

ANFIELD CIRCULAR

JOURNAL OF THE ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB (FORMED MARCH 1879)

President: R. J. AUSTIN

Vice Presidents: K. W. BARKER & L. J. HILL

Captain: J. H. MILLS

Hon. Secretary: F.E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange,
West Kirby, Cheshire (Caldy 7473)

Vol. LXI

JANUARY 1966

No.696

FIXTURES

February 1966

- 5 HATCHMERE (Forest Cafe).
- 7 Committee Meeting. Free Church Centre, L'pool.
- 12 PONTBLYDDYN - BYLEY.
- 13 BANGOR-ON-DEE (Smithy) Lunch 1.0 p.m.
- 19 LLANARMON (Lunch) TWO MILLS (Tea). SOMERFORD.
- 26 HOLT (Castle Cafe).
Youth Hostel Week-end. Shrewsbury.
- 27 WHITCHURCH (Station Cafe) Lunch 1.0 p.m.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

21 and over: 30/-. Under 21: 15/-. Cadet Members: 5/-.
Honorary: A minimum of 10/- and donations to the Prize
Fund should be sent to the Hon.Treasurer, L.J.Hill, Oak
Cottage, 29 Mill Lane, Gayton, Heswall, Wirral, or may
be paid into any Bank for credit of Anfield Bicycle
Club's account, Martins Bank Ltd., Heswall Branch.

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EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 7th February, 1966.

COMMITTEE NOTICES

Corrected address: H.H.Duck, 137 Darley Avenue, Manchester 21.

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In order to increase interest in Manchester alternative fixtures, it is proposed to try "underlining" one run each month and asking members to make a special effort to attend on that day. In February the run on the 12th has been chosen and those thinking of turning out are assured of company at Byley for tea.

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A Youth Hostel tour is already being planned for Easter and those interested should see John Thompson in good time.

Anyone interested in a fixed basetour, perhaps, though not necessarily, to Llansantffraid, should see the Captain without delay in order that the demand may be assessed.

The Birthday Run has been arranged for Saturday, 19th March, at the Derby Arms, Halewood. Please book the date now. In addition to the normal procedure we shall hold a brief General Meeting for business detailed elsewhere in this issue.

THE PRESIDENCY

Members will recall that, at the Annual General Meeting in October, the question of a successor to Rex Austin as President was referred to the Committee who were empowered to bring a name forward to a special General Meeting to be held later, probably at the Birthday Run.

After very full and careful consideration the Committee sent a unanimous and cordial invitation to Syd del Banco to allow his name to go forward for election and we are glad to say that this invitation has now been accepted.

Even a quick glance over the list of past Presidents of this great Club would cause anyone to shrink from trying to follow in the succession and so it was with Syd. Added to his natural modesty was the point that very heavy calls of business on his time during the three years or so before his retirement must mean that he will be unable to spend any more time on cycling and the Anfield than he has done in the last year or two.

At the January meeting, Committee members had a full and frank discussion of the position with Syd and this only served to strengthen our resolve to make him the next Anfield President,

Ever since the short period when Harold Kettle held the fort after the death of W.P.Cook, the Presidency has been held by a Manchester member. We were well served for many years by the late

Bert Green until his death in 1959, and since then Rex Austin has guided the Club with energy and distinction. In this matter, personal rather than territorial considerations are those which matter. It was his personal qualities and knowledge of and enthusiasm for the cycling game which prompted us to call Syd del Banco to assume the highest office in the Club, but many will feel it appropriate that the office should once again be filled by a member from the Anfield end of Anfieldland.

Because the maximum possible number of members should take part in the election of a new President, a special General Meeting is being called for the day of our Birthday Run (19th March) at Halewood. We hope that this will be an added inducement to members to make a special effort to be present. At that meeting the last duty which Rex will undertake as President will be the installation of his successor. The first duty of the new President will be to put to the meeting a proposal by the Committee that Rex Austin be elected to Life Membership not only on completion of 1000 run attendances but also for eminent services rendered to the Club in so many ways during a membership reaching back to 1923.

DINNERS

North Road Eightieth Annual Dinner, 11th December 1965

Two great racing men were feted at the North Road Dinner this year. Firstly came Cliff Smith (East Midlands C.C.) who was chaired to the President's table to receive the Invitation "24" Trophy for the fifth time (a record number of wins), this year's being the third in a row. A great rider and a great record. Secondly, we were delighted to see and hear Tommy Simpson, who thrilled us all by winning the World's Professional Road Championship at San Sebastian last September. Tommy was presented with the Bidlake Memorial Plaque by Jack Holdsworth (on behalf of the Bidlake Memorial Committee) for the most outstanding contribution to cycling in 1965. Charlie King, late President of the B.C.F. spoke briefly of the terrific impact Tommy Simpson has made on the continental scene - not only in sport but in general he has put Britain's name right back on the map. Finally, Alan Gafer, Editor of "Cycling" presented the World Champion with a colourful sash awarded by "Australian Cycling", so much so that he bore a distinct resemblance to Miss World!

After all this, the general proceedings seemed mundane indeed, but reached the usual high standard set by the North Road at the Connaught Rooms. Three things are done superlatively well. I like the way the diners are asked to rise to greet the President (Bill

Frankum) as he enters the dining room. The dinner is held just before Xmas and the sweet course naturally consists of the usual seasonable dish. The room is blackened out and the Xmas pudding is brought in by the serving staff with the burning spirit on the pudding the sole illumination - this to the chorus of Good King Wenceslas gives an atmosphere of sheer delight. Then towards the end of the evening is the rendering of the North Road Anthem, really a hotchpotch of nonsense, but how pleasurable it is to take part! Another feature, of course, is Ed.Green - I would like the name of his gag writer!

R.D. Cook toasted the Visitors and F.N.Robertson (Belle Vue) proposed the health of "The Club". Cliff Smith may have overshadowed the other prizewinners, but during the Prize Distribution it was pleasing to see how many excellent young racing men the North Road has, and even Cliff could not dim the honour of winning the Memorial "50" Trophy, which went to A.Bridges (Mercury C.C.).

David Saunders, whose knowledgeable reporting on cycling sport in the Daily Telegraph is now well known, replied on behalf of the Visitors. The final speech was by Peter Bury on behalf of the Club.

I shared a bottle of wine with Norman Turvey, who asked to be remembered to all old friends. Among those present were Bill Temme (Glendene), Jack Middleton (M.C. & A.C.); Horace Pryor and Harold Buckley (M/C Wheelers), John Shuter (B.R.C.); Sid Capener and Dick Hulse (Speedwell); Eric Mustill (E.L.W.); Will Townsend, J.B.Wadley (Editor, Sporting Cyclist), and I was pleased to renew acquaintance with Arthur Smith, Eric Foot, and Les Bouzens of the N.R.C., the last named being the organiser of this most successful function - a credit to him and his Club. It was good to be present.

S.W.

Bath Road Club Dinner, 4th December 1965

Stan Wild and Rex Austin attended this function, held at the Comedy Restaurant just off the Haymarket in London's West End. Stan was representing the Club, whilst Rex was there in his own right as a member of the Bath Road Club. An excellent dinner was enjoyed by over eighty members and friends. The speeches were of high quality and were also commendably brief, the highlight of the evening being that of the winner of their classic "100". He hails from Northern Ireland and spoke with a brogue so thick that few if any could understand him. However, his smiling face showed that he was enjoying himself and indeed was very happy, so when he sat down we applauded furiously - whereupon our hero stood up again and spoke for a further three incomprehensible minutes. In all a really happy evening with friends old and new.

North Shropshire Wheelers' Dinner - 10th December 1965

The popular fixture was again held in Whitchurch under the Chairmanship of veteran Jack Duckers, the original "Shropshire Lad". Anfielders present were Ira Thomas and Jack Pitchford, both looking fit and evidently thriving on life in Salopia's capital, while Allan Littlemore was using this Dinner as a training spin before the Clifton C.C. event next evening in York.

PONTBLYDDYN & CYNWYD Y.H. - 11th/12th December 1965

Our annual gale, rain or flood fated Cynwyd weekend started for me when Geoff Sharp arrived at my abode (late) complete with camera, lashings of attachments and an aura of uncertainty. Earlier that morning the odds were against taking the camera but with that uncertainty resolved, the question now was black and white or colour.

I, too, was late and in the midst of the usual chaos of packing the minimum with my uncanny knack for keeping the unwanted and forgetting the essential. Geoff occupied himself looking at slides I had taken a fortnight earlier and this settled the question - our first stop was Chester for a colour film.

Once on the road the order of the day was an easy run direct to Cynwyd; on this we were agreed, but a be-tricycled Thompson caught us at Pontblyddyn and in spite of our protests the old adventurous spirit of our early Anfield days was dragged to the fore and we succumbed to his cries of "come on over Llantysilio Mountain, it's no further".

The highest part of the track was ice-covered and we walked for a mile or so but in retrospect I am glad we came this way for an intensely starlit sky was crystal clear and made a stunning contrast with the meagre pattern of lights from cottages and cars far down below us in the dark valley of the Dee.

Once in the valley we became aware of the flooding and realised that the road to Corwen must have been under four feet of water some few hours before we crossed it.

At the hostel we found David Jones and John Whelan busy demolishing outsized meals. Between mouthfuls of brown soup and bread they told us of their ride out direct from Wirral. Next to them sat David Barker, a non-participant in the feast, who had come over straight from Manchester. After our annual visit to one of Cynwyd's taverns we rounded off the evening drinking coffee in front of a blazing fire in the hostel Common Room.

Thompson's trike (as usual threatening disintegration) and an unusually late start next morning prompted us to abandon the proposed Nant Rhyd Wilym crossing and so we aimed at Llangollen via the old

coach road instead. Watching some real rough water canoeing we found Peter Jones who had ridden out that morning, soon we were all engrossed in watching these frail craft battling with the swollen river.

Lunch was late as a result and later our route took us through a recently flooded Bangor-on-Dee, several deep pools across the road remained as evidence of the ordeal undergone by the village which was by now high and drying out. Floodwater still lapped the roadside windows at Holt but the remainder of our ride home was uneventful; even the impending collapse of the Thompson barrow did not materialize.

Those out who got no further than Pontblyddyn on Saturday were Captain Mills, Les Bennett, Johns Farrington and Moss and Keith Orum.
D.D.B.

TWO MILLS - 18th December 1965

It has become an Anfield tradition to meet at Two Mills on the Saturday before Christmas for tea and a slide show. Twenty-two members together with friends Alan Rogerson, Stan Barker, Oscar and Hilda Dover and Tom Mason crowded the Eureka Cafe almost to suffocation and after lashings of beans, eggs and cheese on toast had been satisfactorily tucked away, the decks were cleared and David Birchall set up screen and projector ready for the show.

We have become quite used to the high standard of pictures from David's camera but this year he certainly excelled himself and we were treated to as fine a glimpse of Ireland as we are ever likely to see.

On David's suggestion, others had been encouraged to bring a few slides and we had an excellent mixed bag of shots of Anfieldland by Guy Pullan. By comparison, the Editor's pictures of Galloway and Cardiganshire were very second-rate but at least we ended on a high cycling note with a shot of the Oxford University C.C. draped around the steps of the Martyrs' Memorial, their meeting place in this great seat of learning.

After the show and before we turned out into a clear, frosty night, John Leece asked Addy to accept a small token of our regard and thanks for all she does for us during the year and so, well prepared for the coming festive season we wended our way homewards.

Those out and not previously mentioned were Len Hill, David Barker and John Thompson (who had met for lunch earlier at Hatchmere), Syd del Banco, Jeff, David Bettaney, Frank Perkins, Allan Littlemore, John Farrington, John Whelan, Keith Orum, Henry Ashcroft (in full regalia after a run with the Beagles), John Moss, Les Bennett, John & Rodney France, David Jones and Peter Jones.

K.W.B.

TARPORLEY - 4th December 1965

A poor day by any standards with a good deal of rain which perhaps accounted for the low attendance of four, two of whom were petrol assisted while the Captain and Allan Littlemore kept to the more traditional Anfield means of locomotion.

GOOSTREY & SOMERFORD

The President found Henry Ashcroft at Goostrey on 11th December but their combined blarney failed to have any effect on Miss Bates who had a Golden Wedding party to cater for. They were equally unlucky at Twemlow and then Rex made for home while Henry tried our new venue at Byley.

While the Liverpool gentlemen were gathering at Two Mills on 18th December, the President was again drawing a blank at Somerford - no other members headed up for this alternative run, so Rex returned home for tea.

HALEWOOD - 27th December 1965

This was a lovely day with enough nip in the air to keep one moving and as a variant of the usual straight out and home run I followed the Warrington road as far as Cronton and then cut back via the lanes to the Derby Arms.

Being worried over the lack of bookings I waited apprehensively but gradually Anfielders started to arrive and eventually nineteen sat down to lunch. We lingered over the usual excellent meal and it was well after three when we started on the run home under clouds which threatened a lot but produced nothing.

Those present on this last run of 1965 included Frank Perkins, Jeff Mills, Len Hill, Peter Jones, David Birchall, John Whelan, Joe Dodd, Eddie Morris, John Seed, Les Bennett, Keith Orum, Jon Vickers, Allan Littlemore, Wally Rees (and Dad), John Thompson, John Farrington, David Bettaney and a friend.

J.H.M.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Norman Coxon, friend to innumerable hostellers who have stayed at Shrewsbury Youth Hostel, retires at the end of January. He will be greatly missed and we wish him and Mrs. Coxon the very best of health and happiness as they move off to their new home near Banbury.

NEWS IN BRIEF - Contd.

Congratulations and best wishes to Alf and Anne Howarth on the safe arrival of a bouncing daughter just before Christmas.

A note from Alex Beaton following his stay at Whitewell recently confirms his promise of a write-up ("one of these days") of his summer tour in N.W.Scotland. In the meantime he hopes to visit relatives in Warwickshire and later plans another stay at Holly Cottage possibly to tie in with our "100".

The Triennial Dinner of the Road Records Association will be held on Saturday, 12th March, at the Connaught Rooms, London. Tickets price 35/- from Will Townsend, 100 Betham Road, Greenford, Middlesex.

Manchester members who do not relish the prospect of a lonely tea at an alternative fixture should watch out for the special run to be noted each month. The only special thing will be a guarantee of company and we hope that these starred fixtures will draw a few more Mancunians out. As noted elsewhere, Byley on 12th February is No.1 in the series and in March a three-line whip is out for 19th March at Halewood for all members at home or abroad.

Six Club events over 25 miles have been provisionally arranged for 1966 and the following dates should be noted:- 12th March, 2nd April, 3rd July (when we hope to have an Inter-Club event with the Birkenhead Victoria C.C.), 3rd September and 1st October. The 3rd July event is on a Sunday morning.

Jeff Mills has been elected to the Committee of the R.T.T.C. Liverpool District Council.

We were glad to note from the North Road C.C. Gazette that Norman Turvey is alive and kicking and still cycling. A report on their Christmas Luncheon at Berden in December includes among those present "Norman Turvey from Great Chesterford by bicycle"

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Vol. LXI

FEBRUARY 1966

No.697

FIXTURES

March 1966

- 5 HATCHMERE (Forest Cafe)
 - 7 Committee Meeting - Free Church Centre, Liverpool.
 - 12 CLUB "25". Tea, Two Mills. Details of changing accommodation on start sheet.
 - 13 LLANARMON (Raven. Lunch.
 - 19 HALEWOOD (Derby Arms)
 - BIRTHDAY RUN & SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.
 - 26 BANGOR (Smithy) Lunch. TARPORLEY (Grotto Cafe) Tea
- Wednesday Evenings - Eureka Cafe, Two Mills.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

21 and over: 30/-. Under 21: 15/-. Cadet Members: 5/-
Honorary: A minimum of 10/- and donations to the Prize Fund should be sent to the Hon.Treasurer, L.J.Hill, Oak Cottage, 29 Mill Lane, Gayton, Heswall, Wirral, or may be paid into any Bank for credit of Anfield Bicycle Club's account, Martins Bank Ltd., Heswall Branch.

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EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 7th March, 1966.

Subscriptions:

COMMITTEE NOTICES

The Birthday Run will be held at the Derby Arms, Halewood on Saturday, 19th March.

Notice is given of a Special General Meeting to be held on the above date to consider two propositions which will be moved on behalf of the Committee

- 1) That Sydney del Banco be elected President.
- 2) That Rex Austin be elected to Life Membership for eminent services rendered to the Club and on completion of one thousand Run attendances.

Membership

The resignation of Harry Beech has been accepted with regret.

Changes of address:-

J.Dodd, 23 Edward Avenue, Chorlton, Manchester 21.

A.E.C.Birkby, "Ty'n Llan", Dolwyddelan, Caernarvonshire.

C L U B R U N SHatchmere - 1st January 1966

On what was easily the pleasantest morning of the year so far, fifteen Anfielders, two wives and one friend ventured forth to work off their hang-overs from the previous night. But not only were we letting in the New Year in the right and proper way, this was also a big occasion in that it marked our President's 1000th Anfield run. It was fitting that John Leece, one of our longest-standing members, should have been present to congratulate Rex on this fine achievement and express our hope that he would be out on many more occasions. Also present to second this and wish each other all the best for '66 were Mrs.Austin, Len Hill, Jeff, Blotto, Les Bennett, Peter Jones, Harry Duck, John Farrington, John Thompson, Davids Birchall, Bettaney and Barker, Geoff Sharp and Allan Littlemore with Marion and a friend.

The run home after lunch was a real revival of the good old days with forest tracks, plenty of mud and spills and Birchall blazing the trail, O.S. map at the ready. John Thompson was by far the most spectacular performer, first being forced off the path and narrowly missing a pretty substantial Christmas tree, then taking a glorious header when he tried to edge yours truly off the track.

All this was possibly purely and simply because a lunch run had been arranged and we didn't have to do half the ride in the dark. Let's have many more of them and let's see you out on the next one.

D.W.B.

Hatchmere - 1st January 1966

With Friday off I was able to make for Whitewell to see the old year out and it was from here that I set off for Hatchmere.

The three miles to Whitchurch did not take long and from there it was lanes nearly all the way through Wrenbury and Acton, then a short stretch of the Wrexham road and more byways to Haughton, Spurstow and Alraham. Some heavy traffic on the lanes near Eaton was soon over and I was able to finish the ride to the Forest Cafe in peace. David Barker beat me by a short head and then a goodly company followed me including Rex Austin on his thousandth Anfield run. Our visitors included Mrs. Austin, Marion Littlemore and Brian Kitson, Captain of the N.W. Region T.A.

Some rain fell during lunch and after John Leece had expressed our congratulations to Rex on completing his "1000" we started to drift away. I was early away knowing the return journey would be tough. Retracing through Eaton my route took me past Arderne Hall to Tarporley. After Birch Heath I felt the force of the wind until reaching the lee of the Peckforton Hills. It was hard again from Hampton and I kept my eye on a large black cloud but reasonable progress through Macefen, Bradley and Higher Wych brought me to Holly Cottage a good five minutes before the rain.

J.H.M.

Pontblyddyn & Byley - 8th January 1966

Apparently there was nothing special to report about this run to Pontblyddyn for only a list of the eight members and a friend who attended has reached the editorial office, and yet it seems most unlikely that Blotto, John Leece, Les Bennett, John Farrington, Geoff Sharp, Keith Orum, John Moss and a young friend could meet for tea under the chairmanship of V.P. Hill without something happening which was worthy of note.

