

1992

First blood for 1992 came in the Kettering Friendly Hilly '20' when Gethin Butler took 45.52 to get round. This beat the course record and he also took the prize for the fastest first 10 miles. Martyn Dodgson came 3rd with 47.03 and Jon Jennings made up the winning team with a 51.38.

The Paragon lost one of its Vice-Presidents when Charlie Bowtle passed away. He was one of the top riders in the 1920s at Herne Hill and in 1929 was a member of the Paragon team that won the National Team Pursuit title and that of the WLCA. His fellow riders in those Championships were Monty Southall, Frank Southall and Charlie Hallerback all top class riders in their day. Charlie rode all sorts of machines. He could race on Old Ordinaries (Penny Farthings to the ignorant), Tandems and Trikes and successfully tried his hand at pacing behind both tandems and the big motors. His trike records stood for many years and he rode 26 miles 597 yards in an hour behind tandems. As far as the Club is concerned he was notorious in winning the Mayne Cup in 1928 and then repeating the performance in 1929. Perhaps that is why he joined the Polytechnic in 1930! After the War he rejoined the Paragon being elected a Vice-President in 1982. He had a large collection of vintage bicycles and there are a number of pictures of various club members riding these machines at Herne Hill prior to one of the major meetings including one of Keith, Allison, Gethin and Megan Butler on a Quad!

The North Road Hardriders saw the Paragon in action again but not entirely with the results we hoped for. Gethin Butler punctured and dropped out of the reckoning but Martyn Dodgson moved into the spotlight with a 1.4.00 that earned him the prize for 10th fastest. Jon Jennings clocked 1.6.27 and Allison Butler finished in 1.15.39 to take the ladies prize. In spite of losing our No.1 man the Paragon were still fast enough for 3rd team prize.

Martyn Dodgson showed he was back to true form when he won the North Lancs Hilly 28 miles Circuit of Pendle in 1.7.55. He was 2 minutes clear of the 2nd placed rider.

Tony Garner came 6th in the East Surrey Hardriders '33' with a 1.18.07 that compares very favourably with the winner Simon Cope. Simon who is a professional rider completed the course in 1.14.12 to win by 2 minutes from Ray Hughes (Clarence). The Paragon had 11 riders entered. Dillon Adams returned with a 1.22.14 and Jon Jennings a 1.22.42 to enable the Paragon to take 3rd Team. Terry Hulme was fastest vet on standard with a plus of 8.37 for his 1.26.40 and Allison Butler was 2nd fastest lady in 1.33.31 missing first prize by 58 seconds. Josh Ansell took 2nd place in the Junior Competition in spite of 2 punctures and a crash during the 1.25.36 it took him to complete the course. Richard Long also finished in 1.31.32. Ian Tombleson came 4th in the BS Leisure Mountain Bike Series at Milton Keynes.

Following his good ride in the East Surrey event Tony Garner then won the CDCA 'Sporting' 26 miles race. He just beat Dave Osborne (Old Portlians) and John Bennett (St Austell). Tony clocked 1.7.39 whilst the other two tied

with 1.7.40. It does not get much closer than that! Dillon Adams came 6th in 1.8.52 and Josh Ansell 10th in 1.11.01. This ensured the Team race for the Paragon and fastest junior prize for Josh. Dave Woods finished in 1.19.15 and Nick Haynes 1.20.57.

The first Club Event of the season was the 10 miles event on the Holmwood course on the 14th March. Gethin Butler won in 20.54 from Tony Garner 22.26 and Jon Jennings 3rd with 23.38. Steve Roach produced a personal best of 23.51 that enabled him to take the Handicap award away from Gethin. In 3rd place on handicap was 6th placed rider Nigel Everett. Harry Featherstone and Terry Hulme rode the Antelope RT 2up and finished 2nd in the Veterans section with a 1.1.55 for the 25 miles. Gethin Butler rode the Alexa Grand Prix of Essex and on a cold, miserable day had the mortification of being in an early break that got caught on the finishing circuit. He crossed the line in 41st place. Martyn Dodgson came 6th in the Foxfield road race and took the prize for the most aggressive rider. Allison Butler was 11th at Ottershaw in the Surrey League road race with Ray Puttick and Pete Owen placed in the bunch. Tony Garner finished 6th in the 2nd category event over 80 miles whilst Jon Jennings came in with the main field.

Gethin Butler pulled off one of his finest victories when he won the Porthole Grand Prix time trial over a 25 mile course around Lake Windemere in a time of 57.06 beating the reigning 25 and 50 miles Champion, Chris Boardman, by 40 seconds and third placed man Glenn Sword (who is on the Olympic Shortlist) by 4.45! Martyn Dodgson was lying 4th at the halfway point but then punctured. Harry Featherstone won the veterans prize in the Sotonia '10' in 25.20 with Rowan Vacher taking 3rd prize with a 25.55 and his brother Doug finishing in 27.37. A bad day in Essex with strong winds slowed many riders in the Basildon '25'. Richard Long won best junior award with his 1.6.20 whilst Nigel Everett, 1.6.48, and Dave Woods, 1.10.37, enabled the Paragon to take the Team prize.

