

# ANFIELD CIRCULAR

JOURNAL OF THE ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB (FORMED MARCH 1879)

President: SYDNEY del BANCO

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

Captain: A. L. LITTLEMORE

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

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February 1967

## FIXTURES

- 4 KELSALL (Oasis Café - Lunch) TWO MILLS (Tea)  
6 Committee Meeting - Liverpool.  
11 PONTBLYDDYN (Woodlands - Lunch) SOMERFORD or  
TWO MILLS (Tea)  
18 BARTON (GARAGE - Lunch)  
CHESTER (Jolly Farmer Café, Frodsham Street - Tea)  
19 PARBOLD (Poplar Café) Lunch with T.A.  
25 HATCHMERE (Forest Café - Lunch) TWO MILLS (Tea)
- March 1967
- 4 TREUDDYN (Garage - Lunch), CHESTER (Jolly Farmer)  
or KNUTSFORD (Heath Café) Tea  
6 Committee Meeting - Liverpool  
11 HALEWOOD (Derby Arms) BIRTHDAY RUN  
18 LLOE (Crossways Café - Lunch) TWO MILLS (Tea)  
24/27 Youth Hostels Tour (See John Moss)  
24 BANGOR (Smithy) Lunch.  
25 FIVE CROSSES - Tea

## 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, 6th MARCH 1967

COMMITTEE NOTICES

The Birthday Run has been arranged for 11th March at Halewood with a most attractive programme - Please make a special effort to be present and book early with the Hon. Secretary.

The Open Hundred is to be run on the new Spring Bank Holiday which falls on the 29th May this year. It is not too early to be booking accommodation, particularly for those members who wish to stay at the Lion.

SPEEDWELL BICYCLE CLUB 91st ANNUAL DINNER - 14th January 1967

The President journeyed to Birmingham to represent the Anfield and a right good time he had. Ned Haynes and Stan Bradley were also in attendance to keep the club flag flying.

Dick Hulse took the writer under his wing and saw to it that he wanted for nothing.

During dinner many and humorous were the cross-toasts in which a cash register and a certain barmaid figured largely (for elucidation apply to the Speedwell).

John Matthews proposed the toast to the G.O.M. of cycling - Sid Capener, President of the Host Club and a Presidential sash and medallion of office was bestowed upon him. Incidentally there were three generations of Capeners present, starting with Sid.

The somewhat glazed eyes of the writer were unable to register all the talent present, but they did see those stars of yesteryear, Frank Greenwood and Jack Middleton, M.C. & A.C. Close at hand were Cecil Paget (North Road - the Anfield of the South), R.V.Griffin Treasurer of the Speedwell for 37 years, Pat Phillips North Road member for 47 years, Johnny Walker Hon. Sec. M.R.R.A., John Williams Jnr. (Mersey Roads Club). E. Nicholls made the speech of welcome to the guests and Mrs. Jack Adams O.B.E. responded - both were gems of oratory.

Joe Summerlin (North Road) proposed the toast to Cycling, The Sport and Pastime - this was also a masterpiece of humour.

The Prizes were presented by Sid Capener assisted by Jack Piersall. Ian Shaw and Les Lowe seem to have had a busy season; between them they captured the Club Handicap '100', Championship 12 Hour, Handicap 12 Hour, best 24 Hour distance. Also the M.R.R.A. tandem records for Birmingham to York and back, Birmingham to Oxford and back, Llandudno to Birmingham. Local Ian Myers (Liverpool Eagle R.C.) was there to receive his award for winning the Open '25'.

Thank you, Speedwell, it was a pleasure to be with you. S. d B.

BATH ROAD 81st ANNUAL DINNER - 3rd December 1966

Once more an evening of happy and joyous conviviality with our good friends, the Bath Road Club. Jack Beauchamp, with whom many of us have, in our time, ridden far and fast, with the Long Mynd particularly coming to mind, was a genial chairman, and Len Baker, in a worthy speech toasted the visitors and the Press. Responding on behalf of "Cycling" was Paul Bannister, who I am happy to say, is a Manchester man and a member of the Westwood R.C.

Eric Beauchamp (Crescent Wheelers) and no relation of J.C.B., was presented with the Bath Road Cup as winner of the B.R. "100" at an early stage in the proceedings and then took himself off to the R.T.T.C. B.B.A.R. Concert. But the most impressive part of the Prize Distribution was the emerging of class B.R. youngsters in the persons of D.Loader, C.A.Morris, T.Passmore and quite a number of others.

