clarke winning in a personal best time of 1.58.50. Tony Garner came 3rd in his personal best time of 2.0.50 and these two took 2nd and 3rd prizes in the handicap. With Graham O'Sullivan coming in with a 2.14.25 they took the Team award and then Nigel Everett finished with a 2.15.50 in his first attempt at the distance to take the Tacagni Cup for the bets rider who had not previously beaten 2.10.00. Dave Woods also finished in 2.22.36. Five Paragon riders finished the Westerley '25' with Harry Featherstone being the fastest of the group with a 57.35. Jack Platts clocked a 59.52 that became the new record for a 60 year old for the VTTA (Surrey/Sussex) Group and it is also the first time that anyone in the Paragon of this age has beaten the hour. Josh Ansell did 1.1.25, Dave Adams 1.2.03, and Kate Haynes 1.9.35. Jon Jennings finished equal 10th and won 1st handicap in the Whitewebbs '25' with a 57.16.

At a recent SCCU Track Meeting at Herne Hill Chris Kennard won the Mansfield Novice Shield for the Sprint event. On the 19th June Harry Featherstone set new figures for the 58-year-old 25 miles with a 52.21 that is also a personal best! Gerry Horn also rode this Polytechnic event and finished in 55.39. The next evening Allison Butler came 12th in the Surrey League handicap road race and collected 1st lady prize.

On Saturday evening 22nd June Gethin Butler rode the Finsbury Park '50' on a dismal windswept evening on the North Road and had the misfortune to puncture with just 3 miles remaining. His time of 1.45.31 was just 16 seconds slower than his Club Record. One can only conjecture the time he must have lost over those last few miles. Nevertheless he did win by 3 minutes. Dick Wallis finished with a 2.5.20 and Kate Haynes 2.23.13. Allison Butler clocked a 25.20 in the Weybridge Whs '10' for 9th place and fastest lady prize. On the Sunday morning Gethin paired up with Ray Runham for the Tandem Club Championship '25' and they came 7th in 52.46. Allison Butler and Jon Jennings clocked 56.36, just 6 seconds short of their own club record for 2nd place in the mixed tandems section. Jack Platts clocked a 2.5.02 in the Icknield '50' and took 1st place on age standard. Tony Garner was 3rd in the South Eastern '25' in 1.0.26 and Ian Murray came 6th in 1.0.47.

The Open '25' for the Robin Buchan Salver was held on the 23rd June and it resulted in a win for Kevin Andrewartha (Southend & County) in 57.33. Mike Marchant (Portsmouth North End) came 2nd with 58.09 and our own Mike Clarke came 3rd in 58.22. Ian Murray was 5th in 1.0.15 and took the Group A award. Dillon Adams came 6th with a 1.1.14 and the Paragon won the Team race. Other Paragon times were by Andy Murray 1.2.05, Josh Ansell 1.2.33, Dave Adams 1.3.04, Steve Roach 1.3.04 (personal best and winner of the group C award), Nick Haynes 1.3.46 (personal best), Pete Danckwardt 1.3.49, Jeff Wiseman 1.3.50, Terry Slattery 1.4.07, Dave Woods 1.5.11 (personal best), Gary Adcock 1.5.19 (personal best and winner of group D award), Nigel Everett 1.6.28, Roger Amer 1.10.09 and Ross Barlett 1.10.12.

Mike Clarke finished the Clarence '10' in 22.16 for 10th place. Nick Haynes did 23.54 and Kate Haynes 25.47. Josh Ansell was our lone entrant in the Oxford City '25' where he finished in 1.3.35. Gethin Butler, Martyn Dodgson and

Neville Pearson won the Nelson Whs 3up 24 miles event in 52.14 by nearly 2 minutes.

