

# ANFIELD



# CIRCULAR

*Journal of the Anfield Bicycle Club (Formed March, 1879)*

*President:* H. GREEN

*Captain:* D. STEWART

*Hon. Secretary:* F. E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange, West Kirby, Cheshire

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VOLUME LII

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## FIXTURES

### FEBRUARY

- 9 HATCHMERE (Forest Café)  
11 COMMITTEE MEETING, Free Church Centre, Liverpool  
16 DALTON (Prescott's Farm) PLUMBLEY (Smithy Café)  
23 TARVIN (George & Dragon)

### MARCH

- 2 DALTON (Prescott's Farm) SOMERFORD  
9 HATCHMERE (Forest Café)  
11 COMMITTEE MEETING, Free Church Centre, Liverpool  
16 HALEWOOD (Derby Arms)  
23 FIRST "25" Headquarters: Hatton Heath  
30 TARVIN (George & Dragon)

### APRIL

- 6 SECOND "25" Headquarters: Spurstow

## COMMITTEE NOTES

*Change of Address.* E. Snowden, 67, Dorset Road, Bexhill, Sussex.

*Resignations.* The resignations of Messrs. H. S. Barratt and F. Beckett have been accepted with regret.

*Member struck off for non-payment of subscription.* D. Williams.

*Application for membership.* Patrick O'Leary, 10, Gladwyn Road, Little Acton, Wrexham, North Wales. Proposed by F. Marriott, seconded by E. G. Pullan.

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All matter for publication must be written or typed on one side of the paper only and sent to the Editor: K. W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE, so as to reach him not later than the Tuesday before the last Saturday in the month.

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## CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

Over 21, 30s.; Under 21, 15s.; Honorary, a minimum of 10s. and donations to the Prize Fund (unlimited) should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, A. E. C. Birkby, 28 Manor Avenue, Gt. Crosby, Liverpool, 23, or may be paid into any branch of the Midland Bank Ltd. for credit of the Anfield Bicycle Club A/c. 23 Liverpool Road, Great Crosby branch.

The Birthday Run has been arranged for March 16th, *not* March 2nd, as previously announced, at Halewood. George Taylor has promised to come along with coloured slides of Yugoslavia, The Roman Wall, and the Hebrides, and knowing George and his work we are promised a real treat. *Please* make a real effort to come along and, so that the catering department is not unduly embarrassed, a postcard to the Secretary would be appreciated. When this special fixture was first inaugurated some years ago we had a splendid attendance. Jack Walton came over from Yorkshire (we used to see him occasionally then) and Mark Haslam drifted in from Bolton, to name only two of the strangers we were delighted to see. And wouldn't it be nice to see them all again!

**THE BLACK ANFIELDERS.** We can now report that more than 200 copies have been sold, with a steadily increasing sale to outsiders. Fifty or so Anfielders still ignore our plea for them to take copies.

**N.C.U.** Will those who wish their names to go forward for individual affiliation please send their names (and 7/6d.) to the Secretary.

**NEW MEMBERS.** We note that some of our new and young members are not showing themselves as often as we would like them to. Might we remind them that the life of the Club depends on *active* membership?

### RACING NOTES

Two ten mile training "Blinds" are being arranged for 9th February and 9th March on a course near Hatchmere, and another rough-stuff event is on the cards for 23rd February. The start in each case will be 4-30 p.m. or 4-45 p.m.—entries on the line. Don Stewart will be glad to supply any further particulars.

Club events have been arranged as follows:—23rd March (25), 6th April (25), 11th May (50), 22nd June (50), 20th July (25), 7th September (50) and 14th September (25). Headquarters will be Hatton Heath except in the case of two 25 mile events on 6th April and 14th September, which will be based on Spurstow.

Racing men are reminded of No. 1 of Racing Rules which stipulates that "*no member is eligible to receive any Club award unless he has attended at least twenty Club runs during the current year*".

Whit Monday falls on June 10th and Eric Reeves will soon be looking for volunteers to man the "100" course.

### THE BIRTHDAY RUN

This year's Birthday Run has been fixed for 16th March at Halewood. For further details see Committee Notes and please note the revised date and book it now and let us have a real bumper attendance.

## DAN ALBONE

An interesting ceremony took place in Biggleswade at the end of October last, when G. H. Stancer joined with Mr. Cashmore of the National Institute of Agricultural machinery to unveil a plaque in memory of Dan Albone.

The plaque, on the front of the former Ivel Hotel, commemorates the inventor of improvements to tandems and ladies' cycles and also of the first farm tractor, but this unveiling, fifty years after the death of the inventor at the early age of forty-six, is of particular cycling interest.

It was at Dan Albone's residences in Biggleswade, first the Angley Arms and then the Ivel Hotel, that the "fast and far" brigade of those days foregathered and where the idea took root of forming a club to promote races and give them proper organisation. So, in 1885, the North Road Cycling Club came into being with Dan Albone a Founder-Member. From these small beginnings, the meetings of kindred spirits up the road, sprang that great London club which has flourished and kept alive for over seventy years the intentions of its founders: "To promote fast and long distance riding on the Great North and other roads".

## IN MEMORY OF "ROBBIE"

The Birmingham D.A. of the C.T.C. has launched a W. M. Robinson ("Wayfarer") Memorial Fund through which they hope to provide a garden or seats in memory of our late member. Donations and suggestions as to the form the memorial might take may be sent to the Secretary of the Fund:—

Mr. E. N. Chown, I, Howard Road, Great Barr, Birmingham, 22a.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

The Triennial Dinner of the Road Records Association will be held in the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, on Saturday, 9th March 1957. Tickets, price 22/-, are obtainable from W. H. Townsend, 100 Betham Road, Greenford, Midds.

Frank Chandler had a sharp attack of bronchitis and pleurisy at Christmas, but is out and about again and was spotted astride his trike on the evening of the Parkgate Ladies' Night.

Stan Wild enjoyed two Club runs during a trip north at Christmas despite the foul weather and the fact that he arrived back in Bexhill to find that the scene of his exile had enjoyed sunshine for most of the holiday. On January 12th he attended the Century Road Club Dinner under the wing of Reg Turner and reports being kept liberally supplied with neck-oil by Jack Beauchamp and Boffin, who seemed anxious to return Anfield hospitality at Whitsun. There was a fine attendance of cycling personalities including G.H.S. in the chair, H. H. England, Jenner, Dougall, Purvis, Rossiter and that fabulous tandem pair of yester-year, the Stott brothers.

Percy Williamson has been elected an auditor of the Cheshire Road Club accounts, which will be kept, for the thirtieth successive year, by Arthur Wood. This is a grand record of service ranking with that given to the Anfield by the late, and great, Bob Knipe.

#### RUNS

##### HALEWOOD, 1ST DECEMBER 1956

There were twelve at Halewood on this December Saturday to do justice to the usual Christmas dinner and a thoroughly enjoyable evening it was. Frank Chandler, Eddie Morris, Len Hill, Rigby Band, Albert Preston and Percy Williamson gathered with our President in the bar for a pre-dinner drink, and how well it went down after a three-hour ride, not to mention a water trip by transporter.

Others around the cheerful dinner table were Frank Perkins, Fred Churchill, Bill Clayworth, Jack Newton and George Parr.

Fred told us something of his recent tour in Yugoslavia, which brought some reminiscences of a visit to that country from Bert. There is something very pleasant in these Halewood winter meetings which makes them different from other runs.

It was all too soon when the time came for the Manchester trio to depart. Bert had arrived at Halewood without rear light but after a serious operation the bulb had been changed only to find on the homeward journey that there was little light in the front lamp but a brilliant red glow from the rear.

The day was dry and the following wind welcome even if it did make us overheated. A good "do" for any day in December.

##### MIDDLEWICH, 1ST DECEMBER 1956

Only two members—Walter Thorpe and George Taylor—attended, which was perhaps just as well, as tea had not been booked. However, the Woodlands knocked up a reasonable meal, after which the club rode back in a body as far as Wilmslow, discoursing the while on photography.

##### HATCHMERE, 8TH DECEMBER 1956

A calm, warm day, with dry roads were Nature's gift for the day, along with a considerable reduction in the volume of traffic due to the Government's folly (or otherwise). Under these favourable conditions, ten cyclists made their way to the Forest Café to sample excellent cooking and baking, the volume of food produced being greater than the volume consumed.

The discussion ranged from Olympic cycling, via the racket in the car repair trade, to the velocity of light.

Bert Wood had a great battle with £ s. d. before coming to a correct solution for the cost of the meal, his efforts giving him a good training for the Treasury.

The members in attendance were Bert Green, Percy Williamson, Bren Orrell, Alf Howarth, John Futter, Don Williams, Guy Pullan, Fred Churchill, Bert Wood and John Parr.

## DELAMERE, 15TH DECEMBER 1956

The clouds were looking ominous as I dashed home from work, nearly knocking our esteemed Secretary off a "zebra" crossing in Waterloo !

Delamere, thirty-three miles, could I do it by 5-30? A flying start on the 2-40 train from Crosby landed me in Birkenhead by about 3-15 via the Tunnel. Down came the rain and my legs were beginning to feel like lead as I toiled painfully through Bromborough. The adverse wind was rising and great was the temptation to pack at Sutton as I was making very little progress. The sight of another cyclist in similar distress would have given me fresh encouragement, but the roads were deserted excepting a few motorists who were using up the last of their fuel before the commencement of rationing. One thought kept me going, our worthy President would be splashing through similar conditions somewhere on the way at eighty-two years of age (or thereabouts)—so there must be no return yet !

All things come to an end and I was thankful for the ten minutes respite from the rain whilst I climbed Kelsall Hill capeless. One mile from "Four Ways" I was compelled to cape again but was soon squelching into the cheerful dining hall greeting Bert, Percy and Wood—time, 6 p.m.

The rather belated meal worked wonders, and after a short bask in front of a log fire we were ready for the road once more, all hoping for a favourable wind. The conditions on the return journey gave me the impression that this had veered towards the west which should have benefitted the Manchester contingent. The moon gave us a cheerful send-off but this was short-lived, my cape being on and off all night.

## KIRKBY, 22ND DECEMBER 1956

If there is anything attractive about a cycle ride from Wirral to Kirkby, I should like to know. Granted the run through Wirral is pleasant, Gayton, Barnston, Storeton, etc.—but the rest ! On this day it rained as well, and the "tit bits" were neither pleasant nor visible because of the mist, which necessitated a cape and the poor visibility necessitated keen observance, anyway I suppose it could have been worse. And now, the Birkenhead boat runs only every twenty minutes (and you're bound to miss 'em). Then came Liverpool! thick smog and the road got itself lost at Bootle. The smog has one blessing however in that it shuts out the hideousity of Liverpool's dock and slum land. Eventually we arrived at the dear old Cottage Café, whose bright lights were welcome and always a grand reception is provided. The knives and forks were grinding hard, "Anfielders at work", and nowt was said until the work was nearing completion.

Alf Howarth was in fine linguistic fettle prior to his removal to Rotherham, but he moaned the fact that he would be away from Anfieldland. With Peter Jones studying at York, Sid Carver organising at Hull, Brian Wright testing at Stalybridge, J. G. Shaw living at Sheffield and the ace organiser himself lecturing at Rotherham—where's the snag—Yorkshire Club runs—Mr. President, please. (The rose could change its colour).

Guy and I rode home together and after such a pleasant evening, I realized what had moved me to ride through the aforementioned horror to sup with the boys. John Parr and the Captain rode off together, Rigby alone to Ormskirk, George Parr and Frank Marriott bussed back to town.

#### PRESTBURY, 22ND DECEMBER 1956

The run to Prestbury on the Saturday preceding Christmas remains one of my happiest memories of Anfield club life. It will be readily understood, therefore, that having arranged to visit Manchester during the festive season I was determined to put in an appearance at the White House. Actually it required quite a lot of determination to achieve my desire. Heavy rain was falling through a fog of such opacity that visibility was nil. I thought of Noel Coward's "mad dogs and Englishmen, who go out in the midday sun" having nothing on Anfielders, who go out in the Christmas smog!

Well-known Cheshire landmarks were passed in the gloom without recognition, and quite honestly the best thing of the afternoon was my arrival in Prestbury's brilliantly lighted main street, redolent with the spirit of Christmas. In the White House Bert Green and Walter Thorpe were found toasting themselves in front of the fire—what an excellent pastime on such an afternoon! Very soon our party was complete and we were sitting down to a splendid meal in the most cheerful of dining rooms.

Understandably enough, the attendance was not as high as usual, the weather and petrol shortage exacting its toll on those members who normally, on this Yuletide fixture, bring along their ladies. Mrs. Hubert was the only lady present, and that, of course, gave us double pleasure. Firstly, for her own good company, and secondly, because it meant that Hubert would be on his best behaviour. Hubert, of course, leads a double existence. With his wife he is Dr. Jekyll; what he is like without her can be left to your imagination! I was delighted to meet our member for Macclesfield, Frank Smith, for the first time, although it is a fact that our respective wives are acquainted.

A most enjoyable occasion until time made it necessary for us to plunge once more into the fog-shrouded countryside and grope our miserable way homewards.

Those present: H. Green, H. G. and Mrs. Buckley, A. Gorman, J. Newton and youngster, F. Smith, W. Thorpe and S. Wild.

## DELAMERE, BOXING DAY, 26TH DECEMBER 1956

A white Christmas, the first for a number of years, left me in two minds about attending the run. Anyway, a ride round the block was sufficient to convince me that the roads were not too bad—so off I set.

Near Tarbock I met Arthur Birkby and Bill McWhinnie nose to tail on their trikes—and both had that smug look on their faces, as if to say—ha! ha! it's going to be fun when he falls off.

But I had the first laugh as Arthur went through an act which was a cross between Margot Fonteyn, the ballerina, and Gloria Nord, the skater, when he met with a particularly slippery stretch as we walked up the ramp on to the railway bridge at Widnes.

Capes were stowed away into saddle bags at Runcorn and while Bill and I warmed the inner man from the contents of a small bottle, Arthur stuffed himself with hisso-called vitamin pills—namely, Zubes.

The ride to Frodsham was uneventful over clean but wet roads, but after Frodsham packed snow and slush made riding a little more tricky. Just before 1-30 we arrived at Delamere to see Stan Wild—up from the sunny South. Harry Duck and Ben Griffiths appeared from the Abbey Arms, whilst around the fire inside the restaurant were Bert Green, Jack Newton, Walter Thorpe, Alan Gorman and a friend, Joe Ashton. The fire looked inviting but was not really big enough to warm the large room. This was the weak link on the run, because above the clink of cutlery, and champing of jaws, could be heard the stamping of feet in an endeavour to keep warm. The usual Christmas fare was served but quite naturally we did not linger too long after the meal, and so just before three o'clock we split up—myself to plough a lonely furrow home.

The thaw had set in and riding to Hatchmere was a bit tricky, but afterwards the pedals were soon swinging at a merry rate, which enabled my Boxing Day run to end just before lighting up time.

## TARVIN, 29TH DECEMBER 1956

The last week in December is a curious odd end of time left dangling between Christmas Day and the New Year. Now is the time of reaction from the Christmas good will; now doth the surfeited reveller, weary unto death, and bilious into the bargain, want nothing more than to sit and rest in sloth and acidity. It was at this time that the Anfield held a club run to Tarvin with the express purpose of inducing its members to shake off the unworthy torpor of the season, and pedal away in search of fresh air and restored spirits.

In the afternoon the weather was quite reasonable; rain and thaw had disposed of most of the snow and, though the sun was not exactly blazing down, it was not really cold—indeed, later, in the cosiness of the George & Dragon, one brave soul remarked that he had considered removing his gloves. Certain wise men from the East also informed the company that they had been conveyed to the spot by a rushing

and mighty wind. It was in these not unfavourable conditions that your scribe decided to quit his mountain fastness and venture into the lowlands. On the road from Harwarden to Chester, at the Broughton crossroads, a furiously pedalling figure was seen, which might have been Don Williams off a'courting at Warrington; but the figure's astonishing rate of progress rendered all thought of pursuit quite impracticable. In Chester a kerb-skimming bus, which had earlier occasioned the writer a moment of misgiving, stopped to disgorge another Anfielder in John Futter, accompanied by his lady wife and a shopping bag. After parting from the Futtlers the ride from Chester to Tarvin *was accomplished without stopping*.

In the George and Dragon after a pleasant meal, the company settled round the fire to talk. A chance remark on food began a conversation which quickly turned to dirty food, and graduated through grape crushing to unsuspected sewers. Eventually—and inevitably—the talk moved to frame angles, wheelbase lengths and other bicycle matters. The mathematical Alf Howarth revealed that for time trial purposes light wheels are a disadvantage since the heavier the wheel the more momentum there is available. He would be very grateful if any member who knows where two cylinders of the type used on steam-rollers can be acquired would contact him without delay.

When the company at last broke up to venture out into a most uninviting drizzle, your scribe was relegated to the rear of the westward bound group, and he found the ride to Chester not too arduous.

Present at the George and Dragon were the President, and Messrs. J. R. Band, R. B. Griffiths, L. J. Hill, A. Howarth, D. Jones, J. P. Jones, G. Lockett, G. B. Orrell, J. Parr, P. Williamson, H. Wood and D. B. Wright.

#### GOOSTREY, 5TH JANUARY 1957

After a very tough ride into the wind, I arrived about 5-30 p.m. at West End Café, accompanied by Stan Bradley, whom I had met soon after leaving home. We were the first arrivals and Mrs. Bates showed us into a very cosy small room with a nice fire and a Christmas tree. We were soon followed by the President, P. Williamson and Bert Wood, who completed the party.

A very satisfying meal was served, consisting of pork, stuffing, and apple sauce, brown and white bread, trifle and fruit salad, scones, fancy cakes and tea, all for the modest sum of 4/-.

Stan left directly after tea, to be followed by the rest about 7-0 p.m. With a following wind the writer found the homeward run much more enjoyable than the outward journey.

Members present were the President, P. Williamson, S. Bradley, B. Wood and J. Newton.



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*Journal of the Anfield Bicycle Club (Formed March, 1879)*

President: H. GREEN

Captain: D. STEWART

Hon. Secretary: F. E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange, West Kirby, Cheshire

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## FIXTURES

### APRIL

- 6 SECOND "25". Headquarters: SPURSTOW  
8 COMMITTEE MEETING, Free Church Centre, Liverpool  
13 LITTLE BUDWORTH. Red Lion Hotel  
19/22 EASTER TOUR. Headquarters: Sun Hotel, Llansantffraid-yn-Mechain  
20 KIRKBY (Cottage Café) SOMERFORD (Sunnyside Café)  
27 DARESBUURY (Old Vicarage)

### MAY

- 4 HATCHMERE (Forest Café)  
11 FIRST "50". Headquarters: Halton Heath

## COMMITTEE NOTES

*Easter Tour.* The Secretary is now taking names. Book your bed now. Members will recollect that we first sampled the Sun Hotel under its present ownership last October, and found it very good.