The Vacher brother came 4th in the Border CA 2up 20 miles event with a 57.27. Gethin Butler won the Circuit of Ingleborough 27 miles event in 1.1.23 including a stop for a wheel change. Martyn Dodgson came 3rd in 1.5.43. Then on the Sunday they rode the Preston Whs Open 2up 25 miles and won very comfortably some 3 minutes ahead of their nearest rivals in 52.06.

Harry Featherstone took another veterans prize this time in the 34th Nomads '10'. He finished in 23.03. Josh Ansell was 2nd in the Junior section with a 23.31 whilst Jeff Wiseman did 25.30 and Jon McKaig 28.25. The next day he took another 1st veteran on scratch award with a 56.47 in the Oxonian '25'. Dillon Adams came 2nd in the Surrey League road race at Cutmill with Pete Owen in 7th, Bob Patton 16th and Dave Woods 18th. Tony Garner was run into by another rider approaching the Finish and limped in about 20th. Dillon followed this with a 4th place in the 3rd category race at Barcombe whilst Jon Jennings came 20th in the afternoon 2nd category race. Allison Butler was baulked in the sprint of the Ladies race at Eastway and was disgruntled with her eventual 14th place. Josh Ansell went into Kent and came 4th in the Kent League event at Chilham.

Gethin Butler was pipped by just one second by Gary Deighton (Manchester Whs) in the North Hampshire '10' recording 20.41 to Deighton's 20.40. Also riding were Stephen Roach, who clocked a personal best of 23.41, and Ian Tombleson 24.49. However they did get the Team prize. Then on the Sunday Gethin rode the Archer Grand Prix and was in the action all day. He finished 3rd in the King of the Mountains competition and was 12th in the sprint for the Line by the 20 survivors of the 100 plus starters.

Rowan Vacher came 8th in the Redmon '25' with 1.2.11 with Graham O'Sullivan on 1.4.05, Doug Vacher on 1.5.40 and Mark Oliver clocking a 1.15.10 in his first race. Harry Featherstone was on his own down at Southampton but he still finished in 4th place with a 57.45. Josh Ansell collected more points when he instigated the break in the Kent League race at Yalding and then finished 3rd in the final sprint. Richard Long finished 16th in the same event. Martyn Dodgson was 4th in the Pendle Forest road race over 44 miles.

The Hope Valley Classic, (the third race in the season long Premier Calendar competition) fell to Gethin Butler when he romped away over this hilly course in the wilds of Shropshire to win by 33 seconds from Mark Lovett and 2.31 on 3rd placed man N Dunn (Middridge Racing). Martyn Dodgson attained his 2nd category licence when he came 3rd in the 45 miles April road race at Horwich. Down south Tony Garner picked up more points towards his 1st category licence when he came 6th in the 80 miles Surrey League road race over the Ashdown Forest. Jon Jennings was 11th and followed this with an 8th place at Eastway the next day. The Harry Featherstone pulled of another double when he won both scratch and Age Standard awards in the VTTA Surrey/Sussex '25' with a 1.1.04. Then with Dave Adams' 1.6.13 they won the Team race. In the Southboro '10' Harry Featherstone came 4th with a 21.51. Josh Ansell was close behind with a 21.55 that took 2nd handicap prize and was only 12 seconds away from Gethin Butler's junior record. Jon McKaig also rode and improved to a 26.15. On the Sunday Josh rode the Elite CC '25' and produced a 57.57.

The Club '25' on the 12th April saw Tony Garner just stay ahead of Stephen Road with a 1.1.20 to 1.1.48 but with 3 minutes allowance Steve took the Handicap. In 3rd place on scratch was Graham O'Sullivan on 1.3.54 whilst Nigel Everett came in with a personal best of 1.5.10.

Easter and there was lots of racing in different parts of the country. Kaye Patton started her season with a win in a 10 miles Mountain bike race at West Drayton that netted her a £50 prize. Bob Patton was no so lucky as his chain broke. In the Surrey League 3-day Jon Jennings finished 3rd overall after finishing 5th on both 1st and 2nd stages but could only manage a 14th place on Stage 3 that knocked him from possible 2nd to the reality of 3rd place. Tony arner was 10th overall including a 7th place on Stage 1. Ray Puttick was 11th overall and Allison Butler 20th. Dillon Adams finished 14th on Stage 2. Jeff Wiseman rode Stage 1, his first road race and was pleased with his 23rd place.

On Easter Monday Josh Ansell came 8th in the Farnborough & Camberley Vets, Ladies and Juniors race at Eversley. After stirring the race up and getting clear with a group of eight Josh's efforts took their toll and he came in 8th but well clear of the rest of the field. Martyn Dodgson rode the Tour of the Lakes 3-day and finished 11th overall. He was 7th on stage 1, 15th on Stage 3 and 5th on Stage 4. A poor Stage 2 kept him out of the main awards. Graham O'Sullivan rode the famous Charlotteville '50' and did his best time for the distance for over 5 years with a 2.6.18. Allison Butler rode the SWLLCA '10' and finished 2nd with a creditable 24.54 that also won her the handicap prize.