Gethin Butler rode the National Amateur road race Championship on the 29th June and finished in 6th place just 43 seconds behind the winner. He was then selected to ride for a Great Britain Team to go to Switzerland. Tony Garner also had a good week-end when he took 3rd place in the 34th Nomads '10' with a personal best of 21.39 on the Saturday afternoon and then did another personal best in the ECCA '100' with a fine 4.12.17 for 4th place and 1st handicap. This was a mere 29 minutes improvement on his previous time for the distance. Dave Woods also rode and finished with a 4.54.17 following a delay with a puncture but this was still good enough for him to take 3rd on handicap. Harry Featherstone led another Team in the Norland '100'. Harry finished in 4.10.25 with Jon Jennings on 4.25.18 and Jack Platts on 4.43.59 with a puncture delay after 96 miles. Our two ladies in the National 50 miles Championship were Allison Butler and Kate Haynes. They finished with 2.18.27 and 2.24.47 respectively. Gethin Butler came back to England after not a very successful Tour of Switzerland. The only results we have are: - On Stage 1 he was 47th at 3.35 but 2nd placed GB rider. On Stage 2 he came 44th in a bunch sprint but was in the front half of the field. The other half lost between 14 and 24 minutes. Stage 4 was a bit rapid. The 128 kms took 2.51.49 (44.7 kph or just under 28 mph). Gethin lost 46 seconds due to crashes in the run in to the Finish.

The 6th July and it was the turn of the Veterans to break records. Harry Featherstone set a new VTTA Record for 58 year olds, and a personal best with a superb 1.50.28 for 5th place in the ECCA '50'. Jack Platts was not outdone and he came in with a 1.56.12, also a personal best, to set a new 60 year old record for the Surrey/Sussex Group. The Paragon had entered a team in the RTTC Team Time Trial Championship but having its best rider over in Switzerland considerably handicapped it. Nevertheless Martin Dodgson, Neville Pearson and Jon Jennings did a fine 2.17.19 for the 100 kms finishing 8th of the 25 teams. Josh Ansell rode the Hemel Hempstead '25' and finished in 1.1.30. Dave and Dillon Adams rode the Andover '50' and father Dave had the experience of being caught 5 minutes by his son Dillon. Finishing times were 2.5.40 and 2.10.41.

Tuesday 9th July was Inter-Club day against the Addiscombe. Some superb times ensured that the Addiscombe were beaten out of sight by some 10 minutes i.e. over 1 minute 40 seconds per counter. Our successful riders were Tony Garner 21.46, Harry Featherstone 22.26, Jon Jennings 22.46, Ian Murray 22.56, Dillon Adams 22.59 and Josh Ansell 23,12.

Gethin Butler won the Selby '25' on the 10th July with a 52.42 ride that beat professional Colin Sturgess by over 2 minutes with Martin Dodgson 3rd in 55.04. Neville Pearson came 12th in 58.58 for the Paragon to take the Team race. On the following Saturday the Team of Gethin Butler, Martin Dodgson, Neville Pearson and Jon Jennings rode the BCF Team Time Trial Championship but were disappointed in their time of 2.17.14 for 10th place from 38 teams. It was probably because the three that rode the RTTC Championship were very evenly matched but with Gethin pushing the pace

just that odd mile an hour faster it took its toll in the last quarter of the race. Tony Garner led the Paragon to another Team victory in the Addiscombe '10' when he finished in 2nd place with a 22.57. Pete Danckwardt on 24.51 and Andy Murray 25.13 making up the Team. Three personal best were produced at the Letchworth Velo '25'. Ian Tombleson came in with a 1.1.22, Steve Roach 1.3.02 and Ross Bartlett 1.7.35. Dillon Adams also had a personal best in the Becontree Whs event with a 58.55. Jeff Wiseman finished in 1.2.03.