*Whitsuntide.* Members desirous of staying at the Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury, for the week-end are reminded that individual bookings are necessary, and that these should be made as soon as possible. Block bookings by the Club are not acceptable to the management.

*Attendance Records.* Will those who write the runs for the CIRCULAR each week please make a point of naming all those present, including themselves. Until the Secretary can get out more often he relies on the CIRCULAR to keep his records up to date.

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## TREASURY NOTES

The absence in the CIRCULAR of those happy little "reminders", for which Bob Knipe was so famous, may be giving members the impression that subscriptions and donations are coming in fast and furious. This is not so. More than 75% of the amount due by 1st December last is still outstanding, in spite of heart-breaking personal appeals and dire threats.

Rule 25 clearly states that the renewal subscription shall be paid by 1st December each year.

The "Anfield" cannot pay its way with mere "lip service", and it is hardly fair to the regulars who make a point of remitting within the prescribed period.

Naturally it is realized that *occasionally* circumstances make this impracticable, but not to the extent of being one and sometimes two years late! So, if this applies to you, please shake me rigid with an unprecedented shower of renewals: the postman and I can stand it!

Perhaps I'd better make sure that my own is paid after this wail!

A.E.C.B.

## "HANDS TO DANCE AND SKYLARK"

The order "Hands to dance and skylark" was used in the Royal Navy during long voyages in the days of sail when the Captain thought his ship's company needed some fun and games to liven them up.

In March the Anfield voyage enters its seventy-ninth year, but no such order from the quarter-deck is necessary. Right down the years there has been a weekly session of fun and games up the road on Saturdays, whilst for good measure, mid-week gatherings of Saughall Beer-biters, Willaston Tea Tasters and their modern counterparts have done much to dispel gloom and despondency.

Yet it is well from time to time to hold a special spree particularly if it draws into the circle of regulars those who, for various reasons, are seen but infrequently. What better excuse could there be than the seventy-eighth birthday of the Club which will be celebrated in true Anfield fashion at a house with well over half-a-century's connection with the Club.

Once again then the old order goes forth:—

"*ALL hands to dance and skylark*", DERBY ARMS, HALEWOOD, 16th MARCH 1957.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Miss Edith Courvoisier, one of the well known lady tricyclists seen so often round the Wirral, met with a serious accident on the first Saturday night of February, when she was in collision with a van near Hooton cross roads, sustaining injuries which included a fractured skull.

The Cheshire Road Club have suggested an Inter-Club "25" with the Anfield. The idea has been welcomed by the Committee and details are now being worked out.

Years ago the Club was a regular visitor to Daresbury and we return there on April 27th, when tea will be taken at the Old Vicarage Hotel. Catering is once again being undertaken at the Red Lion, Little Budworth, the venue for April 13th and this will be another welcome return to a favourite haunt. A wide choice of suitable tea places makes for an attractive fixture list and the Captain, Don Stewart will be glad of suggestions.

The need to bring the activities of the Club to the notice of prospective members was under discussion recently in Committee and it was mentioned that one of the best advertisements is the Club badge which should be worn on all possible occasions. With the possible exception of bathing trunks, most costumes provide some conspicuous spot for the Anfield button, and this is an easy way in which everyone can help to publicise the Club.

Those members who like to read of country ways would do well to make the acquaintance of John Moore, a Gloucestershire writer of rare charm and keen insight into everything pertaining to the countryside. An hour or two by the fire with his *Come rain, come shine, Brensham Village* and other works will bring alive memories of days spent in the lovely English countryside.

If the *Municipal Journal* (22.2.57) is to be believed it was the Welsh Turnpike Act which provided that the Turnpike Commissioners should meet on the first Monday of each month and continue their business on the following day provided that the following day was not a Sunday, Good Friday or Christmas Day.

Eric Reeves has already started on the preliminary preparations for the "100" and offers of help cannot be in too early. Those members who wish to stay at the Lion, Shrewsbury, are reminded of the Secretary's advice, under 'Committee Notes', to book direct as soon as possible. There can be no block booking of beds by the Club, so you have been warned!

From time to time since the publication of our History we have commented on the absence of notice taken by our local press. We must now withdraw all the hard things we have said as it transpires that a lengthy review appeared in the sports edition of the *Liverpool Echo* on Saturday, 16th June last. Somehow this was missed and we were unaware of its publication. If any member has a spare copy of the cutting it would be appreciated by the Editor.

## R U N S

HALEWOOD, 5TH JANUARY 1957

The horrible realisation dawned on me some short time ago that I had not written up the Halewood run for 5th January, and I can't remember a thing about it.

"Never mind," Bert Green would say, "It doesn't matter whether it's true as long as it's funny."

"And short", puts in the Editor. "And you mention everybody", adds some other cynic.

Right, then : 1. Untrue. 2. Funny. 3. Short. 4. Mention everybody. Here goes :

I rode out into the teeth of a howling gale at a steady 25 m.p.h.

After a while, Ray Booty, who was with me, turned back as he couldn't stand the pace. I continued to pedal smoothly and effortlessly for the rest of my 150 mile detour, and arrived at Halewood exactly on time. I went into the bar and bought several rounds of drinks. Now for a true bit : a panic-stricken Treasurer suddenly realised that Bryan Wright is due for a Club standard for his 2.11.57, so mucking up all the books; then the ashen-faced aforesaid Bryan appeared spectre-like in the doorway, staggered forward a few steps and sank slowly and gracefully into a chair which happened to be under him at the time, after a day out "getting the rough off".

Well, we all went upstairs for tea where I was unlucky enough to be the last one to receive a portion of chicken. It was heart-warming to see the way the others tried to make me take theirs and then when I eventually finished up with a whole leg to myself, loud were their congratulations on my good fortune.

This Anfield spirit is truly a fine thing . . . . .

At this stage someone asked for an offer to write the run up. The silence was immediately broken by men shouting, fighting for the honour, pleading with tears in their eyes; but I, lucky one, caught his eye and was chosen !

Those attending were F. E. Marriott, A. E. C. Birkby, A. Preston, D. Stewart, G. Parr, J. J. Davies, E. G. Pullan, J. C. Futter, R. B. Griffiths, D. B. Wright, J. Parr, D. Jones and A. Howarth.

Well now, kiddywinkies, how many of those four conditions have I satisfied in this account ? Enter for this bumper competition now ! Send your entries to Uncle Alfie, Formby, enclosing some small token such as (a) a Morris Minor '1000', or (b) a hair from *that beard*, or (c) Sabrina. First prize, a lovely tricycle !

HATCHMERE, 12TH JANUARY 1957

As a run attender these days I am the worst. I go to Delamere on Boxing Day, then get the 'flu, so this week I felt it was time I showed a leg.

A brisk afternoon found me turning off at the old mill to call on Len Hill and after a cup of tea whilst he was getting ready we were off with a smashing wind astern.

It was an ideal day for a doddle through the lanes via Mollington, Craughton and Stoak with a quiet stroll up Manley Bank then the drift down Mouldsworth Bank to the acute turn for the rising road through the Forest, moonlit and mysterious.

Cycling at its best we agreed and never stopped gassing until we reached the Mere.

The warm cheery café greeted us on this, my first, visit, and it was New Year's greetings all round before nine of us sat round gossiping and eating. The food was endless and excellent so roll up you hungry wolves.

Seven o'clock found us ready for the road; Len, Ted, Peter and I retraced our outward steps to Mickle Trafford, where Peter left with a promise to see us again at half-term. Ted and I led the way into the lanes but we missed the left hand turn that was to keep us off the main road so we were faced with that awful grind from Thornton to Stanney where we agreed to turn off and make our way via Rivacre and Hooton. After walking alongside Hooton Park whilst enjoying a fag we eventually made the Nag's Head for a quick one, then home through Whitehouse Lane which Ted will go to any lengths to avoid. We hope he arrived home without the whale of a hammering he promised himself.

Those present on this run were Bert Green, Len Hill, Percy Williamson, Bren Orrell, Jack Salt, Peter Jones, Bert Wood, Ted England and Don Stewart.

#### PARKGATE, 19TH JANUARY—LADIES' NIGHT

Twenty-eight members and friends, but not really enough members, sat down to ham and tongue salad at the annual ladies' night.

Bert Green, the sole Manchester representative, presided over the gathering and welcomed the following ladies: Mrs. Salt, Mrs. Birkby, Mrs. Band, Mrs. Parr, Mrs. Rock and son, Mrs. Hill, daughter and friend, Mrs. Marriott, Mrs. Futter and Mrs. Stewart, all accompanied by their non-cycling husbands. The cyclists completing the gathering were Ken Rolls, an ex-secretary of the Chester D.A., C.T.C., who later entertained with an excellent selection of slides; Guy Pullan, Ted England, Ginner Williams, John Leece and prospective member Pat O'Leary, from Wrexham.

After the excellent meal and ensuing conversations, the tables were stripped bare, stored in the corner and the lantern put in position. Instead of going continental Ken Rolls took us on a tour of Cheshire, Shropshire, the Clwyds, Berwyns and Snowdonia. During the showing Jack and Frank brought back their own memories of rough stuff crossings in the same areas, but when our mythical tour headed north to the Lakes and Scotland there was an uncanny silence. I suppose the main reason for this is that it is a bit too far away and the Liverpool—Preston road makes very uninteresting riding.

Peter Rock then showed a few slides taken last summer around Oban, much to the delight of young Stephen, who saw himself on the screen as a budding film star. Finally Guy Pullan relived a few moments of rides through Cheshire and an autumnal tour centred on Carl Birkby's hideout at Hirnant.

All too soon the time came to depart, the petrol rationing making it necessary for the visitors to patronise the local bus services, whilst the cycling party no doubt enjoyed their ride through the cold night air.

DALTON, 26TH JANUARY, 1957

The run to Dalton was convenient for me to include a spot of training. So it was that I found myself along with John Bond of Southport R.C., sitting on the back wheels of ace road men Peter Ward and Bill Bradley, *en route* for the Rivington area.

Tarleton was passed, and legs were now moving with a fast easy rhythm. First Crosten, then Euxton were rapidly left behind and very soon Chorley also. As we descended towards the Rivington reservoir, the sun was shining making the lake look like a huge silver mirror, bordered by a brown frame, of dead bracken and leafless trees. But alas there was no time to stop to look at the view, for there is a hill in front and it must be climbed.

Bill and Peter went away on the hill, leaving John and myself to struggle up the best we could. We regrouped on the descent to Belmont from where our route lay back to Chorley by way of Old Man's Hill, not much of a climb from the Belmont side but the descent on the other side is long and fast so that we found difficulty in keeping up with the pedals on our small fixed gears.

Along the road from Chorley to Croston I said good-bye to my companions and turned my wheels towards Dalton, my pace slowing immediately. I arrived at Prescott's Farm to find Fred Churchill, Harry Clayworth, Arthur Birkby and Frank Perkins, sat around a large fire. Just as we were settling down to pay our respect to the meal, Rigby Band arrived, excused for lateness by his long ride from Ormskirk. The meal, which lived up to the best Dalton standards, was interrupted by a sudden shower, which sent us all running to put our bikes under cover. The feed completed we settled down around the fire to listen to Fred and Arthur disagree about chamber music while Harry related a few reminiscences of friends of his, who have been murdered or murdered somebody.

Quite a strong wind had risen by the time we were setting off for home but it was not long before I was looking back over a most enjoyable day from the comfort of a hot bath.

Members out were Rigby Band, Arthur Birkby, Fred Churchill, Harry Clayworth, Frank Perkins and Bryan Wright.

HALEWOOD, 2ND FEBRUARY, 1957

After a succession of wet and windy week-ends it was a pleasure to find myself gliding along almost effortlessly in company with Brian Wright and Alf Howarth. The sun was shining brightly as we sped through Aintree towards Roby, where we called for the elusive Peter Robinson. Unfortunately he was out, probably doing a little crafty training!

Almost too soon we were at the "Derby Arms" and greeting the first arrivals, Jack Davies, Fred Churchill, Harry Clayworth, Don Stewart, Guy Pullan and prospective member O'Leary.

Hopes for a good muster ran high as more bodies were reported on the way. George and John Parr, Ted England, Frank Chandler, Len Hill and almost last, but certainly not least, the Hon. Sec. himself. Percy ushered in the President who was closely followed by our old friend Eddie Morris. Truly a grand gathering !

Churchill dropped a mild squib by asserting in his usual disarming manner that scientists generally lacked mental stability, or was it that their intelligence was of a particularly low standard ! Anyway, Guy, who claimed to have had more than a nodding acquaintance with a number of these social outcasts agreed and soon a full scale argument was in progress. Our Rotherham scientist, eyes flashing defiance, waded in and as the dinner gong sounded, above the babel of voices I caught fragments such as "ethics", "humanitarian", "Atomic power", and "Marilyn Munroe", the latter expression suggesting that the topic was assuming a more normal level!

John Parr told us that he had had a spill while descending Pendle Hill; with bated breaths we enquired whether his bicycle had suffered, but were relieved to learn that only bodily injury had been sustained —not a scratch on the machine !

The usual meal of nearly pre-war quality was enjoyed, the almost continuous laughter from the younger generation, which, incidentally, included the President, testified to the success of a really enjoyable run.

We were sorry to hear that Frank Chandler had not been up to the mark, so much so that he was off his food and couldn't smoke his pipe—to judge by the speed at which his roast beef, potatoes and Christmas pudding disappeared he must be on the road to recovery. One hesitates to think what inroads he would have made into Sarah's pantry had he been on the top of his form !

Yes, it was quite a promising turnout but there were still a number of "regulars" missing whom we would like to have seen.

#### HATCHMERE, 9TH FEBRUARY, 1957

Peter Robinson and the Captain were awheel early heading for Cheshire, with a view to finding new eating houses for Club runs. Though this part of the run did not prove very successful, only two or three possible places turning up, the weather held and an enjoyable ride ensued. Later on in the afternoon down came the rain to wash out the proposed '10'.

From Runcorn our route led through Daresbury, Hatton, Lower Whitley, Comberbach and Northwich then through a maze of lanes to acton Bridge and Weaverham. On to Cuddington the road led to Whitegate, Little Budworth and Beeston for lunch.

There was a fair amount of activity in the Bunbury-Peckforton area and from the sounds of dogs barking and a sight of riders in scarlet we gathered a foxhunt was in progress.

They were tearing around the countryside like madmen—a similar comparison can be made to racing cyclists—and I sincerely hope the fox gave them a good run for their money. The mild winter up to now no doubt accounted for the young lambs also seen in this area.

(An interesting theory which Alf and his scientific friends, mentioned earlier, would probably consider as biologically unsound. Ed.)

Across to Tattenhall and finally Huxley, Wellington and the forest brought us to Hatchmere.

It had been the intention to run a '10', but at the appointed time only John Parr and Peter were ready to start and since it was raining heavily I had no difficulty in persuading them not to. The cancelling of the event left us early for the meal so cups of tea were consumed on the arrival of Harry Duck.

Eventually the party grew to fifteen, a good turnout which rather surprised our hostess. Nevertheless she rose to the occasion with her excellent home-cooking. Over the past few weeks there has been a steady increase in numbers attending runs, so keep it up and let us see a few more people who used to be regular and not so regular attenders.

The party was completed by the arrival of Bert Green with Percy and Bert Wood discussing some football team called Manchester Disunited. Mark Haslam was talking of a proposed visit to Norway, and Jack Salt was just eating. Arthur Birkby's eyes lit up when someone said: "Oh is that the Treasurer?" and John Futter, Bren (Senior), Guy Pullan, Pat O'Leary, and late arrival Ted England, brought the number to fifteen.

As per usual topics of conversation varied, my own ears hearing snippets of racing, touring, mining and new frames, as I collected the lolly.

At seven o'clock the party broke up with John, Peter and I making for Runcorn after unsuccessfully trying to persuade Arthur to throw away his return rail ticket from Liverpool to Crosby. He was not having any and so rode home with the Wirral party. Near Runcorn John developed a crank which started to swing at ten to six instead of six o'clock, but apart from this the run ended quietly on a now dry night.



# ANFIELD



# CIRCULAR

*Journal of the Anfield Bicycle Club (Formed March, 1879)*

*President:* H. GREEN

*Captain:* D. STEWART

*Hon. Secretary:* F. E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange, West Kirby, Cheshire

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VOLUME LII

APRIL 1957

NUMBER 608

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## FIXTURES

### MAY

- 4 HATCHMERE (Forest Café)
- 5 RIVINGTON HALL BARN. Lunch. 1 p.m.
- 11 FIRST "50" (H.Q., Hatton Heath)
- 13 COMMITTEE MEETING, Free Church Centre, Liverpool
- 18 TARVIN (George and Dragon)
- 25 BEESTON BROOK (Mrs. Salisbury, Ye Olde Cyclists' Rest)

### JUNE

- 1 HATCHMERE (Forest Café)
- 8/10 WHITSUNTIDE TOUR. OPEN "100". (H.Q., Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury)
- 15 LITTLE BUDWORTH (Red Lion). Photograph Run

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Over 21, 30s.; Under 21, 15s.; Honorary, a minimum of 10s. and donations to the Prize Fund (unlimited) should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, A. E. C. Birkby, 28 Manor Avenue, Gt. Crosby, Liverpool, 23, or may be paid into any branch of the Midland Bank Ltd. for credit of the Anfield Bicycle Club A/c. 23 Liverpool Road, Great Crosby branch.

## COMMITTEE NOTES

*Whitsuntide Tour.* Members are again reminded that it is *essential* that accommodation at the Lion Hotel is booked direct.

*New Member.* Mr. Patrick O'Leary, 10, Gladwyn Road, Little Acton, Wrexham.

Members with long memories might recollect a white tandem crewed by a pair of identical twins as a feature of our runs at the turn of the twenties. Pat was one of them, and we are now delighted to welcome his return to the fold.

*Application for Membership.* Mr. Alex Beaton, c/o Greenmount Farm, Kinghorn Road, Burntisland, Fife. Proposed by Frant Marriott, seconded by K. W. Barker.

*Change of Address.* R. Wilson, 4 Norley Avenue, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.