It was good to resume acquaintance with old friends such as Henry Binham, Jack Westaway, Len Baker, Sam Webster and Bill Frankum (North Road). Among the famous men present were Keith Mosedale (the first man to beat 4.30 for 100 miles, which he did on wired-on H.P. tyres); Jim Dougall and George Walker (Century); and Percy Marks (Poly).

Altogether a very enjoyable evening.

S.W.

HATCHMERE - 3rd December 1966

David Barker was the only commoner sandwiched between the President and Secretary at the lunch fixture. While these three Anfielders were making their way homeward Allan Littlemore was hurtling Northwards in a plain van which was to be the dormitory for John Arnold and some of his henchmen engaged on John's winter attempt on the Edinburgh-Liverpool trike record.

Unfortunately the conditions were not quite right and the attempt was abandoned when it became apparent that success was quite out of reach.

No report of any members reaching Two Mills for tea has reached the Editor but it is likely that a few were out.

CYNWYD - 10th/11th December 1966

They're bound to tumble to it sooner or later. Who? The Llangollen U.D.C., the Bangor-on-Dee Residents' Association and the Cymru Farmers' Union. What will they do? Send petitions to the Secretary, Captain and perhaps even the President, begging the

Anfield to stop going to Cynwyd in December. Why? Well, three years ago, gales blew down half the trees, barns, roofs etc. in the area; two years ago Llangollen was six feet under a raging torrent; last year Bangor-on-Dee wasn't; it was under Dee. This year we again kept up the good work and Dave Birchall has ample photographic evidence to prove that Shocklach amongst other places was aquatically afflicted (as was poor old David Jones who'd been cajoled into splashing through the flood).

Seven went on the week-end. In addition to the above-named who made a day of the outward journey, John Whelan, Dave Bettaney and John Moss come direct from Merseyside, I came from Manchester and John Thompson came from (wait for it) Leicester. Thereby hangs a tale which no-one who doesn't know our John will believe; and as those who do know him also know he's mad anyway, there's no need to tell it to prove the fact.

The others hadn't ordered supper and after seeing the foul concoction they knocked together, I was glad I had. However, they soon recovered sufficiently to venture forth and sample the local entertainments; after breaking practically every rule in the handbook we eventually retired at about midnight.

Lunch next day was booked at Pont Fadog. The big question was how to get there. Five of us had decided we'd do the Nant Rhyd Wilym again. Dave Bettaney was just as adamant that he wouldn't. This left poor David Jones in an awkward dilemma. Was it to be a mad bash with Bettaney or an equally mad splash with the pass-stormers? At last he decided to come with us and seemed to enjoy it despite the wet feet and sloshed up bike. His cyclo-cross technique is certainly improving after only two such exploits.

The views back over the Dee valley and later into the Ceiriog valley were really magnificent for there was more of spring or autumn than December in the warm morning sun. Six Anfield names were added to the book at the summit (three for the first time). Then began the descent on which Mad John really came into his own in the ruts. The off-side and on-side wheels were going up and down like a pair of yo-yos; then the centre of gravity would get too far over and the whole contraption would go cartwheeling down the mountainside.

Miraculously all got to Llanarmon D.C. comparatively unscathed and we really enjoyed the run down to Pont Fadog. Rough stuff really makes one appreciate tar macadam.

Lunch was superb and Dave Bettaney didn't arrive till we'd almost finished which must prove something.

All good things must come to an end. This time it was a persistent heavy drizzle which put rather a tin hat on a great week-end. Still, no complaints, it had really been worth it. D.W.B.

### NANNERCH & PARKGATE - 10th December 1966

With a Youth Hostel week-end on the programme it was not to be expected that Mrs. Palin's cottage at Nannerch would be crowded with Anfielders. Vague rumours have been floating around but so far no news has reached the Editor of any who journeyed that way.

The President and Ken Barker, arrived at the door of the Inglenook Cafe at precisely the same moment and found this new venue much to their liking. In Blotto's case it was so much to his liking that a booking there for Christmas Dinner followed later.

As an occasional change from Two Mills for tea after a Saturday lunch fixture, this cafe has much to commend it; not the least advantage of Parkgate is that the homes of most currently active Anfielders can be reached from there without using the top road in its present highly dangerous condition after dark.