Of the trip to Byley, Allan Littlemore reports a cold but dry day for a pleasant run via Davenham whose stately church spire is one of the reputed centres of Cheshire. From here a quiet lane route crosses busy King Street and reaches Byley by way of Loch Dennis. One bicycle was in evidence when Allan reached the tea-place and this belonged to David Barker who had been getting some miles in around Congleton. After an excellent tea the party broke up, David to return to Manchester while Allan made for the Harbour Master's riverside home, there to stoke the fire and fill the hot water bottles.

On this same day, Rex & Jeff were in Birmingham to represent the Anfield at the 90th Anniversary Dinner of the Speedwell B.C., a brief report of which will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Tattenhall - 15th January 1966

A useful tail-wind blew me thirty miles from home to the venue. Then it turned and blew me thirty-one miles home again. The extra mile was for a detour to Cronton for fish and chips and if anyone doubts this strange twist of wind direction it can be verified by any of the five others attending the run.

Jeff and Les Bennett had just left as I arrived at Tattenhall so I joined David Barker at tea and heard him tell of buying a new chain-wheel to give him a one tooth rise in his gearing for the coming racing season.

As David left for Manchester, John Farrington and Geoff Sharp arrived from outer-space and I soon had them enthralled with first hand experiences of life as a 'bus driver.

A pleasant run enjoyed by all, not least your writer, John Seed.

Holt - 22nd January 1966

At very short notice this run had to be switched to a lunch fixture when news came that the cafe was to close early.

John Farrington met Jeff at Two Mills and together they travelled by Capenhurst, Picton Gorse, Guilden Sutton and Aldford to Holt. A notice said "CLOSED" and after a brief attempt to gain admittance it was decided that Bangor was the best bet and John who is not yet fully fit, were glad to reach the Smithy. There was still no sign of life at Holt as we passed through on the return ride and it was fortunate that a turn was made for Pulford, Dodleston and Broughton for on the straight near Sandycroft Les Bennett was spotted and saved a fruitless journey.

News of the change had been spread fairly widely but somehow Syd del Banco was missed and he found himself outside a closed door and, with no sign of further Anfield activity, he retraced to Chester for tea. As he put it "not one of the most successful days".

As recorded elsewhere Rex Austin was busy this day at the Dukinfield C.C. Dinner, while Allan Littlemore, Ira Thomas and Jack Pitchford were flying the A.B.C. flag in Shrewsbury at the Mid Shropshire Wheelers' Dinner. At Goostrey David Barker and Allan Littlemore and John Seed formed a contingent who attended the Anfield run and stayed on to enjoy the Weaver Valley C.C. Dinner.

Whitchurch & Two Mills - 29th January 1966

Five energetic members took advantage of a pleasant January morning to journey to the little town of Whitchurch, just over the County boundary in Shropshire.

David Barker pedalled from Manchester, Rex Austin did likewise

from the same general direction while John Thompson, David Birchall and Jeff Mills represented the Liverpool gentlemen. The advance party found the proposed venue both crowded and noisy and it was for this reason that the old established and popular Hughes' establishment once more gave food and shelter to an Anfield party.

Later that day seven more riders made their various ways to the Eureka Cafe at Two Mills. John Moss and Keith Orum had come via Burton Marsh (most of which was clinging to their cycles, shoes and stockings), Eric Reeves, Guy Pullan and Syd del Banco had spent a pleasant afternoon touring Wirral byways, the Editor was busy distributing the latest Circular and thereby saving the Club a couple of shillings postages and the party was completed with the arrival of the Harbour Master of Acton Bridge. Although nothing to get wildly excited about, twelve members out is a big improvement on recent scores and it appears that the idea of a choice between an extended ride to lunch or an afternoon potter has much to commend it.

K.W.B.

DUKINFIELD CYCLISTS' CLUB DINNER - 22nd January 1966

The President was the chief guest at the Dinner held in Stockport to celebrate the Eightieth Anniversary of the foundation of the Club. There were over a hundred present, including Keith Stacey, the British Best All Rounder of 1965, and Larry Ross, who won the Club's Open "50" on five successive occasions in the early thirties. Rex had been given the job of proposing "The Club"; and having spent several hours in perusing the first two minute books, meticulously kept by the founding Secretary, was able to deal in an interesting and amusing manner with the colourful early years of the Club. The Club has a useful number of young members, and Rex concluded with an earnest appeal to them to support the Club in all its activities and to regard cycling as an end in itself and not merely as a vehicle for sporting activity.

GOOSTREY AND WEAVER VALLEY C.C. DINNER - 22nd January 1966

The Club run for the Manchester end coincided with the 3rd Annual Weaver Valley C.C. Dinner and three members made the best of it by combining the two. As Chairman at the Dinner of course Allan Littlemore was duty bound to be present; in fact to do justice to his eminent position he rolled up to Bates' chauffeur-driven on four wheels. However for John Seed and David Barker the afternoon was too good to be missed and both cycled, one direct from St. Helens, the other from Manchester by way of Buxton and Macclesfield

The Dinner was a splendid affair as all who have enjoyed T.A.

and other functions at Goostrey will readily appreciate. Over eighty members, guests and visitors were present and the big names on the top table helped to make it a really memorable occasion. Flanking Allan were Joan Kershaw, National Champion and record breaker, and her husband, Eric Matthews 24-hour record holder, and his wife, Johnny "Honk" Helms, End-to-Ender Bert Parkes and wife, timekeeper and official Ron McQueen and wife and Jack Gee, the unassuming President of the Weaver Valley whose achievements on the road last season were a wonder to all present. Most of the above plus members of the host club made speeches, all of which were interesting and entertaining and Allan kept things moving so that there was never a dull moment. The interest was even maintained on the run back to Manchester thanks to a certain member of the Altrincham R.C. whose chain kept coming off. He was on fixed! Each time he just jumped off and put it back again while we waited on tenterhooks for it to happen again. I don't know whether this comic finale was specially commissioned by the Weaver Valley but even if it wasn't we had to thank them for a splendid evening.

D.W.B.

CLIFTON C.C. (YORK) 70th ANNIVERSARY DINNER - 11th December 1965

This fine old Yorkshire Club celebrated their 70th Anniversary in the Medieval Merchant Tailors' Hall, Aldwark, York, and a capacity crowd of 150 sat down to dine under the Presidency of Arnold Elsegood, a rider in some pre-war Anfield Hundreds.

Many Clubs were represented, our official representatives were to be Allan Littlemore and John Parr. Allan was present although in spite of being in Whitchurch only a few hours earlier but John's important work prevented him from showing up. However Beryl made the long trip from North Shields and Allan didn't mind having her as his top table companion.

Herbert Dixon welcomed the visitors in novel manner by cross-toasting each in turn. He said the A.B.C. was represented by Mr. Allan Littlemore and Mrs. John Parr!! Anyway it didn't really matter. Pete Danby of Leeds replied and toasted the Club in an interesting, witty and comprehensive speech. In spite of their age the Clifton C.C. are riding high on a wave of success just now. Their three members, Messrs. Smith, Boswell and Hargreaves, who won the B.B.A.R. Team title for 1965 were presented with silver Club badges to mark the stupendous achievement and it was grand to see sixty years old Bernard Wood going up for a prize and looking anything but his age. A great evening with a grand old Yorkshire Club;

it was a pleasure and a privilege to be present on such a unique occasion.

A.L.L.

SPEEDWELL B.C. DINNER - 8th January 1966

Once again it was my pleasure and privilege to be present at this function, which was a special landmark in the Club's history, it being their 90th Annual Dinner and as if in honour of the occasion the village street had its festive lights on.

Presiding over a gathering of nearly 150 was the President, Sid Capener, and when he gave the signal for cross toasting, which is such a feature of this Dinner, it enabled one of the characters of the cycling world, Ed Green, to entertain and amuse the gathering.

Richard Hulse proposed the Toast "Our Ladies and Visitors" and included Will Townsend, Chairman of the R.T.T.C., Cyril Neale of the Wessex R.C., Bill Oakley senior, V.P. of the C.T.C. and our President.

Cyril Neale's response was brief and Bill Oakley seconded with an excellent and entertaining speech.

The Prize Distribution followed and included the presentation of the M.R.R.A. 24 hours shield to Speedwellian Les Lowe who set up a new record last year of 438 miles. Also called was Stan Bradley (Speedwell & Anfield) who set up the first record of 326 miles in 1926.

Rex was the first speaker after the presentations and I managed to hear him before leaving to catch a train home. It was a pity to leave early for it had been a very good evening.

J.H.M.

MID SHROPSHIRE WHEELERS' DINNER - 15th January 1966

It was a pleasure to attend this popular annual function held this year at the "Shropshire Lad", a new modern 'pub' on the northern fringe of Shrewsbury.

Keith Stacey, British Best-All-Rounder for 1965 was chief guest and presented the many prizes.

John Pardoe, Keith's clubmate, made a snappy and amusing reply to the toast to the visitors proposed by bearded Ken Hughes. The new Mid Salop President, Alan Griffiths, was in the Chair and Anfielders present were Jack Pitchford, Ira Thomas and Allan Littlemore.

Many Northern personalities were present, most of them having cycled to this historic Shropshire town.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Congratulations to Harold Catling on the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by London University for a Mathematical study of spinning machinery which has occupied his spare time for the past three years.

Those intending to ride in or help with Club 25 mile events should obtain and study a copy of the first start list and details of course.

The start is on the Chester/Wrexham Road just beyond Overleigh Island and the route goes to Rossett, Holt Rossett, bottom of Marford Hill and returns to finish almost opposite the start.

Changing accommodation will be available at "Woodstock" Loche Lane Chester through the kindness of Bert Lloyd. Tea will be arranged at Two Mills.

Alf Howarth reports an encouraging response to the Circular asking for offers of help at the "Hundred". There is no closing date but members are urged to let Alf know as early as possible if and where they can help so that he can make the necessary plans to cover the course adequately.

A note from Arthur Birkby with his change of address also contained greetings to all the clan and the assurance of a warm welcome for any Anfielders who can call at Dolwyddelan.

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ANFIELD CIRCULAR

JOURNAL OF THE ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB (FORMED MARCH 1879)

President: SYDNEY DEL BANCO

Vice Presidents: K. W. BARKER & L. J. HILL

Captain: J. H. MILLS

Hon. Secretary: F.E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange,
West Kirby, Cheshire (Caldy 7473)

Vol. LXI

MARCH 1966

No.698

FIXTURES

April 1966

- 2 CLUB "25". Tea, Two Mills.
 - 4 Committee Meeting, Free Church Centre, Liverpool.
 - 8-11 Youth Hostel Tour.
 - 9 FIVE CROSSES, Near Frodsham (Fairfield Cafe).
 - 11 Bangor-on-Dee (Smithy) Lunch.
 - 16 STAMFORD BRIDGE (Garage Café).
 - 17 COED-TALON (Coed Talon Hotel) Lunch.
 - 23 CAERWYS (Piccadilly Inn) SOMERFORD**
 - 30 HATCHMERE (FOREST CAFÉ)
- May 1st - WHITEWELL (Holly Cottage) Lunch
Wednesday evenings - Eureka Café, Two Mills.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

21 and over: 30/-. Under 21: 15/-. Cadet Members: 5/-
Honorary: A minimum of 10/- and donations to the Prize
Fund should be sent to the Hon.Treasurer, L.J.Hill, Oak
Cottage, 29 Mill Lane, Gayton, Heswall, Wirral, or may
be paid into any Bank for credit of Anfield Bicycle
Club's account, Martins Bank Ltd., Heswall Branch

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EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

* * * * *

Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 4th April, 1966.

COMMITTEE NOTICESApplication for Membership:

Edward Alan Rogerson, 14 Rothesay Drive, Eastham.

Proposed by L.W.Barker, seconded by J.H.Mills.

The Photograph Run has been arranged for Saturday, 18th June at Hatchmere and members are urged to book the date now and help to ensure a really representative Club group.

John Thompson will be glad to hear from members interested in the Easter Youth Hostels Tour.

Although there was no apparent support for a fixed centre weekend there will be a lunch fixture at Bangor on Easter Monday in addition to the usual Saturday run.

Private Trials in Anfield Club events

The Committee recently discussed the position over private trials and gave general approval to extending the hospitality of our events to friends from neighbouring Clubs on the following conditions:-

- 1) Only full members of affiliated Clubs to be allowed to ride.
- 2) These must be introduced by Anfield members.
- 3) In no circumstances must the number of private triallists exceed the number of Anfield riders in any event.

RACING NOTES

The season got off to a good start with a successful (though windy and hard) Club "25" on March 12th when John Whelan screwed down David Barker by a 37 seconds margin. A full report and results table will be in our next issue.

Alf Howarth is making fair progress with arrangements for the "100" but many more volunteers are wanted if proper coverage of the Course is to be achieved without undue calls for help from other Clubs.

The next Club "25" is on Saturday, 2nd April, and we hope for a good turn-out of members. Those unable to get out on the Course could make for Two Mills to join in at tea - but please get there in good time so that the load is spread.

The question of Standard Medals and values was fully discussed

by the Committee recently when it was agreed that the values of bronze, silver and gold standards should be one, two and three guineas respectively.

Members beating standard times and/or distances will be credited with these amounts from the Prize Fund and the club rules provide for medals or prizes being taken.

HATCHMERE - 5th February 1966

A pleasant afternoon with an early and brave attempt on the part of the sun to break through and show up the first faint tinges of green on the trees.

There were signs of an early spring in Delamere Forest and a slight breeze made only slight ripples on the placid surface of the lake.

When the Editor and David arrived, John Farrington, Allan Littlemore and Jeff Mills were already sharing the Forest Cafe with quite a sizeable batch of motorists but the service was quite good and tissues were restored in time for a start to be made for home while the sky still held feint streaks of light.

PONTBLYDDYN & BYLEY - 12th February 1966

This was a week-end when our forces were spread over three runs. The month's star attraction for Manchester members attracted only a moderate response numerically although Alf Howarth, Allan Littlemore and David Barker would no doubt claim (and with good reason) that what was lacking in quantity was more than made up in quality. At least they found Byley as attractive as ever with good food and a warm welcome and they hope that more Anfielders from that end of our territory will join them on future occasions.

Another party almost as small met at Pontblyddyn. With the President-Elect in the Chair, supported by Captain Mills and Committee Members Geoff Sharp, John Farrington and Les Bennett, no one could dispute the quality.

Next morning, four more members made their way to Bangor's Smithy for lunch but their appointed spokesman can tell his own tale.

BANGOR-ON-DEE - 13th February 1966

It was about ten o'clock when John Moss called for me on a typical February morning, cold and damp with threatened sleet showers.

However, we made a start through lanes to Willaston and so for re-fuelling at Two Mills where Jeff Mills was found on his way to join the Forty-Plus riders for the day.

Soon we continued to Chester and Huntington where we joined up with some senior members of the B.N.E. C.C. who accompanied us through Aldford, Farndon and Holt to Bangor where Peter Jones, David Jones and his father were already in possession.

After a very substantial meal we set off to follow George Jones through lanes to Malpas, Tilston and Churton and so to Chester by which time we were beginning to suffer and Two Mills was a welcome sight for those who had found Peter Jones and David's father a bit too fit.

Keith Orum.

LLANARMON & TWO MILLS - 19th February 1966

Only congenital idiots, super optimists or unusually competent weather forecasters would have turned out on such a morning.

Rain, very heavy at times, fell relentlessly; visibility was bad and from the Storeton ridge the usual view of Moel Famman was blotted out by a blanket of grey sticky mist.

On the climb up the new Ewloe road a ray of hope shone ahead. At Mold the sun was curling up the edge of the paving stones and the run from this little Flintshire market town to the Raven was sheer delight with bright sunshine lighting up the snow which still clung to the northern slopes of the hills and newly-born lambs making their first faltering explorations in the lush green of the roadside meadows.

John Thompson, David Birchall and the Editor were the only diners and as usual the good folk at the Raven provided some excellent fare to fill any gaps resulting from the morning's exertions.

Later the Editor made for Cyffylliog and coming back through Ruthin noted a likely looking cafe near the bridge over the Clwyd which may be useful for a fixture one day. The other pair had a date with David Barker and made off hot foot in the direction of Manchester.

That afternoon Syd del Banco, Eric Reeves, David Bettaney, John Whelan and Jeff Mills gathered for tea at Two Mills and presumably found nothing special to write about as no report has reached the editorial office so far.

Mystery also shrouds the alternative fixture at Somerford and if any Mancunians were out perhaps Jeff Mills could be advised.

David Barker rode in the Exodus R.C. "114 in 7" trial as reported elsewhere.

HOLT - 26th February 1966

Once again the folk at the Castle Cafe made known their intentions to close early and this may have put off some possible attenders.

David Birchall and John Farrington had a pleasant trip to Bangor with tea at the ancient Smithy and unless others tried (and failed) to get in at Holt they constituted the attendance.

A Youth Hostel week-end had been mooted with headquarters at Shrewsbury but examinations looming up on the horizon kept John Thompson and other "possibles" away and only David Barker made for the Salopian capital and he reports a very tough ride with a blistering headwind and plenty of rain.

Shrewsbury Hostel proved as good as ever (under new management)

and next day David joined up with Mersey Roader Norman Maggs for a pleasant lane run to Holt for lunch and then more lanes for a solo ride back to Manchester.

While all this was going on, Jeff Mills and Len Hill were busy timing and helping with the Larkhill Wheelers' Two-up Team Time Trial.

WHITCHURCH - 27th February 1966

This lunch fixture provided Allan Littlemore with a grand opportunity for a perfectly legal fiddle. With Weaver Valley C.C.'s back wheels to hang on to he established his right to be marked present by this newly established and virile club through riding with them as far as Whitchurch. Here he dropped off the back, joined the Anfielders at lunch and after bidding them a soldier's farewell, hurried off to re-join the W.V.C.C.'ites who were lunching near Tilstock.

Other Anfielders out at this fixture were Peter Jones, David Bettaney, David Jones, John Thompson, John Whelan and Phil Whitehead.

NEWS IN BRIEF

A note from Norman Turvey to Len Hill says he still keeps in touch through the Circular and manages to enjoy some cycling "in this ideal part of East Anglia - quiet lanes, flat or rolling hills as the spirit moves and always the lovely open vistas of arable farm-lands".

David Birchall's bicycle was stolen recently from the shed at the back of his house. It was found later three miles away with signs that the thief had failed to master a fixed wheel! It is now undergoing refit and re-spray and should be ready for the coming (? racing) season.

NEWS IN BRIEF - Contd.

Alan Rogerson whose application for membership is noted elsewhere, is well known to many of us and will prove a very popular addition to our ranks.

Cheshire County Council is to make a building preservation order for Austerson Hall, near Nantwich, a 500 years old black and white mansion which the owner intended to demolish.

Arthur Birkby writes (from Dolwyddelan) full of enthusiasm for this retirement racket. He says "over this machine (a typewriter) is the small garden, fields and mountains with the sun blazing down. When I become bored I go into the other room and the scene changes - different fields and mountains".

David Barker started serious training with a ride in the Exodus R.C., Manchester - Blackpool and back "114 in 7 or 8". He was first back in 6½ hours quite satisfied with a pleasant day out.

Good reports have come in from several members regarding the "Fairfield" cafe at Five Crosses, (between Frodsham and Hatchmere) which we are to try out on Easter Saturday. We hope the fixture will be supported by a goodly number of members who will find the new venue near Five Crosses Post Office and the Travellers' Rest.

May we underline the paragraph under "Committee Notices" regarding the Photo Run. This has been arranged for 18th June at Hatchmere and we do hope for a really good attendance and a truly representative photograph. Please book the date now.

It is hoped to book lunch on the Sunday of Whit week-end at the Herbert Arms, Chirbury. Members wishing to book accommdation for Whit at the Lion or elsewhere are reminded of the necessity to do so in good time now.