*The Black Anfielders.* Those members who have not yet obtained their copies are reminded that they are still waiting for them at T. Stephenson & Sons Ltd., Printers, Prescott, Lancs., at 22/- post free. We are still not quite out of the red.

## RACING NOTES

A fresh season is with us and Den Jones recorded a personal best of 1.8.12 in the Melling Wheelers M.G. "25". John Futter punctured and finished with a 1.9 and Bryan Wright recorded 1.18.

The Club "10" (probably near "10½" and including an ascent of Kelsall hill) on March 9th, was won by Den Jones on a 73-in. gear in 29.44 with Ben Griffiths second in 31.52 and John Parr on a 61-in. gear third in 33 minutes.

An Inter-Club "25" with the Cheshire Roads Club will be on Saturday, 29th June on the Highwayside course which is as near as possible central for their riders and ours. The first four riders on handicap times will count as teams. Don Stewart will be chasing up the racing lads about entering and will require a few non-racing men for stewarding jobs.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Through the Mayor of Pulford we hear that Lionel Price is turkey farming near Newbury and still rides a bicycle as far as the letter-box; longer journeys are done by station waggon.

Jack Davies has had quite a serious operation in the Liverpool Royal Infirmary but is making good progress and we hope he will soon be out and about.

Our old friend Ever Bright has also been having a spell in hospital at Barnett and we wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

The Bath Road Club have decided that the new cup for their classic "100" shall be a perpetual trophy with a special prize for triple winners.

June will be a particularly busy month this year with the "100" on Whit Monday, the 10th, followed by the Photo Run at Little Budworth on the 15th and an inter club "25" with the "Chesh" on Saturday, the 29th on a course near Highwayside.

It is hoped that the venue will be the Travellers' Rest and that photographers will bring their boxes of tricks.

Guy Pullan, the Editor and others who find Tuesday inconvenient for a week-night run are shortly to meet on Wednesday evenings at the Eureka Café, Two Mills, for tea and talk.

Cyril Rowson recently entertained the Liverpool D.A., C.T.C., at their clubroom with a talk and film strip entitled *Railway Oddities*.

Whilst some of the lads were toiling up Kelsall hill in the ten mile training blind on March 9th Bert Green was journeying to London for the Triennial Dinner of the Road Records Association.

In addition to changing his abode (as noted elsewhere) Reg Wilson has been on shiftwork and overtime but hopes to be able to get out again soon.

The Holmwood Café at Spurstow is up for sale and we hope the new owners will be carrying on as before, for this has been a popular venue and we had intended to base two of this year's club events there.

Apologies to those whose contributions have been cut to fit this four page issue and to Don Stewart and Fred Churchill, whose reports have been held over. Insufficient material for eight pages meant "padding" or saving £4. We thought of Arthur Birkby and decided to "cut".

## RUNS

DALTON, 16TH FEBRUARY 1957

Alf Howarth, Fred Churchill and Rigby Band were the only members who braved the elements this dirty afternoon. They were joined by John Allcroft of the "Chesh", who had come over hoping to see Don Stewart regarding the proposed inter-club "25".

TARVIN, 23RD FEBRUARY 1957

Seven Anfielders got a ducking on this Tarvin run, the liquid which cascaded from the heavens being augmented by that thrown at them by passing motorists. Bert Green came out to try and shed a cold and Don Stewart, the super optimist, was looking for victims for a training "10". Salty related the sequel to a recent article (by

F.E.M.) in *Cycling*, and the party was completed by Bren Orrell, Bert Wood, John Futter and John Parr. By the time these seven stalwarts were ready for the homeward road the weather had improved and a much more pleasant ride was enjoyed.

#### DALTON, 2ND MARCH 1957

The bad weather bogey who usually operates when we have this fixture must have been on holiday. Thoughts of exploring that delightful corner of Lancashire above the Rivington reservoirs were promptly banished by the wife's "We'll start decorating the bedroom to-day". Even decorators have to eat, however, so tea at Dalton it had to be. An attendance of seven was better than the last few runs here but below what we used to get. After the steak and kidney pie, fruit and cream and cakes had been disposed of the conversation ranged from boxing, with some knowledgeable comments by Ted English, via Sabrina to the normal subjects of Anfield Club runs.

Members present in no particular order, were Brian Wright, Guy Pullan, Rigby Band, Fred Churchill, Ted English, Alf Howarth and Harry Clayworth.

#### HATCHMERE, 9TH MARCH 1957

Den Jones used some persuasion, friendly and otherwise, to get Ben Griffiths out on this wet afternoon of the proposed training "10".

Pat O'Leary was first at the venue, determined to get a good view of the athletes and the arrival of Don Stewart and John Parr was the signal for the start of another argument as to whether the weather justified running the scrap.

Benno started first through the forest to Aston, then left to Kelsall and up the grind to turn at the Abbey Arms for Hatchmere and the finish. Den Jones, second to start, finished first in 29.45, Ben clocked 31.52 and just pipped John Parr, who romped round in 33 minutes.

At tea we were joined by John Allcroft of the Cheshire Road Club, who had come to discuss the inter club "25" with Captain Stewart. Others out and not previously mentioned included Bren Orrell, Ted England and Guy Pullan.

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VOLUME LII

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## FIXTURES

JUNE 1957

- 1 HATCHMERE (Forest Café)  
8 } WHITSUNTIDE. OPEN "100"  
10 } Headquarters: LION HOTEL, SHREWSBURY  
15 LITTLE BUDWORTH (Red Lion). Photograph Run  
22 SECOND "50"  
Headquarters, PAVILION CAFÉ, HUNTINGTON, near Chester  
29 INTER-CLUB "25" with Cheshire Roads Club. (Details next month)  
*Wednesday evenings: Eureka Café, Two Mills*

## COMMITTEE NOTES

*New Member.* Alex Beaton, Greenmount Farm, Kinghorn Road, Burntisland, Fife, has been elected to Full Membership.

*Application for Membership.* David Thorold, 32 West View, Huyton, Lancs.

*Eric Reeves,* 29 The Ginnel, Port Sunlight, is still looking for helpers in the "100".

*Club History.* Orders are still dribbling in but not by any means fast enough. Orders should be sent to T. Stephenson & Sons Ltd., Printers, Prescot, Lancs.

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## TREASURY NOTES

My pathetic appeal for payment of overdue subscriptions apparently fell on deaf ears, for there are still over forty members who have not yet responded and who should now be blushing to the roots of their hair (assuming they are not all, like me, deficient in this respect).

The expenses of running the Club (over £8 each month for printing and posting the CIRCULAR alone) have to be met promptly and we will shortly be faced with heavy expenditure in connection with the "100". Even those members who cannot get down to lend a hand with this event could at least help by fulfilling their financial obligations.

May I again ask all members who are in arrears to send in their already long overdue subscriptions immediately, or else —!

A.E.C.B.

IN MEMORIAM  
GEORGE NEWALL

It was with great regret that we heard of the death on the 8th March of George Newall, who had been a member of the Club since 1922.

Few of the younger members would know him, for his attendances at fixtures had been rare during recent years; he will, however, be remembered by those who, year by year, spent Easter at the "Glan Aber" in Bettws and appreciated his contributions to the evening entertainments, for he had a fine voice and was always ready to play his part in the concerts which were such a feature of those memorable tours.

Prior to his retirement a few years ago he was with the Royal Insurance Company in Liverpool, where he numbered among his colleagues E. O. Morris and W. E. Cotter.

We would extend to his sister the sympathy of the Club which was represented at the funeral by the President and Messrs. Morris, Marriott, Chandler, McCann, Leece and Long.

## JOHN SEED

The death of Jack Seed on the 2nd April came as a great shock to his many friends in the Club. Although in his eighty-second year he was apparently in excellent health and was very active; he collapsed and died in the road whilst returning home from his allotment.

Jack joined the Anfield in 1912 and the enthusiasm with which he entered into the life of the Club and his popularity with his fellow members resulted in his election to the Committee in 1913. In 1914 he was appointed a Vice-Captain and he was Captain of the Club in 1915-16 and a member of the Committee in 1918.

Although not outstanding at racing he did some excellent rides and in 1913 covered over 170 miles in the Club "12" after losing

much valuable time off course. The tragic death of his brother Dick, who was killed whilst riding out to assist with a club race was a great blow to him.

It is some years since he cycled to club-runs, but his interest in Anfield affairs was retained to the end and he was always glad of the opportunity to attend Birthday Runs at Halewood, the Photograph Run or on other special occasions.

To Mrs. Seed and her family we extend the sincere sympathy of the Club in their loss.

The Anfield was represented at the funeral by the President and Messrs. Chandler, McCann, Long, Barker and Walls.

### RACING NOTES

EAST LIVERPOOL WHEELERS' NOVICES "25". John Parr, who passed out of the novice class when taking first handicap in the first club "25", rode a private trial and clocked 1.7.39 against the winners' 1.5.50.

W.C.T.T.C.A. "25". John Futter, 1.2.35 (5th fastest), D. Jones, 1.5.16; J. R. Griffiths, 1.7.50.

W.C.T.T.C.A. "30". J. Futter, 1.14.24 (5th fastest) and club record by one minute; D. Jones, 1.17.1 (2nd handicap); J. Parr, 1.20.17; J. R. Griffiths, 1.21.58; J. J. Salt, 1.33.26.

TUNSTALL "25". J. C. Futter, 1.5.45; D. Jones, 1.7.

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY C.C. "25". J. Parr, 1.6.12 (P.B.).

MID-SHROPSHIRE WHEELERS "25". J. C. Futter, 1.3.22 (2nd fastest); D. Jones, 1.6.10; J. R. Griffiths, 1.8.1.

A new course using the Waverton, Saughton, Aldford, Farndon circuit was used for the first "50" on May 11th and proved popular on several counts. It is not slow, as evidenced by Ben Griffiths' winning ride of 2.12.54 only  $\frac{3}{4}$  min. slower than his personal best, it gives non-racing members the opportunity of seeing the riders two or three times during the event and no part of the course is more than eight miles from headquarters. The second "50" on June 22nd will be run on this course and headquarters will be the Pavilion Café, Huntington, which is on the Chester-Aldford road before the Rake and Pikel.

Headquarters for the inter-club "25" with the Cheshire Roads Club await confirmation and full details will be given in our June issue. Entry forms will be required and must reach Don Stewart not later than Saturday, 22nd June. A few marshals will also be required.

### THE HUNDRED

The highlight of the Anfield year is almost on us again and Eric Reeves is still open to receive offers of help. There cannot be too many members on the course provided each has a responsible job and all who can possibly get down to Shropshire, at Whitsuntide, are urged to contact Eric immediately unless already settled in a job.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Best wishes to Eddie Goodall, who was married at the end of March.

During the recent Youth Hostel week-end in Yorkshire, Rigby Band and sons spent a pleasant Sunday afternoon at the Walton establishment in Langeliffe. Jack was looking very fit and sent greetings to all old friends. The same evening Rigby joined with Jack and Mrs. Walton in drinking the health of the A.B.C. at the "Craven Heifer", our Easter rendezvous of a few years ago.

A more recent Easter venue (1956) was the "Wynnstay Arms", Llanrhaidr and Fred Churchill has met a cyclist who stayed there since and reported that the lady of the house had been agreeably surprised at the behaviour of the "Anfield Club". "They were out all day and were no trouble at all—but of course they were all old men". And this was before Benno had sprouted a beard!

Stan Wild and Mark Haslam are again on the panel of R.R.A. timekeepers for 1957.

A cheerful letter from Gordon Shaw reveals that he has been having a sticky time with a chest complaint and some arthritis, but is able to do a bit of cycling "though poor on hills" (not really surprising at 70 and around Sheffield!). Best wishes J.G.—a dose of Shrewsbury at Whit would work wonders!

With the latest issue of the *Winged Arrow* the Speedwell Editor sent along copies of their Summer Fixtures card and 1957 Handbook. The latter is a most interesting little publication with a brief history of the Club and their Open "100". Details are also given of M.R.R.A. records by Speedwellians and we note Stan Bradley's name figuring six times in the list with record rides in 1926/30 at 50 miles to 24 hours, and Birmingham to Bristol and back.

In noting Bert Green's attendance at the R.R.A. Dinner (9.3.57) we omitted to mention that Percy was with him and that they met Stan Wild also.

At the N.R.R.A. Annual General Meeting at the end of March Alan Gorman and Percy attended as Anfield delegates and Bert Green as President, to which office he was re-elected. Hubert Buckley also attended and, with Alan Gorman, was elected to the Committee. An Association lunch is to be held later in the year.

Eric Reeves has had a note from R. Seymour Cobley, North Road C.C., winner of our "100" in 1901 and who nearly repeated the feat a couple of years later. He is 78 years of age, lives in Bideford, North Devon and would like to revisit the scenes of his triumph of 56 years ago. We hope it will prove possible for him to get to Shrewsbury this Whitsuntide. His last visit to Salop was for our 1949 Dinner.

Do book June 15th for a run to Little Budworth, when the Club photograph will be taken and if not a regular why not start training by coming out to the Eureka Café, Two Mills, on Wednesday evenings. Attendance at this mid-week evening rendezvous is growing but



there is plenty of room for more and we can think of a few whom we would like to see there, including Ted Byron, Ernie Davies, Blotto, John Lecce, Peter Rock, Cyril Selkirk and Reg Wilson to name but a few.

## RUNS

BIRTHDAY RUN, "DERBY ARMS", HALEWOOD, 16TH MARCH 1957.

There was a goodly crowd assembled at the "Derby Arms" by 5-30, some of whom were installed in the bar, those of us whose preferences are for the finer things of life, choose to discourse in the lounge. When dinner was signalled no time was lost in preparing for action, it is perhaps needless to add that the meal was well up to the standard we have come to expect at this venue. I shared a table with the two "boffins" (who later provided the evening's entertainment) and the Master Builder (Gayton not Ibsen), the conversation was on a very high plane! After dinner there was the usual interval whilst furniture was re-arranged and apparatus prepared. On glancing around I was startled to notice "Benno" sprouting an embryo beard; he claimed to be negotiating the purchase of a government surplus submarine; if this is true it will surely be the only "sub" to contain a mobile ballast tank filled with "mild."

With Harold Catling at the projector, George Taylor gave us a very interesting account of his recent tour in the Julian Alps of Yugoslavia. The scenery was beautiful, if at times rather weird, certainly as George said, very different from any other Alpine scenery. I think however he made it sound too easy, there must have been times of toil and sweat during which it was difficult enough to keep going, let alone to take photographs. Afterwards George showed us pictures taken on a tour of the Roman Wall; the contrast in scenery was striking, it emphasised what, to me at any rate, is the keynote of the English scene—Peace. As an epilogue, one of our visitors produced some very interesting old slides of cycling events, on many of which Anfielders were identified.

Another of our visitors was Ken Matthews, who was responsible for that elusive review in the *Liverpool Echo* of the *Black Anfielders* as mentioned in a recent CIRCULAR.

All in all, a really grand evening spent in first rate company. Why, oh why, must such a turnout be confined to one or twice a year?

In addition to the President, the members present were: J. R. Band, K. W. Barker, H. Buckley, S. Del Banco, H. Catling, J. Cranshaw, F. Chandler, F. Churchill, W. G. Connor, A. Gorman, J. R. Griffiths, L. J. Hill, D. Jones, F. Marriott, E. O. Morris, J. Newton, P.O'Leary, G. B. Orrell, J. Parr, G. Parr, L. Pendlebury, E. G. Pullan, A. E. Preston, J. J. Salt, D. Stewart, G. G. Taylor, H. Wood, B. Wright and A. Williams. Visitors were Dave Cooper (Liverpool Century R.C.), Ken Matthews (Melling Wheelers) and Ken Rolls (Liverpool D.A., C.T.C.).

## HATTON HEATH, 23RD MARCH 1957.

The first "25" this year saw the fastest time recorded in our Club events at this time of the year. John Futter, with his sights set on riding in the Championship "25" romped up and down the Whitchurch road on a none too perfect day to record 1.2.53.

Quite a strong S.E. wind made the ride to the turn a slog, and, for those with anything left, a mad blind back. Consequently, the handicap went haywire, only Don Jones riding to his handicap time. John Parr in his second event improved 4 minutes, to 1.6.19 and consequently ran away with the handicap. Even with a harsh allowance of 4 minutes he would have won the award.

The John's were setting the pace at halfway, Futter catching his minute man Parr just before the turn, arriving in 34.30 to 35.45 by John Parr. Other turn times recorded by Bren and Mrs. Orrell were Den Jones 37.30, Ben Griffiths (still minus a razor blade), 38.30, Don Stewart out of retirement and, at the end nearly back again, 39.30, Bert Wood 40.45, Brian Wright 41.0 and Pat O'Leary on three wheels 47.15.

From a possible twelve riders Jimmy Long returned the following times:—

J. C. Futter	1.2.53	
J. Parr	1.6.19	
D. Jones	1.6.44	
R. Griffiths	1.8.56	
H. Wood	1.12.46	
D. Stewart	1.12.58	
B. Wright	1.16.30	
P. O'Leary	1.23.32	Tri.
P. Robinson	D.N.F.	

Jack Salt, Frank Perkins, Guy Pullan, Laurie Pendlebury, Alf Howarth and late arrival Len Hill completed the party for the afternoon.

There was some doubt as to whether we should get a meal at Hatton Heath after the event as the owners wished to close early, but with the money still coming in they kept open until everyone was fed.

The ride home through Tarvin, Mouldsworth, Frodsham and Runcorn with Peter and John proved uneventful, the wind having dropped and it was eight-thirty when we finally left each other to bring to an end another enjoyable run.

## TARVIN, 30TH MARCH 1957.

The weather was on its best Spring behaviour as I left the Welsh hills around Wrexham and descended to the Cheshire plain.

A pleasant ride towards Tarvin was uneventful except for the unusual sight of a dozen robin-redbreasts on the top of a hedge gathered round another which had a large bee in its beak.

It was just 5-30 on the church clock as I trundled into the yard of the George and Dragon to find Guy Pullan, Ted England and Jack Newton already in occupation.

Eleven went in to tea to be joined shortly by the President and Percy Williamson, who had been somewhat delayed by a spot of mechanical trouble.

All too soon came the time to disperse and I ambled gently into Chester with Ben Griffiths and Den Jones before the final lone miles home.

Those present and not previously mentioned were Frank Chandler, Bren Orrell, Laurie Pendlebury, John Parr, Bert Wood and Pat O'Leary.

CLUB "25", HIGHWAYSIDE, 6TH APRIL 1957.