The next day Gethin Butler made up for the Team Time Trial by winning the Streatham Velo road race at Forest Green in a 3-man sprint with Steve Goward (South Western) and P van der Zuman (Holland) with Martin Dodgson and Tony Garner back in the bunch. Mike Clarke finished the Southgate '50' in 2.1.30. Allison Butler and Kate Haynes rode the Ladies National 10 miles Championship. Allison was just in front of Kate with a 26.35 to Kate's 26.40. Jack Platts just failed to achieve an ambition to beat the hour on the Arundel-Worthing 25 miles course taking 1.0.10 for the distance. Josh Ansell represented Croydon and Cycling in the London Youth Games at Crystal Palace and came back with a bronze medal for 3rd place in the Team time trial.

There were shades of the 1930s and 40s on the 21st July with no less than seven Paragon riders competing in 100 miles events. Gethin Butler, Martin Dodgson and Jon Jennings rode the Men's National Championship, Allison Butler and Kate Haynes competed in the Ladies Championship then Harry Featherstone and Jack Platts rode the VTTA Championships. At the 25 miles check Gary Dighton was in the lead with 53.16 with Gethin at 53.43 and Matthew Postle on 53.47. Martyn Dodgson went through in 58.41 but Jon Jennings took 1.4.58. By 50 miles Dighton was still leading in 1.49.16 with Postle 40 seconds slower. Due to a bout of sickness Gethin had dropped back to 4th place in 1.51.20; Martyn took 2.0.34 and Jon 2.14.44 to be one of the slowest to that point. Twenty-five miles later Gethin was still in 4th place and now 3.50 down on Dighton. At the Finish Gethin had moved back to 3rd place being faster than Pete Longbottom over the last 25 miles. Gethin finished in 3.47.56 to collect 3rd place medal some 3.44 adrift of the winner Gary Deighton (Manchester Whs). Martin Dodgson riding his first 100 was well up at half way but faded in the second half but still finished in 4.19.29. Jon Jennings had not really recovered from his battering in the Team Time Trial but he came round to have a second half faster than his first 50 miles. His 4.27.05 helped the Paragon to 3rd place in the Team race. Allison Butler came 14th with a 4.48.14 and Kate Haynes came in with a 5.7.16 for 22nd place. Down on the south coast Harry Featherstone brought off a great double by taking 1st on scratch and 1st on age standard with a time of 4.16.57 in the East Sussex CA '100'. Jack Platts, who had only entered to make up a team, finished in 4.34.37 – and we did not have a 3rd man anyway!

At the shorter distances we had six riders in the Bec '25' with Tony Garner being the fastest of these in 7th place with a 57.58. Josh Ansell put in a personal best ride but still just missed the 'Hour' with a 1.0.03. Rowan Vacher put in a 1.0.45 and Dave Woods 1.5.22. Ross Bartlett had undisclosed trouble and took 1.15.11 to cover the 25 miles.

The evening '10' resulted in a win for Pete Owen in 25.22 from Nick Haynes 25.39, Dave Adams 25.43, Allison Butler on a trike 29.33 and Megan Butler 30.19. Dillon Adams finished in 36.55 after a delay with a puncture. Allison's time constitutes a new Women's Tricycle Record for the Club.

On the 27th July Mike Clarke with a 4.13.38 came 3rd in the SCCU '100' and won the Goss Green Cup for the winner of the Club '100' held in conjunction with this event. In 2nd place and 6th in the event proper was Tony Garner, 4.15.03 and Nigel Everett made up the team with a 4.43.10 for his first attempt at the distance. This was good enough to take the Sid Gray Shield for the Team race. Also riding were Graham O'Sullivan with 4.45.19, Dave Woods 4.47.19 and Roger Amer with his first attempt at 100 miles in 4.49.32. Dave Woods won the handicap from Roger Amer and Nigel Everett. The 50 milers were out for the Essex Roads event with Harry Featherstone providing our best time with a 1.51.44. Following Harry were Dick Wallis, 2.0.01, Jeff Wiseman a personal best of 2.0.04, Jack Platts 2.0.29 and Terry Hulme 2.2.59. Gethin Butler finished the Preston Whs '50' winning with a course record 1.49.42 by 6.36 with Neville Pearson 20th in 2.3.41. Josh Ansell rode a Criterium at Eastway and finished in 5th place. Pete Owen came 20th in the Surrey League event at Dawes Green.