After an excellent meal in pleasant surroundings a move outside revealed a clear starlit night with fine views of the twinkling lights on the Flintshire side of the broad estuary.

### TWO MILLS - 17th December 1966

The Eureka Cafe, home from home for Anfielders and scores of other Merseyside cyclists, was, as usual, the scene of our pre-Christmas run and slide show and although a few regular visitors were missing we had twenty-one Anfielders out.

As befits a good President, Syd del Banco was early on parade, then there were John Leece still sprightly as ever and recently a great grandpa, Len Hill (leading the opposition to establishment of a super-Woolworths alongside the Glegg Arms), Jeff Mills, Frank Perkins, Allan Littlemore who admitted to having won the Weaver Valley C.C. attendance award, Eric Reeves, Ken and David Barker, John Thompson, Dave Birchall, David Jones, John Moss, David Bettaney, John Whelan, David Williams, Robert Hall, John France, Les Bennett, Geoff Sharp and John Farrington.

David Birchall set up his projector outfit, promptly burnt out a bulb and during the resultant delay while Erabham Sharp brought out a spare, John Leece handed over to Addy a small token of our thanks and good wishes. With his contraption in order once more, David took us on a tour of Scotland he and Geoff had done earlier in

the year and a fine set of slides had resulted from the trip. Then we had some highlights of the Anfield year and we were brought commendably up to date when David showed some shots taken on the crossing of the Nant Rhyd Wilym a week earlier and the photographic evidence of the Dee valley floods referred to in the write up of the Cynwyd week-end.

Once again we were indebted to David for a really super set of pictures, then with good wishes for Christmas and the New Year ringing in our ears we turned out into a pleasant dry night for the journey home.

K.W.B.

#### SEALAND - 24th December 1966

Christmas Eve is hardly the easiest day to arrange a suitable club-run and it was a happy idea to depart from tradition and make the official meet a coffee morning at Sealand.

Our hosts, President Blotto and his two lieutenants Len Hill and Ken Barker were there to greet another dozen Anfielders together with four visitors, Mrs. Barker and Marian, Tom Mason and Hilda of the Dover Patrol who reported Oscar fully recovered from his brush with a car whilst on a recent Vets' run and at that time on his way to Colwyn Bay Hostel for the week-end.

The Little Chef Cafe is about the size of the kennel a reasonably well-to-do alsation would expect to himself, but our party of nineteen plus one or two outsiders managed to get in. The staff rose to the occasion and turned out excellent coffee with commendable rapidity as each successive rider dismounted and tethered his bicycle.

Jeff Mills was there in a bonnet similar to the one which had brought forth the famous "redundant Siberian ticket-collector" remark from Allan Littlemore who came in panting and complaining that Sealand was farther from Chester than he had thought. John Leece had come from Hawarden and Peter Jones on discovering that it was downhill all the way from Hawarden had made sufficient of a detour to call it a run and earn his coffee.

Les and David Bennett, David Barker, David Bettaney, Geoff Sharp, John Farrington, John Whelan and David Birchall made up the party to fifteen of "Ours", an excellent turnout for a none too pleasant (weatherwise) Christmas Eve.

#### HALEWOOD - 26th December 1966

Christmas was upon us once again and with the traditional Boxing Day venue only eight miles away I was minded to deviate a

little before actually heading for Halewood.

Bob and Mrs. Poole were already installed inside the Derby Arms, Rigby Band had come over from Doncaster where he was spending a family Christmas; Frank Perkins was having a lazy day and had left his iron at home.

In all, twenty sat down to an excellent meal under the watchful eye of President Blotto, the number including our visitors Mrs. del Banco, Mrs. Poole and Mr. Rees. Others round the board in no particular order were Len Hill, John Farrington, Geoff Sharp, Peter Jones, David Bettaney, John Whelan, Joe Dodd, David Birchall, Wally Rees, Les and David Bennett, Allan Littlemore and Jeff Mills.

All too soon it was time to leave and we went our ways on a beautiful mild winter's afternoon.

J.H.M.

#### KELSALL - 31st December 1966

The last meet of the old year (calendar not club) attracted only five runners but it was made notable because John Parr made one of his all too rare appearances while over on Merseyside for part of the festive season as a change from work on the East coast.

Others lunching at Kelsall were the President, Captain, Secretary and David Barker (again the only real commoner because we can't put a bloke with a frilly badge in that class).