A number of our younger members have proposed that an informal meeting might be arranged to provide an opportunity for

a close examination of the activities of the Club, possible improvements and new lines of approach and the consideration of some new ideas which the members concerned would like to put forward.

This is an excellent scheme and has the blessing of the President. Subject to agreement by our hostess at Two Mills it is hoped that such a meeting might be held on Tuesday, 19th April.

It is hoped that a good cross-section of members will try to be present with the emphasis, of course, on the younger end of the age scale.

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© Anfield Bicycle Club

ANFIELD CIRCULAR

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West Kirby, Cheshire (Caldy 7473)

Vol. LXI

APRIL 1966

No.699

FIXTURES

May 1966

- 1 WHITEWELL (Holly Cottage) Lunch 1.0 p.m.
 - 2 Committee Meeting, Free Church Centre, Liverpool.
 - 7 BANGOR (Smithy). BYLEY.
 - 14 LLANARMON (Raven) SOMERFORD**
 - 21 FIVE CROSSES, FRODSHAM (Fairfield Café)
 - 28-30 SHREWSBURY ("100" Week-end)
 - 28 BANGOR (Lunch) Two Mills (Tea)
 - 29 CHIRBURY (Herbert Arms) Lunch.
- Wednesday evenings - Eureka Café, Two Mills.

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* * * * *

EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 2nd May, 1966

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you all will now know - or should do - at the Special Meeting held at Halewood on the occasion of the Birthday Run on March 19th, I was elected President - the sixteenth individual to hold the office since the formation of the Club. I explained to your Committee before accepting nomination that business and other commitments will prevent me from playing the part in Club matters and cycling events and functions to the extent that may be expected of a President. To be elected in spite of these shortcomings is very gratifying to say the least. What I am able to do I will do and I am sure I can rely on all members to give me the support that our former President, Rex Austin, enjoyed. Happily Rex will still loom largely in Club life!

There is one aspect of the Club's activities which somewhat perturbs me and that is the matter of the ordinary club run attendances - Whit and Autumn Tints week-ends, A.G.M. and Birthday Run excluded. Out of a membership of approximately 133 the average attendance is no more than ten at the most just now. Discounting all those who are obviously unable to attend through reasons of domicile, we should be able to command a better attendance from the remainder than we do at present.

The Anfield Bicycle Club was founded on the bedrock of the Club Run and some means of encouraging a greater attendance must be found. The Cadet Scheme flourished for a while, but now seems to have sagged somewhat. Here is where the young active members could possibly use their influence in giving new life to the scheme.

As this is written prior to the informal meeting at Two Mills on Tuesday, 19th April, and will not appear in the Circular until after the meeting has been held, I hope that many bright ideas to further the progress of the Club will be discussed. In any case - meeting or no meeting - it is suggestions we want however improbable they may be! At least they may contain the germ of a good idea. Anything that seems to have a chance of success will be considered by the Committee, so get those "brain boxes" functioning!

Best wishes to all and Happy Cycling.

SYD.del BANCO

COMMITTEE NOTICES

The Photograph Run has been re-arranged to avoid a clash with the opening of the Isle of Man Cycling Week.

The Run will now be at the Forest Cafe, Hatchmere, on Saturday, 11th June, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will book the date.

Members are again asked to offer assistance at the "100" if possible. Alf Howarth will be glad to hear from volunteers as soon as possible.

A further reminder of the need to book earlier if accommodation is required.

Lunch on Whit Sunday has been arranged at the Herbert Arms, Chirbury and those requiring a meal should inform the Captain.

C L U B R U N SHATCHMERE - 5th March 1966

A pleasant afternoon with some signs of spring in the hedges tempted six members to make their various ways to the Forest Cafe while two others, Hubert Buckley and Percy Williamson, were busy representing the Club at the Annual General Meeting of the N.R.R.A. held in Manchester.

Syd del Banco, Jeff, Allan Littlemore, Ken and David Barker were delighted to see Cyril Selkirk who looked in for a few minutes.

FIRST CLUB "25" - 12th March 1966

Bert Lloyd's neighbours must have been a little startled on this fine but blustery afternoon if they watched the arrival of numerous cyclists, saw them disappear into the capacious garage and noted how they emerged later with stripped bicycles and scanty racing garb. We are grateful to Bert for solving our accommodation problem and hope there is nothing in the Town and Country Planning Act which will get him in bad odour with the law, of which he was for so long a worthy pillar.

Six Anfielders and three friends from the B.N.E. C.C. made a

colourful field; it was a pity that a very strong wind made this first event of the season such a poor test of our new course. Under the circumstances times in the region of 1.5 and 1.6 prove that on a fair day this route could prove a winner.

John Whelan showed himself early fit and returned the best (Anfield) time of 1.5.33, nearly a minute faster than David Barker's 1.6.25. John Moss continues to improve and his 1.12.57 on such a day was very good value for the handicap award.

Results were as follows:-

	Actual Time	Handicap	Handicap Time
1. J.WheLAN	1.5.33	Scr.	1.5.33
2. D.W.Barker	1.6.25	1.15	1.5.10
3. D.Bettaney	1.8.7	1.15	1.6.52
4. J.W.Moss	1.12.57	8.30	1.4.27
5. P.Whitehead	1.14.42	3.30	1.11.12
- K.Orum	D.N.F.		
- P.Lawson	1.5.5	P.T.	B.N.E. C.C.
- B.Matthews	1.6.54	P.T.	"
- W.Morgan	1.8.6	P.T.	"

Out helping in addition to riders named were:- Syd del Banco (timing), Bert Lloyd (Dressing Room Steward), Frank Perkins, Ken Barker, Len Hill, Jeff Mills, David Jones, David Birchall, Les Bennett and prospective member Alan Rogerson.

While this event was in progress Stan Wild and Norman Turvey were making their ways to London to represent the Club at the Triennial Dinner of the Road Records Association.

LLANARMON (Raven) - 13th March 1966

No note on this fixture has been received at time of going to press.

HALEWOOD - 19th March 1966. BIRTHDAY RUN & SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The hatches were not due to be lifted for quite a time when the first Anfielders and guests arrived at the Derby Arms and with a good half-hour to go before the troughs would be filled the lounge presented an animated appearance and there was that full throated buzz of chat and banter associated with these Anfield occasions.

In due course a move was made to the dining room and once more we enjoyed a real Halewood meal before Rex Austin rose to declare that we were now in session as a Special General Meeting and then called on Ken Barker to propose the first motion on the agenda, viz: that Sydney del Banco be elected President of the Club.

The Editor outlined Syd's many qualifications for this high office; a member since 1927, Syd was an enthusiastic touring and club cyclist with a fine racing career to look back on. He had performed creditably at all distances, up to 24 hours, and with Sid Jonas, had broken the R.R.A. and N.R.R.A. 12 hours tandem tricycle record in 1932. The Northern record had stood until 1965 and it was typical of our President-elect that he should be out helping on the course and was among the first to congratulate the new holders at the conclusion of their great ride.

We were delighted that Sid Jonas had made the journey over from Leeds to be present and to second the proposition that his old tandem partner should be the sixteenth President of the Anfield. The proposition received an enthusiastic reception and the formal enquiry from chairman Rex "are there any other nominations" was drowned in the cheers which greeted the new President.

Saying that he little thought on joining the Club nearly forty years ago that he would one day become its President, Syd confessed to being still rather bewildered that this should happen to him. After expressing his thanks to the members for their confidence he promised to do all in his power to serve the Club and called on all members to support him in an endeavour to put the Anfield back in its proper place in the cycling world.

It then fell to the new President to propose that his predecessor should be elected to Life Membership for eminent services rendered to the Club and on completing 1000 run attendances.

Rex Austin joined the Club in 1923 and served us as an officer, committee member, delegate and timekeeper and in many other ways. The present "100" Course is very largely his creation and owes much to his meticulous measuring and checking.

Allan Littlemore seconded the motion, touching particularly on the position Rex holds nationally in the cycling game, and once

again the proposal met with instant and vociferous approval.

The only item of business remaining was a word of welcome to our guests and this Alf Howarth managed with speed and efficiency, even managing an apt illustration of what he had to say from a seemingly unlikely source "The Motor".

Pride of place was undoubtedly shared between the Speedwell B.C., 90 years old and represented by Richard Hulse and the Bath Road Club, a few years younger than the Anfield, but who had sent their octogenarian Secretary John Shuter to represent them and he had taken train to Worcester, cycled on to Liverpool and had time to look at the Cathedral before finding Halewood.

Three North Roaders had come to sup with us and were to dash back through the night to join the N.R. club run next morning. Then we were glad to see once again Eric Musthill, Oscar Dover, Bill Barrow, Johnny Williams, Harry Pearson, Ken Matthews and George Jones.

To list the Anfielders present would take up too much valuable space but on the list are a few we don't see often enough including: Geoff Lockett, Bert Lloyd, Harold Catling and George Taylor, Stan Bradley, Percy Williamson, Sid Jonas, Rigby Band (all the way from Lydney) and Hubert Buckley.

Among those who would like to have been present and sent greetings to the retiring and incoming President were Norman Turvey and Arthur Birkby.

TARPORLEY - 26th March 1966

The President was rarin' to go when the Editor called at Banco Villa just before 2.30 p.m. and soon wheels were turning towards Raby Mere, Benty Heath Lane and the Missing Link. Here the first of a number of loads of mud was liberally spread over two hitherto impeccable bicycles.

With Ledsham and Capenhurst behind us we ran into a heavy shower and spent the next few miles under capes before brighter conditions tempted us to stroll up the rise from the canal bridge behind Chester Zoo.

Cotton Edmunds and the pack horse bridges route gave us some

traffic free miles (and more mud), then at Hockenhull House we dropped a clanger by turning right and repeated the error later so that instead of reaching the direct Tarporley road as intended we did a tour of Huxley and Hargreave and very nearly climbed the hill to get a close up of Beeston Castle.

Dead on schedule (that can nearly be taken literally) two flagging veterans reached the Grotto to be cheered by the news that this establishment was to close as a cafe a week later, their business killed by the opening of the M6 it was said.

Towards the end of tea, Allan Littlemore arrived and we wondered if anyone had been to Bangor earlier for lunch on one of the wettest mornings of the year.

The ride back to Bebington was one long unremitting struggle into a blustering head wind. We made towards Duddon, turned once again for the pack-horse bridges (and still more mud) and worked our way through to Picton, Stoak and Rivacre Valley before turning for Hooton and rejoining our outward route at Benty Heath Lane.

At Clatterbridge we parted, glad to have survived such a tough ride so early in the season.

K.W.B.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The R.T.T.C. Championship "25" will be held on a Wirral course on 5th June. We hope to have a team riding and look to other Anfielders to try to get out for this big event of the season on Merseyside.

Rigby Band made good use of his trip north for the Birthday Run. On the return journey he parked his Mini at Ludlow and spent a pleasant afternoon cycling round that lovely area before stowing his two wheeler in the four wheeler for the final dash to Lydney.

A note from Harry Austin to Len Hill (enclosing his 45th annual subscription) says he still gets good service out of his rejuvenated cycle with some lovely runs into nearby Wharfedale. He also speaks appreciatively of the courteous and helpful service received from Brooks (of Saddle fame) in the matter of a re-fit for his ancient B.10.

NEWS IN BRIEF - Contd.

The news that the Grotto Café, Tarporley, has closed its doors is a severe blow for we have had numerous good runs to this venue. This raises once again the problem of tea places and we do appeal to members (particularly those on the Committee) to be on the look out for possible venues and, where possible, to make enquiries regarding tariffs, closing times etc.

As the Isle of Man Cycling Week opens on the week-end originally chosen for the Photo Run we have re-arranged this fixture to Saturday, 11th June, still at the Forest Cafe, Hatchmere. We are hoping for a real bumper turn-out of members and ask you to book the date now.

The Whit week-end based on Shrewsbury is, of course, the highlight of the Club year and we hope that even more members than usual will be out. The Course is one which requires a fairly large number of officials if it is to be adequately checked and marshalled and we do not wish to make undue calls on other Clubs. Alf Howarth, 42 Weston Lane, Sharington, Crewe, is organising the event and he reports a fair response to the appeal for help, but a good deal more is needed.

Alf will be glad to hear from you at the above address before all the best paid jobs have been allocated.

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West Kirby, Cheshire (Caldy 7473)

Vol. LXI

MAY 1966

NO. 700

FIXTURES

June, 1966

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|----|--|---------------------------------|
| 4 | PONTBLYDDYN, BYLEY. | |
| 5 | WHITEWELL (Lunch) | R.T.T.C. 25 miles Championship. |
| 6 | COMMITTEE MEETING | Free Church Centre, Liverpool. |
| 11 | HATCHMERE (Forest Café) | Photograph Run. |
| 18 | LLANARMON (Raven) | SOMERFORD. |
| 25 | FIVE CROSSES, FRODSHAM. (Fairfield Café) | |
| 26 | BANGOR-ON-DEE (Smithy) | Lunch. |
- Wednesday evenings - Eureka Café, Two Mills.

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* * * *

EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 6th June, 1966.

COMMITTEE NOTICESNEW MEMBER ELECTED:

Alan Rogerson, 14 Rothesay Drive, Eastham, Wirral has been elected to membership.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

John Parr, 8 Bournemouth Gardens, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

SPEEDWELL B.C. 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:

Our Speedwell friends are organising a special 100 miles T.T. as far as possible on the course used in 1889 and based on Alcester. Riders will be invited only from Clubs participating in the Speedwell 100 prior to 1896 and there will be other social activity over the week-end concerned.

The event is to be held on Sunday 9th October, and members interested in riding the "100" and/or in the week-end generally should contact the Secretary or Captain as soon as possible.

THE CADET SCHEME

Through the good offices of Les Bennett we have recently had an influx of prospective Cadets and plans are afoot to integrate these boys properly into the life of the Club. Following the recent evening meeting at Two Mills, and with full support of the Committee, a number of our younger members are ensuring that experienced riders will meet the lads each Saturday at Two Mills and accompany them on the Run. Other plans are afoot but in the meantime the Committee ask members to give all possible assistance particularly by volunteering (David Birchall will take names) to hold a run on an occasional Saturday.

RACING NOTES

The "Hundred" highlight of the Anfield year will soon be upon us and next month's issue will be largely devoted to the Whit week-end and a full report of the race.

Recent Anfield results in Open and Association events include the following:-

27th March. Birkenhead W.E.C.C. '25' (Private Trials)
J.J. Whelan 1.8.21. P. Whitehead 1.14.30.

10th April	<u>Apollo Whlrs. '25'</u>	J.J.Whelan 1.1.13.
11th April	<u>Stretford Whlrs Two-up Team T.T. '25'</u>	J.J.Whelan/D.W.Barker 1.2.43. K.Orum/J.Moss 1.12.57
17th April	<u>W.C.T.T.C.A. '25'</u>	J.Whelan 1.4.42 (5th) D.W.Barker 1.5.13 (8th) D.Bettaney 1.8.9 (2 minutes late start penalty) J.Moss 1.10.56, J.Thompson 1.57.56 (42 mins. late start penalty)
23rd April	<u>Middleton C.C. '25'</u>	J.J.Whelan 1.3.9
24th April	<u>Rhos-on-Sea C.C. '25'</u>	J.Whelan 1.4.45. D.Bettaney 1.4.58.
1st May	<u>W.C.T.T.C.A. '30'</u>	J.Whelan 1.14.17 (4th) D.Bettaney 1.16.59. J.Moss 1.29.12.

C L U B R U N S

TWO MILLS - April 2nd

An April day is as good as any other for satisfying the urge to get out on the bicycle on a Saturday afternoon. (The urge comes on me quite often, but when I think of the long miles home from the run, and contemplate the hiding I'd surely collect on the last stretch to West Kirby, I must admit that I give up before I start).

This day was different. The worst snow of our winter was making a real mockery of Spring, and amid it all Jeff very kindly telephoned and said that the '25' was off, and tea would be at Two Mills. By lunchtime the snow had ceased, but it remained very uncomfortable, cold, with a north-east wind that ripped all the pleasure from the day.

I managed to persuade my 12-year old that a bicycle ride to Two Mills for a spot of tea would be a good idea, and we set off. Although I could - just about - crawl up Thurstaston Cutting in bottom gear, I make a habit these days of walking the lot. We were astride again before the car park, and at the cross ways we turned for a lane route to avoid the traffic.

Beyond Irby we started on the long descent which didn't really stop until we were almost in Brimstage. Right turn to Thornton Hough and Raby, where we noticed that someone has put a gate across the track which on very old maps is shown as Burton Lane, although it peters out in a meadow miles from the village. We didn't talk much;

the lad was usually half-a-mile ahead.

Back on the high road at the old Wirral Stone, we surveyed the mess they are making of the most romantic highway in Wirral, The "top" road being converted into a dual-carriage way. It is a dreadful thought but it had to come, and one small voice shouting in the wilderness certainly won't stop it. And so to Two Mills, after an interval - bicycle-wise- of just one year, to meet President Syd, Ken and David Barker, Jeff Mills, Eric Reeves, David Bettaney and John Thompson. Les Bennett, David Jones, John Farrington and David Birchall got away without hearing of the cancellation and made their way on to the course.

When we decided to push off, an hour later, I suggested to Stephen that we could take the lanes through Puddington. As he had never ridden a bicycle as far as this before, and was as concerned as I was in getting home tidily, we decided to stay on the high road, for the simple reason that it is the nearest way.

Into that heavy blanket of a wind we didn't travel fast, and junior tucked in behind nicely. When we reached West Kirby we weren't even 'done in', and the only complaint I heard was a whisper of saddle soreness. As a parting shot at Eureka Cafe Ken Barker suggested that I might make Frodsham on the next Saturday. Perhaps K.W.B. doesn't realize how far it is from Frodsham to West Kirby. I do.

F.E.M.

FIVE CROSSES, NEAR FRODSHAM, 9th April 1966

A showery day resulted in my miscalculating the length of one shower and caping-up well and truly wet in the manner so often referred to in jocular fashion by our late member "Wayfarer" (W.M.R.) So I had a damp ride through the lanes of north Cheshire, but by pleasant places - Great Budworth, Crowton and Kingsley - to finish in the hamlet of Five Crosses, situated high above Frodsham.

Here Ken Barker dashed out of the cafe to make sure I did not pass by, and I joined him and his son David in an excellent tea, although the place may be too small for a large crowd. Then Laurie Pendlebury and his wife, petrol-borne, rolled in. As my Publicity Agent (unpaid) Laurie proceeded to guff me with the qualities of my riding, but I can tell you that I was secretly relieved that I had not to half-wheel Laurie on the journey home. In some respects a car has its points! Another fear was allayed when

I learned that David, now resident in the City of Eternal Sunshine, was travelling home to Bebington with his father.

Ken, as Editor, asked me to write a few words about the run, a fact which reminds me that he is in his 17th year of office, a record of which both he and the Club can be proud. Long may he reign!

More lanes and interesting places, the Millstone at Higher Whitley, Swinyard Hall, and High Legh, and a final heavy shower, brought a most enjoyable run to a close. It was good to be back in Anfield-land.

S.W.

During this afternoon Hubert Buckley and Percy Williamson represented the Club at the A.G.M. of the N.R.R.A. in Manchester, and to conclude the week-end a lunch fixture at Bangor on Easter Monday was attended by Jeff Mills, David Bettaney, Geoff Sharp, John Farrington, David Birchall and Allan Littlemore.

STAMFORD BRIDGE 16th April 1966.

There was a very thin turnout for this fixture, largely due to a West Cheshire '25'. Next morning when we had a good contingent out either riding or stewarding, Stan Wild concluded his Easter visit up north by attending at Stamford Bridge, the only others being Jeff and David Bettaney.