Gethin Butler was riding for the England team in the Scottish Girvan 3-day race. He rode to team orders in the first 3 stages then on the last stage he attacked after just 4½ miles of the 77 miles race. He and Neil Martin (Dinnington) stayed clear even though Martin crashed near the Finish. Gethin waited for him but then won the sprint to win the Stage. This win moved him up to 6th overall.

Gale force winds and rain over the week-end of the 25th/26th April made racing conditions extremely hard. Tony Garner continued his good form by getting 2nd place in the Surrey Road CC '10' in 23.11 whilst Lee Phillips took 2nd place in the Juvenile event and Allison Butler won the ladies prize with a 27.21. The next morning the Paragon had 9 riders down for the SCCU '25'. No one beat the hour that morning but Dillon Adams managed a 1.1.29 to take 3rd place, Graham O'Sullivan 1.5.53, Dave Adams 1.7.05, Jack Platts 1.11.35 and Roger Amer 1.13.54 were our only finishers. Nigel Everett crashed on one of the many roundabouts but fortunately no damage to either himself or machine. The others decided not to face the timekeeper! A team of three Paragon riders spent the week-end in Nottinghamshire. In the North Notts Olympic '10' Stephen Roach did a 23.53, Ian Tombleson 24.41 and Ross Bartlett 26.51 but on the windswept Sunday Stephen was the only one of the trio to finish the '25' in 1.7.15 that gives some idea of the severity of the wind. During the previous week Gethin Butler rode a local '10' and finished with a 20.02. Jon McKaig rode the De Laune '10' and did a 26.32. Harry Featherstone rode the Bournemouth Arrow '10' and came 8th in 23.42.

The road racers fared no better but Tony Garner was very pleased with his efforts in the Jock Wadley Memorial race at Aldford, Essex, when he finished 12th in this 100 miles event. Josh Ansell and Richard Long rode the Surrey League races at Slough Green. They escaped with 5 others after 20 miles of racing then Josh attacked again to get clear with one other rider but lost out in the sprint. Richard came in 4th place. In the afternoon Ian Murray made his road race debut for the season and was extremely pleased with his 5th place. Also very pleased was Jeff Wiseman with his 12th place on only his second road race. Bob Patton and Mario Manelfi finished in the bunch. Allison Butler went off to Cheshire for the Cheshire County road race for ladies and finished 25th.

The Tour of Lancashire saw Gethin up with the leaders and finishing in 6th place overall and the leading amateur rider. In the Epsom '10' Tony Garner

finished 2nd and beat team mate Dillon Adams by a clear minute. Josh Ansell took 5th place in the De Laune '25' and also won the best junior prize. Richard Long finished in a personal best time of 1.3.14. Harry Featherstone took the Age Standard award in the Hillingdon '25' with a 57.07. Graham O'Sullivan improved 6 minutes on his Charlotteville '50' time when he recorded 2.0.15 in the West Suffolk Whs event.

The Club '25' Record was broken on the 10th May when Gethin Butler clocked 50.01 in the Oxford University '25' for 2nd place and to take 31 seconds off the old record. Stuart Dangerfield who recorded 49.59 beat him for 1st place. Martyn Dodgson came 3rd in the British Students Championship that was incorporated in this event with a 54.00. Then on the Sunday they roee with Tony Garner in the Charters of Aldershot road race at Cutmill. Gethin Butler took 3rd place in the winning break of three after having to suffer a wheel change being one of the many who punctured in the rain. Martyn punctured and Tony Garner broke spokes to put pay to their efforts. In the morning race Josh Ansell came 4th with Richard Long, Steve Roach and Allison Butler grouped at 13th equal. Jon Jennings finished 25th in the Giles Ree Memorial 2-day after spending 2 days out in the rain. The previous day Allison took 7th in the bunch sprint in the Surrey League Handicap .

Harry Featherstone took 3rd place in the VTTA Surrey/Sussex '10' with a 24.04 that also enabled him to collect the Stan Harvey Memorial Award for best on Age Standard. On the Sunday Harry was riding the ECCA '50' and was up with the leaders. He was just catching Jack Platts when he punctured. Jack being the clubman he is, immediately stopped and changed front wheels with Harry. Harry speeds off and finishes with a 1.59.35. Jack, meanwhile, tries to change tubulars but finds that Harry has deep section rims and long valves whilst Jack rides normal wheels and short valves. No way is Jack able to pump up any tyre! Therefore poor Jack has to thumb a lift to the Finish. He was not very pleased after his sacrifice of a decent ride. Graham O'Sullivan finished this event in 2.4.04 and Dick Wallis in 2.4.57.

The Moon Trophy was won this year by the Anerley with the Paragon in 2nd place. Pete Danckwardt was our fastest rider in 1.1.40 followed by Jeff Wiseman 1.4.51 and Nick Haynes 1.5.20. Nick also took 1st on handicap prize. Roger Amer produced a personal best of 1.8.26 and Jon McKaig one of 1.10.57.