Harry and I made an agreeable start. The sun shone, the wind was at our backs and one small boy said to another: "Get out of the way you, here's two racers."

Captain Stewart was waiting at H.Q. and immediately despatched us back the way we had come to marshal one of the corners on the course. Still it was in a good cause so we didn't mind. Watching the the riders through we discovered that Futter's forceful riding had established a half-minute lead in less than five miles. We noted Dennis Jones' smooth riding and that Ben Griffiths had spoiled his good looks by growing a beard. The day was pleasant enough for ordinary riding but, I fancy, pretty tough for racing. As one who should know I think that some of the times done were extremely creditable. Futter was making the running at halfway, being  $1\frac{1}{2}$  minutes ahead of Jones and Parr. Ben, trying valiantly, but carrying too much weight, was a further minute in arrears. Bert Wood, Salty and Ted England were taking life more easily and were 5, 6 and 7 minutes respectively down on the leader. Little change occurred in the last half. Parr could not maintain his speed and lost over a minute on Jones. Salty's experience enabled him to climb one place above Ted England.

The full result from the timekeeper, Jimmy Long, was as follows:—

1.	J. C. Futter	scr.	1.3.26 (Fastest)
2.	D. Jones	$3\frac{1}{2}$	1.5.40 (1st handicap)
3.	J. Parr	$3\frac{1}{4}$	1.7.2
4.	R. Griffiths	2	1.7.54
5.	H. Wood	$8\frac{1}{2}$	1.13.54
6.	J. J. Salt	9	1.17.15
7.	E. England	10	1.18.58

O'Leary, Wright, Stewart, Robinson and Gorman did not start.

Back at the "Travellers Rest" a good feed was put away, Mr. Johnson's daughters meeting every demand for more tea, more bread, and more jam until even the Gannets were satisfied. I think that one of the pleasant things in life is to hold an 'inquest' into a race whilst partaking of a good meal.

The attendance register read: Green, Orrell (G.B.), Salt, Stewart, Wood, Griffiths, Jones, England, Parr (J), Gorman, Futter, Long, Duck, Williamson, O'Learey, Howarth, Churchill and Pendlebury. Also with us I am glad to say (even if it is an all male club) were Mrs. Orrell, Mrs. Futter and Mrs. Long. A good club run I thought. Churchill, Duck and I loitered long enough to sample the beer (which tastes alright) and to discuss the British workman. It appears that we three are the only ones who are pulling our weight. The road home was at least twice as long as it was when we came out but we got there. Finally, a word of warning. Don't offer Stewart a piece of chocolate. He'll say: "Thanks very much. You can write up the run for that."



# ANFIELD



# CIRCULAR

*Journal of the Anfield Bicycle Club (Formed March, 1879)*

*President:* H. GREEN

*Captain:* D. STEWART

*Hon. Secretary:* F. E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange, West  
Kirby, Cheshire

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VOLUME LII

JUNE 1957

NUMBER 610

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## FIXTURES

### JUNE

29 LITTLE BUDWORTH. Red Lion. Inter-Club "25"

### JULY

6 HATCHMERE. Forest Café

8 COMMITTEE MEETING. Free Church Centre, Liverpool

13 DARESBUURY. Old Vicarage

20 THIRD "25". H.Q., Hatton Heath

27 SILVER TEAPOT CAFÉ, near Vicars Cross, Chester

### AUGUST

3/5 TOUR TO BATH ROAD "100"

3 Alternatives: TWO MILLS. Eureka Café, SOMERFORD

10 HATCHMERE. Forest Café

12 COMMITTEE MEETING. Free Church Centre, Liverpool

17 LITTLE BUDWORTH. Red Lion.

24 DARESBUURY. Old Vicarage

31 TARVIN. George & Dragon

*Wednesday evenings: Eureka Café, Two Mills*

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The headquarters for the Inter-Club "25" with the Cheshire Roads Club on June 29th have been arranged at the Red Lion, Little Budworth. We have been asked to finish the meal by 6-30 p.m.

*New member elected:* David Thorold, 32 West View, Huyton, Lancs.

*Change of address:* Alfred Howarth: 43, Mile Oak Road, Rotherham, Yorks.

*The Black Anfielders* is still obtainable from T. Stephenson & Sons Ltd., Printers, Prescot, Lancs., at 22/- post free.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

The Bath Road Club have suffered a great loss through the death of Bill Hinds who fell from his bicycle whilst checking over a time trial course and died shortly afterwards from his injuries.

A recent note regarding Wednesday evening meets at Two Mills has prompted some Lancashire members to try to revive similar gatherings at Kirkby. Those interested should contact Fred Churchill.

The Liverpool D.A., C.T.C., recently promoted a "100 in 12" for riders over forty years of age. Guy Pullan completed the course well within the time allowed but some of the veterans found the route wandered a little too far from sea-level. With a start at Bebington the ride was via Mold and Ruthin to Cerrig-y-Druidion and Pentrefoelas, then over the Sportsman to Denbigh and across the lovely vale of Clwyd before tackling the London Bridge crossing to Nannerch and so to Mold, Queensferry and the finish at Bebington.

The Rough-Stuff Fellowship have placed a memorial to "Wayfarer" on the Berwyn crossing of Nant Rhyd Willam above Llanaimon D.C. and this simple granite slab, quite in keeping with the wild grandeur of its surroundings, was unveiled on the 16th June.

Enormous crowds of cyclists invaded the Wirral on 2nd June to see the R.T.T.C. National 25 mile championship which was won by Liverpool rider Norman Sheil in 55.55. Second was Mike Gambrill (56.15) who led the Clarence Wheelers to a team victory, beating Competition record with an aggregate of 2h. 55m. 3s. Guy Pullan and Albert Preston did the Club's marshalling job at Rowton-Waverton crossroads whilst Len Hill and the Editor were at the start and finish; probably other Anfielders were out but not seen in the crush.

In anticipation that numerous members will be lending a hand with the Mersey Roads Club "24", tea on 27th July has been arranged, as usual, adjacent to the course. This will be at the Silver Tea-pot Café, Vicars Cross.

The late Jack Seed's bicycle is for disposal and any member interested or knowing of a prospective purchaser should contact the Editor. It is a single geared 21-in. B.S.A. with Brook's B.10 and front and rear cantilevers.

David Duffield, Beacon R.C. sliced 4 hours 29 mins. off the End to End Tricycle Record over the Whit week-end riding from north to south instead of the more usual Land's End to John O'Groats direction.

Owing to the report of the Easter Tour (which had to be cut) and the Whitsun week-end and "100", this issue contains no reports of runs which are held over to the July number. Contributors would help by sending in any outstanding reports as soon as possible and please do not be disappointed if your article is "sliced" to fit a space ration.

## RACING NOTES

Results to hand are as follows:—

Westwood R.C. "25" J. C. Futter, 1.3.25.

Liverpool Olympic (1.5) "25". J. Parr, 1.4.41 (P.B. by 1½ mins.).

Prestwich "25" D. Jones, 1.5.30.

Cheshire R.C. "50". J. C. Futter, 2.10.2; J. R. Griffiths, 2.17.29.

Wrexham R.C. "25" D. Jones, 1.2.17 (Fastest was 1.0.49).

Brian Wright has been toughening up in the wilds with the following rides in Mountain Trials:—

29th, on Circuit of the Dales "50"—2.31.16.

27th, in Otley Mountain Trial—2.43.27.

9th, in West Pennine "37½"—1.42.41.

14th in North Lancs. T.T.A. Mountain Trial, 2.29.6 also a personal by 1½ mins. in Yorkshire R.C. "50" of 2.10.41.

## EASTER TOUR 1957

## LLANSANTFFRAID

Ben and I had agreed to grasp the opportunity of an early start on Thursday evening made possible by our work being on Dee-side. Through a shower we rode to Gresford for a quick tea but we were at Johnstown before finding an empty telephone kiosk from which to phone our hostess at Llansantffraid to acquaint her of our early arrival.

Prompt at 8.45 p.m. we arrived to partake of a scratch meal and have an evening of darts with the two sons of the house before bedding down to prepare for our first full day in this grand border country.

*Good Friday*

Through the lanes we ambled on this glorious morning to Four Crosses, then south to Welshpool and the turning on to the Salop road through Leighton with fine views across the valley of Powys Castle on its steep wooded hillside. The road-side banks were veritable gardens of wild flowers, whilst woods and hedgerows sparkled with the blossom of wild cherry and pear. Some of Shropshire's loveliest countryside took us to Chirbury and the final miles to Bishop's Castle before seeking a break for 'elevenses'.

Ben was ahead on the swift swoop into the valley and on to the Knighton road but soon we were afoot for the climb to the summit from whence we gazed down into the densely wooded valley of the Teme. Knighton was almost deserted and we had nearly given up hopes of lunch when a friendly innkeeper directed us to "try Morris's" and how right he was. We left Knighton by a road of painful mem-

ories for ten years ago Peter and Eric escorted me along it and hammered me severely; now it is different. "Take it easy here, Ben", "see you on the drop, Ben" and so the old fox lives to come again.

It was a grand fling down from Teme Head to Dolfor and Newtown and quite inadvertently we found ourselves on the switchback road to Llanfair Caereinion but New Mills found us cheating and drifting down to Berricw for tea before the final scamper to Welshpool, Pool Quay and the lane back to our inn to see who had joined us for the week-end.

Eleven sat down to dinner and after a boisterous evening we retired to bed eager for the morrow's fray.

### *Saturday*

All agreed that an easy day was indicated and mid-morning found us strolling and riding up the wooded climb from Llanfyllin for Pen-y-Bont Fawr. Four of us made a detour to Llanrhaiadr as Guy wanted a colour film and this gave Bert Wood an opportunity to demonstrate his hill-climbing prowess; soon the party was riding along the quiet lane to Hirnant, where Carl Birkby met us with open arms. "Hen Dafarn" is a delightful spot at any time but today it was heaven and we ate, gossiped and strolled about until time to make our way back to headquarters. Of the evening's entertainment I can say little for, comfortably ensconced in an armchair I fell asleep and remained so until wakened up to go to bed !

### *Easter Sunday*

A phone call to Llanfair Caereinion assured us of lunch and merrily we set off along Vyrnwyside towards Meifod, a grand undulating road to which I shall always return when in need of solitude. On the bridge beyond Meifod we halted while Ben added to his score of birds' nests by finding three in a few minutes. Leaving Mrs. Thrush to tend her family we continued towards Pont Robert to turn left on to the Machynlleth road where we had to don capes for the first time but not for long. To Bert Green's disgust we took the back lane from the Banwy Bridge, and he was denied his drift down stream to Llanfair. An excellent lunch put us in good fettle for the long plod to the summit on the Newtown road but the drop into the Rhiw valley was exhilarating and soon we were on the gentle undulations to Pant and Powis Castle to Welshpool for tea and a chance meeting with an old friend—Bert George (Tudor C.C., London), formerly Walton and Liverpool Phoenix, with whom I first crossed the Bwlch-y-Parc thirty years ago.

The ride back to Llansantffraid via Guilsfield was delightful and after an excellent dinner we set out to take the waters at Llany-blodwel's "Horseshoe", but the brew was poor and the Anfield parliament soon returned to the "Sun".



*Easter Monday*

Morning found us preparing to make our various ways homeward to Merseyside or towards the inky Irwell. Ben and I crossed into the Tanat valley for Llangynog and Pennant Melangel to try to join up with the Milltir Cerrig. The route was impossible with bicycles and reluctantly we returned to Llangynog and crossed to Llandrillo then making for Ruthin and the Clwyd vale to Llanrhaidr near Denbigh for tea. A crossing of London Bridge brought us to Nannerch and so to Mold and the parting of our ways.

Another Easter tour was nearly over as I joined Eric Reeves at Willaston's "Nag's Head" and told him of our wanderings.

Those present on the tour were:—The President, Percy Williamson, Jack Salt, Arthur Williams, Bert Preston, Laurie Pendlebury, Guy Pullan, Fred Churchill, Bert Griffiths, Bert Wood and Frank Perkins.

## WHITSUNTIDE WEEK-END, 1957

A mixed bag of weather was provided for the week-end highlight of the Anfield year but there were no complaints on this score so far as Monday's conditions for the "100" were concerned.

With a coarse radiating from Shrewsbury, south to Onibury and north-west to Llanrhaidr in the shadow of the mighty Berwyns, it is inevitable that members are spread about two counties and that one or two might turn out and escape notice so that the list which will follow may not be complete.

Shrewsbury, hub of the event, naturally houses the majority of members and friends from kindred clubs and many were the residents and callers at the "Lion".

Sunday saw a gathering of nineteen members and friends for lunch at Bishop's Castle and Dave Brown's account of this fixture will be in the next issue, so it is sufficient here to record that the party consisted of Bert Green, Jack (Bath Road) and Mrs. Beauchamp, Jimmy Long, Percy Williamson and Don Stewart with their wives, Stan Wild, Bill Cuthbert (Cheshire R.C.), Fred Churchill, Peter Clayworth, Guy Pullan, Ted England, Reg Wilson, Dave Brown, Albert Preston and Len Hill.

It was good to see Jack Davies out and about again after his illness and to have Harry Austin and Urban Taylor and Ned Haynes in Anfieldland again. Alf Howarth, recently exported to Rotherham, was on the job and ready to take half-way times in the "100" were Rex and Bob Austin.

Dotted around the course under orders from Eric Reeves, who did another fine organising job, in addition to those already mentioned, were Ira Thomas, Jack Salt, Bren Orrell, Mark Haslam, Peter-Rock,

Pat O'Leary, Norman Heath, Arthur Birkby (with brother Carl), Ben Griffiths, Den Jones, John Parr, Dave Thorold, Walter Thorpe, Hubert Buckley, Arthur Williams, Peter Robinson, Ken Barker, Bert Wood and Bert Preston. John Futter, the only Anfield name on the card, did a steady ride to record 4.45.31.

As usual we are greatly indebted to friends of other clubs for valuable assistance and would mention Alf Daniels, friend and ally of Eric Reeves, Herbert Moore, who patrolled the second half of the course on his motor cycle and the East Liverpool Wheelers, Mid-Shropshire Wheelers, Birkenhead North End C.C. and Mersey Roads Club who undertook feeding and checking jobs and carried them through without a hitch.

Apart from riders in the "100" many well-known members of other clubs were seen around the course including Alex Smith, North Roaders Ed. Green and A. B. Smith, Reg Danby, C.R.C. President, with Bill Cuthbert, Ted Rigby and Smith Parker also of the "Ches".

### THE "100"

The story of the fifty-eighth Anfield "100" is one of a great duel between Bill Bradley, Southport Road Club's well-known massed start ace, proven 100 miler with a 4.12 ride to his credit and sole occupant of the scratch mark and the comparatively unknown Alan Masterson, Bebington C.C., riding his third "100" in a field including nine men with shorter marks than his nine minutes allowance.

Starting No. 10, Masterson was soon through the earlier starters and for some seventy-five miles was away out on his own building up a commanding lead on the road to finish well over ten minutes ahead of the next man with a time of 4.21.50. This remained fastest for nearly fifty minutes until the arrival of Bradley whose 4.19.12 is second only to Joy's winning ride of 4.15.57 in 1952. Kinghorn's 4.21.33 for second place in that year being the only other ride in the event faster than Masterson.

The first leg of 21½ miles south to Onibury took the leaders some five minutes under the hour and Jack Salt's check at this point showed Bradley with a slender lead over Masterson, M. H. J. Evans (St. Christopher's C.C.) Barlow of the Stone Wheelers' and Cary, of the Sittingbourne C.C.

At 50 miles, Rex Austin took the check and found Bradley leading in 2.9.5 with 2m. 8s. in hand over Masterson, a lead he was to increase by only half a minute in the second fifty miles. Third here was Ian Livingston, Dukinfield C.C. with 2.11.41, then McLean, Liverpool Unity 2.11.43, Gaskell of the Warrington R.C. with 2.12.50 and Fairhurst, Birkenhead N.E. 2.13.0. Cary (Sittingbourne), M. H. J.

Evans, Smith (Merseyside Wheelers) and clubmate French were well up whilst in twelfth place nearly six minutes down on Bradley was G. J. Barlow, Stone Wheelers, whose fast second fifty of 2.10.28 took him to third place at the finish.

Check after check at Maerdy, Llyncllys and Llanrhaidr showed Bradley retaining his precious lead of just over two minutes but unable to make any impression on the flying Masterson and their second fifties of 2.10.7 and 2.10.37 were matched only by Barlow's 2.10.28, the next fastest second half being the 2.12.38 by P. R. Ward of Preston Wheelers who climbed from seventh at fifty miles to fourth at the finish.

With Bradley, Masterson, and Barlow home and Ken Price having an off day and packing before fifty miles, interest centred on Pickford and Logan, short markers of the Mercury R.C. and last man off, Cary. Last year's winner Pickford returned in 4.35.6 for fifteenth place but can claim the most consistent ride of the morning with 2.17.37 and 2.17.29 for his two fifties; Logan returned 4.42.48 and Cary found the Welsh border country tougher than his native Kent and although not too happy on 82in. fixed managed to clock 4.35.58 for eighteenth place.

West Pennine R.C.'s Douglas Middleton, was  $6\frac{1}{2}$  minutes faster over the second fifty to fill thirteenth place in 4.34.47 but brother Derek called it a day before the finish. Our own John Futter rode consistently to clock 2.22.17 for the first fifty and 2.23.14 for his second half, an aggregate of 4.45.31 including a puncture at 38 miles.

Of the hundred accepted entries from the 133 submitted, 95 started; Rutcliffe, Nelson Wheelers apologised for not starting due to a pulled muscle and Norman Evans of the Chesh. had been called home urgently owing to the sudden illness of his mother.

Seventy-five completed the course, sixty-six of them inside "evens". As usual the puncture field was busy and had stopped H. E. Evans, Chester R.C. twice before 27 miles causing his retirement. Others suffering from deflations included John Futter at 38 miles, Arstall of the Seamons C.C. who did the last few miles from Rowton on Len Hill's bicycle and Goodman, Mercury R.C. who punctured at Llyncllys whilst overtaking K. Ross (Liverpool Eagle R.C.) who very sportingly lent the Mercury man his bicycle.

First Team medals were taken by the Merseyside Wheelers with Warrington R.C. second, less than a minute ahead of the Birkenhead N.E.C.C. team.