Next morning five of our racing men gave a good account of of themselves with John Whelan fifth, and David Barker eighth fastest.

Out stewarding and helping on the course were Peter Jones, David Jones, John Farrington, Geoff Sharp and David Birchall.

CAERWYS - 23rd April 1966

The President used motor transport as far as New Brighton (Mold) where he off-loaded the bicycle and made for the Halkyn range of hills. An hour or two was spent in pleasant exploration in the hinterland of Caerwys eventually arriving at the Piccadilly Inn to be greeted by Les Bennett accompanied by Mrs. Bennett. Apparently no arrangements had been made at the Inn so they were not expecting

us and were unable to do anything for us in the way of a meal.

At this point the Editor and Mrs. Barker arrived and a decision was made by Les and Ken to have tea at the Crossways Cafe on the Holywell road. The President opted for the Denbigh road as being more convenient to collect his car also with the hope of contacting John Thompson, John Moss and David Jones, all reported to be en route. He did meet John Moss and David honking up the tough hill to Caerwys and so was able to save them any further punishment. John The Trike had packed it in near Queensferry when the "barrow" began to fall to bits under him.

The President and his henchmen eventually found a meal in Mold.

Latest intelligence gives that John Farrington and Geoff Sharp also found their way to the Crossways Cafe to join Les and Ken.

S. d B.

SOMERFORD - 23rd April

John Whelan and David Birchall crossed Cheshire to attend this alternative fixture. The only "local" was Alf Howarth, having a break from his "100" secretarial chores.

HATCHMERE - 30th April 1966

It was sunny and warm at 10.30 a.m. when the President and Editor set off to skirt Raby Mere and wander through quiet byways to the Missing Link before covering a mile or so of busy road from Ledsham to Two Mills for coffee.

As we traversed the highroad to Chester, the Clwydian hills beckoned, but our way lay in lower altitudes and after negotiating the crowded but always attractive Old City we found ourselves on the road for Huntington, Aldford and Farndon.

The Castle Cafe at Holt fed us adequately, and our plan was to make for Barton and inspect the old water-mill at Carden. Alas the wheel has now stopped turning and the mill-stones stand forlornly against the granary wall but it is still a lovely rural backwater and a reminder of an age that has gone.

Continuing we crossed the Farndon - Broxton road, made for Chowley and were unlucky in our search for a cuppa when we found Tattenhall's milk bar closed. Now we were on the last lap before tea

and soon we were crossing the busy Tarvin road, riding through sleepy Ashton and so to the switchback road and Hatchmere.

The Forest Cafe was crowded and we had some difficulty in finding seats at a table and much more difficulty in catching the eye of our unusually dim-witted waitress.

John Whelan, David Bettaney, John Moss, David Birchall and John Thompson had piloted a bunch of prospective Cadets and most of this party (nearly twenty strong) went elsewhere for tea.

It was good to see Laurie Pendlebury again and we also had Les Bennett, Allan Littlemore and Peter Jones out.

The homeward route through Manley, Picton and Stoak was covered at a leisurely pace and for the writer the run ended in true Anfield tradition with a walk up the Sych.

Next morning we had a team riding in the W.C.T.T.C.A. '30' (results will be found elsewhere) and out stewarding were David Jones, John Farrington and Geoff Sharp, the last named pair made for lunch at Whitewell but a transport breakdown delayed them. Rex Austin was the only other attender at this lunch fixture.

K.W.B.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Observant readers may have noted that this Circular is No. 700 in the series which started in March 1906. Except for a brief period of bi-monthly publication, the Circular has gone out to members each month for sixty years and a full set is a massive record of the activities of Anfielders down the years.

Alex Seaton sent Len Hill a card from Falmouth while he was touring the West Country in anything but good weather. He was to be up for the '100' and intends to have a night or two at Holly Cottage, Whitewell around Whitsuntide.

Letters on this and that which also contain greetings to the clan have come from Ernest Snowden, Don Stewart, George Taylor, Wally Rees and Len Killip whose lad is following in Pop's footsteps, (or wheelmarks), and recently successfully completed a C.T.C. 100 in 8 in a gale.

During his annual Easter trip up north Stan Wild spent a few days in Wensleydale.

David Barker recently rode in a '25' at Hull and a '50' at Cambridge as a representative of Manchester in Inter-Universities events.

Wednesday evening meets at Two Mills continue to bring out a few regulars, but we would like to see more there.

* * * *

DON'T FORGET THE PHOTOGRAPH RUN ON SATURDAY 11TH JUNE AT HATCHMERE.

* * * *

ANFIELD CIRCULAR

JOURNAL OF THE ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB (FORMED MARCH 1879)

President: SYDNEY del BANCO

Vice Presidents: K. W. BARKER & L. J. HILL

Captain: J. H. MILLS

Hon. Secretary: F.E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange,
West Kirby, Cheshire (Caldy 7473)

Vol.LXI

JUNE 1966

No.701

FIXTURES

2. 30

July 1966

- [4, 8, 1] →
- 2 PONTBLYDDYN (Woodlands) BYLEY.
 - 3 Inter Club "25" with Birkenhead Victoria C.C.
WHITEWELL (Holly Cottage) Lunch.
 - 4 Committee Meeting.
 - 9 HATCHMERE (Forest Café). ~~WHELAN, (WHITEHEAD)~~
 - 16 LLANARMON (Raven) ~~BIRCHALL~~ ~~ROSS (IS NOT IN VICS)~~
 - 23 BEESTON BROOK (Station Café).
 - 24 Whitewell (Lunch) Mersey Roads Club "24".
 - 30 BANGOR (Smithy) SOMERFORD
SPEEDWELL "100" Week-end. ~~ROSS~~

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS - Eureka Café, Two Mills.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

21 and over: 30/-. Under 21: 15/-. Cadet Members: 5/-.
Honorary: A minimum of 10/- and donations to the Prize
Fund should be sent to the Hon.Treasurer, L.J.Hill, Oak
Cottage, 29 Mill Lane, Gayton, Heswall, Wirral, or may
be paid into any Bank for credit of Anfield Bicycle
Club's Account, Martins Bank Ltd., Heswall Branch.

* * * * *

EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 4th July, 1966

COMMITTEE NOTICES

Change of Address: W.Henderson, Talbot Cottage, Eustone, Oxford

Cadets' Runs:

Volunteers are urgently needed to lead runs on Saturdays starting and finishing at Two Mills. We are in danger of losing some very likely boys unless more interest is shown. Any member who can help even once or twice in the next few months will be rendering a real service and should contact David Birchall or Geoff Sharp right away.

RACING NOTES

The real highlight of the month (and of the Anfield year) is the Open Hundred and we can look back on what "Cycling's" report described as "the Anfield show case promotion".

At the last Committee meeting a resolution of congratulations and thanks to Alf Howarth was recorded and he in turn has asked that a note be published expressing his warmest thanks to all who offered assistance and so helped to make the event such a success.

This year the R.T.T.C. Championship "25" was held on the Wirral and we had one representative in John Whelan. Starting in the unenviable position of No.1, John kept his nose in front all round the course and finished first in 59.49 - a very fine ride on a morning when many well established "cracks" went back one or two minutes.

Open and Association events results include:-

- 8th May - Earlswood R.C. "25". J.Whelan 1.0.52.
 Finsbury Park & Universities' Athletic Union "50"
 D.W.Barker 2.16.50 (7th in U.A.U. event)
- 15th May - B.N.E.C.C. Mountain Trial. D. Bettaney 2.23.19.
 Westwood R.C. "25" J.Whelan 1.0.12.
 U.A.U. Road Race (Manchester) D.W.Barker 20th at 1 min.
- 22nd May - W.C.T.T.C.A. "50". J.Whelan 2.8.43 (3rd), D.Bettaney
 2.11.36 (5th), J.Moss D.N.F.
- 29th May - Tamworth R.C. "25". J.Whelan 1.1.5, P.Whitehead D.N.F.
- 5th June - R.T.T.C. National Championship "25". J.Whelan 59.49.

BANGOR ON DEE - 7th May 1966

The Editor reached the Smithy just on 5.0 p.m. to be greeted with the news that the "pack" had just left.

It later transpired that a gaggle of prospective Cadets under Jeff Mills and others so far unidentified had been, had tea and left in good time to wander quietly home.

As the Editor was leaving, John Seed arrived (just before the shutters were put up) and reported his intention to seek a bed later somewhere in the Ceiriog Valley - lucky ---- !

LLANARMON - 14th May 1966

It was a perfect cycling day - but Everton were in the Cup Final so the "telly" exerted quite a pull. In the end, reason asserted itself and the Editor settled for a day on the bicycle with prospects of listening to the steam radio commentary at a friend's caravan not far from the Raven.

The Eureka provided the inevitable coffee and then followed a dash to Mold for a very early lunch which was well shaken down on the climb to Pantymwyn, the steep drop followed by another climb to Cilcain and then the long slog up to the Reservoirs near the top of this Clwydian crossing.

Although there was some heat haze, the views across the Vale were beautiful as ever while the drop to Llangynhafal proved as steep and rough as ever. Eventually civilisation in the shape of a smooth tarmac road was reached and now it was hot foot along the valley through Llanbedr and then the climb up to the Piggeries above Llanarmon.

A comfortable and strategically placed caravan at Parc Farm provided lashings of tea, a wonderful view of the mighty Berwyns and nearer hills and a transistor which gave Everton as down one-nil. Just as the fifth "cuppa" was slipping down without touching the sides, Everton were two down and things looked black indeed but like all good fairy tales this one had a happy ending and with the Cup on its way to Liverpool a dash was made for the Raven only half a mile away. Here Syd del Banco and Captain Mills were already in possession; we were soon joined by Allan Littlemore, John Farrington and David Birchall with news of a party of prospective Cadets (under guidance of

Geoff Sharp) somewhere around North Wales and probably having tea a little nearer home at Pontblyddyn.

Next day we had riders in a B.N.E.C.C. Mountain Time Trial, the Westwood R.C. "25" and a Universities' Athletic Union Road Race near Manchester, so it was quite a busy and successful week-end all told.

K.W.B.

FIVE CROSSES - 21st May 1966

Half a dozen or so of our prospective Cadets turned up at Two Mills and when it appeared that no senior Anfielders were heading up they were taken under the wing of B.N.E.C.C. stalwart George Jones and he, with David as whipper-in, piloted them by devious lanes to the Fairfield Cafe.

The Harbour Master of Acton Bridge was early at the meet and was closely followed by the President, Geoff Sharp and John Farrington. There were no more attenders at the fixture and not very surprising as we had riders and helpers out early next morning for a W.C.T.T.C.A. "50".

In this event John Moss found the occasion and/or the distance a bit much for him and packed, but John Whelan returned third fastest time and was well backed up by David Bettaney who filled fifth place.

WHIT WEEK-END 1966

By common consent this was one of the best Whit holidays for years. We had a spell of lovely weather, a fair turn-out of members, a first class "100" promotion and a record breaking ride by Mick Potts which really put this new Anfield course on the map.

Bill Finn set the tone of the week-end by beating the seamen's strike and getting over with a bicycle from Dublin by means best known to himself. Not to be outdone, Alec Beaton cycled from Dundee by way of Cornwall, Devon and Whitewell. Timekeeper Stan Wild came from Bexhill-on-Sea and after the race made for Rhayader for the night and then had a pleasant tourlet reaching St.Davids in Pembrokeshire before turning for Brecon and some train assistance home from Newport.

From Merseyside, veterans Len Hill and Frank Perkins rode quietly to Bangor-on-Dee where they were joined by Bill Finn, Alec

Beaton, Jeff Mills and Mersey Roader Johnny Williams for Saturday lunch before making a club-run of it to Salop where the usual crowd was gathering.

The Lion housed quite a party of "Ours" including the above named plus Rex and Edna Austin, Reg and Olive Wilson and Mark Haslam. Others were making their several ways towards Shrewsbury in readiness for the "100" on Monday.

Whit Sunday.

Sixteen members and friends made the journey to Chirbury where lunch had been booked. In addition to most of those already mentioned we had the President and his wife, David Bettaney, John Farrington and Geoff Sharp, making a very pleasant party, but we missed the Bath Road Club contingent this time and hope that another year they will be back in Salopin for Whit.

Stan Wild, Bill Finn and Alec Beaton had a pleasant run back to the Lion via Church Stoke and Lydham with tea at Ratlinghope Post office. Here they signed the Visitors' Book as members of the Anfield - quite obviously a Liverpool Club with Bill from Dublin, Alec from Dundee and Stan hailing from Bexhill!

After tea, Bill decided to cross the Longmynd and left the others to take a more sedate route back to Shrewsbury.

Whit Monday & the Sixty-seventh Anfield Hundred.

It was perhaps a trifle cold for the early starters, otherwise conditions were almost perfect as officials and riders started to gather just south of Weeping Cross on the Cressage road.

Precisely at 5.01 John Parr was pushed off, first of the 66 starters from among the 75 riders listed on the card. At Cross House Rex Austin checked and turned the riders who retraced to Weeping Cross Island and the ministrations of the Mid Shropshire Wheelers. On the edge of Wellington, David Barker, John Whelan, Phil Whitehead and Den Jones guided the hurrying figures through to the Hodnet road and soon Len Hill with a group of henchmen dispersing the first drinks.

At Hodnet, Russ Barker and the North Shropshire Wheelers again turned the riders for the return to Bren Orrel, Geoff Sharp and Guy Pullan in the Shawbirch area and on to Reg Wilson at High Ercall and Arthur Birkby at Shawbury before finding Ira Thomas in control of the ght turn at Battlefield corner.

Near Hadnall, Jeff Mills and Allan Littlemore took a halfway check and found Mick Potts (Derby Wheelers) already had a light grip on the race. He went through here in 2.3.40, 3 minutes 18 seconds better than Murray (Apollo Wheelers). Next came Hewitt of the Saxon R.C. in 2.9.4, then Gaskell of Warrington (2.9.47) a man with many fine "Anfield" rides to his credit. Hallam of Nottingham (ultimately 3rd) was 5th here in 2.10.4 closely followed at B.N.E. crack Alan Ashworth who pulled himself up from 6th at 80 miles to second place at the end. In addition to the leader, the Derby Wheelers had men in 7th and 8th places at the midway point (only 9 seconds separated them) and it was no surprise when this team ultimately took first team medals with a good win over Ashworth, Spraggett and Morgan of the Birkenhead North End.

On now to Rock Hall where Hubert Buckley and Jack Pitchford shared the Inters with some North Shropshire Wheelers; Frank Marriott and family did a good job at Wem before Johnny Williams and other Mersey Roaders passed up another drink at Harmer Hill where Les Bennett directed the field towards Alex Beaton and the Mid Shrops. Wheelers at Harlescott turn.

Now the riders retrace to Wem, Rock Hall, Battlefield and Shawbury with staff arrangements as before. At Edgebolton another drink is handed up by the North Shropshire Wheelers before the Hodnet turn, then back to Arthur Birkby at Shawbury and on to Ken Barker, Reg Wilson and John Thompson at High Erccall and the nasty right turn on to the final three mile stretch through Roden to the finish. Here, Timekeeper Stan Wild, assistant Mark Haslam and others are waiting to record the times, send them over the field telephone (so kindly arranged once again by Mr. Mitchell) to the Results Board.

Others out and busily engaged around the course included Dave Brown, Walter Thorpe, Alan Gorman, Hugh Fletcher, Frank Perkins, Bill Finn, Alan Rogerson, David Jones, Jon Vickers, David Birchall and last but not least, Alf Howarth, who started the organisation long before the event and had a great deal of work still to do after the last man had finished. Apologies to any who may have been missed in the scramble.

The story of the actual race is fairly easily told - in fact it is summarised in the first ten or so lines of the results sheet.

Mick Potts of the Derby Wheelers jumped into an early lead

which he increased steadily throughout the race until he had well over twelve minutes in hand at the end.

Former winner Spencer retired early with stomach pains and a greatly fancied rider Norman Powell of the Oldbury C.C. packed in also. Alan Ashworth (B.N.E.C.C.) used his head as well as his legs to climb from sixth place at 50 miles, finishing second and leading the second team.

First man to finish was a bit later than usual and there was a break from tradition when unseeded No.21, R.W.Murray (Apollo Whlrs.) crossed the line first rather than the normal No.10.

When Potts flashed over the line at 10.11.47 everyone present knew it was all over before his amazing time (4.11.47) was announced.

Anfielders fared badly this year and both our men called a halt before the full distance. John Parr suffering from lack of miles in his legs owing to excessive hours of work packed at High Ercall first time through and David Bettaney found the going not to his liking some miles later.

And so another (the 67th) Anfield "100" passed into history with another great name and great ride added to the already impressive list of winners printed this year on the card.

The Committee have already recorded the gratitude of the Club to Alf Howarth for undertaking the promotion and making such a fine job of it. It now remains to underline these sentiments, to acknowledge help from nearly forty members and once again to express thanks to those of kindred Clubs who so cheerfully lend a hand year after year. We would quite simply but sincerely say "Thank you" to handicapper A.V.Moore, to Mr.Mitchell of Shrewsbury for the telephone arrangements, to members of the Mid Shropshire Wheelers, North Shropshire Wheelers and Mersey Roads Club and particularly to the Chief Constable of Shropshire and his men who gave invaluable aid in keeping good humoured order at the finish.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The most sincere sympathy of all members will go to Syd Carver whose wife had a heart attack in May and died immediately. Madge was well known to many of us and Syd's loss is felt the more keenly

NEWS IN BRIEF - Contd.

because of this. To him and his family, we offer the deepest sympathy of his fellow Anfielders.

John Seed covered a good hundred miles during the day of the Stockport heat of the British Champion Tourist Competition. The 45 miles long course was based on Rainow and John finished 13th out of a field of 38 contestants.

Somewhere between the finish of our Hundred and Rhaydder where he spent Whit Monday night, Stan Wild had a chance meeting with Bill Oakley. By sheer coincidence there was a handy hostelry nearby which provided tonic waters for the parched travellers.

Cheshire C.C. have a scheme to bypass Daresbury, birthplace of "Lewis Carroll or the author of 'Alice in Wonderland'" whose father was vicar there many years ago. Older Anfielders will recall many pleasant runs here with tea at the "Ring O'Bells".

Members of about the same vintage will remember Bill Henderson who moved to London many years ago but retains his membership and interest in the Club. Bill recently moved to Eustone in Oxfordshire and over the grapevine we hear he is due for a spell in hospital and send him our best wishes for a quick and complete recovery.

Members may care to note that the run on 6th August is to Hatchmere and we are to try out the Woodfield Café in an effort to beat the crowds which may well invade the Forest Café on August Saturday.

The crowd at the finish of the "100" was even larger than usual and some police help proved most acceptable. Many visitors called on us but we missed the Bath Road contingent under their genial President Jack Beauchamp who we gather was on holiday in Egypt. Another regular we missed was Arthur Smith who failed to decorate Shawbury corner for the first time for many years.

* * * * *

CCUB RUN

ANFIELD CIRCULAR

JOURNAL OF THE ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB (FORMED MARCH 1879)

President: SYDNEY del BANCO

Vice Presidents: K.W. BARKER & L. J. HILL

Captain: J. H. MILLS

Hon. Secretary: F. E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange,
West Kirby, Cheshire. (Caldy 7473)

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FIXTURES

August 1966

- 6th HATCHMERE (Woodfield Cafe).
- 13th LLANARMON (Raven) BYLEY.
- 20th TWO MILLS (Eureka Cafe)
- 21st WCIT CA/LIT CA "12"
- 27th BANGOR (Smithy) SOMERFORD.
- 27th-29th BATH R.C. "100" YORK RALLY.
- WEDNESDAY EVENINGS: EUREKA CAFE, TWO MILLS.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

21 and over: 30/-. Under 21: 15/-. Cadet Members: 5/-.
 Honorary: A minimum of 10/- and donations to the Prize
 Fund should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, L.J. Hill, Oak
 Cottage, 29 Mill Lane, Gayton, Heswall, Wirral, or may
 be paid into any Bank for credit of Anfield Bicycle
 Club's Account, Martins Bank Ltd., Heswall Branch.