The Club '10' Record went on 17th May when Gethin Butler won the Oxford City event in 19.45 and he had the satisfaction of turning the tables on Dangerfield. This ride of Gethin's was the fastest done in the country so far. Then on the Sunday he won the Addiscombe '25' with a course record 52.42. The Paragon also won the Team with Richard Long improving again to 1.1.29, Pete Danckwardt 1.1.59, Graham O'Sullivan 1.4.10 and Dave Adams 1.4.35. Gethin also learnt that he was riding for the Amateur Britannia Team in the Tour of Britain starting in Penzance.

In the VTTA National Championship 25 miles the Paragon riders took the Team Award. Harry Featherstone was 3rd on scratch and 2nd on Age

Standard with a 57.21 whilst Dick Wallis clocked a 1.0.38 and Terry Hulme a 1.3.02. The next day Harry rode the Sotonia '25' and was unplaced with his 58.55 although he did manage the best on Age Standard. A team from the Paragon rode the Catford '10' with Josh Ansell producing our fastest time in 22.44. Richard Long, still improving, with a 23.15, Pete Danckwardt 23.24 and Jon McKaig 25.41, also an improvement.

John Dennis promoted the Crystal Palace circuit races running it as a Course des Primes rather than a Handicap event. In the Juvenile event most of the primes went to Adam Dallison (East Surrey) whilst in the Senior race Russell Williams bagged the majority. Russell crossed the finish line in 1st place followed by Dan Rudd (De Laune) and John Higgins (Wembley).

The Frank Southall Trophy '50' was run on the 24th May and organised by Graham O'Sullivan. Andy Naylor (Apollo RT) won convincingly by 5.04 in an event and course record time of 1.53.10. In 2nd place was Sean Kennedy (Bec CC) in 1.58.14 and our own Pete Danckwardt came 3rd with his best ride for some years of 1.59.56. Harry Featherstone was 4th in 2.1.53 but had the satisfaction of taking the Veteran Prize and best on Standard award with a plus of 36.00 minutes. Jack Platts recorded 2.13.49 and was placed 2nd on Age Standard with Bob Stapley (Epsom) in 3rd place. The Old Portlians won the Team race beating the Paragon by 28 seconds 6.11.36 to 6.12.04. The Paragon pair of Featherstone and Platts won the VTTA Surrey/Sussex Team award. Other Paragon times were by Nigel Everett who came 24th in a personal best time of 2.10.16, Jack Platts was 30th, Dave Woods 35th in 2.2.15.35, Mark Oliver 2.19.30 and Roger Amer 2.23.32 with time off the bike with a puncture.

Tony Garner finished 9th in the St Ives '10' in 22.00. Martyn Dodgson won a '10' in Lancashire with a 21.37 and took 8th place in the 84 miles Observer road race at Cannock. The brothers Vacher finished 7th in the Medway Velo 2up time trial in 1.1.20.

Pete Danckwardt won the evening '10' on the 26th May in 22.29 beating Tony Garner by 16 seconds and Stephen Road by 58.

Tony Garner won the South Western '10' in 21.55 on the Saturday and then rode well in the BCF Surrey Division road race Championship only to cramp up in the final sprint crossing the line in 20th place instead of the top 10 he was hoping for. Jon Jennings finished 30th. Also on the Saturday the paragon had a number of riders in the CC Bexley '10'. Fastest was Harry Featherstone with 21.38. Junior Richard Long was next with a 22.42 then came Dick Wallis 23.07, Stephen Roach 23.47, Jon McKaig 24.34, which was a personal best, and Ian Tombleson 24.57. Graham O'Sullivan was our sole representative in the Farnborough & Camberley '25' with a 1.1.43. Ten Paragon riders had entered the Surrey Road CC '25' and Pete Danckwardt showed a welcome return to form with a 57.16 for 2nd place. Ian Murray was 4th in 58.46 and Nigel Everett knocked 4 minutes from his previous best to cross the line in 1.1.04. These three collected the Team award. Other times were by Graham O'Sullivan 1.2.09, Jack Platts 1.2.12, Nick Haynes 1.2.33,

Doug Vacher 1.5.32, and Jon McKaig 1.7.01 (a 4 minute improvement). Jack Platts was also best on Age Standard and Ian Murray was fastest veteran.

In the Unity '25' Harry Featherstone clocked a 55.48, Josh Ansell did a personal best of 56.22 and Dick Wallis 57.45, made up the team. The Paragon also had a team in the De Laune 2-day stage race. In Stage 1, a Team Time Trial, our team of Jon Jennings, Tony Garner, Dillon Adams and Stephen Roach finished in 3rd place. Stage 2, a road race, found Jennings in 7th place and Garner in 18th. Stage 4, a short individual time trial of 5 kms saw Tony Garner at his best with a 6.47 and Jon Jennings with a 6.57. On the last Stage our men wilted a bit with Jon Jennings eventually finishing 10th and Garner 13th. Allison Butler rode a 4-day Stage race in Holland and finished 10th overall. This was an excellent performance.