Masterson's nine minutes' allowance brought him first handicap prize from C. C. Richardson, S. Lancs. R.C. and Ward, Preston Wheelers. Through the generosity of Peter Stephenson the prize list has been augmented by copies of the *Black Anfielders* for all beating 4.35.0 and team medal winners,

And so another Anfield "100" passes into history with a new name to be added to the list of winners. We are tempted to look back some fifty years and note that F. H. Wingrave's winning rides of 5.18.15 and 5.17.44 in 1905 and 1907 were separated by 5.19.20 by W. M. Bailey in 1906. One hour off in fifty years! We wonder what the future holds.

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#### CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

Over 21, 30s.; Under 21, 15s.; Honorary, a minimum of 10s. and donations to the Prize Fund (unlimited) should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, A. E. C. Birkby, 28 Manor Avenue, Gt. Crosby, Liverpool, 23, or may be paid into any branch of the Midland Bank Ltd. for credit of the Anfield Bicycle Club A/c. 23 Liverpool Road, Great Crosby branch.



# ANFIELD CIRCULAR



*Journal of the Anfield Bicycle Club (Formed March, 1879)*

President: H. GREEN

Captain: D. STEWART

Hon. Secretary: F. E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange, West  
Kirby, Cheshire

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VOLUME LII

JULY—AUGUST 1957

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## FIXTURES

### AUGUST

- 3—5 TOUR TO BATH ROAD CLUB "100"  
3 TWO MILLS (Eureka Café) SOMERFORD  
10 HATCHMERE (Forest Café)  
12 COMMITTEE MEETING. Free Church Centre, Liverpool  
17 LITTLE BUDWORTH (Red Lion)  
24 SANDIWAY (Daleford Private Hotel, Daleford Lane)  
31 TARVIN (George & Dragon)

### SEPTEMBER

- 7 CLUB "50". Pavilion Café, HUNTINGTON  
9 COMMITTEE MEETING. Free Church Centre, Liverpool  
14 CLUB "25". HATTON HEATH  
15 DALTON (Prescott's Farm). Lunch, 1-0 p.m.  
*Wednesday evenings: Eureka Café, Two Mills.*

*Application for membership:* Denis Ryan, 11 Harrow Road, Ellesmere Port. Proposed by R. Wilson, seconded by K. W. Barker.

## RACING NOTES

Apart from Club events, reported elsewhere in this issue, a few results have come to hand as follows:—W.C.T.T.C.A. "50", Alan Masterson, Bebington C.C., second in our "100", won this event the

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following week-end with a new Association record of 2.2.6. John Futter improved  $2\frac{1}{2}$  minutes to clock 2.5.4 and John Parr recorded 2.13.36, a six minutes improvement. Jack Salt did an excellent veteran's ride in 2.28.2. Fylde R.C. "50", Brian Wright, 2.9.11 (P.B. by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  minutes). North Lancs. R.C. "100", Brian Wright, 4.36.10. W.C.T.T.C.A. "12", John Parr covered 218 miles in his first attempt at 12 hours riding. Our only other rider, Brian Wright D.N.F. The Anfield's job in this event, the Chester, Farndon circuit was marshalled by Salty, Len Hill, John Futter, Ted England and Pat O'Leary.

In the Inter-Club "25" on 29th June John Futter returned fastest time and the Cheshire Roads Club won the Team Medals by 1 minute, 28 seconds. The full result will be in our September issue.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

Arthur Birkby had an unfortunate and painful experience just before the "100". Whilst business riding in Waterloo he was struck side-on by a car which stopped at a Halt sign and then shot forward. Fortunately there was no serious injury but Arthur was glad of some rail assistance towards the Tanat Valley for the Whit holiday.

C.T.C. Secretary, Reg. C. Shaw, had his recent tour of Norway spoilt by a crash which resulted in a fractured pelvis. His work for the C.T.C. has been recognised by his appointment as a Member of the Order of the British Empire in the Birthday Honours list.

The June issue of the C.T.C. Gazette announced the birth of the Pundits' Club, a group of C.T.C. Councillors who grasp all possible opportunities of riding together. Pundit Pullan had to endure some hilarious comment at a recent Wednesday evening meet.

Alex Beaton, our new member from Burntisland, Fife, will be touring North Wales in August and hopes to attend a Club run, probably at Hatchmere on August 10th.

In the haste to get the last issue to press with the report on the "100" due acknowledgment was not made of the helpful notes on the event sent by Eric Reeves, Stan Wild, Len Hill and Don Stewart.

That super enthusiast, Pat O'Leary, recently arranged to have a dose of 'flu so that he could trundle his trike to Two Mills on a couple of Wednesday evenings by way of convalescence.

After holidaying at Weobley in Herefordshire during Whit week, Len Hill set off for the Photo Run, called for Ira Thomas in Shrewsbury and these two worthies knocked back forty pintless miles before staggering into the Out Patients' Department at the Red Lion, where they soon responded to treatment.

With the Old Vicarage, Daresbury, changing hands, our fixture for 24th August has been switched to the Daleford Private Hotel, Daleford Lane, Sandiway. The lane leaves the Chester—Northwich road in the centre of Sandiway and the hotel, will be found in about half a mile on the right at the bottom of the first dip in the road.

The Treasurer is having difficulty occasionally in crediting members with subscriptions paid through the bank where the signature has been illegible. Will those who pay up this way please ensure that it is quite clear who should be credited.

Just on going to press we heard with great regret of the death of Gordon Shaw. A further note on our old Sheffield member will be included next month.

Subject to confirmation by the caterers, the Tints Tour has been fixed for October 5th/6th at Llansantffraid and the A.G.M. will be at Halewood on 19th October.

A Sunday lunch fixture has been arranged for 15th September at Dalton.

Owing to uncertainty over the fixture for 24th August this issue has been held up and has now come out as the July/August number: those members who like twelve issues a year can at any rate rejoice at the saving of Club funds. The Editor will return from holiday on August 10th and hopes to find a mass of material awaiting him sufficient to chase the September issue to press immediately.

## R U N S

LITTLE BUDWORTH, 13TH APRIL 1957

The ride from Heswall to Little Budworth via the lanes, some of Cheshire's finest, is a job for a man with a map. Doubtless, I would not go wrong in the Wirral but the maze between Little Budworth and Chester needs some knowing. My idea was lanes all the way, but as tea was five-thirty and not six-thirty I had to leave the Wirral byeways after Mollington and use the trunk road from Backford. Just before Vicar's Cross two three-dimensional teenage club-girls passed me, their anatomies nicely poised in auburn briefs, so the fellowship of the wheel prevailed as I tucked in behind 'em, wishing I belonged to a mixed club. Their pretty ankles and nimble pedalling presented a delightful picture—but the sweat soon poured over my brow and clouded my appreciative eye, as I endeavoured to maintain a pedalling speed to sit in. Words would'nt come, lungs were nearly bursting, so away went those beautiful bouncing buttocks and there was now't yours truly could do about it; why, they never even said "Cheerio Dad", and when eye and lungs became normal I realised they had not even noticed me.

To Christleton across the Stamford Bridge road, and again into lanes where the big car basket not and the pretty little girls goeth not, went I.

Duddon came next and across a main road past the lovely black and white farmhouses I trundled through Utkinton and quaint Cote Brook and across another main road (no, couldn't see any more of 'em). There a sign post said "Little Budworth" and so, the spirit rose and the speed increased, this time because of the thoughts of food and good companions. Hoorah! for the flesh pots. The old Red Lion

sat in lovely Little Budworth with the evening sun painting the mediaeval church pink, a dear little bit of old England. Food was ordered for fifteen and only seven turned up. The President said he first came to the Red Lion in 1895 and spent one night of his honeymoon there in about, I think, '06. Also there (at the club run, not Bert's honeymoon) were Messrs. Churchill, Hill, Pendlebury, Pullan, Williamson and Wood to present us in alphabetical formation. What a pity such a few sat down to such a grand tea, in such a delightful room, amidst an atmosphere of age and beauty. And to think that only a couple of weeks later the Secretary would book for seven or eight at Daresbury and nineteen would turn up.

Excellent food, excellent company, a beer with Freddy Churchill and the lanes again to seek and appreciate—until one Guy Pullan announced that the noise created by my dynamo was sacrilege on such a divine evening. But my mind was not with the good Guy and mundane sounds, no Sir, it was with the day, Wirral's non-kerbed lanes, those villages, the briefs, the meres, the ancienry of the Red Lion and church, and man could mock me not, I was happy with reminiscences springing from an appreciative eye and heart.

SOMERFORD, 20TH APRIL 1957

On this day with most of the regulars on tour in Wales there were four of us at the Sunnyside Café. Hubert Buckley, Stan Wild, John Parr and Dave Brown.

Easter saw me venturing out on two wheels for the first time this year. The weather was grand, apart from the head wind that is always waiting for me after a lay off.

I had a ride down to Rode Heath and then back to Somerford to find Hubert already there, but without his bicycle, which was being repaired. It appears that he has been dieting, losing weight thereby, and getting fit in the process, since he had broken two bottom bracket spindles in the last few weeks.

John and Stan soon arrived and we set about a good meal of eggs and bacon with more 'afters' than we could eat.

There was much entertaining talk by Stan and Hubert regarding Stan's present contacts with Southern clubs, and Hubert's past with the same. John and I departed soon after seven o'clock leaving the others still talking.

DARESBUURY, 27TH APRIL, 1957

I write this from a classroom teeming with six year olds, which circumstance I advance as an excuse for a certain disjointedness which I fear will appear in the narrative and as the reason for the lateness of my contribution—the labourers in the vineyard have little energy left for literary production when they have toiled through the heat of the day—especially when the vines—("Are you telling tales again?") are small ones.



Of the Daresbury incident—enjoyable through it was (“No, it’s not time for milk”) there is not a great deal to say. From the west the rendezvous was reached through a country mainly pastoral but infested with cows and little black flies. The wind was against me both ways and none of the hills had a going down side.

The old vicarage at Daresbury is not a vicarage at all, but an hotel, which was rather disappointing because I had planned to have a boiled curate’s egg for tea. I wonder what you would get if you hatched a boiled curate’s egg? I expect Alf Howarth could work it out. Of the food, let us say that even if few of us got what we ordered what we did get was very nice. I did not hear much edifying conversation because I was busy trying to work out by what permutation so many people could get the wrong food.

After tea some cyclists with only two wheels did acrobatics on a certain flashing tricyclist’s machine. We went outside for that “No Sandra, we are not going outside”—she’s telepathic, you see. Always telling you the answer before you have asked the question. I must finish now: the class teacher has just got back from the psychiatrist. On the way home I tucked in behind Len Hill and he tucked in behind me—in fact we were both so busy tucking in that when we got into Chester we were going backwards. It was a lovely morning.

Present at Daresbury were Bert Green, Bert Wood, Fred Churchill, Dave Thorold (prospect.), Pat O’Leary, Don Stewart, Bren Orrell, John Parr, George Parr, Len Hill, Alan Gorman, Alf Howarth, Jack Newton, Laurie Pendlebury, Arthur Birkby, Eddie Goodall, Harry Clayworth, Harry Duck and Peter Jones.

#### RIVINGTON, SUNDAY, 5TH MAY, 1957

Four members arrived at the Hall Barn Café to find that it did not open until 2.0 p.m., not very much use for a lunch fixture.

A glorified snack-bar nearby, the Great House Barn, provided the wherewithal to fill the gaps until tea-time arrived and the four, Fred Churchill, Brian Wright, Ted England and Rigby Band spent a pleasant afternoon lane crawling as far as Ormskirk, where the party broke up.

#### HATTON HEATH, 11TH MAY, FIRST “50”

It was capes on and off two or three times for Dave Thorold and me as we made our way to Hatton Heath, via Runcorn, Frodsham and Tarvin.

Half the field D.N.S., in most cases we don’t know why, but John Futter was to ride a ‘25’ the next morning in an endeavour to get a fast time to qualify for the Championship “25”. Pat O’Leary was entered for a T.A. ‘50. the next day.

A new course, devised by Jack Salt, on the Broxton, Chester, Farnon circuit was used for the first time, and from the results it

appears to be quite satisfactory. It is also more interesting from the spectators' point of view as they see the riders two or three times, whilst the riders have the advantage of never being more than eight miles from event H.Q.

A strong wind made for a very fast Broxton-Chester stretch as Alan Gorman will no doubt confirm, after an attempt to hand Ben a drink at 22 miles.

For 38 miles there had been very little between Den Jones, riding his first '50', and Ben, but at the second drinks—Alford, Ben caught and passed his rival and steamed home to win with an excellent 2.12.54. This after his series of rather disappointing 1.7 and 1.8 25's since coming out of the forces, shows that he is getting back to normal. Den slowed over the final miles but still had five seconds in hand over John Parr, recording 2.19.45 against John's 2.19.50. Salty completed the riders with 2.36.29 whilst gear trouble at Broxton first time round caused Peter Robinson to pack in. The course was liberally littered with members. Jimmy Long, held the gong at start and finish aided and abetted by Ken Barker, Len Hill and Geoff Lockett. Bert and Percy helped the riders round the Black Dog. John Futter was at Saughton, Alan Gorman, Dave Thorold, Bren Orrell, Arthur Birkby, Frank Perkins and Don Stewart looked after drinks and various bits of the course whilst Pat O'Leary was at Farndon, Guy Pullan and Ted England at Saughton Camp and Frank Marriott at Chester.

#### BEESTON BROOK, 25TH MAY, 1957

The "Darling Buds of May" were not the only things shaken by to-day's "Rough Winds"; even so the going was not so tough as anticipated. Bert Wood was already at the bridge when I arrived; much to my surprise there were no ice-floes visible in the brook. Once inside the café the difficulty was to keep cool, at least for those of us within range of the fire. Rumour has it that thirty people have been fed there at one sitting, if true, sardine canners could learn a lot from our hostess. There was no lack of conversation, I counted five different discussions at one time; topics ranged from canal barge holidays to American diplomacy(?), but no mention was made of Sabrina (Guy's sweetie pie). The Gayton Gauleiter had the nerve to arrive nearly an hour late, but this did not prevent him from faring better than the rest of the party—it must be his fatal charm! Although there was a meeting at Oulton Park, the "fall-out" in the lanes was not so dense as usual, although the ill-mannered driving was quite up to Continental standards.

In addition to the President those present were: F. Churchill, Len Hill, Jack Newton, Bren Orrell, John Parr, Don Stewart, Bert Wood, Dave Thorold, Ben Griffiths and Percy Williamson.

## FOREST CAFE, HATCHMERE, 1ST JUNE, 1957

Another day of blazing sunshine had tempted hordes of motorists on to the roads making the New Chester Road more like a race track than ever. At Bromborough I was glad to slip into the lanes and take life easy. Stoak canal bridge provided an ideal spot to smoke my pipe and re-live the extremely enjoyable tourlet with Frank Perkins from which I had just returned.

Manley seemed to me to be the best approach to Hatchmere and, wind assisted, I drifted gently along, but the heat of the sun was playing havoc with the surface of the road which had an insufficient layer of chippings. Soon my tyres were a glutinous mess of wet tar and I was forced to perform a major operation with the aid of pieces of stick, etc. Loose hay from the road verges were soon sticking to the wheels and before long I closely resembled a mobile hay-stack!

Rex Austin, whom we were surprised and very delighted to see again, was in conversation with Guy and Ted England when I arrived at the Forest Café. Between mouthfulls of ham and lettuce I elicited the information that the Championship "25" demanded their presence at an unearthly hour in the morning, and in an effort (vain, I suggest!) to keep their "school-girl" complexions it was "early to bed".

Frank Perkins had been wandering about the Shropshire and Cheshire lanes since Friday morning, having spent the night in Shrewsbury at a house very close to the railway. He complained that most of the rolling stock in the country must have stopped and shunted there during the small hours causing him a somewhat restless night. Ken Barker breezed in, but, being a motorist, said he wasn't hungry, although I fancied I caught him casting envious glances at the fast disappearing food!

As expected, the wind died down in the evening allowing the Manchester and Wirral sections to arrive at their respective homes with little effort.

Those present were:-Bert Green, Percy Williamson, Laurie Pendlebury, Guy, Ted England, Rex Austin, Len Hill, Ken Barker, Churchill, Ben, O'Leary, Perkins, John Parr, Peter Clayworth and Birkby.

## WHITSUN WEEK-END, 8TH-10TH JUNE, 1957

Anfielders were at the Lion in force this year, and on Sunday morning we set out by various routes, and means of transport for Bishops Castle, where we were to lunch at the Guest House.

The main cycling party consisting of Bert Green, Percy Williamson, Albert Preston, Len Hill, Fred Churchill, Peter Clayworth (prospective), Reg Wilson and Dave Brown had a pleasant ride as far as the Pound Inn where we hoped to get elevenses, but all we got there was torrential rain, which persisted until we left the main road at Marshbrook. We arrived at the Guest House to find Don and Mrs. Stewart there before us. Others to arrive were Jimmy and Mrs. Long, Guy Pullan with Ted England, Mrs. Williamson with Mr. and Mrs.

Beauchamp (Bath Road), and just when we had given up hope of his arriving, in rolled Stan Wild in a very jovial mood accompanied by friend Bill Cuthbert (Cheshire Roads).

It was a very good and enjoyable meal, but alas we ran out of tea when the electricity supply failed, and Stan Wild, being a late starter, had to finish off on cider.

Mrs. Long demonstrated how well she has Jimmy trained at clearing away the pot, but Jimmy was heard to say something about waiting and seeing who cleared away next year.

The return trip through the Hope Valley was rather wet, even surpassing Whit Sunday at Clun in 1954.

Soon after starting on the return journey we were joined by Alf Howarth and Walter Thorpe, who had been touring mid-Wales since dawn on Saturday, and had just lunched within a mile of us.

Back at the Lion Hubert Buckley and Jack Salt and family had arrived. Others staying at the Lion were the many Austins, Mr. and Mrs. Rex and Bobby, Mr. and Mrs. Harry and family, and last but far from least, organiser, Eric Reeves with his friend Alf Daniels.

#### LITTLE BUDWORTH, 15TH JUNE, 1957. PHOTOGRAPH RUN

The ride out for Ted England and me was not so pleasant as it might have been. Ted had to mend a puncture and I had to pump up after one of those unaccountable deflations that require no further attention. Then the overpowering heat melted the tar in the lanes after Stoak church and we stopped several times to clear our tyres of the filthy mess that scraped against the stays and made the going sluggish. It was a real relief to reach the main road and to restore our morale with tea and cakes at Stamford Bridge. After catching up with Frank Perkins we arrived at Little Budworth by some sandy tracks near Oulton Park.