* * * * *

EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

* * * * *

Closing date for next issue - MONDAY 1st AUGUST, 1966.

COMMITTEE NOTICES

Changes of address: Russell & Andrew Barker, 3 Rushey Close, Hale Barns, Cheshire.

Bill Fenn, 13 Martin Grove, Blackhorse Avenue, Cobra, Dublin 7.

We welcome the following into Cadet membership - Raymond Beamish, 58 Overlea Drive, Hawarden. - Philip Cheetham, 100 Glenwood Drive, Irby, Heswall. - David Powell, 91 Downham Road South, Heswall. - Robert Hall, 22 Lloyd Drive, Greasby, Upton.

Provisional fixtures for October are as follows:-

October 1966

1	Club "25" (Tea - Two Mills)
3	Committee Meeting
8	Five Ways, near Frodsham. Fairfield Cafe.
8-9	Speedwell B.C. Week-end & Anniversary "100"
15-16	Autumn Tints Week-end. (Sunday Lunch - Bangor)
15	Tattenhall (Milk Bar)
22	Pontblyddyn - Somerford
29	Annual General Meeting - Hatchmere.

Please note the date of the A.G.M. and send names for the Autumn Tints Tour to the Captain or Secretary as early as possible.

RACING NOTES

There has been a good deal of activity in Open Events during the past month and results are set out below.

It was a pity that the first Anfield attempt at a Three-up Team Time Trial should have taken place in an evening event, which made it impossible for many members to get out on the course. Our team (John Whelan with Davids Bettaney & Barker) were unlucky to be pushed into fourth place by the Birkenhead N.E.C.C. trio by the narrowest possible margin of one second.

9th June - Mersey R.C. Three-up T.T.T. (21½ miles)

A.B.C. 4th in 51.7 (J.Whelan, D.Bettaney, D.Barker)

12th June - Southport R.C. "25"

J.Whelan 1.0.23 (4th), D.Bettaney 1.1.37 (6th)

East Liverpool Wheelers "50" D.W.Barker 2.7.55.

- 19th June - Fylde R.C. "25". J.Whelan 59.39 (4th)
 Hyde R.C. "25". D.Bettaney 1.0.5 (2nd) P.B.
 D.W.Barker 1.1.45 (10th)
 Birkenhead Victoria C.C. "25". J.Moss (P.T.) 1.5.56
- 26th June - Phoenix (Aintree) C.C. "25"
 D.Bettaney 1.1.5 (4th), J.Whelan 1.1.18 (5th)
 D.W.Barker 1.5.4. P.Whitehead 1.5.17. J.Thompson (trike)
 1.10.22.
 Birkenhead N.E.C.C. "25"
 J.Moss 1.5.1., K.Oram 1.9.46 (Private Trials)
 * * * *

STRATA FLORIDA. By David Barker

A chat with Blotts one winter's night at Hatchmere inspired me to have a go at the Strata Florida crossing which proved to be the climax of a tour down into Pembrokeshire in July.

At St. David's hostel with three days in which to get home, the maps were perused, and I decided to make for Llanddensant, 7 miles south of Llandovery, and see what the morrow brought. The hostel proved to be yet another primitive one with the nearest shop a mile and a half away, but its delightful situation under the ridge of Carmarthen Van and the glorious weather fully compensated for this.

Next morning was dry but dull. I resolved to chance my hand and set off post haste for Llandovery. Here the saddle bag was crammed with chocolate, Mars bars, fruit pies, apples and oranges for the upper Towy valley was unlikely to be swarming with catering establishments.

The map showed 10 miles of road which petered out near a Chapel at which point the track began, following the river due North for 10 miles, then striking North-West over a low pass and into the Teifi valley at Strata Florida abbey.

Unfortunately my guide proved a bit out-of-date. The forestry commission had since moved in, and I was told of work on a dam further up the valley.

All went well for the first three miles up to a now ruined farmhouse called Fanog. The track was rough but mostly rideable. There were glorious views both up and down the valley and the river thundered over the boulders deep in its ravine. Then something went wrong. The track suddenly stopped dead, surrounded by conifers and boggy moorland. The map (for what it was worth) and the sun (which was worth more) gave me my bearings and I struck north trying to find the valley again. Soon a wide, rough forestry road hove into sight. It seemed to have escaped Mr. Bartholemew's attention and to make matters worse went

roughly east-west. I plumped for west, which was lucky for soon it began to head the right way; at length, with lunch now consumed and the sun blazing down, I came upon the original track away to the left and hundreds of feet below.

The forestry bods sensibly enough make their tracks follow the contours, approximately. It took several miles hard riding round defile after defile before one of the legs of the Commission's strictly private property dropped me down to the old track at Pant-y-Clwydan another farm barely a mile from Fanog.

From here quick progress was made to the Tregaron - Abergwesyn mountain road. The half mile of rough metalled road was a real treat after what had gone before and what was still to come.

The rest of the valley was in sharp contrast to its "lower" reaches round Fanog. It had been becoming broader and shallower for some time. Now there was a slight depression in which flowed a relatively wide, slow-moving stream; and instead of the pattern of mountains and valleys a green, undulating plateau stretched out as far as the eye could see in every direction, marred only by an ugly scar across one slope to the east. Bulldozers and other construction vehicles on the sky-line were presumably responsible. For better or for worse another Elan valley is well on the way to becoming a reality, perhaps on a somewhat smaller scale at present.

Following the river closely the track aimed for a saddle between two low humps: at 1600 feet this marked the summit of the crossing. Even at this stage it still had to have its little joke. Time and time again track crossed stream. You could hardly expect a bridge and the "fords" might have been O.K. for a tractor but were too deep and rough underneath to risk riding. The bike got V.I.P. treatment, being carried over; so did my shoes at first till after getting ankle deep in a bog it didn't matter whether they came off or not. At one point track and river crossed four times in 400 yards and each time a bend cunningly hid the next crossing from sight. It was the same story each time: shoes off, carry 'em over, back for the bike, carry it over, wash feet, shoes on, away again. Luckily the water wasn't too cold.

Soon I was over the top and bombing down to Strata Florida where I gave the ruins the once over. The Cistercians certainly knew how to pick the right spots.

Istumtuen hostel near Ponterwyd provided a bed for the night and an evening stroll to get a grandstand view of the Rheiddol falls was a fitting end to a glorious day on, and sometimes off, the bike. After a traumatic experience in Glen Affric 3 years ago my appetite for rough stuff seems to be returning.

PONTBLYDDYN. 4th June, 1966.

My first Saturday run as a full member of the Anfield Bicycle Club turned out to be something of a fiasco, relieved only by a tail-wind for the run home. I set off from Eastham through lanes to Willaston and along the proposed super highway to the Eureka Cafe. Here I was informed by a diminutive bespectacled tricycling tailor (who will remain anonymous) that some Anfield cadets had left half an hour earlier to go through the lanes.

Hoping to reach Pontblyddyn with them I went by the direct route finding it very hard going on the Queensferry road and on the climb to Hawarden. Eventually I reached my destination to be told by our hostess that so far only a lady and gentleman in a blue Ford had been. I waited until 6.0 p.m. with no sign of other clubmen, then dined on Welsh rarebit and trifle and departed with the wind at my back in consolation for the beating I had taken earlier.

A.R.

R.T.T.C. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP "25" 5th June, 1966.

A star-spangled field of 120 riders, the slowest of whom had previously docked 59.21, and only 19 of whom had not beaten 59 minutes, was listed on the card for the National 25 miles Championship held on the Wirral. John Whelan had the unenviable job of starting No.1, and precisely at 6.01 a.m. Timekeeper Rex Austin sent him on his way. Less than half an hour later John (still first on the road) passed Jeff Mills who was taking halfway times and 59 minutes, 49 seconds after being pushed off he flashed over the line the first finisher with another under-the-hour ride on a morning when many of the "crocks" whose names are household words slowed one or two minutes.

It fell to the other end of the card No. 120, Dave Dungworth Rutland C.C., to provide the fastest ride of the morning (55.9) but in between excitement had run high as one by one the fancied riders clocked in.

In addition to John, Rex and Jeff who had an active interest in the event at thirteen other Anfielders were seen around the course in support of our rider and these included the President, Len Hill, Ken Barker, Alf Howarth, Jack Pitchford, David Barker, John Moss, Geoff Sharp, Keith Orum, David Jones, David Bettaney, Alan Rogerson, and Phil. Whitehead. Two of the above-named went on to Whitewell for lunch and Alan Rogerson reports.

WHITEWELL - 5th June, 1966

Following the Championship "25" and the inevitable social gathering which ensued, David Bettaney and myself were the only Anfielders who set off for this delightful country cottage with

the warm welcome. David Barker had exams looming, and John Whelan had ridden well enough that morning to justify a rest. We went through the Walled City, passed the Catterick of the North West, and in very good, if blustery weather, sought sustenance and refuge at the cafe in Holt. After a couple of cups of tea, we retraced through Farndon, and then right along the lanes to Shacklath and Threapwood. Around mid-day we reached Holly Cottage, and due to a prior telephone call, we were soon served with an excellent meal. Peter Jones arrived, motor-borne, from some friends at Marchwiell, and after some very crisp and amusing conversation he departed for home. After some words from Mr. Hallworth on the price of meat, we ourselves took to the road, passing through Bangor-on-Dee, Marchwiell and Wrexham to Hope. Here I took a "hammering" from David who could now sense that his home was over the hill, and sped away. The "Terrig" Road Tea House provided me with a refreshing drink before I wheeled for home. Altogether a very exhilarating, if tiring day.

A.R.

HATCHMERE (PHOTOGRAPH RUN) 11th June, 1966.

It would have been difficult to find a more unsuitable date for this Photograph Run from the point of view of attendance. Members were riding in, or helping with, two Open events, others were on holiday and so we could go on!

A bright afternoon tempted thirteen members, two "prospectives" and a friend to make the journey to the Forest Cafe in time for the photograph. Laurie Pendlebury did a stint of work before dashing to the venue in time to say "how-do", but too late to join the group on the lawn which faced up manfully to Rex Austin's camera. We are grateful to Rex once again for taking the photograph and for his generosity in supplying an excellent enlargement for each participant.

In addition to Rex and Laurie the list of starters includes Blotto, Len Hill, John Leece, Eddie Moore, Frank Perkins, Guy Pullan, Reg Wilson, John Moss, Geoff Sharp, Alan Rogerson, David Birchall, David Jones (with brother Simon) and two prospective cadets.

Allan Littlemore, a regular at this event in past years was busy in the Midlands helping Solihull's Howard Bayley on a 24 hours record ride.

FRODSHAM, 25th June and BANGOR 26th June.

Again news is scanty. John Farrington and Allan Littlemore are known to have been at Frodsham, otherwise no details.

LLANARMON 18th June, 1966.

Due to other commitments, necessitating a late start, David Birchall and John Farrington used motorised transport to take them to the Raven via Glascoed near Bwlchgwyn. The President and Alan Rogerson

his wife and friend arrived shortly afterwards with Allan Littlemore joining us during the meal, to change the subject of conversation and entertain us with his experiences of record attempt staffing problems.

With the meal over the conversations carried on outside in the sunshine, which lasted long enough to see us home.

J.F.

SOMERFORD 18th June, 1966.

The only rider to reach Somerford, Laurie Pendlebury tells us that he is now more free to get out on Saturdays than he has been for a couple of years or so. He hopes to be out fairly frequently and looks forward to finding other Mancunians on the alternative fixtures (and of course at joint runs also).

FIVE CROSSES, FRODSHAM, 25th June, 1966. BANGOR ON DEE, 26th June, 1966.

No reports have been received and the only information to reach the editorial office so far is that John Farrington and Allan Littlemore were at Five Crosses.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Although October will be a busy month with the final Club "25" the Tints Tour and the A.G.M. (see Committee Notices for details) we do hope that there will be some support for the proposed Speedwell Week-end celebration on the 8th-9th October. We hear that Rigby Band hopes to join the party; Jeff Mills is known to be interested and John Thompson is considering riding in the proposed "100". Anyone even remotely interested should contact the Captain as soon as possible.

Apart from the important business to be transacted the A.G.M. provides an opportunity for an Autumn get-together, and we hope members will book 29th October now for a jaunt to Hatchmere.

Names are being taken now for the Autumn Tints tour and those hoping to attend should contact the Captain or Secretary in good time.

The Editor, David Jones, and Raymond Beamish managed to get to the Saughton area to support the Anfield team on the Mersey R.C. Three-up T.T.T. on Thursday 9th June. They were treated to a fine display of well-packed team riding by John Whelan, David Barker and David Bettaney and the final result was: (1) Kirkby C.C. 49.12. (2) Mersey R.C. 50.24. (3) Birkenhead W.E.C.C. 51.6. (4) Anfield 51.7.

Bill Finn certainly made the most of his trip over here for the "100". After two nights at Llanfair Caereinion he bedded in Shrewsbury before the race and covered many miles criss-crossing the course to see progress of the riders first hand.

After a second breakfast - cum - lunch near Hadnall, Bell made for Pontblyddyn, up to the Raven at Llanarmon for two nights (and an exploration of the Dee Valley near Corwen) before returning to Dublin.

Letters to Len Hill or other officers on this and that close with greetings to all the clan from Peter Rock, Rigby Band (who hopes any Anfielders in or near Lydney will look him up), Bob Wright and Bob Poole.

The final couple of lines of our June issue which noted Arthur Smith's "failure to decorate Shawbury Corner (on the "100") for the first time for many years" might seem to suggest that Arthur let us down this year. This is certainly not the case. We knew in very good time that he would not be available for his customary job owing to holidays. In fact at the time Arthur and Ida might have been "decorating Shawbury corner" they were breakfasting on the terrace of their hotel high up in the Corsican hills.

Allan Littlemore speaks very highly of two places where he and Marion recently stayed in the Tanat Valley and members may care to have the addresses. The Penybont Inn gave good value for B. & B. at 22/6. At least as good and most reasonable was Mrs. Jean Morgan, "Glanhafon Uchaf", Penybontfawr (tel. Pennant 228) where bed and breakfast costs but 15/-.

David Barker has been touring Mid-Wales and Pembrokeshire with nights at Borth, Poppit Sands, St. Davids, Llanddensant and Ystumtuen Hostels.

ANFIELD CIRCULAR

JOURNAL OF THE ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB (FORMED MARCH 1879)

President: SYDNEY del BANCO

Vice Presidents: K. W. BARKER & L. J. HILL

Captain: J. H. MILLS

Hon. Secretary: F.E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange,
West Kirby, Cheshire (Caldy 7473)

Vol. LXI

AUGUST 1966

No.703

FIXTURES

September 1966

- 3 CLUB "25" (Tea - Two Mills).
- 5 Committee Meeting, Free Church Centre, L'pool.
- 10 LLANARMON (Raven). SOMERFORD**
- 17 HATCHMERE (Forest Cafe).
- 24 TWO MILLS (Eureka Cafe). BYLEY.
- 25 W.C.T.T.C.A. "25" (Lunch - Whitewell)

October

- 1 CLUB "25" (Tea - Two Mills).
 - 8 FIVE CROSSES, FRODSHAM (Fairfield Cafe)
 - 8-9 Speedwell B.C. Week-end.
- Wednesday Evenings - Eureka Cafe, Two Mills.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

21 and over: 30/-. Under 21: 15/-. Cadet Members: 5/-.
Honorary: A minimum of 10/- and donations to the Prize Fund should be sent to the Hon.Treasurer, L.J.Hill, Oak Cottage, 29 Mill Lane, Gayton, Heswall, Wirral, or may be paid into any Bank for credit of Anfield Bicycle Club's account, Martins Bank Ltd., Heswall Branch

* * * * *

EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 5th September 1966.

COMMITTEE NOTICES

It was with the greatest regret that we heard of the death, at his home in Scarborough, of Frank Chandler just as this issue was ready for production. We hope to publish an appreciation of our old friend and Life Member next month.

Change of address:

John Gornall, 144 Warrington Road, Widnes, Lancs.

Once again we would remind members of the Speedwell week-end (8-9 October), the Tints Tour (15-16 October) and the Annual General Meeting at Hatchmere on 29th October.

The Treasurer recently notified all members whose subscriptions are overdue but he has had a very poor response to his appeal. If the Club is to pay its way without dipping into a rather small deposit account it is essential that members should pay promptly. Those who pay in advance and send additional donations find a particular soft spot in the Treasurer's heart! Certainly there should be no outstanding subscriptions in August with only one more month of the Club year to come.

RACING NOTES

Club records have been toppling and some other very good rides have been achieved during the past month. Having once broken the hour barrier, David Bettaney is now making a habit of it. He also recorded an Anfield best "100" in 4.22.18. Another good "Hundred" was David Barker's 4.29.28 - his first ride at this distance.

John Thompson is still busy collecting Club barrow records and to cap all John Whelan broke 2 hours for a "Fifty" in the Harrogate St.Christopher's C.C.C. event when he clocked 1.58.21. With riders placed first, second and fifth our team had a comfortable win over the Birkenhead Vics in the Inter-Club "25".

Results include:-

July 3rd - Inter Club "25" with Birkenhead Victoria C.C.

(1) J.Whelan 59.18, (2) D.Bettaney 59.19, (5) D.W.Barker 1.2.21.

P.Whitehead 1.4.23, J.Moss 1.4.29, J.Thompson wrecked trike and D.N.F.

July 10th - Fleetwood R.C. "25".

J.Whelan 59.8 (3rd), P.Whitehead 1.3.52.

Salford Phoenix "25".

J.Thompson (trike) 1.6.59. Gold Standard and Club record.

W.C.T.T.C.A. "100".

D.Bettaney 4.22.18 (4th & 2nd h'cap) Silver Standard - Club record.

July 17th - Liverpool St.Christopher's C.C.C. "50".

J. Whelan 2.1.10 (2nd) Club record. D.Barker 2.10.2.

J.Thompson (trike) 2.17.50 Gold Standard, Club record.

Merseyside Schoolboys' Championship "10".

P.Whitehead 25.39 (4th). D.Jones 29.2.

July 24th - Birkenhead Victoria C.C. "25".

D.Bettaney 59.40 (5th), J.Whelan 59.51 (6th), D.Barker (punc.) D.N.F.

July 31st - Port Sunlight Wheelers "25".

J.Whelan 59.14, D.Bettaney 59.37, P.Whitehead 1.4.15, J.Moss 1.5.17.

N.Staffs C.A. & Universities A.U. "100".

D.W.Barker 4.29.28 (4th fastest and 3rd handicap in Assoc. event, 2nd in Univ. event) Silver Standard.

August 7th - Harrogate St.Christophers C.C.C. "50".

J. Whelan 1.58.21.

Liverpool Century "100". J.Thompson crashed, D.N.F.

Mercury R.C. "50". D.Barker 2.9.55.

TOUR TO THE SPEEDWELL "100"

Friday evening saw me on my way to Holly Cottage, keeping to the main road as far as Chester and completing a most enjoyable ride in the lanes.

The forecast was for sunshine and showers and the outlook bore this out so I set forth hoping for the best; at Bettisfield I took shelter from a quick shower and was soon away again towards Shrewsbury.