Josh Ansell had a fine win in the Kent League 50 miles races on the Crowhurst Circuit. He broke away at about half distance and gained 10 seconds. He held and then increased his lead to 40 seconds at the line. Richard Long finished with the main bunch. As a result of this ride he was selected to ride the Gwent Junior Tour Stage race in July for the Kent Division. In the SCCU '10' Pete Danckwardt came 3rd in 22.15 and Ian Tomblason finished in 25.00. On the Sunday morning Pete was the fastest of our seven entries in the South Eastern RC '25'. Pete was 5th fastest in the event with a 57.15. Jack Platts took 1.2.49, Dave Adams 1.3.25, Doug Vacher 1.3.44, Jon McKaig 1.5.38 and a personal best. Graham O'Sullivan rode the Sussex CA '50' and finished in 2.4.05. Harry Featherstone rode the Wessex '50' and produced a season's best of 1.56.26.

Gethin Butler finished 70th in the Milk race after losing a great deal of time on one stage when wrecking his bike in a crash he had to struggle many miles to the Finish on a bike that did not fit him. However after finishing 21st on the last stage in Lincoln he drove straight up to Cockermonth, Cumbria, for the RTTC National 25 miles Championship. To everyone's amazement he finished in 5th place with a 52.16 less than 24 hours after finishing a 10-day stage race. Martyn Dodgson was 14th in 54.40 and Tony Garner 37th in 56.36. This gave the Paragon 2nd team behind the composite GS Strada team.

Tony Garner won the Club Evening '10' on the 9th June in 21.10 from Pete Danckwardt 22.23 and Stephen Roach 23.08. Up in the north Gethin won the Ribble Valley '10' with a 19.47.

The week-end of the 13th/14th June was a week-end that most clubs dream about but has happened fairly frequently in Paragon history. Three Open wins, two team races two new club records and quite a number of personal bests. Gethin Butler won the Finsbury Park '50' in 1.42.05 taking 3 minutes off his own Club Record. Harry Featherstone came in with a 1.54.24 and Dick Wallis 1.58.46 to give us the Team win and a near miss on our own Club Team Record by 1.31. The second victory came from Pete Danckwardt who won the SCCU '50' in 1.57.02 beating Steve Marchant (SERC) by 32 seconds. Nigel Everett produced a personal best of 2.4.41 and with Stephen Roach finishing in 2.5.22 the Paragon won the Roberts Shield again. Rowan

Vacher rode his first 50 for some year and cross the line in 2.7.12, Dave Adams did 2.11.01 and Mark Oliver did his personal best of 2.15.11. Harry Featherstone won the VTTA Surrey/Sussex Vets '25' with a 58.41 that was also good enough to take the Age Standard award as well. Jack Platts clocked a 1.5.01 and they took the Team prize as well. Josh Ansell was 2nd junior in the KCA '10' with a 22.34 and Jeff Wiseman finished in 24.30. On the Sunday in the Basildon he really went for it and finished in 21.32 slicing 11 seconds from Gethin Butler's junior record. This Record still stands! It should be noted though that Tony Garner did go faster with a 21.25.

The Les Ingman road race was held on the Bletchingly circuit. Our men Gethin Butler and Jon Jennings failed to finish feeling the effects of recent efforts. Gethin suffering from the Finsbury Park '50' and Jon from a 'holiday' racing in Holland. Paul Rogers (VC St Raphael) was 1st with his clubmate Mark Sinclair 2nd and Mick Coyle (Festival) 3rd.

Only three riders came to the line for the Evening '10' on the 16th June and only two made it to the Finish. Pete Danckwardt took 23.39 and Mark Oliver 27.56. By the times and numbers of riders it was not a nice evening.

Wednesday evening was the Polytechnic Invitation '25'. The Poly men were looking for fireworks and they got them! Gethin Butler won in a new Club Record time of 47.57 just 38 seconds short of Chris Boardman's Competition Record. In 2nd place was Stuart Dangerfield (49.15) and 3rd Bruce Drew (Wembley) (50.36). Spare a thought for Bruce Drew. Not only did he do a superb ride and collected 3rd place but he was caught 2 minutes by Gethin and dropped! Not only did we have a new Individual record but with Martyn Dodgson finishing with a 52.15 and Harry Featherstone in 54.17 we took the team race with a new Club Team Record of 2.34.29 that has not been bettered. It is still on the books in 2004.

In the Century '25' Josh Ansell was our fastest man in 56.44 taking 3rd junior award on the way. Dillon Adams clocked 58.51, Dick Wallis 59.30 and Terry Hulme 10.41.

On the 21st June Gethin Butler won the Essex CRA '100' in a time of 3.43.52. He was over 20 minutes faster than the 2nd placed man and he won 2nd handicap as well. Martyn Dodgson won the Lancaster CC '50' in 1.54.24 and Neville Pearson finished in 2.8.00 after a lay-off.