The attendance at the Red Lion of some 21 members was not too good for a photograph run, but we were especially pleased to meet such infrequent attenders as Mark Haslam, Don Birchall, Rex and Bob Austin, Geoff Lockett and Ira Thomas. Bert Green looked bronzed and fit after a week at Chirbury and Len Hill also had included the run in his return from holiday in Herefordshire.

After an adequate tea a group formed up for the photographers to work on, the latter being Fred Churchill (black and white) and Bob Austin and Guy Pullan (colour) who worked well as a team. Their drill was to press the camera triggers together, charge to arranged positions in the group and everybody to hold their poses until three clicks denoted that the cameras had taken the pictures by delayed action.

Those included in the group not already mentioned were Harry Duck, Pat O'Leary, Ken Barker, Ben Griffiths, Laurie Pendlebury, Bert Wood, Jack Newton, Eddie Goodall and Bren Orrell. Fred Churchill's photograph of the above is included in this issue.



LITTLE BUDWORTH — 15th June, 1957

[Photo by F. Churchill

Back row (*left to right*). I. A. Thomas, F. Perkins, E. G. Pullan, G. Lockett, D. Birchall, H. Green, G. B. Orrell,  
J. R. Griffiths, M. Haslam, E. England, H. Wood, H. H. Duck.  
Front row (*left to right*). F. Churchill, R. J. Austin, L. J. Hill, K. W. Barker, L. Pendlebury, P. O'Leary,  
J. Newton, E. Goodall, R. R. Austin.

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# ANFIELD CIRCULAR



*Journal of the Anfield Bicycle Club (Formed March, 1879)*

*President:* H. GREEN

*Captain:* D. STEWART

*Hon. Secretary:* F. E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange, West  
Kirby, Cheshire

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## FIXTURES

### SEPTEMBER

- 7 CLUB "50". H.Q., PAVILION CAFE, HUNTINGTON
- 9 COMMITTEE MEETING, Free Church Centre, Liverpool
- 14 CLUB "25". H.Q. HATTON HEATH
- 15 DALTON. Prescott's Farm. Lunch, 1.30 p.m.
- 21 HATCHMERE. Forest Café
- 28 TARPORLEY STATION. Bridge Café

### OCTOBER

- 5/6 AUTUMN TINTS TOUR. Sun Hotel, Llansantffraid
- 6 Lunch. Dickin Arms, LOPPINGTON
- 5 Alternatives—Eureka Café, TWO MILLS  
SOMERFORD
- 12 HALEWOOD. Derby Arms. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- 19 TARVIN. George and Dragon
- 21 COMMITTEE MEETING. Free Church Centre, Liverpool
- 26 HATCHMERE. Forest Café  
*Wednesday evenings: Eureka Café, Two Mills*

## COMMITTEE NOTES

*The Annual General Meeting* will be held at the Derby Arms, Halewood, on Saturday, 12th October 1957. Members having any matter for inclusion on the Agenda should advise the Secretary not later than the 21st September.

*New Member:* Mr. Denis Ryan, 11 Harrow Road, Ellesmere Port, has been elected to Full Membership.

*Resignation:* The resignation of Mr. W. E. L. Cooper has been accepted with regret.

*Transfer to Honorary List:* Mr. Alan Bretherick has been transferred to the Honorary List.

*Change of Address:* J. E. Goodall, 78 Brailsford Road, Fallowfield, Manchester 14,

*Membership not taken up:* Mr. W. T. Phillips of Seaforth, who has not paid his first subscription according to the rules of the Club, has not fulfilled the qualifications of Membership and his name is therefore not included in the Roll.

Names please, for the Tints Tour at Llansantffraid to the Secretary.

#### IN MEMORIAM

##### J. GORDON SHAW

When in 1921 our own J. A. Grimshaw won the "24" with a ride of 375½ miles he was run close by one J. G. Shaw, a member of the Sharrow C.C., who finished second with 350¾ miles.

Although resident in Sheffield Gordon Shaw was attracted to the Anfield way and joined the Club in 1923 when he again rode in the '24' and again finished second, with 360¼ miles, to W. A. Tuplin (Gomersal), who covered 366 miles.

The following year it was Shaw first with 363¼ miles, then Tuplin, 359½ and Arthur Hancock 352½. Later in the year he covered 322½ miles in the North Road classic. His last ride in our '24' was in the 1926 event when he finished third with 369 miles.

Himself no mean performer, Gordon Shaw was keenly interested in long distance riding and records and in 1949 he toured the End to End route with George Jowitt, eighty-year-old President of the Uppertorpe C.C. as tandem partner and Tom White on a single. His lantern talk on this *Veterans' End to End* delighted a large body of members at a subsequent Halewood Birthday Run as it had captured the imaginations of many cyclist audiences in and around Sheffield.

It was with great regret that we learned of his death in July at the age of seventy, and the sympathy of the Club goes to his relatives in their loss.

#### TREASURY NOTES

A few subscriptions are still outstanding despite repeated appeals for payment. The financial year of the Club ends on 30th September and the accounts must be closed, balanced and audited before the A.G.M. on the 12th October.

Will those members still in arrears please send a remittance without delay?

#### THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The A.G.M. will be held at the Derby Arms, Halewood, on Saturday, 12th October 1957, and all members are urged to make a special effort to attend. Quite apart from the business to be transacted the occasion is a good opportunity for an autumn re-union and a bumper attendance provides a good start to another Anfield year.



## AUTUMN TINTS

The popular Tints Tour has been arranged for 5th/6th October and accommodation has been booked at the Sun Hotel, Llansantffraid. Members not able to join the full tour but free on the Sunday can join the party at lunch at the Dickin Arms, Loppington.

The Secretary will be glad to have names for this Tour as soon as possible.

## RACING NOTES

At the time of writing two Club events, one at 25 and one at 50 miles, remain to be run on the 7th and 14th September. Ray Booty again won the B.R. "100" and the usual party of Anfielders supported the tour to this classic event.

The Mersey Road Club "24", this year incorporating the National Championship, was won by J. Leversidge, Rutland C.C. with 467.8 miles, just over five miles better than his clubmate R. Coukham. Vegetarian P. Duvéan was third with 459.8 miles. John Arnold, famous trike exponent, wearing special clogs owing to a serious foot disability, was tenth (on a bicycle) with a fine ride of 432 miles.

Len Hill, Salty, Denis Ryan, Pat O'Leary, Bert Preston and John Parr manned the all night field at Nant Hall, near Prestatyn. Chief cook Ryan made gallons of tea and lashings of soup. Abdul was Senior Bottle Washer, a sinecure, for who ever washed bottles for racing men?

This job has been tackled year after year by Anfielders at no cost to the organisers and this year Fred Carson and friends transported the ingredients and mobile field kitchens to the site by car.

Among other Anfielders assisting with the event were Harold Catling and Stan Bradley in the Nantwich area and Ira Thomas looked after Battlefield Corner.

John Parr followed up his 218 miles in a first "12" by covering almost 229 miles at his second attempt in the L.T.T.C.A. "12".

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Each summer without fail comes a tasty bit of alpine scenery on a card from Stan Wild, and this year's showing the Col du Lautaret revealed that Cheshire Roader John Alleroft and our own Rex Austin were in the party. Rex, though due to retire shortly, never retired during the trip but disposed of anything that got in the way on his 3lin. gear.

Whilst we await the official write-up of the tour to the Bath Road "100" another note from Stan describes his own tourlet from Bexhill to join the party. On the Saturday he took a quiet inland route round to Chichester via such pleasantly sounding villages as Plumpton, Ditchling, Poynings and Steyning, with views of the famous Chanctonbury Ring on the skyline. Sunday was spent hammering up to the Fox and Hounds, Beenham (to join Salty, Bren and Mrs. Orrell) via Fareham, Winchester and Newbury.

After witnessing Booty's addition of another B.R. "100" to his list of winning rides Stan had well over a century to do before reaching Bexhill via Farnham, Elstead, the charming village of Chiddingfold and lanes to Billingshurst, site of the late Frank Patterson's Pear Tree Farm.

Also down at the B.R. "100" were Bert Green, Jimmy and Mrs. Long and Albert Preston at Pangbourne, Percy Williamson and Urban Taylor and among Bath Roaders they met were Jack Beauchamp, Carl Arvey, Westaway and the Boffin.

Reg Wilson and Denis Ryan have been touring Devon with a tent; their description of the weather was in glorious technicolour and quite unsuitable for reproduction in these pages.

Sid Carver headed up at Two Mills one Wednesday recently with son Michael on the way to Rock Ferry after a tourlet to Stratford and before making for Farnborough. After attending a run at Sandiway, Sid managed another Wednesday evening at the Mills when the regulars were joined by Blotto, Sammy Marriott and Pat O'Leary.

Vic Lambert has had a long spell in hospital but we understand that he is now home and making good progress.

The 1958 Empire Games are to be staged at Cardiff in July next and any members interested in advance booking should contact Don Stewart as soon as possible. The track events are on 21st/24th July and the road race on 26th July.

After starting innumerable Anfield arguments over heavy wheels for racing with much torque about kinetic energy and so on, Alf Howarth has had the nerve to take a guinea from *Cycling* for a letter suggesting some advantages of *smaller wheels*.

Just as this issue was going to press we heard with great regret of the death on the 31st July of J. A. Grimshaw, and we hope to publish a further notice regarding our veteran member next month.

## R U N S

### SECOND "FIFTY". JUNE 22ND. HUNTINGTON

The new "50" course is proving itself quite well, as was witnessed by John Futter's time of 2.7.34. A slight modification to the start was made so that the venue could be changed to the Pavilion Café, Huntington.

Big things were expected of this event because Futter, Parr and Brian Wright had all recently improved their 50 times, but Brian D.N.S., as he was riding in the Lancs. R.C. 12 hour event the next day. John Parr slowed 4 minutes and so John Futter had a runaway victory for fastest and handicap.

As can be seen from intermediate times Den Jones was half minute up on John at 13½ miles, but at 30 miles this lead had turned into a 1¼ minute deficit; nevertheless Den was the only rider to improve, Reg Wilson came out of retirement and was just outside evens whilst Jack Salt, Ben Griffiths and Bert Wood D.N.F.

Jimmy Long returned the following times:—

	13½ mls.	30 mls.	50 mls.
J. C. Futter	36.15	1.15.25	2.7.45
J. Parr	37.10	1.19.30	2.17.41
D. Jones	35.45	1.16.40	2.18.12
R. Wilson	38.35	—	2.34.46

Bert Green officiated at the Black Dog, Ted England at Stocks Lane, Chester and Pat O'Leary at Farndon, whilst Bren Orrell, Dave Thorold, Don Stewart and friend Denis Ryan supplied drinks with Mrs. Orrell and Mrs. Futter looking on.

Others out at start and finish were Len Hill, Arthur Williams, Brian Jones, Ken Barker with David and Rigby Band with a young protégé, Paul Walters.

#### LITTLE BUDWORTH, 29TH JUNE 1957. INTER-CLUB "25"

A fine bright afternoon, perhaps a trifle heavy for racing, good fellowship and a sporting event, the result of which was in doubt almost until the last man had finished were the ingredients for a club-run as enjoyable as any we have had and many are wondering why such a fixture with our friends of the Cheshire Roads Club had not been thought of years ago.

We had been asked to finish the meal at the Red Lion by 6.30 p.m. and this necessitated an early start so that Bill Bailey sent off the first of the nineteen starters at 3.46 p.m.

An early check showed Dave Norris of the "Chesh" and John Futter level with Norman Evans (C.R.C.) 15 seconds down so it was obvious that the struggle for fastest time honours was to be keen.

Quite a gallery collected at the finish and many amateur (or independent?) mathematicians checked the timekeeper's arithmetic for the Team Race was to be decided on handicap times. John Futter romped home fastest with a fine ride of 1.2.38, but two Chesh men followed inside a minute and others were to come with rides little slower than their leading pair. Eventually it was found that our rivals had won the Team medals by 1min. 28secs., a fair result which would be unchanged whatever method had been adopted.

A good crowd gathered at the Red Lion and, notwithstanding a minor *hiatus* due to there being an excess of bodies over meals ordered, everyone was eventually satisfied.

The full result of the race is appended and in addition to the riders named the fixture was supported by the following of "Theirs" and "Ours":—Cheshire R.C.: A. C. Wood, W. Bailey (and Mrs. Bailey), John Allcroft, Bob Grainger, Mr. Norris, senior, — Parker and friend Chris Hargreaves.

Anfield:—Bert Green, Jimmy Long, Russ Barker, Bert Wood, Len Hill, Walter Thorpe, Alan Gorman, Guy Pullan, Arthur Williams, Ken Barker, Dave Thorold, Bren Orrell, senior (and Mrs. Bren), Percy Williamson, with Mrs. Futter and Denis Ryan (prospective).

	Club	"25" Miles		H'cap		Handicap Time		Pos'n
		H.	M. S.	M.	S.	H.	M. S.	
1	J. C. Futter	A.B.C.	1. 2.38	Scr.		1.2.38		2
2	D. E. Norris	C.R.C.	1. 3.18	Scr.		1.3.18		6
3	N. A. Evans	C.R.C.	1. 3.36		10	1.3.26		7
4	W. Pomfret	C.R.C.	1. 3.44	1	30	1.2.14		1
5	E. Hammond	C.R.C.	1. 4.41		45	1.3.56		11
6	J. E. Conway	C.R.C.	1. 4.48	1	0	1.3.48		10
7	D. Jones	A.B.C.	1. 5.15	1	10	1.4. 5		13
8	A. N. Hammond	C.R.C.	1. 5.44	2	30	1.3.14		5
9	W. Boothroyd	C.R.C.	1. 6.19	3	50	1.3.29		8
10	J. Parr	A.B.C.	1. 6.20	2	10	1.3.10		3
11	J. R. Griffiths	A.B.C.	1. 6.26	1	45	1.4.41		15
12	R. Wilson	A.B.C.	1. 8.35	3	30	1.5. 5		16
13	T. C. Gibbon	C.R.C.	1.10.19	6	15	1.4. 4		12
14	H. R. Warburton	C.R.C.	1.11.12	8	0	1.3.12		4
15	P. Robinson	A.B.C.	1.11.18	7	45	1.3.33		9
16	J. J. Salt	A.B.C.	1.14.33	10	0	1.4.33		14
17	P. O'Leary (Tri.)	A.B.C.	1.23.53	17	0	1.6.53		17

D.N.S.: K. Hindley (C.R.C.), E. England, B. Wright (A.B.C.).

D.N.F.: B. Orrell (A.B.C.).

Teams—4 to count on handicap times.

1. Cheshire R.C.	2. Anfield B.C.	
W. Pomfret 1.2.14	J. C. Futter	1.2.38
H. R. Warburton 1.3.12	J. Parr	1.3.10
A. Hammond 1.3.14	P. Robinson	1.3.33
D. E. Norris 1.3.18	D. Jones	1.4.5
<hr/>		<hr/>
4.11.58		4.13.26

*Timekeeper:* W. Bailey. *Handicapper:* L. Heald, Lanes. R.C.

BARTINGTON, 13TH JULY 1957

Having received two cards notifying a change of tea place from Daresbury to Bartington I realised that I didn't know the new place; disturbing the Captain during Saturday lunch landed me with the job of writing up the run.

Len and I met at Runcorn Bridge and decided on the direct route via Halton Castle; later we nearly collided with Len Hill and Ted England who were on the main road as we emerged from a side turning. They had volunteered to go to Daresbury and direct any who arrived there to the "Tall Trees" which I instantly recognised, having been before but knew the place as Lower Whitley.

Heavy rain was falling as we arrived and we were able to watch late comers floating or paddling in. Reg Wilson and Denis Ryan

had also been foxed by "Bartington" and had enquired of a native only to find they had arrived !

Bert Green, Bren senior, Bert Wood, Guy Pullan, Fred Churchill and John Parr attended in addition to those already mentioned and as I am writing a month after the event and dimly remember that eleven were out I can only hope that I have named the correct team.

#### HATTON HEATH, 20TH JULY 1957

The start of the third "25" was delayed ten minutes due to a heavy thunderstorm centred on the Whitchurch road. I had watched the big black cloud all the way down the Chester by-pass, but at Christleton it was cape on and a soaking by the time Hatton Heath was reached.

Following the rain there was no wind which made conditions fast, but hard over the last three miles, and of the five who started John Futter was fastest with 1.2.14, the fastest ride at the distance so far this year in the Club. Den Jones followed in 1.4.19, whilst Peter Robinson improving four and a quarter minutes, won the handicap with an excellent ride of 1.5.20. Reg Wilson and Jack Salt with 1.11.33 and 1.13.38 completed the field.

Of the 'D.N.S.' Pat O'Leary was out, but under doctor's orders not to race, and John Parr was riding a 100 on the morrow.

Others present were Bert Green, Bren and Mrs. Orrell from the turn, Jimmy, who held the watch and Mrs. Long, Guy Pullan, Dave Thorold, Len Hill, Denis Ryan and Don Stewart. During the earlier part of the afternoon Don Birchall had been present trying out a new Hillman. Whilst everyone was thinking of going home, Peter Robinson and his young lady made off for Roman Bridge hostel. They left at 6.30 and with a tidy ride in front of them, it would be interesting to know what time they arrived.

Dave and I rode as far as Kelsall with John, who was staying overnight at Goostry and we arrived home just as a few more large spots of rain were beginning to fall.

#### VICAR'S CROSS, JULY 27TH, 1957

Arriving at the Silver Teapot Café after an uneventful ride through a 'bus-less' countryside, I found Stan Bradley and Harold Catling already entrenched. They were in haste to get 'stoked-up', and on their way, being on duty as marshals at Clive Green.

Next on the scene, coming from the start of the Mersey R.C. "24", were Bert Wood, Pat O'Leary, John Parr and Bren Orrell, senior.

When their inner man was satisfied Pat and John set off for Nant Hall, where the Anfield faithfuls were manning the all night feeding station.

Yours truly having other fish to fry or more precisely another 'engagement', potted off towards Broughton.

Present were John Parr, Stan Bradley, Pat O'Leary, Harold Catling, Bren Orrell and Ben Griffiths. (Also engaged overnight at Nant Hall were Len Hill, Salty, Denis Ryan and Bert Preston). ED.

## TWO MILLS, AUGUST 3RD, 1957

About 5.30 a few stay-at-homes (a very few) arrived at the Eureka Café, most of the regulars being in attendance at the Bath Road "100". This day of glorious sunshine attracted only four members on this alternative run, hardly worth calling the roll! The 'good companions' being Peter Jones, Reg Wilson, Denis Ryan and Ben Griffiths.