More shades of the 30s and 40s on the 3rd August when the Paragon won three Team races in one day. Gethin Butler won the Pennine '50' in 1.46.52 leading Martin Dodgson (3rd) with a personal best of 1.49.07 and Neville Pearson (17th) 1.58.54. Martin also won 3rd handicap prize. Further south in the North London '50' Mike Clarke put in another personal best ride of 1.55.06 beating Harry Featherstone by just one second. Jack Platts made up the Team with a 2.3.50 but we would still have won the team race with Dick Wallis' 2.4.05. The third Team race was in the Old Portlians '10'. Tony Garner finished in 22.10 (7th) beating Mike Clarke (8th) by just 1 second. Ian Murray made up the team with a 22.53. Josh Ansell took fastest Junior prize with a 23.23 and Wally Happy who was outside 'evens' doing some training for longer events.

Josh Ansell rode the National Junior '25' Championship but was disappointed with his 1.0.43. There was a fast morning for the Festival '25' with Pete Dankwardt finishing inside the hour on 59.48. Following him were Jeff Wiseman 1.0.22, Graham O'Sullivan 1.0.56, Stephen Roach 1.1.29, Terry Hulme 1.1.46 and Dave Adams 1.3.11. Jeff Wiseman came 8th in the East Surrey '10' with 25.26. Tony Garner won the SCCU '10' in 22.41. Allison Butler took 1st lady prize and the Paragon won the Team prize with Messrs Garner, Jennings and Clarke. Allison Butler won 1st lady prize in the Worthing Excelsior '10' with a 25.42.

The Paragon also lost a long serving and distinguished member when former President John Parsonson died suddenly from a severe heart attack. John joined the club in 1946 and took an active part in the running of the Club serving as Magazine Editor, Secretary and Chairman. He was elected a Vice-President in 1963. As a racing man he preferred the longer distances and was a great team rider. Probably his best ride was in the Catford 24 hours event when he finished with 424 miles. He was the leader of 'The Charlies' a group

of ex-racers who helped out at all Paragon events and could be relied upon for support when our riders took part in long distances time trials.

On the 11th August Gethin Butler won the Westerley '100' in 3.41.51. A superb ride on a hard morning and only a few seconds away from his best ever. This time was the fastest of the year and Gethin won by 13.58. The Paragon won the Team race with Harry Featherstone finishing 9th in 4.10.28 and Dick Wallis 4.34.00. Nick Haynes completed his first 100 miles races in 5.5.41 whilst wife Kate took 5.13.54. Martyn Dodgson managed to puncture twice and had to desist. Harry Featherstone also took the prize for the best Veteran on age standard. During the previous week Gethin had finished a club '10' in 20.59 with Neville Pearson clocking 23.13, on the Wednesday he produced a course record 20.18 and followed this with a 19.58 on another course. Allison Butler came within 3 seconds of Club Record in the Southend & County '50' with a personal best of 2.11.51. John Jennings also rode and improved 3 minutes and just failed to beat 2 hours with a 2.0.26. Jack Platts won the Aubrey Wenman Trophy for the best '25' on Age Standard in the VTTA (Surrey/Sussex) event with a 1.3.05. Mike Clarke was our lone rider in the Bournemouth Jubilee '25' but finished 5th in 57.25. Graham O'Sullivan did a 1.3.43 in the Hainault '25'.