Ludlow had been on the programme but the volume of traffic at Salop caused a change of plan and I now headed for Much Wenlock turning at Cressage on to the lane through Shenton. Now I followed the Bridgnorth road until the fork just beyond Morville and later took the Bewdley road at Oldbury. From here the gradients increased and I was well satisfied when I reached the summit and started the run down to Bewdley where eating places were scarce and I carried on to Stourport for lunch.

A short stretch of main road brought me to Dunhampton and a narrow lane through Doverdale to Droitwich. Now the wind was right behind me and I floated to Alcester and Little Alne. Noting that my day's mileage was approaching 100 I deviated through Hampton-on-the-Hill and Budbrooke to ensure the completion of my first century on a trike.

The venue this year was the "Crown" at Warwick and on arrival

I found Richard Hulse and Harry Watson of the Speedwell together with Bill Oakley of the C.T.C. Our party was completed with the arrival of Rex Austin who had called on Ned Haynes on the way down.

The evening went pleasantly, the programme including a walk to view some roadworks which might mean a last minute alteration to the course.

This year I avoided rising early and had a pleasant lie in to my usual hour of waking. Rex and Bill did likewise, the former who was taking times at 75 miles left before Speedwellian Jack Smith and I ambled off to our duty points.

Ned Haynes and Ira Thomas marshalled at 90 miles.

When the last rider had gone through, I had a final drink with Richard and Bill and then took their advice and made for Leamington to entrain for some of the homeward run. In fact I concluded a most enjoyable week-end with a gentle amble from Chester.

J.H.M.

COTSWOLD WANDERINGS

Stow-on-the-Wold was my resting place for the third night of a recent tour and the Hostel in this fine old Cotswold village provided shelter, food and the company of kindred spirits.

Next morning bright sunshine (an all too rare commodity during this tour) showed up the Square to perfection as a move was made for the northern Fosse Way. This was followed as far as the turning into the delightful lane which leads to Lower Slaughter, still a haven of peace and loveliness despite an attempt by some vandal to brighten up the place with those modern atrocities, yellow no-parking lines.

Bourton-on-the-Water was re-visited for old times' sake but commercialism has ruined this lovely village and it was a relief to take the back lane which rises sharply towards Clapton and then, after some miles of splendid ridgeway with views into fertile valleys on either hand drops to Farmington and eventually once more finds the ancient Fosse Way at Northleach.

Two pleasant youths were engrossed in taking rubbings of the fine old brasses in the Cathedral-like Church at Northleach; a brief sunny interlude provided an opportunity to air the camera and pass the time of day with the Vicar before a course was set for Bibury using narrow lanes which passed through Ablington, subject of J.A.Gibbs' classic "A Cotswold Village".

Bibury has much to offer the tourist including a trout hatchery conveniently placed near the roadside for the entertainment of passers-by. Bibury Court, built in 1623 by Sir Thomas Sackville to a design by Inigo Jones, and the famous Arlington Row, now happily in the care of the National Trust, will delight any photographer whose visit coincides with a spot of sunshine, but still it was a relief to leave the holiday crowd and pedal towards the peace of the Coln Valley and its delectable villages.

Coln St. Aldwyn derives its name from Aldwyn, Bishop of Winchester, circa AD844 and it was here that the saintly John Keble lived as vicar from 1835 until his death in 1866.

No less attractive are Winson, Coln Rogers and Coln St. Dennis and the peace and beauty of these hamlets blinded me to the approaching storm clouds which broke later into torrential rain but failed to spoil the magic of this day.

At Fosse Bridge it was time once again to cross the Fosse Way on its journey to Cirencester, ancient capital of the Cotswolds, and to ride through the solitude and majesty of Withington and Chedworth Woods.

There was no time to turn aside to wander again among the remains of Chedworth's famous Roman villa; rain was now tumbling down relentlessly and quite a few miles remained to be done so it was the briefest of glances which could be spared for Compton Abdale before the busy main road was joined at Andoversford.

All that remained now was to find a way through Cheltenham's busy streets and face the long tough climb up Cleeve Hill noting that the agony starts at the village of Prestbury, a gentle reminder of its namesake more than a century of miles away in my home County of Cheshire.

K.W.B.

CLUB RUNS

Pontblyddyn (2nd July), Inter Club "25" (3rd July)

No word of any attenders at the Pontblyddyn run has reached the Editor which also goes for Byley on that day and Hatchmere a week later.

The Inter Club "25" was something of a disappointment. Light but continuous rain fell and this may have kept some members in bed, for the number turning out in support of our riders was not too good.

John Whelan, David Bettaney, David Barker, John Moss, Philip Whitehead and John Thompson kept the Anfield flag flying bravely and with men in first, second and fifth places we had a fairly comfortable win over our Birkenhead Victoria friends.

Out helping and in support were Ken Barker, David Birchall, Geoff Sharp, John Farrington and Len Hill who roused Vivienne from her slumbers at an early hour and sent her post haste to the finish with a welcome urn of tea for all riders and officials, while he, stout fellow, trundled quietly out on a bicycle.

Llanarmon - 16th July 1966

I pushed off on this bright summer's day carrying some old "Cyclings" for the warden at Bala, for the Hostel there was my main objective. Chester came and I travelled by way of Kinnerton to Hope (this route avoids the traffic infested A55), across to the Mold road and then a couple of miles until I reached Pontblyddyn, where a sharp left turn starts the climb. Up through Coed Talon, was relatively easy on this sunny day, the struggle persisted until the phone box which commands a fine view from a height of over 900 ft. where a sharp turn right drops one into a pleasing little valley and so to the welcome hostelry known as the "Raven". I wondered if I might be the only cyclist as I was a month previously, but no, I was pleased to see three other bicycles outside the hotel.

Having covered 33 miles starting at 29 ft. a.s.l. climbing to 1,014 ft. and ending at over 850 ft. in less than 3 hours, I reckoned that wasn't bad and upon entering the tea room I was greeted by Guy Pullan, John Farrington and a cadet, and Ken and Mrs. Barker, with two friends who had journeyed by car, which made a total of 8 who chatted about this and that. Tea passed all too quickly, then the pleasantries over I had to get a move on, so with my transistor all set in my pocket to get the England World Cup match, I journeyed on to Bala, which town was as busy as any holiday place in July.

Sunday dawned bright and sunny, so I retraced to Bala, then along the A494 to Cefnddwysarn, where I turned left on to a very minor road which took me through a gorgeous forgotten valley; I had never been this way before and must recommend it to seekers after solitude. Eventually emerged at Tynant on the A5, a few minutes in a cafe and a chat with a cyclist going to Eire (lucky chap) and I was into Cerrig-y-Druidion, where I took the road to Pont Alwen, another road new to me. At the Pont I turned right and followed a very minor road on Bart's which turned out to be tarmac, but devoid of all traffic. This road climbed up through the woods (the scenery

was first class) through Hendre Haffotty Wen, climbing over 1,471 ft. and then a dropping road, still through the lovely woods, eventually down to Pennant and Gyffylliog (shades of pre-war hostel trips) and so to Ruthin for a welcome "cuppa". I still hadn't finished mountaineering for I took a route over the Clwyds, which brought me out not far from Llandegla but on the Llanarmon road, quite a struggle but well worth the effort. Then through Llanarmon this time and so to Graig in a cloudburst, where I tried the cafe which has the C.T.C. sign exhibited. It is a really good place and a pity it is so near to the "Raven". After tea the rain had ceased and I enjoyed a pleasing ride home after a trip into Wales, using some roads which were new to me, strange as that might seem.

A.L.L.

The Mersey Road Club "24" - 23/24 July 1966

The fixture list hopefully said "Beeston" for Saturday tea and while it is doubtful if any member actually visited the Station Cafe that day, a large number of members were out helping with the only Northern "24" on the calendar.

As usual the promotion was a model of smooth efficiency, all that was left to the riders being to stay on a bicycle (or trike) for 24 hours and push it four hundred odd miles. Midland ace tricyclist Howard Bayley (riding two wheels this time) led practically throughout and barring accidents the result was never in doubt. His winning distance of 471 miles, while some miles short of the event record was a fine performance in view of the windy conditions described by Event Secretary, Dave Stapleton, as "the hardest since 1947".

The Mersey Roads duty sheet is liberally sprinkled with Anfield names and among those listed to do jobs around the course are:- Len Hill I/C Anfield party serving drinks at Nant Hall, the waiters being Frank Perkins, John Farrington, Wally Rees, David Bettaney and Peter Jones. Jeff Mills took the time check here: Allan Littlemore at Alpraham (Marion was at the nearby Boot & Slipper), Ken Barker at Burland Hall and later at Shotwick fork, Les Bennett at Fourways (Sealand) Island, Ira Thomas (Battlefield corner). Allan Littlemore was out again at Hoofield Hall while Rex Austin and Jeff Mills were circuit timekeepers.

Others out lending a hand were Blotto, Guy Pullan, Syd Carver, David Jones, David Barker, John Thompson, John Whelan and David Bettaney.

Bangor-on-Dee - 30th July 1966

It was in light-hearted mood that the Editor set out for Bangor's Smithy. The sun was shining (that didn't last long!) while a full touring bag was the visible sign that this was the first leg of a week's cycling to the Malvern's, Cotswolds and anywhere else that seemed good. After a stop at the "Eureka" (how else could a tour start) Chester was soon left behind and familiar lanes through Saughton, Shocklach and Worthenbury led to the venue in good time for tea and a look at the closing stages of the World Cup Final on the goggle box. During this pictorial interlude John Farrington, David Birchall and John Thompson arrived and later (after the writer's departure) Len Hill came in to make it five. With Rex Austin, Jeff Mills, Ira Thomas and Ned Haynes at the Speedwell "100" tour, others racing next morning and Allan Littlemore busy leading a Weaver Valley C.C. "All-Nighter" this totals up to quite an active week-end.

An invitation to sit out the half hour's extra time was attractive but it would have meant a hectic dash if Shrewsbury was to be reached, as promised, by 7 p.m. At Ellesmere a boy on a carrier bicycle gave me the glad tidings of England's win over West Germany, tidings which in large part made up for the inconvenience of the cape which had to be donned a mile or so beyond the Lake. It was a wet evening and "the shape of things to come" for most of the week which followed but views of distant Caer Caradoc, Long Mountain and Breidden Hill made the final miles to Salop's capital very pleasant and it was a well satisfied cyclist who wheeled his steed into the cycle shed at "The Woodlands" some ten minutes before schedule.

NEWS IN BRIEF

John Parr entered and started in the Northumberland & Durham C.A. "12" but he is not yet fully long distance fit and craftily retired when the course took him through Whitley Bay.

News from Harry Austin (in Leeds) is that he is staging a cycling come-back and expecting to have a short tour of Galloway with son John in mid-August.

A new Continental pass, 100 feet higher than the Col de L'Iseran has been opened between Isola and Jansiern (the Col de la Bounette) and Stan Wild recently rode the whole of this 9200 feet climb (no wonder he spends the "100" sitting in Mark Haslam's car!).

Keen-eyed readers will have noted some gaps in run reports this month. These result from the inability of the Editor to get even an attendance list let alone a write-up. Come on Anfielders!

John Gornall got out to a Hatchmere run in August and we hope this is but the first of many.

ANFIELD CIRCULAR

JOURNAL OF THE ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB (FORMED MARCH 1879)

President: SYDNEY del BANCO

Vice Presidents: K. W. BARKER & L. J. HILL

Captain: J. H. MILLS

Hon. Secretary: F.E. MARRIOTT, 13 Wirral Mount, Grange,
West Kirby, Cheshire (Caldy 7473)

Vol. LXI

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1966

No.704

October 1966

FIXTURES

- 15/16 Autumn Tints Tour.
15 TATTENHALL (Milk Bar).
22 PONT BLYDDYN (Woodlands). SOMERFORD.
29 HATCHMERE (Forest Café).
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

November

- 5 PONTBLYDDYN - SOMERFORD.
6 WHITEWELL (Lunch 1.0 p.m.)
7 Committee Meeting, Free Church Centre, L'pool.
12 Halewood (Derby Arms) Ladies' Night.
PARKGATE (Hilo Café).
19 CROSSWAYS Café, near CAERWYS (Lunch) Two Mills (tea)
SOMERFORD (Lunch).
26 KELSALL (Oasis Café).

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

21 and over: 30/-. Under 21: 15/-. Cadet Members: 5/-.
Honorary: A minimum of 10/- and donations to the Prize
Fund should be sent to the Hon.Treasurer, L.J.Hill, Oak
Cottage, 29 Mill Lane, Gayton, Heswall, Wirral, or may
be paid into any Bank for credit of Anfield Bicycle
Club's account, Martins Bank Ltd., Heswall Branch.

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EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 7th NOVEMBER 1966.

COMMITTEE NOTICES

Members are reminded that the Annual General Meeting will be held after tea at the Forest Cafe, Hatchmere on Saturday, 29th October 1966.

Matters for inclusion on the Agenda should be notified to the Hon. Secretary with delay.

For the Autumn and Winter months at least, tea will be timed for 4.30 p.m.

The Ladies' Night will be held at the Derby Arms, Halewood, on Saturday, 12th November, and the Secretary will be glad to have early bookings.

New Member elected:

Simon Jones, 14 Pickerrill Road, Greasby, Upton, Wirral, has been accepted into Cadet Membership.

IN MEMORIAMFrank Chandler

Frank Chandler joined the Club in 1916 and retained a keen interest in the Anfield throughout the fifty years of his membership. The measure of his enthusiasm can be judged by his record of run attendances, over 1000 in the forty years before his removal to Scarborough, resulting in his election to Life Membership.

He was a keen club-man and tourist with a photographic memory for the places he had visited which made him a mine of information on any and every corner of the British Isles.

In addition to regular support of Club fixtures, Frank was one of the pillars of that August body, the Saughall Beer-Biters and it would be impossible to calculate the number of miles he covered with his front tyre gently stroking the enamel off the late W.P. Cook's back axle.

During the years 1932-39 Frank served on the Committee and was Editor of the Circular in 1936-37. It was characteristic of him that when the question of a duplicated (rather than printed) Circular was under consideration he sent a reasoned letter of support for the change together with some examples of duplicated journals which had come his way.

An accident resulting in serious injuries from which he made a remarkable and determined recovery, his marriage late on in life and shortly after that his removal to Scarborough meant that we saw

little or nothing of him during the past decade but those who knew him remember him as a great Anfielder, a keen and knowledgeable cyclist and a good companion; to Mrs.Chandler we offer the sincere sympathy of all our members in her loss.

RACING NOTES

The season is drawing to a close but some excellent rides continue to be notched up. Results since the last issue of the Circular include the following:-

- 7th August: Mercury R.C.'50'. D.W.Barker 2.9.55 (10th).
- 14th August: Merseyside Whlrs.'50'. J.J.Whelan, 2.3.16;
D.Bettaney 2.5.26; D.W.Barker 2.8.24; P.Whitehead
2.16.28 (Bronze - 1st '50'); J.Thompson (Trike)
2.16.57 (Gold - Club record).
- 21st August: L.T.T.C.A./W.C.T.T.C.A. "12".
D.W.Barker 244.547 (Silver) Prize for best first "12".
J.Thompson (trike) 210.926 (Bronze).
National Junior Championship "25". J.Moss, 1.5.15.
- 28th August: Bromsgrove Olympique "25".
J.Whelan 59.31; D.Bettaney D.N.F. (punctured);
Hemsworth C.C. "25". D.W.Barker 1.3.37 (punctured).
- 29th August: Kettering Friendly C.C. "25".
D.Bettaney 1.0.47; J.Whelan D.N.F. (punctured).
- 3rd Sept.: Club "25".
(1) D.W.Barker 1.1.47 (2) J.Whelan 1.2.37
(3) J.Moss 1.5.45 (4) D.Jones 1.13.8
- STOP PRESS !
25th Sept. W.C.T.T.C.A. "25".
Anfielders D.Bettaney, J.Whelan and D.Barker win Team
Medals and "Sun" Cup (details next month).

HATCHMERE - 6th August 1966

To ride from Heswall to Delamere without hitting a main road and its load of Saturday traffic is my delight. It was a pity that this day was overcast and grey but even some light rain did not spoil the pleasure of the ride and then on arrival at the Forest Cafe

I had the company over tea of the President, the Captain and John Gornall who is still keenly interested in Anfield affairs and hoping to be able to get out a little more often in the future.

The ride home was equally pleasant until Blotto started half-wheeling me!

L.J.H.

LLANARMON - 13th August 1966

This venue is a really good one and I set out with pleasant anticipation although the atmosphere carried some spots of light rain.

Time was rather short and this decided me on the shortest route, so at Overleigh Island, Chester, I took the Saltney road, noting the early arrivals at the Youth Hostel draped all over the front steps (and I was going to Bala Hostel!).

It was hard work on the climb through Coed Talon to the telephone box near the turn to Llanarmon but from there one is at peace with the world. John Farrington, Geoff Sharp and Peter Jones were already dining but although it was now after 6.0 p.m. our charming hostess rustled up some food for me in quick time.

A swift run to Bala in the gathering gloom landed me at the hostel just as darkness (and some rain) fell.

After a gale in the night Sunday dawned fine and sunny. My route lay through Llandrillo, Cynwyd and Corwen, then across the river to a delightful lane from Carrog to Bryn Eglwys. After refreshment at a garage-cum-cafe I took the lane which skirts the western side of the ridge, reached Llandegla and so to Bwlch-Gwyn, the Ffrith Valley, Hope and the Kinnerton route to Chester after which city I had to pump up six or seven times before reaching home after a very pleasant week-end.

A.L.L.

BYLEY - 13th August 1966

A shortage of time and a headwind dictated a direct route for Laurie Pendlebury who rode out via Mere corner, Knutsford and Toft from whence quiet lanes led to Byley. Here two old friends, Bob and Mrs. Poole greeted him and time passed quickly with an exchange of memories of charming spots in South Wales. At 7.0 p.m. a start was made for home and a tail wind helped Laurie to reach home just on nine.

TWO MILLS - 20th August 1966

It was to be expected that a fair number of members would be turning out for the W.C.T.T.C.A. "12" for on the card appeared the names of three Anfielders and in addition to keeping an eye on our riders we had the responsibility of marshalling the stretch of course between Stocks Lane (where Jeff took a time check) and Churton both ways.

With this in view the Saturday fixture was at nearby Two Mills, nearby that is for all except Laurie Pendlebury who made a round trip which must have exceeded seventy miles to join the "Liverpool gents" at this popular Wirral venue.

With holidays getting very near, the Editor staged a blitz on the garden and, after clearing up some of the undergrowth resulting from long neglect, dug out the bicycle and set off for Willaston to call on John Leece who needed little persuasion to slip away and attend the meet.

Eric Reeves was on the point of leaving as we arrived and Len Hill was recovering from his six miles marathon ride and stoking up in preparation for an equally arduous return journey to "Oak Cottage".

David Birchall and Jeff Mills were busy with plans for checking, marshalling and feeding our men next day under the watchful eyes of David Bettaney (one of the contestants) and prospective Cadet David Williams.

With his first "12" looming up, David Barker rode quietly over from Manchester and by chance found Laurie making his way to the same destination. Together they potted through narrow lanes to the "Eureka" and on the way Laurie revealed that he had just celebrated his sixty-fourth birthday and is now contemplating retirement, possibly to Pembrokeshire.

THE W.C.T.T.C.A./L.T.T.C.A. "12" - 21st August 1966

Next morning it was dull and overcast as the early starters assembled and very soon heavy rain started to fall and this continued through most of the morning making conditions very unpleasant for riders and officials alike.