The Robin Buchan Silver Salver '25', organised by John Cleeve, was held on the 21st June. Bruce Drew (Wembley) was the clear winner in 55.21 from Pete Hamilton (Express Racing Team) 57.06. The next three places were taken by the Paragon. Tony Garner was 3rd in 58.07, Pete Danckwardt 4th 58.30 and Josh Ansell 5th in 58.53. Josh also took the fastest junior prize and our trio took the Team award. Jane Ibbotson (Festival) with 1.10.27 took the Ladies prize. Other Paragon times were: - Stephen Roach 1.0.48, Gary Adcock 1.2.59, Chris Marshal 1.3.03, Rowan Vacher 1.3.16, Dave Adams 1.3.36, Nigel Everett 1.3.58, Jeff Wiseman 1.4.48, Doug Vacher 1.6.48, Mark Oliver 1.7.09 (personal best), Steve Catley 1.7.18 (persona best), Jon McKaig

1.9.44, Roger Amer 1.10.23 and Richard Keyes 1.13.40. This was Chris Marshal's first race for 2 years following an accident when he broke his leg in several places.

After the Finsbury Park '50' and the Essex CRA '100' great things were expected of Gethin Butler in the National Championship '50' held on the A38 near Chudleigh. However things did not go to plan as Gethin had a bout of sickness that caused him to retire. However to make up for this Martyn Dodgson finished in 12th place with a 1.54.45 and Pete Danckwardt 25th in 2.1.27. Excellent rides on this far from flat course. Tony Garner did a 22.17 in the 34th Nomads '10' on the Saturday 27th June and Chris Marshal clocked a 23 with an unknown number of seconds whilst Jack Platts completed the course in 25.17. Tony then put in a personal best '50' on the Sunday whilst riding the ECCA event. He finished with a 1.56.31. Dick Wallis finished on 1.57.47 and Graham O'Sullivan 2.0.04. Josh Ansell came 3rd in the Redhill CC Minor road race on the Outwood Circuit.

This unfortunate sickness did not deter Gethin Butler from putting in another very fast 100 miles the following week-end. In the Norland event on the 5th July he got within 20 seconds of his personal best with a 3.41.33 to win the race. Martyn Dodgson carved 15 minutes of his previous best with a 4.4.58 and Dick Wallis completed the team race win with a 4.23.14 that included stops for 2 punctures. Gethin also collected the prize for 2nd on handicap.

On the Saturday we had two riders in the CDCA '10' where Tony Garner finished 4th with a 22.42 and Pete Danckwardt came 7th in 23.21. It must have been quite a tear-up at the back of the field as 5 of the fastest riders started in the last 6 minutes!

In the Clarendon 4-up team time trial we had two teams. Jon Jennings, Tony Garner and Josh Ansell clocked a 1.33.06 but were held very close by the 'B' team of Steve Roach, Richard Long, Tony Wade and Gary Adcock who did 1.33.23. Harry Featherstone finished 3rd in the Andover '50' in a slow time for him of 2.3.08. Jack Platts came 2nd on Age Standard in the Unity Vets '25' with a 1.3.15 just beating Chris Marshal on 1.3.43.

The 7th July was the evening set aside for the annual Inter-Club against the Addiscombe. As expected the Paragon lads made mincemeat of the Addiscombe with a team time of 2.18.11 to 2.24.47. Tony Garner was our fastest rider with a 21.53 followed by Dillon Adams, 22.12, Pete Danckwardt 22.29, Steve Roach 23.26, Richard Long 24.04 (finishing on a flat tyre), Dave Adams 24.09, Steve Catley 24.43 and Vin Callanan 28.28. Vin took the Club handicap with an allowance of 8 minutes to give him 20.28. In 2nd place was Steve Catley and 3rd Dillon Adams.

On the Saturday 12th July the Paragon took money from the Addiscombe again when Dillon Adams came 4th in the Addiscombe '10' with a personal best of 22.08. Tony Garner came in with a 22.48 and Richard Long 23.54 to make up the winning team. Dave Adams finished in 24.19. Harry Featherstone had a busy and long week-end. On Thursday he rode the

Antelope '25' finishing in 54.42 and Terry Hulme a 57.44. On Saturday he competed in the Reading CC '25. He did a 55.26 in that and Dick Wallis a 58.16. Then on Sunday he came 3rd in the Brighton Excelsior '25' with a 59.57 and took the Age Standard award. In the Surrey League race at Northchapel Steve Roach came 2nd with Jeff Wiseman 9th and Allison Butler 18th. Josh Ansell finished 8th in the Junior event on the Shillinglee circuit and Mario Manelfi came 25th in the Streatham Velo Summer road race over 80miles. Gethin Butler won the Southport RCC '25' with an event record time of 53.11.

Tony Garner won Tuesday's evening 10 miles effort in 22.04 from Pete Danckwardt, 22.51, and Steve Roach 23.34. Stuart Catley made a personal best of 24.07 and Jon Jennings and Allison Butler got within 10 seconds of their Mixed Tandem record with a 21.36.