The Tuesday evening '10' was a win for Tony Garner in 22.40 followed by Mike Clarke 22.50 and John Jennings 23.27. The Club Track Championships proved to be a fight between the defending Champion Dillon Adams and John Jennings and they managed to share all the trophies between them. The 500m Sprint went to Dillon Adams from Jon Jennings and Chris Kennard. Dillon also took the 4000m Pursuit from Jon with Pete Owen in 3rd place. Jon Jennings won the non-championship handicap from Chris Kennard with Dillon in 3rd place. Jon then won the 5 miles Scratch and took the Colget Cup for the Points competition. Pete Owen was 2nd on points but 3rd over the line whilst Dillon was 3rd on points but 2nd over the Finish line. This gave Dillon the Track Championship with 8 pts from Jon Jennings 7 pts and Pete Owen in 3rd place with 2 pts.

Harry Featherstone improved his best 100 time of the year when he finished the VTTA (*London) event with a 4.4.29 for 2nd place and 2nd on Age Standard. Dick Wallis improved by 13 minutes on the previous week's ride with a 4.20.49. Graham O'Sullivan came 6th in the Eastbourne Rovers '10' with a 25.30 whilst Allison Butler rode down to the race at Golden Cross but still managed a 29.11. In the Metropolitan Police '10' Pete Danckwardt was our fastest with a 23.11 followed by Jeff Wiseman 23.48. Nick Haynes and Kate also rode with Nick doing a '25' and Kate a '26'. On the Sunday Jeff Wiseman finished the Eastbourne Rovers '25' in 1.3.31 whilst Graham O'Sullivan took 1.5.08. Hopes of the team race were dashed when Mike Clarke proved to be a non-starter. Lee Phillips came 5th in the Juvenile section of the second Dulwich Criterium and 8th in the 3rd race.

Gethin Butler beat the Club 25 miles record with a 50.32 in the Cleveland Coureurs event on what was termed a 'foul' evening as he was hoping for a sub-50 minute time. However with backing from Martyn Dodgson, 54.19 (5th) and Neville Pearson 57.12 the trio had the satisfaction of lowering the Club

Team Record as well by 1.12 to 2.42.03. Unfortunately the following Tuesday Martyn was knocked off his bike during an evening '10' completely wrecking his new low-profile machine but, more importantly, severing some tendons in his hand that will necessitate three weeks off the bike.

On Sunday 18th August Gethin Butler won the Lancashire '25' in 53.54. Then over the Bank Holiday week-end he came south to ride the Tour of the Hopfields a 3 day 4 stage race in Kent. He finished 2nd overall just 36 seconds adrift of the winner but, unsurprisingly, won the time trial stage. Jon Jennings finished 23rd overall but Tony Garner failed to finish the last stage. We had riders in the CDCA '10' with Pete Danckwardt being our fastest rider in 22.57 for 28th place. Rowan Vacher came in with a 23.27, Jeff Wiseman 23.39, Dave Adams 24.44, Roger Amer 25.22 and Allison Butler 26.14 that also took the fastest Lady prize. Those riding the Old Portlians '25' on the Monday were Mike Clarke with a 57.51, Steve Roach 1.0.07, Jeff Wiseman 1.1.24, Josh Ansell 1.2.27, Dave Adams 1.4.02 and Allison Butler 1.4.12. Nick Haynes finished the Middlesex RC '50' in 2.17.20 with Kate just behind with a 2.18.50.

The Poole Whs 12-hour event was disappointing in some respects but very rewarding in others. Gethin Butler was forced to retire whilst in 2nd place behind Glen Longlands with a real prospect of covering 290 plus miles. A change of racing shoes could not ease pains in his left thigh and knee so he stopped. This was the disappointment. The rewards came later. Those helping Jon Jennings suddenly realised that their man had done about 160 miles, if not as fast as Longlands, but was up with the leaders. He had gone through the 100 miles point in a not very remarkable 4.17.14 for 9th place and 5 minutes slower than Harry Featherstone. It was obvious though that he was riding so comfortably there was just no possibility of his slowing down. And so it proved. All his Club helpers gathered by the side of the road at the spot he would pass the 269 miles of the old Club Record to cheer him through and he went on to cover 273.016 miles for 3rd place. Finishing at the same Timekeeper as Glenn Longlands who covered over 300 miles to take Competition Record. Harry Featherstone also produced a personal best of 261 miles for 120th place and set a VTTA National Age Record whilst Jack Platts covered 240 miles for a personal best ride and a new Surrey/Sussex Vets 60 year old Record. On top of that these three broke the Club Team Record with a total of 774.821 miles. This Record is still on the Books in 2004!