## LITTLE BUDWORTH, 17TH AUGUST 1957

Having the opportunity at last to attend a run, and knowing that Albert Crimes was due to pass through Cheshire around midday on his End-to-End tricycle attempt, it seemed a nice thought to give him a cheer. A tricycle was clearly the correct attire, so I prepared to ride mine for the first time for 18 months. The beast repaid my neglect by producing pains in peculiar parts of my anatomy, but after a few miles it moved better and I turned from the Chester road on to A.49 some four hours before Crimes was due, thinking that I might get nearly to Whitechurch before encountering him. However a few miles down the road I had stopped for elevenses when a car pulled up to say that Crimes was not far behind. Sure enough he shortly appeared, riding steadily with an appearance of happy concentration, three hours ahead of schedule. (He reached John o' Groats in 2 days, 12 hours, 37 minutes, taking a large slice off the record). Having completed the main object of my ride unexpectedly early, there did not seem any point in riding far, as the weather was exceedingly gloomy (the photographer's excuse for inactivity), so the afternoon was spent pottering around the neighbourhood of Beeston and Peckforton castles, an out-of-the-world district where sheepdogs recline on doorsteps and cats peer at you from hedgerows. It is also a rather dry region and chronic dehydration was setting in before I found the Carden Arms at Higher Burwardsley. Eventually I drifted slowly to Little Budworth.

At 5.30 the attendance was some way short of the ten teas ordered but members gradually drifted in until finally we were eleven, plus Ken Barker, who was on a family outing but looked in after tea. The Red Lion's custom of putting us at small tables does not help the Club spirit, as at least three separate conversations were going on. The most notable attender (apart from myself) was Alf Howarth, who had come from Rotherham, though not all the way by his own efforts. For the journey home I was well content to join the slow section, with the cyclometer registering 78 miles out of a total of 682 since I bought the machine seven years ago. (Albert Crimes would cover this distance in two days).

Present were the Presider, K. Barker, A. Birkby and son, E. Goodall, A. Gorman, L. Hill, A. Howarth, L. Pendlebury, P. Williamson, H. Wood and G. G. Taylor.

# ANFIELD CIRCULAR

*Journal of the Anfield Bicycle Club (Formed March, 1879)*

*President:* H. GREEN

*Captain:* D. STEWART

*Hon. Secretary:* F. E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange, West Kirby, Cheshire

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VOLUME LII      OCTOBER—NOVEMBER, 1957

NUMBER 613

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## FIXTURES

### NOVEMBER

- 2 HALEWOOD (Derby Arms).      WILDBOARCLOUGH  
9 BARTINGTON (Tall Trees Café).      (Stanley Arms).  
11 COMMITTEE MEETING, Free Church Centre, Liverpool.  
16 DALTON (Prescott's Farm).      SOMERFORD.  
23 HATCHMERE (Forest Café).  
30 TARVIN (George & Dragon).

## COMMITTEE NOTES

W. E. McWhinnie has been transferred to Honorary Membership.

*Application for Membership:* Herbert Cedric Wood, 1 Clavendon Road, Hazel Grove, Cheshire, proposed by H. Green, seconded by K. W. Barker, has applied for Junior Membership.

*Change of Address:* R. Wilson, 77 Claughton Road, Birkenhead.

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All matter for publication must be written or typed on one side of the paper only and sent to the Editor: K. W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE, so as to reach him not later than the Tuesday before the last Saturday in the month.

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## CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

Over 21, 30s.; Under 21, 15s.; Honorary, a minimum of 10s. and donations to the Prize Fund (unlimited) should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, A. E. C. Birkby, 23 Manor Avenue, Gt. Crosby, Liverpool, 23, or may be paid into any branch of the Midland Bank Ltd. for credit of the Anfield Bicycle Club A/c. 23 Liverpool Road, Great Crosby branch.

### In Memoriam

1914 — 1918

E. A. Bentley	G. Poole
David Rowatt	Edmund Rowatt

1939 — 1945

B. H. Band	D. L. Ryalls
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*"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow  
old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them."*

#### J. A. GRIMSHAW

With great regret we have to report the death of J. A. Grimshaw, which took place on August 31st last, in his 72nd year. The President represented the Club at his interment on September 3rd.

His club riding commenced with the old Cheadle Hulme C.C., of which E. Buckley was also a member. He assisted Buckley in record attempts and in 1909 himself got on the books of the N.R.R.A. with an unpaced "100" record of 5.11.55. In the same year he took first handicap in the Anfield "100"—he was on 22 mins. but finished within less than 7 mins. of the fastest time. He joined us in 1911 and from then on for many years helped to keep the Club in the news, particularly in distance events.

In 1913 he won the Irish Road Club Invitation "100", in record time, and in 1914 won the same Club's "50", his time again being a record.

He was second to Buckley in the 1911 "24", and first in those of 1912, 1913, 1914, 1920 and 1921. He was a good third in 1923 and 1925. In 1921 he partnered C. H. Turnor in gaining the N.R.R.A. Tandem "12". During the 1914-1918 war he served in the R.A.S.C.

His was an engaging personality and he met all things equably—he was generally known as "Happy"—and had hosts of friends in his active years. During his later years he suffered from persistent bad health, but met all his misfortunes with the same cheerfulness. His last appearance in cycling circles was in October 1956, when he attended an N.R.R.A. lunch and it was heartening to see his joy at meeting his old friends. His interest in the Club never waned and he was kept in touch with its doings by the *Circular*, and many Sunday morning chats with the President. He will long be remembered by all who knew him.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

The death of Rupert Gibson has come as a great shock to his many friends on Merseyside and far beyond the bounds of the C.T.C. Liverpool D.A., which he served with distinction since joining in 1937.

A dental surgeon by profession, he was awarded the M.B.E. for services in the Middle East during the second world war. On his return to civilian life he re-entered fully into the activities of the C.T.C. and was elected a councillor for Lancashire, an office he relinquished regretfully with a growing awareness of increasing physical disability which was to cause his death at a comparatively early age.

That enthusiastic rider and most regular attender at our "100", Arthur Smith, led the C.T.C. Bristol D.A., Golden Jubilee Run on August 24th, fifty years to the day after, and over the same route as the first D.A. Run.

"By a tragic coincidence the Anfield B.C. lost two of their modern 24-hour men in the same month". So wrote G.H.S. in *Cycling*, when referring to the deaths of Gordon Shaw and "Happy" Grimshaw. These two keen though friendly rivals had many hard and long battles on the road. "Happy" won our "24" in 1912-13-14 and again in 1920-21, and it was in the latter year that Gordon Shaw chased him to within four miles. From then the honours were about even until 1926 when their joint onslaught on the "24" ceased.

It is a much happier coincidence that this issue which reports an excellent novice "25" by Cedric Wood (son of Bert) a month or two before his sixteenth birthday should also contain his application for membership.

The Deeside Café, Parkgate, has closed its doors leaving us without a convenient venue in the Wirral for the annual Ladies' Night. Other avenues will be explored and it is hoped that a suitable spot can be found. The suggested date for this year (December 14th) was found to clash with the Mersey Roads Club Dinner, so that a re-arrangement was indicated in any case but the passing of "Prosser's" is to be regretted.

This issue marks the end of seven years tenure by the present Editor—quite a long time until compared with Stan Wild's spell of over twenty years in charge of the "Chesh" News. If we could be permitted a little moan it would be a plea for more "copy" particularly from those asked to write up runs and tours. Of late quite a number of reports have been missed resulting in bi-monthly publication due to lack of matter.

We were glad to see F. D. McCann recently, sunning himself in his front garden and enjoying a glorious view across Wirral to the Clwydian hills. Mac was remarkably chirpy considering a disability which precludes cycling and other activities dear to his heart and he sent good wishes to all friends in the Club.

## DAY OUT IN DERBYSHIRE

Sometimes fortune looks kindly on a day out. Sometimes it does not, and early in September I was wondering whether the glib lady would smile or not. Mildred and the family were away in Derbyshire for a crafty week-end holiday; I was alone, and, weather or no, that Sunday was ear-marked for a day in the hills. For a change it would be the Derbyshire Hills, with a surprise visit to a cottage the other side of Matlock and the prospect of a superb tea.

The alarm clock disturbed the silence of the morning at 5-0 a.m., but I was awake. Outside it rained, rain that came over the sea from the north-west splintered on the windows, but the wind meant easy miles. After tea, cereal, boiled egg, bread and butter, I was away at 6-0 for a comfortable run to the Mersey Tunnel. Just after 7-0 I was in Liverpool Central, and at 9-0 the scene changed to a comfortable express pulling gently out of Manchester.

At Chinley I was in the fresh air again, climbing out of the station and looking for a café recommended to me by the guard. It didn't look particularly promising from the outside, not much better than a stop for a cup of tea really, but the appearances belied the hospitality dispensed therein. The memory of that second breakfast will be with me for a very long time. Fried tomatoes (delicious!) and egg garnished with the loveliest rashers of wonderful home-cured, all dripping with the tastiest of "dip". Lashings of bread, butter, marmalade and tea made me feel very comfortable for a very long time. Outside the grey clouds scudded even faster, but they were lifting, and the rain had ceased.

Awheel again, soon I was in Chapel and on the gently climbing road to Castleton. On the wings of a wonderful morning I looked towards the everlasting hills, and walked. (I wasn't fit enough to ride far on that uphill road anyway). The crest, two miles or so out of Chapel, came slowly and then there was the delightful drift along the shelf road. How nice it is to pedal gently along, not knowing what will be around the next corner.

When Rushup Edge ended in the steep slopes of Mam Tor I left the bicycle at the roadside and clambered towards the summit of the Shivering Mountain for the view. The view was there, but the wind was so strong that I could hardly stand! So down to the road again, and an attempt on the historic slopes of the Winnats Pass in the best way possible—down! Good job I'd checked the cables and fitted new brake blocks. First there came a splendid panorama of Peakland, and then I seemed to be swallowed slowly in the hills, but it was a wonderful experience and I was sorry to reach the bottom. Lower down the pass there were crowds, and cars, and I hurried away to find that Castleton was even worse, so through Hope to Bamford for a mile or so into the wind and hills to glimpse again the beauties of the Ladyblower, and, perhaps, get some colour shots of the dam and the reservoir with its background of hills.

Back to Bamford for a hurried lunch, and, later, by the station, another stop for a shot of the nameplate *SALTERGATE LANE* (I think that's correct, I write from memory more than a month afterwards) and I left the place with a mental resolution to trace the route of the old road on the map when I got home.

Wind behind to Hathersage and Grindleford, and Baslow. Should it be Bakewell, or Chatsworth? Chatsworth every time, it's nearer! But the road was packed, and perhaps the other way might have been more pleasant. So to the mediocrity of Darley Dale, and (pardon me) the Matlocks. Beyond Cromford I was on the last lap, and, with a road that always seems easy, progress was very good to Whatstandwell. "Home" then was very near, and the tea came up to the expected standard. And there I might as well finish, as the journey home, by rattler from Matlock, wasn't worth writing about anyway.

## R U N S

FOREST CAFE, HATCHMERE, 10TH AUGUST, 1957

It was a fine afternoon and the ride down was really fast. Three rather scornful glances greeted us as we levered ourselves out of the car. True there was a bike in the boot but our friends were still muttering that exercise was the thing. The President led the way and we soon gathered around the tables where some slight amusement arose from the fact that our representatives from Liverpool were outnumbered by nearly three to one.

The Manchester contingent naturally expressed their surprise but quickly passed the conversation on to safer grounds such as vital statistics of—bicycles, the recent Bath Road "100", photography, and the excessive cost of cameras.

The return journey started in pouring rain which fortunately soon ceased and a fine evening with almost no wind should have made it easy for the riders. Those present were H. Green, Guy Pullan, Bren Orrell (senior), Bert Wood, and his son, F. Perkins, Alf Howarth, D. Brown, Don Stewart, Laurie Pendlebury and H. H. Duck. We also had the pleasure of the company of Mr. and Mrs. A. Littlemore and friend.

TARVIN, 31ST AUGUST, 1957

Having decided to put a few miles in, an early start was made and I forced my unwilling legs to push me through a few of Cheshire's lanes. However, I forsook this fruitless display of superhuman energy when I met Guy, Ken Barker, and Ken's younger half, David. We proceeded at a saner pace for the rest of the way pausing awhile at the Packhouse Bridges while Guy waded through the undergrowth with his camera in search of a picture, the rest of us, meanwhile, assuming various poses, artistic or otherwise.

We shot into Tarvin at something approaching thirty m.p.h. and pulled up with a screeching of brakes in front of an astonished crowd of members who gazed at us with awe and respect (Poetic Licence, all right, I know this stuff is very far from poetry, there's no need to split hairs, anyhow it does make for brighter reading).

We were informed that the George & Dragon was unable to cater for us and after a bit of palaver it was decided to honour the Gowey Café at Stamford Bridge, with our custom.

We wended our way to the café by various routes and at various speeds; when everyone had arrived and sorted themselves out it was seen that a few more members had joined us since Taryin, including latecomer Alf Howarth, who seemed unable to understand the scientific principle governing the opening of the café door. Orders were taken and Benno sat entranced by the waitress (keep that part quiet though, I hear he's become engaged) and with the apparently magical way in which she disappeared through the wall. It was subsequently explained that there really *was* a door round the corner, much, I suspect, to his disappointment.

Len Hill was heard commenting on the colour of a pair of slacks visible through the café window; he omitted, however, to note the contents of the aforesaid slacks, the writer regretfully concludes that Len is now past the age when such things cause him to get hot under the collar.

The meal was being consumed at a great rate and soon the Anfield crew was outside the establishment with various discussions continuing apparently non-stop.

The writer was treated to a learned thesis by the Hon. President on the adverse deodynamic effect of his mudguards. However prudence overcame the desire to go places faster and show Booty up, and they are still in position.

All good things come to an end and Guy, Ven., David, Arthur Birkby and I set off homeward through the lanes. Guy and Arthur engaged in a heated discussion of hay and straw harvests; for two "experts" their opinions varied alarmingly. We proceeded into the depths of Darkest Ellesmere Port where I abandoned them to the mercies of the local roads. I trust they got out intact.

For the benefit of those members who have noticed a certain disjointedness approximately halfway through this narrative I would like to add that having brushed up a rough draft I wrote it out again, threw the rough copy in the fire and found myself with two second pages and no third. Hence the disjointedness.

Other members present but not previously mentioned were Fred Churchill, Eddie Goodall, Bren (senior), Laurie Pendlebury, Pat O'Leary and John Parr, also the writer whom I can only hope has remained anonymous.

## HATTON HEATH, CLUB "50", 7TH SEPTEMBER, 1957

The attendance at this fixture is shrouded in mystery; apart from the three riders named below it is known that Jimmy Long held the watch and that Bert Green and Denis Ryan were on the course. No doubt others were out but so far as is known no complete list exists.

Reg Wilson, making a welcome comeback, returned fastest time of 2.27.23, Peter Robinson with a ride of 2.34.10 was the odd man out in the matter of prizes, and Bert Wood, 2.36.28, collected the handicap prize.

	Actual Time	H'cap.	H'cap Time	
R. Wilson	2.27.23	10	2.17.23	Fastest
P. Robinson	2.34.10	8	2.26.10	
H. Wood	2.36.28	21	2.15.28	1st H'cap.

## HATTON HEATH, CLUB "25", 14TH SEPTEMBER 1957

Notwithstanding some sudden and heavy showers and a most persistent wind, this was a pleasant day for riding through some of Cheshire's quiet lanes.

The Editor, urged on by son David, found the going easy through Mollington, Christleton and along the canal side to Huxley. Turning for Tattenhall brought the wind on to an unhelpful quarter and it was a tough push back to Hatton Heath with a thought spared for the athletes who would be having it hard coming back from the turn.

Again only three riders came under starter's orders so that Time-keeper Long needed little assistance from Mrs. Jimmy in getting the event moving.

Peter Jones returned fastest time just inside 'evens' and Bret Wood collected the handicap for the second week running.

The field was completed by Cedric Wood, son of Bert, who rode a private trial, missing evens by two minutes on a really tough day—an excellent novice effort at sixteen years of age.

Bert Green scorned the suggestion that British Railways should help him home and pushed off into the wind leaving Len Hill, Don Stewart, Reg Wilson and Denis Ryan in addition to those previously mentioned.

The advantages of a lane route soon became apparent as the strength of the wind was tested along the Chester road and a merry party turned off for Waverton and eventually reached the outskirts of Ellesmere Port only to find that Reg and Denis refused to be dumped at home so early in the evening and they were accordingly chased on to Two Mills to ensure that shelter and sustenance would still be available when the peleton arrived.

After a pleasant interlude, during which losses through perspiration were replaced by copious draughts of tea, the party broke up with another most enjoyable run drawing to a close.

HATCHMERE, 21ST SEPTEMBER, 1957

Emerging thankfully from the damp chaos of Chester's 'Saturday Circus', I rode slowly towards the peace of Delamere Forest. Here, walking quietly up the hill, admiring the changing colours of the trees as the shy sun peeped through occasionally, Bert Wood overtook me.

Encouraged by Bert's example I made good progress to the Forest Café, where we found Bert Green, Guy Pullan, Fred Churchill, Denis Ryan and Arthur Birkby. Alf Howarth brought his new car all the way from Rotherham and when Percy Williamson walked in, we settled down to one of our 'discussions', including amongst the "Cabbages and Kings" Alf's 'small wheels' and Kinetic energy!

A little later came a 'gate-crasher' in the person of Bren Orrell, who saw no reason why he should be locked out from the plentiful supply of grub.

Evening shadows were darkening the Forest as Guy, Denis and the writer, Ben Griffiths, set off on the switchback road towards home.

BEESTON BROOK (TARPORLEY STATION), SEPTEMBER 28TH

Only three—Bren Orrell, Len Hill and the President—turned up at this fixture. Why more were not present is a mystery, though it is said that one other spent a considerable time in the neighbourhood looking for "Tarpoley Station" without success, and went off home again, and perhaps there were others who did the same. He has my sympathy—I have never heard the neighbourhood named other than as "Beeston Brook" and, though I am assured that a railway station in the immediate vicinity is named "Beeston Castle and Tarpoley", that designation was unknown to me. The weather was certainly shocking, but that can't explain the defection of so many of the regulars. Fortunately the lady of the café had made no special preparations. She gave us a capital meal and I hope that we shall soon have another fixture there, this time with a good attendance.