Quite early on, David Bettaney found things were not going to

plan and he packed at Queensferry with thirty miles covered, meantime John Thompson and David Barker were pounding round the course with every indication that two good rides would result.

Time ran out for John with a final confirmed mileage of 210.926 a really first class effort and very close to Club "barrow" record.

David Barker was checked as ten minutes inside "evens" at 150 miles and he hung on to this advantage and was credited with 244.547 at the end. This is one mile less than Young Bren's Club record ride and it earned David the special prize offered for the best first "12".

Both riders would give a good deal of the credit for their rides to those members who worked so hard round the course to look after them with special mentions for Joe Dodd and David Birchall who worked like trojans during the event and then carted the bodies homeward when time was called.

Those out assisting on the course included Joe Dodd, David Birchall, Frank Perkins, Blotto, Ken Barker, Jeff Mills, John Whelan and David Bettaney and this list may not be complete.

YORK RALLY - 27th-29th August 1966

Marian and I cycled to Earlestown and caught a train to York. Arriving at the Knaresmire on a glorious sunny Saturday we immediately started bumping into friends old and new.

I can thoroughly recommend this gathering to anyone even remotely interested in cycling for the C.T.C. do a great job organising such an enjoyable week-end.

We had reserved some good digs nearby and found John Thompson staying at the same place together with others who were racing on Sunday morning.

Next morning I arose early and dashed out to see the T.A."50" with Ed Green as Chief Pusher-off and giving advice to all and sundry.

Bernard Wood (G.O.M. of the Clifton C.C.) organised the event which his wife timed and clocked Dave Crook fastest in 2.15.15. John Thompson did well to finish 4th with 2.20.46. John Parr was marked D.N.S., the only entrant not to come under Starter's Orders.

On Monday morning the trike "25" was also won by Crook (1.4.47) John Thompson, saying he was overgeared, finished 6th with a good 1.10.50.

Back in the Show Tent we bumped into Alex Beaton sun-tanned and obviously making the most of his retirement.

At the track sports John Thompson won his heat in a one lap trike sprint but was beaten into second place in the final.

We were spoilt for choice with Vintage cycle parades, sports and bicycle polo and time to be on our way came all too quickly. A welcome lift in Jim Shuttleworth's van got us back home without getting too wet.

A.L.L.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Members who have stayed at Walt's "ranch", the traditional headquarters for events on O2 will be sorry to learn that Walt has now retired. It was an appropriate and pleasant finale that his last weekend was marked by a new Competition record at 25 miles by Dave Dungworth in 53-18. The Cafe and event H.Q. will be carrying on under new management.

Recent touring activity includes a Bank Holiday weekend trip to the Hemsworth "25" with stops at Ewden (Friday) and Lincoln (Sun.) Youth Hostels by David Barker and a North Wales tourlet, also using Hostels, by Keith Orum and John Moss.

Harry Austin and son John carried out their proposed tour and to prove it, sent the Editor a card from New Galloway which said "we are centred on Castle Douglas and pottering round this lovely unspoilt - motor-free countryside. Regards to all".

There has been a burst of "record" activity recently. Allan Littlemore handed up some hot tea to Nim Carline as he sped past the "'Arbour Master's" residence during his End to End attempt which finished when the rider fell asleep on his bicycle.

Allan was also out on Pat Kenny's successful Birmingham - Manchester and back trip.

The Ludlow/Birkenhead and back route has come in for some attention also. On 4th September John Lahiff and George Longstaff manhandled a tandem-trike over this 164½ miles course in 8.40.7 - an excellent ride on a day when the wind went round and faced the riders both ways.

NEWS IN BRIEF - Contd.

John Thompson was unlucky to get a day when the wind swung round and most of the 164 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles was against the drift. He put up a gallant but unavailing fight and packed with nearly 130 miles covered by which time he had to take some eight minutes out of "evens" in 36 miles. A full report next month.

On the same day Cliff Ash (Mid Shrops.Whlrs) took the solo record from Don Spraggett.

Len Hill has heard from Pat Collins (now living at Lymm). He is still interested in cycling and the Anfield and hopes to get out again shortly.

Our Annual Ladies' Night will be held at Halewood on Saturday, 12th November and we hope for a large gathering, so book up right away with Frank Marriott. Apart from the convivial atmosphere and an excellent meal, something special is promised for our after dinner entertainment.

For those who cannot trust their eyes when the December fixtures are published we give advance details (subject to confirmation)

Dec. 3rd: Hatchmere (Forest Cafe) LUNCH.

" 10th: Nannerch (Mrs.Palin - Sarn Mill) Lunch.

Tea at PARKGATE (Hilo Cafe) or Cranage Cafe.

" 17th: Two Mills (Eureka Cafe) Slide Show.

" 24th: Two Mills (any time during the day). Somerford (Lunch).

" 26th: Halewood (Derby Arms - lunch).

" 31st: Kelsall (Oasis Cafe) Lunch.

Lunch fixtures are to be used increasingly during the winter months to give members an opportunity to get in a decent ride and still be home by dark. On most of these dates a nearby venue will be listed as "TEA" and again a call here could be made before dark or an evening engagement.

Those wishing to attend the Saturday lunch on 19th November will find the Crossways Cafe near the junction of the road from Caerwys with the Holywell-St.Asaph road, about 200 yards from the "Singing Kettle".

Editorial holidays meant less chasing of prospective "writer-uppers"; less chasing meant nothing to edit - hence this very late Sept./Oct. issue for which we apologise and hurriedly go on to point out "it's your own fault!".

Bert Lloyd hopes to be at Hatchmere for the A.G.M. and to say "au revoir" before his removal to sunnier climes in Jersey.

Derek Byron was home recently but couldn't manage to get to a run as he had hoped.

ANFIELD CIRCULAR

JOURNAL OF THE ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB (FORMED MARCH 1879)

President: SYDNEY del BANCO

Vice Presidents: K. W. BARKER & L. J. HILL

Captain: A. L. LITTLEMORE

Hon. Secretary: J.H.MILLS, 58 Townsend Avenue, West Derby,
Liverpool 11. (STANley 3285)

Vol. LXI

NOVEMBER 1966

No.705

December 1966

FIXTURES

- 3 Hatchmere (Forest Café) LUNCH
- 5 Committee Meeting, Free Church Centre, L'pool.
- 10 Nannerch (Mrs.Palin, Sarn Mill) Lunch Cranage Café.
Parkgate (Inglenook Café) Tea, 4.30 p.m.
Youth Hostel Week-end (Cynwydd).
- 17 Two Mills (Slide Show)
- 24 Little Chef (Sealand) - see notes inside.
- 26 Halewood (Derby Arms) Lunch.
- 31 Kelsall (Oasis Café) Lunch.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Honorary: A minimum of 10/- and donations to the Prize
Fund should be sent to the Hon.Treasurer, F.E.Marriott,
13, Wirral Mount, Grange, West Kirby, Cheshire, or may
by paid into any Bank for credit of Anfield Bicycle
Club's account, Martins Bank Ltd., Heswall Branch.

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EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 5th DECEMBER 1966

COMMITTEE NOTICESChange of address:

L.Pendlebury, "Heatherlands", Freshwater East, Pembroke, S.W.Wales.

Christmas Eve:

The run on Saturday, 24th December, will take an unusual form. The President and Vice Presidents cordially invite as many members as possible to have coffee with them at The Little Chef Cafe (at the garage near Sealand corner island) between 10.30 and 11.45 a.m. on Christmas Eve.

AUTUMN INTERLUDE

The President recently, in perfect weather, spent a few days in North Wales based on Tremadoc. En route he called on our Ambassador to Wales and found Baron Birkby of Dolwyddelen and his Lady in fine fettle. A few pleasant hours were spent in their company talking of this, that and the other. Arthur is thoroughly enjoying his retirement and wishes to emphasise that any Anfielder touring his domain will be more than welcome if he calls.

Apart from one day occupied in visiting a little known cove (sea cove, not an "old cove") near Abersoch, the remainder of the holiday was taken up exploring two or three Cwms to the right side of the Tremadoc/Caernarvon road hitherto unexplored by the writer. Some wonderful trips and views are to be enjoyed here; particularly the road to Cwm Pennant through Llanfihangel-y-Pennant. At the head of the cwm there is a "Shank's pony" track over the ridges to Rhyd-ddu at the junction of the Beddgelert/Nantlle roads.

Another is Cwm Ystradlyn leading to the reservoir of Llyn Cwm Ystradlyn. Retracing ones steps or wheel marks a short distance one can turn left on to a wonderful mountain road which eventually drops down on to the Beddgelert/Tremadoc road near the village of Prenteg. The view from the highest point is breathtaking - Tremadoc Bay, Portmadoc and the estuary are spread out below literally in a birds eye view. The drop down to the main road is hair-raising - a Stelvio in miniature - hairpin bends in succession and 1 in 4 inclines.

On the way home the new reservoir (Llyn Celyn) in the Tryweryn valley was visited, via the road from Trawsfynydd now made to main road standards. The adventure of this road has now departed, but

happy memories of the old rough, narrow and winding road remain.

S. d B.

HATCHMERE - 29th October 1966. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Twenty-five members gathered at Hatchmere for the annual deliberations and it is most unlikely that we shall repeat the experiment of holding the meeting at the Forest Cafe, for the service was undesirably bad and there are no signs that willing but clueless young waitresses are being trained towards better things.

First of all to call the roll. Syd del Banco looked fit and ready to chair his first A.G.M. as President, while his predecessor Rex Austin looked equally fit and ready for any eventualities. Then round the tables in no particular order we noted Bert Lloyd, Alan Gorman, Harry Duck, Percy Williamson, Alf Howarth, Jeff Mills, Frank Perkins, Peter Rock, David Bettaney, Ken and David Barker, John Moss, Peter Jones, Don and David Birchall, Geoff Sharp, John Farrington, David Jones, John Whelan, Frank Marriott, Len Hill, Les Bennett and Allan Littlemore.

After the Minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed and a number of apologies for absence read, the Secretary gave his report for the year ended 30th September, paying tribute to the late Frank Chandler, a life member and Anfielder for fifty years. Membership remains fairly steady at about 145 in all classes. There had been a big drop in total attendances but the number of members who had been out on one or more occasions was nearly the same as in earlier years. Jeff Mills (49), David Barker (42), John Farrington (38), Allan Littlemore (33), Dave Bettaney (32), John Whelan (31) and John Moss (30) top the attendance record closely followed by John Thompson, David Birchall, Ken Barker, Blotto, Rex Austin and Geoff Sharp.

Len Hill submitted his financial statement which was accepted with the usual glazed looks which seem to be reserved specially for balance sheets. It seems we had (a) lost or (b) won or (c) broken even on the season, but nobody seemed quite sure which - perhaps this is as it should be - anyway we changed the Auditors!

The Captains report left us in no doubt however. Messrs. Whelan, Bettaney, Barker, Thompson, Moss, Jones & Co. had definitely

come out on the credit side and kept the Anfield flag flying bravely. During the year, 5 Club records had been improved and 10 Standard Medals had been won.

At this stage the President took advantage of the general air of goodwill and enthusiasm to push through a resolution electing Ken Barker to Life Membership for eminent services rendered the Club in various ways and particularly for nearly twenty years in the editorial chair.

Speakers in support of the motion included Alan Gorman, Frank Marriott, Allan Littlemore, Rex Austin and Bert Lloyd, and on being put to the meeting it was carried with surprisingly little opposition.

If the Editor was somewhat halting and incoherent in expressing his thanks, he can only hope that members will understand that it is a little unnerving to find oneself only the sixth Life Member to be elected for eminent services during the eighty-eight years life of the Anfield Bicycle Club.

The election of officers and Committee came next and the following are to serve us for the next twelve months:-

President:	Sydney del Banco
Vice-Presidents:	K.W.Barker & L.J.Hill
Captain:	A.L.Littlemore
Vice-Captains:	D.Bettaney & David Jones
Hon.Secretary:	J.H.Mills
Hon.Treasurer:	F.E.Marriott
Racing Secretary:	J.Whelan
Y.H.A. Secretary:	J.Moss
Open "100" Secretary:	A.Howarth
Open "100" Chief Marshall:	L.J.Hill
Editor, Monthly Circular:	K.W.Barker
Committee:	The Officers and J.L.Bennett, W.G.Connor, F.Perkins and G.Sharp with two vacancies to be filled at the discretion of the Committee.

Club tours and the club racing programme were left to the discretion of the Committee.

The future of the Birthday Run was discussed and the Committee were instructed to give this function early consideration and make such arrangements as seem desirable to ensure the maximum

support of members.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the President for his adept handling of the meeting and to all who had helped and served the Club during the year - in particular to Frank Marriott, Jeff Mills, Len Hill and Alf Howarth for services rendered in the past and for those still to be rendered in new spheres of activity.

LLANARMON-YN-IAL - 10th September 1966

"The air is like wine" said Doug but my thoughts were on the prospects of an early cup of tea.

I have long had in mind to repeat a weekend at Llanarmon sometime when the club fixture was at the Raven and now I was toiling up the ever rising Llandegla road painfully aware of a lack of cycling fitness. Surprisingly the refresher I needed was around the next bend at a cafe near Tryddyn and after partaking we were soon at our destination and being welcomed by the only other two members present - the President and Editor - who were already aware that we were on the way. My companion, Doug Burton (of the Cheshire Roads and T.A.) and I had left Manchester in the morning facing a fresh wind.

To avoid too much main road we went via Winsford, joined the Chester road short of Kelsall and made the Bleak House cafe for lunch. The remaining miles into Chester were ridden in company with much motor traffic which we were pleased to leave at the Grosvenor Bridge roundabout by taking the Kinnerton lane and through Hope to join the road from Broughton at Pont-Blyddyn.

We had arranged to remain at the Raven on Sunday night and after a walk during the forenoon we spent the rest of the day in luxurious idleness, only troubling to move from a cosy fireplace to enjoy the good food provided by this hospitable inn.

Monday morning was fresh and bright as we made for Llandegla and after a purchase at the village store continued up the steep street. The very joy of riding carefree on a comparatively quiet road, between heather covered slopes reaching up on either side, so enraptured us that it was not until we saw the inn at Rhydtalog that we realised we were not on the intended route. But in such country on such a day an extra detour only added to the enjoyment and we were soon sampling the delights of dropping down the

"Horseshoe" and a good lunch in Llangollen. We stayed a couple of nights at Whitewell and spent Tuesday exploring unfamiliar tracks in a familiar countryside; we had time to stand and stare. To watch and chat with farmers, to learn what comprised the eleven towns of Ruyton, to hear in detail about the recent fire at Ellesmere College, to watch holiday barges negotiating the canal locks and to admire many colourful gardens.

The ride home on Wednesday, aided by a strong wind, was fitting compensation for previous hard going. The fallen leaves pranced and danced ahead like animated fairies urging us to catch them if we could and try as we would, they were ever too quick for us.

P.W.

SOMERFORD - 10th September 1966

Still feeling the after-effects of Dave Birchall's coming-of-age celebrations and with a '25' looming up next day, I decided it would be good for me to get out on the Club run.

Once clear of Manchester, I got on to a pleasant, quiet lane route through Prestbury and Broken Cross to Siddington. On this stretch there was a good view of the Welsh Mountains, which I hadn't expected in the prevailing dull conditions.

No-one was at Somerford when I arrived and the position was the same when I left, a pity really because conditions were good for riding even though there wasn't much sun.

The next day I joined up with John Moss on the Northwich bypass 'drag-strip'. He unfortunately arrived late, having been misinformed about train times and was robbed of a good ride.

I staggered round for a 'long one' then went to Byley for lunch and thence to Clive Green to see the Wheelers '12' survivors after 190 or so miles. George and David Jones were round in the car helping Geoff Hughes in his B.A.R. bid.

From Clive Green it was but a stone's throw to the circuit and the fantastic crowds which the event had brought out.

D.W.B.

HATCHMERE - 17th September 1966

Really I was due to work this Saturday but with John Pardoe of the Seamon's C.C. staying with us for the week-end I threw myself on the mercy of the Cheshire Police and obtained the afternoon off.

We skirted the Vauxhall factory and arrived in the centre of Ellesmere Port, then took the road through various oil installations until we crossed the Queensferry-Helsby road at Elton. Now the scenery changed completely and we traversed pleasant narrow lanes and made good progress until John's rear tyre deflated.

It was one of those annoying sort of punctures but eventually we mastered it and in due course reached Hatchmere after finding Guy Pullan strolling up one of the rises near "Fox Howl" Youth Hostel.

Peter Jones joined us at tea and that was the total attendance for the day.

For our return journey the weather remained fair until the very last moment but as the rain started the steeds were safely put into the shed at the end of another pleasant half day's excursion.

E.A.R.

BYLEY - 24th September 1966

Harry Duck reports a pleasant run from Greggs Mill to Bate Mill and Allostock to find that the Byley Cafe closes about noon on a Saturday now.

A party retreat to Goostrey resulted in a good tea but no more Anfielders.

CLUB "25" - 1st October 1966

Only two riders reported to the Timekeeper and staff heavily outnumbered riders.

Bert Lloyd was O/C dressing room and general provider of tea for the "staff"; Ken Barker manipulated the watch while out on the course were David Barker, Frank Perkins, John Thompson, Allan

Littlemore, Dave Birchall, Eric Reeves, John Whelan, Dave Bettaney and Geoff Sharp. As expected John Moss came back fastest with a good ride of 1.7.27 for a not too easy day, but David Jones clipped some seconds off his previous best to clock 1.12.2 and snatch the handicap.

During the afternoon came the shattering news that Bert Lloyd is "emigrating" to sunnier climes in Jersey and so with the sombre thoughts of the loss of Bert and our "25" headquarters, we made a move towards the ever popular Eureka for a well earned tea.

FIVE CROSSES & SPEEDWELL WEEK-END - 8th/9th October 1966

There is little to report about the Five Crosses run except that the Editor and Captain Littlemore met for tea at this little spot high up above the upper reaches of the Mersey and enjoyed a good natter before departing in opposite directions for their respective abodes.

Away in the Midlands, Rex Austin and Stan Bradley (who is, of course, a first claim Speedwellian) and Jeff Mills were representing the Club at the special week-end which had been arranged as one of the celebrations of our Speedwell friends' 90th birthday.

Next morning they were up and out betimes to help with the special "100" run on the course used well on half a century ago for the Speedwell event and with riders from clubs whose men fought it out over those roads in the eighties of the last century.

N.R.R.A. RECORD ATTEMPT - 2nd October 1966

John Thompson was hoping to put his name (and that of the Anfield) on the record books and so he gave notice of an attack on the Birkenhead-Ludlow and back record. Rex Austin was roped in as Timekeeper and Allan Littlemore (piloted by Dave Birchall) acted as Official Observer.

The start was at the Trooper, Christleton, and John made good time to Birkenhead and back to Whitchurch, and near here Cliff Ash was noted going well on his attempt on the bicycle record over the same route. The undulating road through Prees took its toll but at Bayston Hill John was 2 minutes up on schedule. The next stretch to Church Stretton is hard and our man was 12 minutes down

on schedule at Onibury. Then came the turn on Corne Bridge, Ludlow and hopes of some slight wind assistance for the return journey. But this was not to be and the wind gradually swung round until it again faced the rider who was now fighting a game but losing battle.

At Church Stretton he was 13 minutes down on his schedule and this had increased to 18 minutes at Ditherington. Near Hadnoll John stopped (for the first time) for a drink and it was apparent that it was useless to continue.

This had been a gallant but unavailing fight and I feel confident that, given more preparation, John could put his name on this tricycle record.