#### NANNERCH & TWO MILLS - 14th January 1967

A very unfit Editor wandered quietly through to the Missing Link and by chance met Eric Reeves near Ledsham. Eric is very fit from regular doses of Wirral lanes and the next few miles made the scribe puff a bit before he turned off before Mollington to make for an early tea at Eureka, leaving Eric to get a few more miles in around Blacon and Saughall.

At the Mills the only other Anfielder out was David Bettaney until Alan Rogerson made a fourth. We heard that John Moss had been to Nannerch.

Away in the Midlands the President was representing the Club at the 91st Annual Dinner of the Speedwell Bicycle Club (senior to the Anfield by two and a half years) and he was ably supported by Stan Bradley (a first claim Speedwellian) and Ned Haynes of "Ours" but also a second claim Speedwell gent.

#### TWO MILLS - 28th January 1967

A lovely bright and mild January afternoon brought out ten members to tea at Two Mills. The President and Eric Reeves were

observed getting some miles in their legs and the Captain came over from Acton Bridge while John Leece, Ken and David Barker, Jeff Mills, David Bettaney, John Whelan, and Len Hill came, but various ways and routes known best to them.

Members intending to send notes on January runs should not be discouraged from doing so by the presence of some January reports in this issue.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

The Birkenhead Victoria C.C. have kindly invited our racing men to participate in a series of 10 miles (solo) and 21½ miles (Two-up) time trials to be run on Thursday evenings starting in the neighbourhood of Saughton. We have gladly accepted the invitation and offered to do what we can to assist with stewarding etc. Further details will be available shortly and we shall then be looking for volunteers to dash out once or twice in the season to lend a hand.

The Captain's plea for active support of the club fixtures brought an instant response from Laurie Pendlebury, now happily settled at Freshwater East, Pembrokeshire. Laurie admits to an urge to get out the "iron" and build up stupendous mileages which gets most insistent on the arrival of the "Circular" each month. Our Pembrokeshire exile has settled in well, gets out as often as he can and claims that because of the steep hills around his new home area each mile counts for two of our Cheshire miles.

After the Little Chef affair on Christmas Eve the Editor and David had a chance meeting with Oscar Dover on the outskirts of Colwyn Bay. Oscar and friend Mark were making for the popular Colwyn Bay Hostel where they were to spend the holiday.

The Birthday Run for 1967 will be held on Saturday the 11th March at the Derby Arms, Halewood. A number of guests have been invited and for our entertainment an old friend, Cliff Baxter, is to show his film record of a rough-stuff tour in France and Italy. Those who know Cliff and his flair with a camera will not need a second invitation to be present. Please let Jeff Mills know as soon as possible that you intend to be present.

We learn from the T.A. Gazette that Rigby Band was one of the first cyclists to cross the new Severn Bridge.

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

Captain: A. L. LITTLEMORE

Hon. Secretary: J.H.MILLS, 58 Townsend Avenue, West Derby,  
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MARCH 1967

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## FIXTURES

APRIL 1967

- 1 CLUB "25". D9. (HQ. TWO MILLS)
- 3 Committee Meeting, Free Church Centre, Liverpool
- 8 TREUDDYN (Lunch) PARKGATE (Inglenook) or  
Somersford (tea)
- 15 FIVE CROSSES (Tea)
- 22 BARTON (Garage Café - Tea)
- 29 Inter Club "25" with Birkenhead Victoria C.C. D9.  
(HQ. TWO MILLS)

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS - TWO MILLS (Eureka 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, F.E.Marriott,  
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Liverpool.

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

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 3rd APRIL 1967

TREASURY NOTES

It is a very long time since any notes from our Treasurer appeared in these pages. This is the first of a new series, and we hope that enough news - and subs! - will come in each month to enable this to become a regular feature.

First of all, we should like you to know that the Club's banking account has been transferred to Martins Bank, City Branch, 4 Water Street, Liverpool 2. This is for those who pay direct into the bank, and we should also point out that there might be some delay in acknowledging these payments. Banks do not give individual notice these days, and we only know of payments made in this way when the account comes in. Of course, the Hon. Treasurer could ask at the Bank on his occasional visits, but he never remembers to do this.

This month we welcome subscriptions from among others, Cecil Aldridge who completes fifty years' membership in 1968 and Bill Henderson who joined only four years later. It is wonderful how the Anfield holds the loyalty of its members and we greatly appreciate the support of our veteran members down the years.