The shorter distance men rode the Bec '10'. Tony Garner came 2nd with a 21.55, Pete Danckwardt did 22.51 and Terry Hulme 23.58 to take the Team race. Jeff Wiseman finished in 24.22 and Dave Adams 24.41. On the Sunday Tony Garner took another 2nd place this time in the Belle Vue '25' with a 57.26 ride. Pete Danckwardt came 6th in 58.50 and Josh Ansell was 2nd fastest Junior, by 1 second, in 1.01.08. The Paragon won the Team race. Dick Wallis did a 2.0.14 and Terry Hulme 1 2.2.45 in the Viking '50'. Gethin Butler rode a private timetrial in the Bec Club '10' and beat the course record with a 20.16. Tony Garner also rode and finished in 22.26. Allison Butler rode the Surrey League Ladies race and came 2nd that also meant that she has been upgraded to a 2nd category rider. Stephen Road came 5th in the Surey League 3rd category race promoted by the Crawley Whs.

More Records fell on the 15th September when Terry Hulme broke the Club 30 miles Record by 40 seconds in the Leo event with a 1.6.19. On the Sunday he did a 55.37 in the ECCA '25' with Pete Danckwardt on 57.03, Jeff Wiseman producing a personal best of 57.08 as did Josh Ansell with a 57.57. Tony Garner won the Redmon'10' in 21.32 on the Saturday and followed this with a 3rd in the SCCU '25' on the Sunday with a 57.06. Mike Clarke finished in 5th place on 57.52 and Graham O'Sullivan 1.1.54 to enable the Paragon to take the Team race. Dave Adams recorded a 1.3.52 and Dave Woods a 1.6.49. This event was the last counting event in the SCCU BAR. In this competition Mike Clarke was 3rd, Tony Garner 4th and Graham O'Sullivan 8th to ensure the Paragon were best Team. In the Basildon '10' Jeff Wiseman improved to a 22.27 in spite of breaking an axle! Dick Wallis rode the Luton Whs 12-hour event to cover 250 miles for 5th place. In the Glade '10' Gethin Butler broke his own 10 miles Record with a 20.08 for 3rd place behind Matt Illingworth (Leo) 19.41 and Ian Cammish (Raleigh) 20.09. Tony Garner was 7th in a personal best of 21.02 and Pete Danckwardt made up the team with a 22.40. In the Redbridge '25' Gethin was 2nd in 51.18 behind Illingworth's 49.27 but in front of Cvammish's 51.36. Josh Ansell clocked a 58.06.

Harry Featherstone got under 4 hours for 100 miles with a 3.59.16 in the North Midds & Herts event to break yet another National Age Record. Pete Danckwardt did a 23.02 in the Crawley Whs '10' and Terry Hulme 23.48. Two juveniles rode the Southend & County '10' and came in with some very quick times. Anthony Miller did 23.54 and Stuart Catley 24.36. In the 29th Whs '25' Pete Danckwardt came 8th in 1.0.52.

Gethin Butler had second thoughts about a 12-hour event so rode the Breckland event. This is so late in the season that there is only just enough daylight to run it and the early starters have to carry lights. The other problem is usually that it is not warm and the weather can turn nasty. Gethin got cold and strong winds but fortunately no rain. He covered the first 100 miles in 4.25.12 and 132 miles in the first 6 hours showing a steady if unspectacular ride that was necessary to produce a result in the prevailing conditions so his distance of 261.4 miles can be considered a good ride. This effort put him in 4th place in the BBAR. Harry Featherstone came 6th in the Andover '25' with a 56.37.