Among those out assisting (in addition to Allan Littlemore, Dave Birchall and Geoff Sharp who followed throughout) were the President, Rex Austin, Bert Lloyd, Len Hill, Ken Barker, David Barker, Jack Pitchford, Ira Thomas, Frank Marriott and Bert Parkes of "End to End" fame who did the turn and check at Ludlow.

John has written asking that his sincere thanks should go to all who helped in any way with this attempt.

A.L.L.

TATTENHALL - 15th October 1966

After heavy rain all morning it had actually cleared when I set off, determined to be in good time. It was main road as far as Hatton Heath and the turn for Tattenhall which I reached after passing a large mansion named "The Rookery".

Three machines were outside the Milk Bar and inside I found Allan Littlemore with Marion and Captain (now ex-Capt.) Mills. The next half-hour or so passed pleasantly and it was nearing six o'clock when we set out for home. Allan and Marion bore right for Tarvin and the Harbour Master's office while Jeff accompanied me through Bruera, Saughton and Chester.

Running the gauntlet of the County Town was not so good but once out on the Wirral side we resumed side-by-side riding and after much lane hogging through Mollington, Dunkirk and Capenhurst we parted at Eastham. Having seen nothing in the "Echo" I assume that Jeff arrived home safely.

E.A.R.

PONTBLYDDYN - 22nd October 1966

With the days drawing in I had in mind an early tea and with this in view I was away from Two Mills at two p.m. 'Tis but twelve miles direct so I had time to make for Chester, and along the Loche Lane to Balderton and so to Kinnerton and through Shordley to Hope. John Moss was before me at the venue and we were shortly joined by John Farrington who reported David Birchall, Geoff Sharp and a friend on their way. Allan Littlemore, I hear, arrived after I had gone.

It was my intention to be at Two Mills by lighting-up time but a deviation through Mold, Northop and Connah's Quay meant that I had only reached Queensferry before darkness fell. Heading for the lower road I joined it at Little Sutton and finished the ride without special incident though I was very surprised at the volume of traffic about.

J.H.M.

SOMERFORD - 22nd October 1966

There were unmistakable signs of winter in the air this week-end and two sweaters and gloves were the order of the day when I set off.

It was main road to Chelford then into the lanes to Somerford. The cafe was empty when I arrived but soon a tandem arrived, steered and stoked, I thought, by strangers. But then Stan Bradley introduced himself and his son and we spent a pleasant half-hour chatting among other things about the Speedwell week-end a fortnight earlier. Just as I left, Bob Poole and his wife arrived.

Rain set in soon after I left and it turned out to be a pretty dirty ride back to Manchester, but still it was a useful loosener for the morrow's hill climb on the Snake.

D.W.B.

THE AUTUMN TINTS AFFAIR. The "SUN" - Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain

Frank Perkins gasped for oxygen - twenty five miles of one in nine - but still the sjambok of Stan Wild curled round the fulminating fibres that once were muscles. Up - up - up - into the clouds wreathing the summit of the Stelvio then merciful relief ... milk stout for Frank Len changed from bitter to whisky

the two Sids eased their aching backs further into the armchairs of the "Sun" the youngsters fled into the bar. Stan's epic tale was told a vicious retaliation for having to seek a bed with Lloyd George's second cousin.

Saturday the 15th. Rain - and the once useful team of Reeves, Rock and Carver sought and found shelter in a common inn, tavern or hostelry at Aldford - and there, those once-not-easily-deterred athletes drooled Guinness and bitter into their bibulous beards until the storm abated. But there was much to say - for this was a re-union - and by pedal - not petrol. Lunch at Bangor-is-y-Coed - and a fair afternoon, only marred by the loss of Eric (who had to return home) and Carver's gloves in an Oswestry cafe. The tea had just been brewed as the Presider greeted us in .. and there were Len and Frank to help us drink it. John Whelan was quietly happy, having done a Renato Longo on John Moss and the three Davids ... Jones, Birchall and Barker. This desperate venture had been over a Berwyn track - almost unidentified - some said the Nant Rhyd Wilym - some to the east of it - some to the west - but all made it. Poor Geoff Sharp, after various abortive attempts, starting on bicycle - breaking it - going home - starting again - and finally arriving by car, only underlined the determination to be there. The assemblage was finally formed at fifteen with the arrivals of Peter Jones, David Bettaney and John Farrington - and so to dinner, during which the juggling of beds was conducted with great expertise by Blotto, Len and the practised campaigner - Stanley - who must surely possess the heaviest rear wheel in captivity. There was much murmur of a mysterious maiden named Megan - who, in their short acquaintanceship, must have tamed the Wild One - for he departed the after dinner discourse a little earlier than has been his wont, not without having made his mark, let it be clearly stated. For the non-present and the uninitiated - two of the fifteen had to sleep out - and the juggling elected Stan and Jeff to this honour. The after dinner hours are good: it was grand to be boys again with the boys who were boys when I was a boy - and also to meet and talk with the boys who are - and will be - boys; boys who have been but names in my Anfield notebook but are now clothed with the flesh of knowledge. There was some nostalgia - some hilarity - a moment of sadness for those no longer with us but remembered with joy. A fragment of the stuff of life.

Sunday the 16th. Rain - but it stopped! Stan, Peter and Sid

were for Whitewell - but at Llynclys, Stan changed his mind and decided to pursue Frank Perkins to Bangor. We didn't find Holly Cottage until after lunch (which we took in Whitchurch after a lanes route). The afternoon was delightful, spent circumnavigating many ways of former days - some not too well remembered! All within the Whitchurch - Farndon - Chester triangle. It is not within the compass of my knowledge where all the others got to - but Reeves and a few more Old "Wirrals" joined us in the "Nag's" at Willaston - and from 7 p.m. to 10.45 p.m., remembered their youth, boosted their egos and increased the normal takings of the house! It was good to be back.

P.S. On Tuesday afternoon, I trickled up to St. Annes to stay with an old friend. S.E. wind-sunny-lucky. On Wednesday - in said friend's car to Ambleside and back. Raining - lucky. On Thursday on bike from St. Anne's - Preston - Gisburn (lunch) - Skipton - Wharfedale. S.W. wind-sunny - very lucky. Into Leeds via Bramhope (least unpleasant route) - and the 5.08 p.m. to Brough. The last seven miles briskly done to dispel the train twinges. Yes - it was good for the body but even better for the spirit. Thank you, friends.

S.T.C.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The President and his two Vices hope to welcome a large gathering of members at the Little Chef Cafe on Christmas Eve and invite all who can turn out to take coffee with them there between 10.30 and 11.45 a.m. on the Saturday morning which starts the festive season.

Congratulations to David Bennett on his recent marriage and to father Les on passing the test of the Society of Advanced motorists.

Two members have moved to sunnier climes and will be greatly missed in Anfieldland. Bert Lloyd has gone to Jersey and Laurie Pendlebury has retired to Pembrokeshire.

Fred Churchill (destined for the medical profession but his writing was too bad) sent Len Hill a card from Austria. The only legible word was BEER but we gather that Fred was enjoying life as usual.

ANFIELD CIRCULAR

JOURNAL OF THE ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB (FORMED MARCH 1879)

President: SYDNEY del BANCO

Vice Presidents: K. W. BARKER & L. J. HILL

Captain: A. L. LITTLEMORE

Hon. Secretary: J.H.MILLS, 58 Townsend Avenue, West Derby,
Liverpool 11. (STANley 3285)

Vol. LXI

DECEMBER 1966

No.706

FIXTURES

January 1967

7 HATCHMERE (Woodfield Café - Lunch)

TWO MILLS (Tea)

9 Committee Meeting - Liverpool.

14 TREUDDYN (Service Station Café - Lunch)

TWO MILLS (Tea) SOMERFORD **

21 BARTON (Garage Café - See Committee Notes)

28 TWO MILLS (Tea 4.0 p.m.)

February

4 KELSALL (Oasis Café - Lunch)

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

21 and over: 30/-. Under 21: 15/-. Cadet Members: 5/-.

Honorary: A minimum of 10/- and donations to the Prize Fund should be sent to the Hon.Treasurer, F.E.Marriott, 13, Wirral Mount, Grange, West Kirby, Cheshire, or may be paid into any Bank for credit of Anfield Bicycle Club's account, Martins Bank Ltd., Heswall Branch.

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EDITOR: K.W. BARKER, 42 BICKERTON AVENUE, BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 9th JANUARY 1967.

COMMITTEE NOTICES

The President, Officers and Committee wish all members the Compliments of the Season and a happy and prosperous New Year with good wheeling throughout 1967.

The tea-place (listed as Barton) for 21st January will be found about half-way between Farndon and Barton at a garage on our old '50' course.

The resignation of John Seed has been accepted with regret. The name of C.Gordon has been struck off the membership list.

* * * * *

A MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAIN

I have been interested in cycling since I was about 15 years of age, which is a long time ago. When I became a little older, I looked upon the "Anfield" as something out of this world, to me it was the very acme of the cycling pastime of that day and age. I envied those enthusiasts when I dropped across them at Betws-y-Coed, and on rare occasions when I came across a club event on a Saturday afternoon.

Later when I became a tricyclist, I enjoyed a ride or two with W.P.Cook, in my eyes a wonderful clubman, one to admire and one who gave valuable advice so freely.

Then I experienced the pleasure of meeting Bert Green, another 100% clubman, one who lived for the A.B.C. of which he was so proud.

A few years ago, it was my pleasure to join this exalted company, but little did I think that eventually I should be asked to take on the Captaincy of this traditional institution, that I had admired over a couple of decades or more.

At the present day however, cycling as a pastime has changed considerably, but to one or two enthusiasts, it still remains the finest outdoor pastime of all. Club runs are the very life blood of a cycling club. Racing exploits may put the club's name in "lights" for the time being, or give some satisfaction to the athletes within our midst, but racing never has been the "be all and end all" of a successful club.

Now my point is club fixtures. I note with considerable

anxiety and dismay how the total attendances per annum have slumped from 1,141 to 660 in a period of 5 years. At this rate in another 5 years the number on Club runs will be precisely nil..!

I urge you please, to support the Club runs, help to choose them, suggest anything you like to the committee, but do PLEASE make it your bounden duty to turn out at the very least, once a month, and if your lack of time or fitness prevents cycling, then come by other means, we do want to see you and I for one want to see that total lifted for the coming year to at least 1,000, but only YOU can make this possible. I take pride in being your Captain, but I certainly do not relish taking over the Captaincy of a "sinking ship". Come out next week-end; how about it?

A.L.L.

NORTH ROAD 81st ANNUAL DINNER - 5th November 1966

A new venue, the Abercorn Rooms at the Great Eastern Hotel in the heart of the City, but no change in the excellent quality and enjoyable nature of the N.R. Dinner.

Norman Turvey (also wearing the oval badge of our hosts) and the writer represented the Anfield and we sat back to look at and listen to great men of the past, present and future, because despite what may have been said by one irresponsible speaker, there were future champions here tonight and some will carry the N.R. colours. The great men? Bill Frankum in the chair, "Bing" Wilson, Oxford City; Alec Glass, President R.R.A.; Bill Temme, Glendene, and a contemporary of Southall; Bill Gibson, Century; E.W.Hussey, Finsbury Park, winner of the Cutford Hill Climb in seven (or was it eight?) successive years in the 'thirties'; B.G.Bowtle, the old N.P. track tricycle expert; and Horace Pryor, Manchester Wheelers, winner of the Trike Trophy at 50 miles and 24 hours, and an N.C.U. Path Champion who rode for England in both the World and Olympic Road Championships. Old friends too, in the persons of Ed. Green, Arthur Smith, Cecil Paget, Les Couzens (the organiser of this excellent function), Maurice Draisey (Century), Harold Buckley (Manchester Wheelers), Pat Short (Sharrow), and Dick Hulse (Speedwell), whilst Sid Capener, President of the Speedwell, and the North Road's Guest of Honour, was one of the principal speakers (a few days from his 94th birthday).

As interesting as ever was the presentation of the North Road's

many trophies and the highlight here was, of course, the chairing of G.M.Bettis (Elite C.C.) to the President's table to receive the Invitation "24" Trophy.

Altogether, a great and interesting evening and a delight to be present. Thank you, North Road.

S.W.

A LETTER FROM ARTHUR BIRKBY

"Ty'n Llan",
Dolwyddelan,
Caernarvonshire.

Dear Ken,

It is now over twelve months since my retirement and I feel as though I have always been here. My wife and I make periodic visits to Crosby to see the family and some friends but are very glad when we are once more drifting back up the Lledr Valley with the view of Moel Siabod in the background.

We had expected a visit from some of the "lads". Frank's Perkins and Marriott made vague promises and Jimmy Long must have been lost on the way.

I enjoyed a short run on the bike to the end of the valley at Roman Bridge and back over the footpath around the back of the castle one particularly lovely day last week and the action of cycling, the glorious scents of the countryside and the very "feel" of the machine as I pushed it through the heather brought back many happy memories. I thought of afternoon tea at a cottage in Oxwich Bay, Gower, with Frank Perkins, with the sun blazing down, thunder rumbling in the distance, and a somewhat painful but thoroughly satisfying crossing with bikes of what we thought at the time was "Black Sail" but which turned out to be the shoulder of "Kirkfell".

A peaceful afternoon with Marriott exploring an old road at Kelsall, and this brings back memories of a less peaceful day with this same Frank hurtling me across the moors from Cerrig to Ruthin on the way back from some expedition or other.

The Pincyn Llys monument seen from this road reminds me of the famous assault the "Tea tasters" made one Sunday.

I have a snap in the album showing a very undignified view of

Blotto (sorry, I mean our President) as he bends down to mend a puncture in the tandem en route for Crafnant and over to Capel Curig; a wonderful day! And what about that famous week-end when Jack won the B.R. "100" and a crowd of us in our excess of energy stormed Snowdon and Crib Goch, bathed at Borth-y-Gest and played Newmarket at Nant Gwynant. Then in later years the happy gatherings at Dalton and Kirkby.

I had the pleasure of meeting Syd Jonas on two occasions very recently and over a cup of tea with a couple of my office colleagues he and I swapped reminiscences in rapid succession much to the amazement of my companions who sat open mouthed and must have thought us mad! But they were happy days.

I hope I haven't bored you with all this, perhaps we will see you with the family some day.

In the meantime, all the best.

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR.

P.S. My regards please, to the Committee and the rest of the clan.

C L U B R U N S

Pontblyddyn - 5th November 1966

It was a chilly afternoon but I was snugly encased in "long-johns". I hear the tough racing men wear them so why not me in my dotage? The little road through Bilberry Wood, near Hawarden, that switches its purposeful way to just short of Hope, carried me most of the journey to Caergwrle. Thereafter a short out and home potter under the trees, autumnal tinted, of the Ffrith valley was followed by some main road work along the Mold road to the tea place where Mrs. Williams reported that Mr. Mills had been and gone. Confident that I would have company I waited and sure enough, President Blotto rolled up and we had tea and chat together, and we three were the sum total on the run. Afterwards single file in the dark to Llong where Blotto carried on to Mold and I turned off for Penyfford and the drop down through Hawarden woods and Queensferry. And that was how I spent my birthday - there are many worse ways of having a happy birthday!

E.G.P.

Somerford - 5th November 1966

Only Allan Littlemore attended this alternative fixture and during a cold ride, a good tea and an even colder ride home he must have caught a chill for he was off for a couple of days during the following week.

HALEWOOD (LADIES' NIGHT) - 12th November 1966

President Syd and Mrs. del Banco were early on parade at the Derby Arms, ready to welcome nearly fifty members, ladies and friends to our annual Ladies' Night.

We have come to expect a high standard of catering and comfort at the Derby Arms and Mr. Sharp and his staff certainly put on an excellent meal in the tastefully set out dining room.

After the bare minimum of speech-making and a brief interval while the decks were cleared, Frank Marriott (ably assisted by Rex at the projector) took us on a trip to Norway and for an hour or so we followed in the wheel-tracks of the Marriott caravan while Frank told us of the holiday he and the family had spent in this hospitable and lovely country earlier in the year.

For the attendance record, members present were, S.del Banco, R.J.Austin, F.Perkins, G.Sharp, E.J.Farrington, R.Wilson, G.Pullan, W.P.Rock, F.E.Marriott, G.Connor, S.Bradley, J.France, L.J.Hill, K.W.Barker, A.Gorman, H.Fletcher, J.H.Mills and A.L. Littlemore.

An alternative fixture at Parkgate was supported by Alan Rogerson and John Moss.

W.C.T.T.C.A. DINNER (CHESTER) - 12th November 1966

David Bettaney, David Barker and John Whelan went along to the West Cheshire Dinner to collect their medals and the Sun Cup won in the Association "25" at the end of the last racing season. David Birchall attended as Team Manager.

TRICYCLE ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON, GOOSTREY - 13th November 1966

Ed. Green presided over a large gathering which included Anfielders Percy Williamson, Jeff, David Barker, Alan Rogerson (who proposed the toast to the prizewinners while wearing an

Anfield racing jersey), Allan Littlemore and John Parr who with Beryl had dashed over from the frozen North-East the day before, arriving on Merseyside just too late to go to Halewood for the Ladies' Evening. Chief guest was June Pitchford and other notables included Stan Bray, Cliff Ash and Jack Duckers, while a special cheer was accorded to Oscar Dover when he was presented with a Life Member's badge, a distinction earned by long and distinguished service to the Association.

O.S. Sheet 109. Reference 128759 - 19th November 1966

I had been looking forward to this run as it was some time since I had visited the area and consequently I was away soon after nine, reached Eureka for elevenses and after hearing that there had been no other Anfield callers I sped to Queensferry and potted up the new climb to Ewloe and so through New Brighton to Mold.

Apart from an odd vehicle or two I was able to enjoy the scenery in peace and quiet as I followed the Denbigh road as far as the Caerwys turn and loitered up the long drag to the village. Here another cyclist enquired if I was an Anfielder and said that another of the clan was along the road. This turned out to be Peter Jones who had finished his meal when I arrived at the Cafe but he kept me company although he wanted to be home quite early.

We left together, Peter making for Holywell while I (with a little time to spare) turned for Gorsedd then via Pantasaph, Brynford and Pentre Halkyn to Northop.

At Two Mills I found Blotto and Les Bennett in residence and Syd joined me in a quiet ride through Puddington, Burton, Neston and through the Runnel to cross the top road and make for Thornton Hough, Brimstage and the parting of the ways at Beechway.

J.H.M.

Kelsall - 26th November 1966

Allan Littlemore reports traversing the gloom of Delamere Forest before arriving at Five Crosses to find Jeff Mills just preparing to leave with the idea of covering as many lanes as possible in an effort to dodge the main roads.

Good food, quickly served, is a mark of this cafe which is well worth a visit.

NEWS IN BRIEF

830
Two items of news concern our North-Eastern exile John Parr. Three useful trike rides during the past racing season landed him in 96th place in the C.T.C., B.A.R. contest and now we hear that he recently dined with the Cliftonites at their Annual Dinner in York.

Five Crosses cafe up above Frodsham has been modified to allow more elbow room at table. This is a useful and recent addition to our fixture list and takes us into a little bit of Cheshire otherwise untouched.

The President, among others, has tried out the cafe at the service station, Treuddyn, and found it excellent and reasonable so we go there for a lunch fixture on 14th January.

Tea on 28th January is to be at Two Mills and we hope for a real bumper turn-out.

Extreme pressure of work (it is really extreme when it gets bundled up and taken home) on the Editor has thrown the production schedule completely haywire. Apologies to all sufferers including the Express Typewriting Service and those members who would have liked a little earlier information regarding January fixtures. We hope to get back to normal now.

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