We have heard from Ashley Taylor and also from George Taylor who spends most of his leisure time in the Peak District.

Russ Barker sends his regards to all. Russ spends his weekends golfing after a chase to and from Sussex every Tuesday and Friday.

When Laurie Pendlebury moved out to distant, and delightful, Pembrokeshire, Rigby Band thought that he had a friend at hand at last - and then he looked at the map!

Finally, we would commiserate with Sid Carver, who has been laid up virtually all winter with a slipped disc. Sid had hoped to make the Birthday Run but trains back to Hull on a Sunday are a bit dodgy.

And on a somewhat harder note, please can we have some more subscriptions, and, if you have the ready, some donations, too. The year is half-way gone, and the cash is not rolling in fast enough.

F.E.M.

"CYCLING MANUAL"

A new edition of John Way's "Cycling Manual" was published in late February and at 12/6d is excellent value for all who want a handy reference book on the mechanics of our game. It should be on the bookshelves of all cycling enthusiasts and in particular of young riders with, as yet, rather limited experience.

After an opening chapter on choosing a bicycle we are taken through detailed descriptions of the main parts and components before reaching sections dealing with 'Clothing', 'Roadcraft', 'Camping' and 'Clubs'.

This is a compact little book full of interest and well illustrated.

RACING NOTES

First of all a reminder that our Open "100" will be promoted on the Spring Bank Holiday, 29th May on our Shropshire course based on Shrewsbury.

Len Hill is busy booking names for jobs around the Course and will be glad to hear from as many members as possible.

It is hoped that there will be a boom in week-ending for the "100" and members are reminded about booking accommodation - particularly those hoping to stay at the Lion. Lunch on the Sunday will probably be at the Herbert Arms, Chirbury and this fixture usually attracts a good turnout.

Club events for this season will be confined to 25 miles events (except for Cadets' Tens if required), and will be held as follows:-

Saturdays, 1st April, 29th April (Inter Club event with Birkenhead Victoria C.C.) and 2nd September.

Sundays, 4th June and 2nd July (Inter Club - Birkenhead Victoria)

The Saturday events will be held on the Wrexham road course (start half a mile on Wrexham side of Overleigh Island).

Headquarters: Eureka Cafe, Two Mills (Changing and tea). Arrangements are being made for a car to be available near the Start for depositing sweaters etc. and for any unable to change at Two Mills.

Commencing on 11th May and on most Thursday evenings through to 25th August, the Birkenhead Victoria C.C. will be promoting 10 or 21½ miles time trials based on Huntington, the longer distance events being 2-up trials. We have been invited to participate and hope in return for this generous gesture to offer some help with stewarding.

Offers of occasional help with stewarding W.C.T.T.C.A. races, club events and the above mentioned Thursday evening affairs are urgently needed and should be made as soon as possible to John Whelan.

### C L U B   R U N S

#### Somerford - 14th January 1967

Responding to the Captain's clarion call for more members out on runs, Alan Gorman and Harry Duck made a great effort and pedalled to Somerford for tea. No other members were there but they met David Barker on a near 'evens' blind back to Manchester after being early at the venue.

Last month we reported a small gathering at Two Mills on this fine Saturday and a rumour that John Moss had been to Nannerch. In fact the lunch fixture had been at Treuddyn and John had scaled the heights of Hope Mountain to reach this excellent new venue in the Welsh hills.

#### Weaver Valley Dinner, Goostrey - 4th February 1967

A thrash to Buxton and over the Cat has become an almost indispensable preliminary to the Weaver Valley dinner. This year was no exception. Beans on toast in the spa town fortified me for the climb and I docked at Mrs. Bates' in good time.

Allan was M.C. for the evening and Syd del Banco was on the top table as is right and proper, though the reasoning which led to my being placed next to him was less obvious. The proceedings eventually got under way half an hour late, which was a good job for our other representative, Joe Dodd, who arrived half way through the sweet as it was. Littlewoods are hard task-masters.

The meal was excellent as were the speeches - Cliff Ash, Bob and Ruth Williams and Mr. Myerscough, head-master of a local school and a founder of the club, being mainly responsible. The contributions from the floor were less official, more slanderous and often uproarious. But pride of place must go to the inimitable Ossie Dover who in a magnificent impromptu speech brought the house down with the story of how he became the first rider to be disqualified in the M.R.C. '24' for using meths as an artificial stimulant!