Josh Ansell made a name for himself when he not only produced fastest time in the Mayne Cup '25' but was 'Man of the Day' with his 1.3.37. Harry Featherstone won the South Western RC '10' in 22.49 with Tony Garner in 3rd place 23.05.

On Sunday 29th September Terry Hulme finished the Edgware '25' in 56.42 with Jack Platts just 5 seconds slower than his best of the season in 59.42. Tony Garner came 10th in the Surrey League 3rd category road race promoted by the VC Meudon

Tony Garner achieved an ambition on the 6th October when he won the Surrey League road race at Dunsfold and thereby gained his 2nd category licence. Ray Puttick came 8th in the same event. Martyn Dodgson won the West Pennine '10' in 21.28. Gethin Butler was 4th in the Merseyside Whs Invitation

32 miles Hilly event with a time of 1.14.42. He was some 3 minutes slower than Chris Boardman's course record winning time but only 28 seconds behind the 2nd placed man.

The Veterans were also successful. In the VTTA (West) '25' Terry Hulme beat Harry Featherstone 55.44 to 55.53. Jack Platts did a season's best of 58.55 and Dave Adams was quite happy with his 1.1.42. The Paragon won the Team race. Josh Ansell clocked 1.1.33 in the Epsom '25' in rather frosty conditions that were not conducive for fast riding.

Gethin and Allison Butler rode the Duo Norman event at Marigny (Normandy) on a Tandem. They finished 3rd after losing a pedal and about 2 minutes while the offending article was replaced and, not surprisingly, were fastest mixed pair. Just after they started they passed Thierry Mairie (a top roadman and time triallist of that era who was riding the later professional event). He jumped in behind them to help with his warm-up. After a while he dropped back to the following car and said to the travelling Commissaire. 'Is that a girl on the back?' 'Yes' says the Commissaire. 'Merdel!' says Thierry and backs off!

The season continues on a high note with yet another Club Record. Martyn Dodgson rode and won the ECCA '25' finishing with a personal best of 50.54 just 30 seconds slower than Gethin Butler's Club Record and improvement of over 3 minutes. Tony Garner also improved by 3 minutes to come in with a 53.00 and then Dick Wallis finished in 56.10. Their times beat the Club Team Record by 1.59 lowering it to 2.40.04. But it goes on! Terry Hulme was yet to finish and he also produced a personal best of 54.39 to bring the Team figures down to 2.38.33. Overshadowed by all this excitement one should not forget Jack Platts whose 58.28 was a personal best and a Surrey/Sussex Age Record for a 60 year old. Dick Wallis and Ian Howard (SFA) won the Tandem event incorporated in the VTTA (Kent) '25' with a 57.35.

South of the river Gethin Butler was winning the South Western Invitation Hilly Time Trial over 29 miles of the Surrey Lanes in the Cranleigh. His time of 1.7.01 was 11 too fast for Stuart Shand (Wembley) and 27 seconds faster than Matt Illingworth (Leo). Allison Butler rode the Ladies section and finished 7th in 1.27.39. Harry Featherstone partnered by Neville Stroud (Antelope) were best on Age Standard in the VTTA (Wessex) 2-up Gentleman's event. On the 20th October Gethin Butler came 15th in the Dunlopillo Classic on a hilly course some 11 minutes slower than Chris Boardman.

The Inter-Club Map reading was held in the Colchester area this year and once again the winner was Dan Burgess (Century) in 1.9.08. Graham O'Sullivan was 2nd in 1.11.40 and Keith Butler 3rd in 1.14.47. In spite of these high placings we could only manage 2nd Team. Ian Murray just beat Jon Jennings 1.24.55 to 1.24.59. Allison Butler was our next finisher in 1.30.52 for 5th place after two punctures and riding in on a flat tyre. Steve Roach clocked 1.45.18, Kate Haynes 2.9.15 and Vin Callanan 2.23.10 having gone 'slightly' astray. Andy Murray was 1st veteran in the Eastbourne Rovers cyclo-cross and the following week came 9th in the VC Etoile event.