Gethin Butler's purple patch of 100 mile ride continued when he won the Goodmayes '100' in a new Club Record time of 3.41.03. He beat last years' 100 miles Champion Matthew Postle and Kevin Dawson, last years' event winner by over 5 minutes. The Paragon also won the Team race with Harry Featherstone finishing in 4.6.33 to take the Age Standard 1st prize and Dick Wallis made up the team with his 4.22.31. Seven paragon riders competed in the Bec '25' with Terry Hulme being the fastest of them with a 1.2.18. Chris Marshall came next with 1.2.55 then Rowan Vacher 1.2.59, Jack Platts 1.3.01 (2nd on Age Standard), Dave Adams 1.3.37, Doug Vacher 1.4.54 and Stuart Catley with a personal best of 1.5.40. Josh Ansell went west to Wales for the Gwent Junior Tour and had a hard time of it but finishing in 40th place.

The purple patch did indeed continue for Gethin Butler when he won the National 100 miles Championship in Lincolnshire. At 75 miles Gethin was some 2 minutes slower than the defending Champion Matthew Postle (Delta) but he put in a typical Butler last 25 miles to cross the line in 3.47.19 to win by just 18 seconds. Kevin Dawson (GS Strada) came 3rd in 3.50.16. Our only other rider was Martyn Dodgson who nevertheless showed his class with a 4.6.26 for 10th place.

Nearer home the Paragon won another team race when Pete Danckwardt riding 100 miles for the first time for some years came 2nd in the SCCU event with a 4.12.25 and so won our Goss Green Cup. Nigel Everett had the misfortune to puncture and lost some 8 minutes putting things to rights but persevered to finish 15th in 4.47.41. Roger Amer clocked 4.55.15 and thereby ensured that the Paragon retained the Sid Gray Shield for another year. Mark Oliver tried 100 miles for the first time and finished in a creditable 5.0.37. Five riders had entered the Essex Roads '50' but both Tony Garner and Harry Featherstone had the misfortune to puncture. Dick Wallis finished in 1.57.22, Terry Hulme 2.2.14 and Jack Platts 2.3.10. Josh Ansell had some bad luck in the Shearshire road race. He timed his effort at the yellow flag at 200m to go only the flag was over twice that distance away from the Finish. Josh 'died' and had to be satisfied with 15th place!

Dillon Adams won the Evening '10' on the 29th July with a 22.11 to beat Josh Ansell by 8 seconds. Gary Adcock was 3rd in 23.11 and Jon Woodcock came in with a personal best of 24.46.

Gethin Butler won the North London '50' but a cool blustery wind put pay to any very fast times. His time was 1.46.35 that beat Kevin Dawson (GS Strada) by 38 seconds. Martyn Dodgson was 3rd in 1.53.04 and Harry Featherstone 7th in 1.56.40. Dick Wallis finished in 2.5.38 and Jack Platts 2.7.58. Harry took the Veterans Age Standard prize and the Paragon took the Team race. Pete Danckwardt was our fastest rider in the Festival '25' with a 59.09. Rowan Vacher clocked a 1.0.49 with Chris Marshal just 10 seconds slower. Dave Adams did a 1.3.20 and Stuart Catley improved to a 1.4.30. Messrs Danckwardt, Vacher and Marshal ensured the Team race came to the Paragon. Josh Ansell and Richard Long rode the National Junior 25 miles Championship with Josh being the better of the two. He did 59.20 for 19th place whilst Richard was 59th with 1.3.16.

A surprise defeat for Gethin Butler came in the Southend & County Whs '50' when Matt Illingworth back from duty with the British Olympic Team beat him by just over a minute. Matt did 1.43.54 to Gethin's 1.44.57. A fresh wind blew up to put pay to very fast times. Harry Featherstone came 3rd in the Veterans National Championship '50' in 1.54.31 and 3rd on Age Standard. Dick Wallis finished in 2.3.16, Jack Platts 2.3.59 and Dave Adams 2.4.58. These times enabled the Paragon to take 2nd Team medals. Josh Ansell came 2nd in the Surrey League race at Kirdford with Ian Murray 4th, Allison Butler and Richard Long were equal 6th whilst Bob Patton, Jeff Wiseman and Dave Woods finished with the main bunch. Tony Garner rode the SCCU Championship on the Lingfield circuit and finished 20th. Martyn Dodgson won a road race on the Cannock course.

On the 16th August Gethin pulled off the double by winning the RTTC National 12 hours Championship on a course in the Norwich area. He did the first 100 miles in 3.56.29 but the tough course and conditions slowed him but he still ran out time with 276.632 miles. This is a new Club record. Martyn Dodgson cruised round with 231.448 miles. Harry Featherstone won the VTTA (London) '100' with a 3.59.12 that was also good enough to take first on Age Standard as well. Dick Wallis finished in 4.25.03.

Stephen Roach won the Club Hill Climb for the Les Black Cup with 4.19 for the climb. Gary Adcock came 2nd in 4.28 and Tony Wade was 3rd in 4.31.