It was one o'clock before Brian Kitson and Mike Penny (Altrincham R.C.) and myself got back to Manchester and bed but it had been well worth it.

D.W.B.

Kelsall - 4th February 1967

No report on this run has come in, though rumour hath it that Allan Littlemore attended to get an appetite for his other Club's Dinner which followed later.

Pontblyddyn & Two Mills/Parkgate - 11th February 1967

News that Two Mills would be closing early came too late for a note on the Circular but arrangements had been made to switch the tea stop to the Inglenook Cafe down by Parkgate's grassy shores.

Ken & David Barker made for the old sea-port and spent a pleasant hour there quite unaware that President Blotto, Jeff, Peter Jones, Eric Reeves and David Bettaney had been early enough to get some fodder at the "Eureka".

Hatchmere and Chester C.T.C. 50 in 4 - 25th February 1967

Fallowfield at 9.30 was the arrangement I'd made with Geoff Brandt of the Houghton C.C. and Manchester University C.C. We got away promptly and endured the main road through Altrincham as far as Tabley where we cut into the lanes and started to enjoy the ride. Elevenses at the 'Arbour Master's was the plan; unfortunately Allan was out but Marion brewed us a smashing pot of tea which fortified us for the last five miles to lunch.

At the cafe John Whelan, Dave Bettaney, Gerry Robinson and Eric Jones (B.N.E.C.C.) were wrapping themselves round some home-made pie. The President soon arrived and so did Allan and Marion just as we were leaving.

The four triallists potted through to Tarporley where the back of the Park Cafe bore a strong resemblance to a big road race H.Q.

We were off at 2.20. At 2.15 the heavens opened but having paid our money we decided to take our chance. By Burford cross roads we were soaked, but the rain stopped and it was a reasonably pleasant ride to Holt. 25 miles had taken just under  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

After our 30 minutes compulsory stop we faced the 'agony' leg, the Alps just either side of Broxton. Soon after this our eminent club record-holder at 25 and 50 miles announced that he was shattered or words to that effect and went from the front to the back of the bunch in less time than it takes to tell it.

"Getting Johnny home O.K." provided a good excuse for me to wait for him at Burford and we potted in a quarter of an hour down but

still with twenty minutes in hand.

I wasn't very much looking forward to the ride back to Manchester but Allan who had come to the finish piloted Geoff and me through the lanes to Weaverham and we got on to the main road again at Lostock Gralam for what turned out to be a remarkably painless final twenty miles.

D.W.B.

### Treuddyn - 4th March 1967

It was a bright and mild morning and although a stiff breeze was noted the Editor failed to check its direction and rashly decided on a ride to lunch at Treuddyn.

A phone call to the President persuaded him (with surprisingly little difficulty) to forsake the straight and narrow path of duty and dig out his bicycle.

A meeting was planned for Two Mills but the scribe was delayed and Blotto, fearing the worst, set off quietly for the hills unaware that his promised companion was hot in pursuit. And hot was certainly the word for a nasty tornado swept straight down the road from Llandegla and made an always hard slog into sheer torture.

The President who, in the words of another veteran member "likes to let his grub down with a splash" was downing a pre-lunch Mackeson (advert) at a hostelry half way up the Alps and the Editor was just sufficiently conscious to see his bicycle propped against the wall.

A veil must be drawn over the next half hour - sufficient to say that two eminent Anfielders were dropped stone cold by a nifty lightweight ridden by a lassie who had sufficient breath left to bid them a cheery greeting as she sped upwards towards the snow-line.

Eventually Treuddyn was reached and right well were the tissues restored at this splendid new venue. With our modest score settled we took the back lane which twists and turns, climbs and drops until eventually Mold is reached, a most delightful few miles with grand views of the peaceful Flints/Denbighshire hill country.

Mold was busy with Saturday shoppers but we were soon away and tackling the climb (now wind assisted) up to New Brighton and so to the fast run for Queensferry, the Woodbank lane and a final 'cuppa' at Two Mills before the last few miles to Clatterbridge and the parting of the ways.