TWO MILLS, 5TH OCTOBER, 1957

With the meet but eight miles away this alternative to the 'Tints' provided the Editor with a further choice of making a circuitous route to Two Mills or spending a glorious afternoon on some long overdue gardening. In the end the claims of the lawn-mower won the day and it was turned five o'clock before a start was made on the run.

The Eureka Café had the shutters up but another alternative nearby provided food and a grandstand seat from which to watch some pretty poor efforts at driving over the busy cross-roads outside.

John Parr arrived after trouble with a tyre which had required replacement and just as he was leaving (with a Derbyshire Hill Climb booked for the morrow) Denis Ryan made the attendance three and provided company for the scribe's return journey almost to Clatterbridge.

# ANFIELD CIRCULAR

*Journal of the Anfield Bicycle Club (Formed March, 1879)*

*President:* H. GREEN

*Captain:* D. STEWART

*Hon. Secretary:* F. E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange, West  
Kirby, Cheshire

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DECEMBER, 1957

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## FIXTURES

### DECEMBER

- 7 HALEWOOD (Derby Arms). WILDBOARCLOUGH (Stanley Arms).  
9 COMMITTEE MEETING, Free Church Centre, Liverpool  
14 BEESTON BROOK (Holmes' Café)  
21 KIRKBY (Cottage Café). PRESTBURY (White House Café)  
28 TWO MILLS (Eureka Café) SOMERFORD

1958

### JANUARY

- 4 HATCHMERE (Forest Café)  
11 TARVIN (George & Dragon)  
13 COMMITTEE MEETING, Free Church Centre, Liverpool  
18 GAYTON (Devon Doorway) WILDBOARCLOUGH (Stanley Arms)  
25 DALTON (Prescott's Farm) SOMERFORD

*A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR  
TO ALL*

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## COMMITTEE NOTES

*Boxing Day.* Please let me have names for this fixture. Boxing Day lunch is exceedingly difficult to arrange these days, and in view of the new management at Halewood, and the need to make their work worthwhile, a good attendance would be grand.

*Ladies' Night.* The Gayton Run on Jan. 18 is Ladies' Night. A splendid menu is envisaged, to be followed by a lantern show. Again a bumper attendance is requested. Names please.

Messrs. Fawcett, Urban Taylor and Rowson have been transferred to the honorary list.

The resignation of Mr. Harry Wilson has been accepted with regret.

*New member.* Mr. H. C. Wood, 1 Clarendon Road, Hazel Grove, Cheshire, has been elected to junior membership.

*Changes of address.* Mr. Alex Beaton, 7 Fort Street, Magdalena Green, W. Dundee, Angus.

Mr. J. C. Futter, 5 Broad Oak Avenue, Broughton, Chester.

*The following delegates have been appointed:* R.R.A., Messrs. Haynes and Killip. N.R.R.A., Gorman and Williamson. R.T.T.C., Marriott and Thorold. W.C.T.T.C.A., Ryan and Salt. N.C.U., J. J. Salt.

*Miss Markwell's Testimonial.* Contributions are coming in very slowly. Will those who have had just TWO good meals at Halewood express their *prompt* appreciation, please.

## TREASURY NOTES

As I idly turned over the pages of a 1931 *Circular* my attention was arrested by the "Treasury Notes" so humorously penned by the late R. L. Knipe.

Most of us, encouraged by his gentle pleadings and a few shamed by his kindly "shafts", had paid our subs. by the first quarter.

Perhaps many of us have forgotten that subscriptions (now 30/- full, 10/- hon.) are due on the 1st October, one year in advance, to enable the accounts of the current year to be paid.

As the committee have decided to transfer our small capital to a deposit account we are now almost entirely dependent on a regular influx of subs. to pay for the *CIRCULAR ALONE*. To quote Bob Knipe—"How can the treasurer treasure where no treasure is . . . ?"

A.E.C.B.

## MEETINGS IN THE NORTH

The Friday before the C.T.C. Council meeting at Blackpool on 5th October saw me "doing" the famed Blackpool lights by a round trip in a darkened tramcar. Despite a cynicism of many years standing, there was found something to wonder at and to accept as a worthwhile experience. Next morning after the meeting, "G.H.S." as hearty and lively as ever, asked if I was credited with an Anfield run on these occasions, to which I replied that I had been unable to convince the committee (or myself) that my atten-



dance was strictly an Anfield affair. We agreed that perhaps W. P. Cook would have managed it. He laughed heartily when I said pointedly that my Anfield badge at least off-set the North Road badges present; these being worn by G. H. S. himself, Harry England (the N.R. president) and Arthur Smith. We discussed also the recent deaths of Grimmy and Gordon Shaw.

After lunch a pleasant ride, with Arthur Smith and Cyril Nattress from Durham, through Fylde lanes brought us to Lancaster where Ed Green, another North Roader, awaited us. Tea was taken at Bolton-le-Sands at a café which Ed somewhat darkly said was not my sort of place. I judged it wise not to ask him whether it was too good for me or too bad—I still remember some years ago being particular and Arthur shooting the epithet "Anfielder!" at me.

From there the ride became a brisk training spin for Ed and a revival of old memories to me. At Levens Bridge, Arthur and Ed turned left for Sawrey, there to join Bill Oakley, Arthur Moss and Reg. Shaw who were staying a few days at Ed's well-known house. Cyril and I continued to Kendal, he for the youth hostel and me to stay at Miss Bryning's at 2 Holly Bank, on the Shap Road, a really good C.T.C. house. Quite unexpectedly, I was joined by Eric Seed, a Bolton C.T.C. member whom I first met some thirty years ago and who is a contemporary of our own Mark Haslam, and of Cliff and Ethel Baxter. Together we had a most interesting evening reminiscent of the many I have enjoyed in Kendal under another hostess, Mrs. Braithwaite assisted by her daughter Marjorie. They were featured in one of "Wayfarer's" most successful articles in *Cycling* years ago.

Sunday was taken up with hunting in the lanes south of Kendal, hunting for pictures to complete a certain ma keof colour film, of which I wanted to rid my camera. It was a disappointing day for the job but I managed the necessary seventeen exposures, including the magnificently simple porch of Fell End Farm, near Milnthorpe, where I lunched; the curious wrought-iron sign of the Stork Hotel, near Cockerham, and finished with a surprisingly good shot in the fading light of the fragmentary Greenhalgh Castle outside of Garstang.  
E.G.P.

#### NEWS IN BRIEF

The "Wayfarer" Memorial Fund Committee of the Birmingham and Midlands D.A., C.T.C. have obtained permission to place a memorial seat in Burford-on-the-Windrush, Oxon.

Fourteen members attended the N.R.R.A. luncheon at Macclesfield towards the end of October. Supporting the president were Percy Williamson, Sid Jonas, Frank Smith, Jimmy Cranshaw, Teddy Webb, Hubert Buckley, Rex and Bob Austin, Salty, Jack Newton, Dave Brown, Alan Gorman and Walter Thorpe.

Rigby Band will shortly be removing to Ramsbottom to take up a new appointment.

Arthur Birkby has had a spell of bronchitis and Len Killip recently underwent an operation for a burst duodenal ulcer. We hope that both will soon be fully recovered.

The Sun Hotel, Llansantffraid again proved a popular venue for the Tints Tour and the committee have decided that the Easter Tour shall also be based on this hospitable house in the Welsh border country.

Anfielders have ever been sparing in the bestowal of life membership and rightly so; the honour though sometimes belated is always richly deserved and never more so than in the case of our latest "lifer" Donald McCann who was elected at the A.G.M. for eminent services rendered over many years and particularly in the dark and difficult days of World War I. Mac completes fifty years' membership in 1958.

We offer apologies to those whose contributions to this issue have been severely pruned or held over until next month.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DERBY ARMS, HALEWOOD

12th October, 1957

#### *Present:*

Mr. H. Green in the chair and Messrs. R. J. Austin, K. W. Barker, S. Bradley, A. Birkby, F. Chandler, W. G. Connor, J. J. Davies, H. Duck, J. R. Griffiths, L. J. Hill, A. Howarth, F. E. Marriott, E. O. Morris, J. Newton, G. B. Orrell, P. O'Leary, J. Parr, G. Parr, L. Pendlebury, F. Perkins, E. G. Pullan, J. E. Reeves, D. Ryan, J. J. Salt, D. Stewart, D. Thorold, P. Williamson, H. Wood, D. B. Wright.

Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

*General secretary's report.* Membership now stands at 120. During the year we lost four old members by death, *viz.* S. J. Buck, J. Seed, J. G. Shaw and J. A. Grimshaw and three, H. S. Barratt, F. Beckett and W. E. L. Cooper, by resignation. We were glad to welcome seven new members, Ted England, Peter Jones, Alex Blaton, Dave Thorold, Denis Ryan, Pat O'Leary and Bath Roader R. H. Wright.

Bert Green attended fifty-two of the fifty-three fixtures held. Thirty-nine members were out at the "100", twenty-six at the A.G.M. and thirty-one at the Birthday Run. Seventy-three members were out on one or more occasions.

The Club History has sold remarkably well but demand at one guinea now appears to have dried up and consideration of a cheaper binding for remaining stock was suggested.

*Treasurer's report.* An excess of income over expenditure of £39 was entirely due to sales of the HISTORY which had been paid for in a previous year. Cost of the CIRCULAR was down £22 and cost of promoting time trials up £14.

*Captain's report.* Club events have been fully covered by the CIRCULAR and results need not be repeated here. Prizes gained in "Opens":—A. Gorman (third fastest) and H. Duck. Team prizes in N.W. Veterans' "25". D. Jones, handicap in W.C.T.T.C.A. "25" and J. Futter, second fastest in Mid-Shropshire Wheelers' "25".

The Anfield has been well represented in Open and Association events. Special mention must be made of John Parr who started the season as a novice and finished with 1.4 for twenty-five miles, 1.20 at thirty miles, 2.13 at fifty and a 4.51 "100". In two twelve-hour events he covered 218 and 229½ miles. D. Jones recorded a 1.2.17 "25" in his first season and John Futter took a minute off the club "30" record with 1.14.24 and improved his "50" time to 2.5.4. Standard medals won by members comprised two bronze, five silver and two small gold. Bryan Wright kept the flag flying in a number of mountain trials and recorded 2.10.41 in the Yorkshire R.C. "50" and a 4.36 "100". In all over sixty rides by members in "Opens" were recorded.

In a most successful Inter-Club "25" with the Cheshire R.C. our Manchester rivals collected the team medals (on handicap) by 1 min. 28 seconds. John Futter returned fastest time. It is hoped to repeat the event and reverse the result during the coming season.

The best thanks of the Club are due to Eric Reeves for his work in promoting the "100" (fully reported in an earlier issue).

*Club races and tours.* These were left to the committee with a recommendation that the possibility of including a hilly event at a distance over twenty-five miles in the racing programme be fully explored.

*Handbook.* The financial position did not warrant the re-printing of the Handbook at present but an up-to-date list of members is to be circulated.

*Life Membership.* A proposition that F. D. McCann be elected to life membership for eminent services rendered to the Club was received with acclamation and carried unanimously.

*Club badge.* It was agreed that deposits on badges first issued to new members be discontinued; replacements to be charged for as before.

*Election of officers.* A request from the chair for the nomination of a young man as president was greeted with calls of "Bert Green" from all quarters and the noise subsided only with the declaration "nominations closed". Other appointments to office or committee were:—

*Vice-presidents:* J. J. Salt and G. B. Orrell. *Captain and racing secretary:* D. Stewart. *Vice-captains:* J. Parr and H. Wood. *Hon. general secretary:* F. E. Marriott. *Open "100" secretary:* J. E. Reeves. *Hon. treasurer:* A. E. C. Birkby. *Editor, monthly CIRCULAR:* K. W. Barker. *Committee, in addition to officers:* Messrs. J. R. Band, W. G. Connor, L. J. Hill, A. E. Preston, E. G. Pullan, D. Ryan and D. Thorold. Eddie Morris and Jimmy Long were appointed auditors.

An omnibus vote of thanks to the chairman for his conduct of the meeting and to officers and committee for past services was proposed by Rex Austin and brought to an end a meeting full of interest and good humour.

### AUTUMN TINTS TOUR

5TH, 6TH OCTOBER, 1957

The idea of holding the Tints tour on the week-end when the clocks were put back one hour was excellent, for it allowed John Futter and me an hour or two of light to help us on our way on Friday evening and later provided an extra hour in bed on Sunday morning to assist recovery from the night before.

It was arranged that I should have tea at John's on Friday and then together, we would make post haste for Llansantffraid in order to allow all of Saturday to enjoy the wealth of beauty in the country bounded by the Welshpool road to the east and Cardigan Bay to the west.

After a most amiable ride down to the Sun Hotel, where Mrs. Swain was prepared for us, we sat down to a welcome supper and a chat over our plans for the morrow which were to include a potter along the Dovey and a quiet hour in the bright little township of Aberdovey.

In the morning a teasing wind kept our pace down so that we were able to enjoy to the full the beauties of Vyrnwy side and the deserted Vale of Mathrafal.

A delightful road leads gently upwards from Pont Robert until from the ridge there is the fine sweep down to the bridge above Llanfair Caereinion.

Hills bathed in sunshine reminded John of an earlier tour with Mary but now he was beginning to look at me askance as numerous signs of 'elevenness' were passed unnoticed until we reached the string of cottages at Llangadfan and halted to finalise our arrangements. Riding had been harder than we realised and an early lunch at Machynlleth was agreed upon.

Up and up we climbed until the wind scoured summit was reached before the romping miles through the Robbers' Gate to Mallwyd and so to Cemmaes Road where John paused for chocolate and bananas whilst the old dog carried on, glad of a few miles at his own speed. Together again we shortly turned off the main road to cross the Dovey and follow the old road to Llanegwyn and across the river again to our lunch stop at Machynlleth.

After a walk round the town we set off along the delightful road to Aberdovey to drink coffee, oil my bicycle which squeaked and chat with a young American whose father was in Korea and who voted English bikes and English (or was it Welsh?) scenery the best.

With the wind abaft we started to get our own back and fairly roared along the Newtown road as far as Llanbrynmair to turn left along the lane by the Wynnstay and climb slowly for mile after mile; John became rather talkative, a bad sign, and was told to ——— well shut up and on reaching the Welshpool road and Robbers' Gate he was speechless but able to half-wheel yours truly.

The morning halt at Llangadfan had been so cheery that we decided to call again at the cottage for tea and on leaving were disappointed to find that Boreas was no longer rude so that we had to push not pedal back to the Sun after a grand days' riding.

In or about the bar ten others awaited our arrival, Alf and Brian delayed as usual. The evening meal was enlivened by the banter of this hardened Anfield section of 'Tinters' whose names and number seem to vary little with the years.

Retiring from a board which had ceased to groan we delved into the mysteries of the Wolfenden Report and the rites of a certain cult of ancient Greece and I smoked Ginner's fags until midnight approached and I retired to bed leaving the enthusiasts to darts and Bert Wood's rum ration.

Sunday morning found three of us peering into the depths of the river long before breakfast on a calm morning with just a suspicion of mist but with promise of another fine day. After breakfast Bert and Percy set off direct for Manchester and Alf and Brian for Southport. Albert and Ginner dived into Shropshire in the 'bug' leaving five of us to make our leisurely way to Loppington.

John and I led the way but to Ben's disgust we found no place for elevenses as Alberbury, Ford and Montford Bridge were left behind and the welcome sign of the Dickin Arms appeared.

We were joined at an excellent lunch by Denis Ryan who had ridden out that morning. With noses pointing for home Ben began to show his paces, nearly wrecking all the traffic in Overton and scaring the wits out of the driver of an Austin midget.

After a tea stop in Holt, John and Ben made for Pulford and home whilst Len, Denis and I ambled quietly through Farndon and Chester to Two Mills for a final cup of tea before the last few miles to home and bed.

Fourteen stayed at the Sun and were looked after admirably by Mrs. Swain so that we look forward to spending Easter with her. Residents were Bert Green, Percy Williamson, Arthur Birkby, Rigby Band, Frank Perkins, Albert Preston, Arthur Williams, John Fuller, Alf Howarth, Brian Wright, Ben Griffiths, Len Hill, Jack Salt and Bert Wood. Denis Ryan joined in at lunch on Sunday.

## R U N S

HALEWOOD, 12TH OCTOBER, 1957

Bright sunshine tempted the writer to make an early start with the object of satisfying a nostalgic longing to rattle once more over

the Mersey before the Transporter is broken up and its component parts handed to Father Christmas for distribution to small boys as Meccano sets.

Fair progress was made to Frodsham and, after a brief stop for a "cuppa", Sutton Weaver Bridge and the gentle climb to Runcorn heights were left behind.

Both sides of the river showed signs of some progress on the new bridge but much water (and sewage) will flow down the Mersey before this new crossing is ready for traffic.

Even at 5-15 p.m. a good muster of members was evident at the Derby Arms and more arrived every minute until visitor Sid Dickinson could have counted thirty Anfielders in their best A.G.M. bibs and tuckers.

After a meal well up to Halewood standards the tables were cleared and a prompt start was made on the business of the evening; Two hours later with the pattern of our club life settled for another year we set off to pedal home, well satisfied with another ration of good riding and good fellowship. (For attendance at this fixture see report on the Annual General Meeting).

TARVIN, 19TH OCTOBER, 1957

As I pedalled from Heswall the sight of the distant Welsh hills set me longing to slip across and spend some time amid their quiet beauty but I was Tarvin bound and for once I had left early enough to be in time at the venue. This most unusual occurrence should not be spoilt by too lengthy detours so I was content to drop down Boathouse Lane to the quaint and ever delightful Parkgate, musing the while on the proposal to build a viaduct across the estuary of the Dee. Some day it may be done and then the Halkins and Clwydian hills will be brought within easy reach of a half days' ride.

A lane route led through Mollington and still largely unspoilt, the view of the manor house a prospect of beauty and dignity, and so to Tarvin well on time.

I am a George & Dragon fan; even if cheese has taken the place of meat on the menu there is a right royal welcome and excellent service at bar and board. This time it fell to me to arrange chairs round the table and then to find myself relegated to a lonely corner until joined by Benno who had worked until 4-30 p.m., rushed home, changed and motored to the meet.

The Welsh tricycle wizard with an Irish name showed himself most knowledgeable on the fisticuffs game as snatches of conversation of many topics floated over from the main table.

Present round the board were Bert Green, Arthur Birkby, Len Hill, Ben Griffiths, Pat O'Leary, Bren senior, John Parr, Guy Pullan, Denis Ryan, Don Stewart and Bert Wood,