The Paragon lost one of its most long serving members on the 1st November when Reg Heath died. He had been a member of the Club since 1925 and in 1926 won the Kentish Whs Novices '25' with the then record time of 1.10.02. After that he became a regular member of Paragon teams with Frank Southall, Frank Cleeve and Jack Carter. He had a large repertoire of amusing ditties and narratives that he entertained club members on social occasions. When he married in 1934 he retired from racing but maintained his interest in the Club and all things cycling. He was a keen and capable amateur photographer. Even at 80 he was out and about on his bike from his house at Brockham and could often be met at the William IV at Mickleham.

Jon Jennings came 2nd in the Roller racing evening promoted by the Herne Hill Association and Allison Butler did the same in the Ladies section. At a later date in the Finals of the London Cycle Roller Championships Allison Butler won the Ladies Competition, Richard Long came 3rd in the Junior races and Jon Jennings 7th in the Senior competition.

At the Club AGM a minutes silence was held in the memory of Len 'Shaggy' Butler who had died the previous day. Shaggy joined the Club shortly before the War and rode various time trials but it was on the Polo field that he reigned supreme. One of the hardest strikers of the ball and a master tactician he was never out of the top team as they won Championship after Championship. He often played in Goal and in one Final against the Solihull team he saved a possible match winning shot with his head! Polo balls are made of solid bamboo! Shaggy was one of the 'Charlies' who gave our riders such tremendous support especially on long distance events and could always be relied upon to help at any Paragon promotion. He was a stalwart of the Darts Team and spent many happy hours at 'The Plough' Leigh or 'The Fox Revived' Norwood Hill amongst many others. He was elected a Vice-President of the Club in 1980.

At this AGM Arthur Rayner was elected a Vice-President of the Club as recognition of his services to cycling as well as the Norwood Paragon. Another sign of changing times was the inauguration of the Off-road Championship and another for Veterans based on Age Standards.

Pete Corry won the Free-wheeling Championship from George Clare with Tony Garner 3rd and Bob Patton 4th. Following this all and sundry repaired to the Red Barn, Blindley Heath for the Annual Christmas Lunch. Over the Christmas period Martyn Dodgson finished 4th in the Manchester & District '25' with a 1.0.07 a time that many would be happy with in mid-season! Andy Murray won the Veterans race at the VC Elan Cyclo-cross. A later report says he had won 7 of these prizes and was 3rd in at least 3 others. No details were divulged! High spot of the cross season must be his 5th place in the South of England Vets Championship.

Richard Long had a 5th in a Junior Cyclo-cross on Ranmore Common. So muddy were the conditions that he completed the last lap without shoes or socks! Josh Ansell and Richard were 5th and 6th respectively in the Evans Cycles Junior MTB race and Aaron Garner was 5th equal in the under 12s

event. Although results have not been found it was reported that 10 Paragon riders were on the Start line for one MTB race!

In the National BBAR Gethin Butler was 4th with 25.784 mph, Harry Featherstone 20th with 24.560 mph and Jon Jennings 59th with 23.428 mph making the Paragon 3rd in the Team Competition. Dick Wallis was 112th and Jack Platts 124th. Allison Butler came 39th in the Ladies Competition (22.241 mph) and Kate Haynes 49th (21.146).

Harry Featherstone won the VTTA National BAR Competition on Age Standard Then with Jack Platts and Dick Wallis the trio took the Team Championship. Harry also won the Surrey/Sussex Vets Group BAR with Jack Platts in 3rd place. Harry took National Age Standard Record certificates whilst Jack had Surrey/Sussex Group Records for his Age. Terry Hulme also collected a Group Certificate for his 30 miles effort that also broke our Club Record.