K.W.B.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ira Thomas was very much in the news recently as the following cutting from a national daily will show:-

**IRA SAVES NEIGHBOURS £12,000**

Amateur detective Ira Thomas has saved his neighbours £12,000 - by tracing a 165-year-old document. Shropshire County Council had insisted that maintenance responsibility for lanes around 60 houses at Bayston Hill belonged to the residents, who would have to foot a £12,000 repair bill. Then Mr. Thomas of Overdale Road, Bayston Hill, traced the document, an enclosure award of 1801 which states the lanes are public carriage roads. And the council had to step down and admit responsibility.

A busy and successful year ended 30th September last is described in the Annual Report of Merseyside Youth Hostels Ltd. just published. There was a slight drop (from 13,049 to 12,874) in total Regional Membership - this was due almost entirely to the transfer of some of the area to the Lakeland group. Hostel usage, at 115,346 bed nights is the highest since the boom of 1948 and this in a year when the seamen's strike cost the I.O.M. hostels 2,500 cancelled bookings. Chester topped the usage chart with 9,410 bed nights with Colwyn Bay less than a hundred behind. During the year under review the Merseyside Association office moved to Hamilton Square, Birkenhead after operating from Liverpool since the birth of the movement on Merseyside in 1929.

Ossie Dover is shortly to move his residence to Birkenhead although cyclists' headquarters will continue to be impeccably garbed from the Lancashire side of the Mersey.

One result of the peace-time blitz on Birkenhead is the disappearance of the old established 'Clifton' establishment from the Haymarket. Happily the business is continuing from new premises in Grange Mount.

Members should study the runs lists carefully just now. After a spell of lunch and tea fixtures when our numbers have tended to be spread a little, there are several tea only fixtures in April.

Contd.....

## NEWS IN BRIEF - Contd.

Wednesday evening meets at Two Mills are in full swing and we hope to see more members out, particularly those who find it difficult to get out at the week-ends just now.

The younger and fitter element in the Club have arranged a tough training tour for Easter using Youth Hostels.

The first night will be spent at Borth where they hope to see David Bennett; the next stop is Crickhowell then across to Broom for the final night and the slog back to base.

Other Easter fixtures include lunch at Bangor-on-Dee and tea at Two Mills (Good Friday), and tea at Five Crosses on the Saturday.

The Committee are looking into the matter of outstanding subscriptions and it appears that a list of deletions from the membership roll will have to be published shortly.

Subject to confirmation the May fixtures will be:-

- May 1st: Committee Meeting
- 6th: Bangor - Somerford
- 13th: Five Crosses
- 20th: Lloc (Lunch) Two Mills & Knutsford (Tea)
- 27th: Bangor (Lunch)
- 28th: Chirbury (Herbert Arms) Lunch
- 29th: Open "100"

A Final Note:

Book a job and a bed now for the "100". Good jobs from Len Hill (gratis). Beds from the Lion Y.H.A. and all intermediate stations.

Can you help with one of the jobs mentioned in Racing Notes?

\* \* \* \* \*



# 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)

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Vol. LXII

APRIL 1967

No.709

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## FIXTURES

MAY 1967

- 1 Committee Meeting, Free Church Centre, Liverpool.
- 6 BANGOR (Smithy) GOOSTREY.
- 13 FIVE CROSSES (near Frodsham).
- 20 LLOC (Crossways Café - Lunch) TWO MILLS or SOMERFORD  
(Tea)
- 21 W.C.T.T.C.A. "50".
- 27 BANGOR (Smithy - Lunch).
- 28 CHIRBURY (Herbert Arms - Lunch)
- 29 OPEN "100" (H.Q. Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury).
- 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, 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., City Branch, 4 Water Street,  
Liverpool.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

\* \* \* \* \*

Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 1st MAY 1967

COMMITTEE NOTES

More offers of help with the "100" are urgently required and Len Hill will be glad to hear from all members who can possibly get out.

Lunch has been booked at the Herbert Arms, Chirbury on the Sunday of the holiday week-end and those intending to be present should inform the Secretary.

A generous donation by Peter Stevenson to provide an annual award in memory of his father has been gratefully accepted by the Committee.

Members in attendance at the N.R.R.A. A.G.M. on 4th March were Hubert Buckley, Percy Williamson and Ira Thomas.

TREASURY NOTES

At the tail-end of my piece in the last Circular, I made a plaintive plea for some subs, and I also hoped to reap in a few donations if the cash was running freely enough in these dreadful days of squeeze. As I write these lines, last month's issue has not been out long enough for me to know whether my pleadings have been heeded, but at least I can hope.