Tony Garner came 5th in the CDCA '10' on the 22nd August with a 22.33. Pete Danckwardt, who was the only other Paragon rider, finished in 23.51. On the Sunday Josh Ansell chatted up Harry Featherstone for some funds as he had left all his at home and then had the temerity to beat him by just 1 second. Josh did 56.06 and Harry 56.07. Tony Garner had the mortification of being sent of course by a marshal before he had even started due to a last minute course change. He was allowed a late, unpenalised, start and came in with a 57.41.

In the Surrey League road race at Rusper Jeff Wiseman crossed the line 9th place just in front of Ray Puttick, 10th, who in turn was just one tyre's width ahead of Allison Butler, 11th.

Gethin Butler hoped to improve on his 276 miles ridden in the National Champion 12 hours event to put him into a winning position in the National BBAr Competition. With this in mind he entered the Poole Whs 12 hours hoping for a 'good' day. As usual Mother Nature did not co-operate. On a day of tremendous wind and rain Gethin covered 279.75 miles to improve his Club Record but it was not enough for him to improve his BBAR position. Just to add to the misery Harry Featherstone had a stomach upset that prevented him even starting so his chances in both National and Veterans Championships were doomed as were our Team chances. Terry Hulme also finished but with training rather than vast distances in mind he covered 203 miles.

Pete Danckwardt finished 2nd in the SCCU BAR and the Paragon won the Team Championship. In the Bedfordshire Roads '25' Dillon Adams came in with a 59.12 and father Dave a 1.3.18. In the De Laune '10' Tony Garner was 3rd in 22.32 with Steve Roach on 24.39, Dave Adams 24.46 and Stuart Catley 26.45. Dave Adams also clocked a 1.4.07 in the East Sussex CA '25'.

The Club Track Championship were held at Reading as Herne Hill was being repaired. Dillon Adams made an almost clean sweep winning the 500m Scratch, the 4000m Pursuit, the 5 miles and Points race. The only gleam of comfort the others had was when Bob Bell won the 500m Handicap. Result of the Championship therefore was 1st Dillon Adams 9pts, Bob Patton 2nd and Bob Bell 3rd.

Harry Featherstone had the only gleam of success in the North Middlesex & Herts 100 miles event. On the 20th September he celebrated his 60th birthday and rode a personal best 100 miles in 3.56.59 that was a VTTA National Age Record. His was the only bright light in a day of gloom and despondency. Gethin's entry went astray and when he phoned up to find out what had happened to the Start Sheet he was expecting he was astounded when the event Organiser asked him who he was and what had he done for 100 miles! One wonders where some of these Race Organisers live! So Gethin could not start. Jon Jennings went off course, Martuyn Dodgson, who was hoping to better his 4.4 ride had spoke breakages and had to desist. Allison Butler and Dick Wallis had puncture problems and Terry Hulme did not start! Not a good day for a lot of the top Paragon People. Others were more fortunate. Josh Ansell finished 7th in the Surrey League 73 miles road race at Ripley. Dave Adams did a 1.0.59 in the Andover Whs '25'.

Since reaching the grand age of 60 Harry Featherstone has had a new lease of life. On the 27th September he set new figures for the VTTA National Age Standard for 60 with a 54.33 in the Edgware '25'. At the other end of the scale junior Richard Long did a personal best of 57.49. The rest of the Club were in disarray with punctures, strain muscles, knees and ligaments. The

last '25' of the year ended in disaster when only Roger Amer managed to finish. His 1.9.43 netted him both the Imperial Whs Cup and the Mayne Cup.

Harry Featherstone keeps going and in the Sotonia '25' he was 6th fastest and took the Age Standard award. The in the VTTA (Wessex) 2-up partnered with Neville Stroud (Antelope) they were both fastest time and winners on Age Standard with a time of 58.29. Anthony Miller provided a pleasant surprise when he won the Junior prize in the Icknield '10' with a personal best time of 23.10. The two Vacher brothers have been riding 2-ups taking 8th place in the Border CA '20' in 46.11 and coming 3rd in the Reading event with a 22.34 a time that won the the veterans prize.

On the 18th October Dillon Adams came 4th in the Surrey League road race at Dunsfold and is within one point of being upgraded to 2nd category. Jeff Wiseman came 12th and Ray Puttick 18th in this event. Harry Featherstone finished his season with a 57.35 in the ECCA (Clubs F-P) '25'.

Dillon Adams won the Club Mountain Bike/Off Road Championship from Jon Jennings and Richard Long at Shirley Hills of the 6th December. The Inter-Club Map Reading was disaster for the Paragon as only Keith Butler rode. Graham O'Sullivan overslept and that took out Vin Callanan as well of three enteries!

George Clare won the Freewheel Competition at Godstone.

In the BBAR Gethin Butler came 2nd to Kevin Dawson with an average of 26.615 to Kevin's 26.777 mph. Martyn Dodgson was placed 49th with an average of 23.603 mph. Dick Wallis was 81st and the Paragon was 3rd in the Team Competition. Josh Ansell came 17th in the Junior BAR with an average of 27.147 mph.

As a result of his performances Gethin Butler was awarded the John Carter Book for 1992.