Six months of the current year have passed, and there are still a considerable number of subscriptions outstanding. PLEASE could you let me have some, SOON. A nice number paid up at the Birthday Run, and we are grateful to Hubert Buckley, Guy Pullan, George Parr and Arthur Williams for paying up without being asked. Some, however, who shall be nameless, looked your Treasurer straight in the face without batting an eyelid!

Alex Beaton, when sending in his subscription, wrote us a very nice letter about a proposed Easter Tour in the Berwyns with the Rough Stuff Fellowship, and, as will be imagined, this brought on a right royal dose of nostalgia. Visions came of delightful Pennant Melangell and the track over to Lake Vyrnwy by way of the Cedig Valley, or, in the other direction, the now frightening slopes of the Moel Sych crossing.

Not long after this George Connor telephoned and asked what I thought of taking a car across the Cwm Eunant. If you want your memory jogging this is the track that descends to Lake Vyrnwy from the lonely crest of Bwlch-y-Groes, and is not, in my humble opinion, a way for cars. Although this track has been improved greatly since

we were young, we remember Peter Stephenson reporting on great outcrops of bedrock that could cause considerable damage to anything but a very highly slung vehicle.

F.E.M.

Cwm Eunant is no place for a car - Anfielders should know better than take 4 wheeled stink-waggon's onto such delectable crossings!  
ED.

#### A BRITISH CYCLING ASSOCIATION?

The March issue of the North Road Gazette contains the following letter which the N.R. President, Bill Frankum, had addressed to the Editor of "Cycling".

Its publication in the "Circular" (with acknowledgments to the N.R.C.C.) does not mean that it represents Anfield official policy. In fact it has not been discussed at Committee, but it appears to the Editor to be a statesmanlike attempt to solve a pressing problem and Clubs, including our own, would do well to study the suggestions made and, if they find acceptance, then our North Road C.C. friends should be assured of support.

\* \* \* \* \*

"The Editor, "Cycling".

Sir,

As a member of both the R.T.T.C. and B.C.F. my club is very concerned at the contentions between the two bodies. We deprecate the action of the B.C.F. in not allowing sufficient time for clubs properly to discuss the motions on the Federation Agenda. We consider that amalgamation of the two bodies is impossible; there is insufficient community of interest and the integration of finances would be a formidable task. We had hoped that the agreement between the two bodies would have brought peace to the game for a very long period with the Standing Joint Committee to speak with authority on all aspects of the sport and pastime.

If the Standing Joint Committee is not a satisfactory medium for the expression of the views of the game (and the R.T.T.C. thinks it is) then it must either be reformed to serve the cycling community as a whole or some new body must arise in its place because the cycling fraternity cannot afford these spasmodic conflicts which now mar the scene. We therefore submit for discussion the suggestion that a British Cycling Association should be formed to which all the National sporting and touring organisations should be affiliated and in which the Industry should participate.

Such an Association should have the sole power of representation on the U.C.I. and other Foreign or Government Circles. The existing controlling bodies for Time Trials, Track and Road Racing should have autonomy within their own spheres. To this end the B.C.F. would relinquish its Touring side to the C.T.C. and it would be a matter for discussion whether the Legal Departments of the two bodies should be amalgamated and come under the Association.

At the moment this may seem to be asking for the impossible and any change will obviously take several years to effect. The above suggestions are only submitted as a basis for discussion which we trust will be carried out in a sporting spirit and without acrimony.

If this club can assist in any way to this end it will be only too willing to do so; its only interest is to see that the sport of cycling in all its spheres can continue and prosper.

Yours sincerely,

W.FRANKUM, President, North  
Road C.C."

### EASTER TOURS 1967

#### The Official Tour

Last December round the fire at Cynwydd Y.H. a most terrifying tour was planned for Easter. The principal plotters were John Whelan (who had 40 miles and 4 pints behind him) and Dave Bettaney (30 miles on 7 pints), but when the time came there were only three starters, Dave Superfit Barker, Dave No Miles Birchall (a sudden urge - probably resulting from reading The Black Anfielders) and myself.

#### Stage 1. Birkenhead - Borth

The pattern of the tour was soon established, Superfit bashing away at the front with No Miles and myself hanging on the back.

Near Cynwydd we found a little lamb on the road and decided to put it back in the field (for detailed instructions re getting lambs back in fields see Dave Barker) in the hope that it would improve relations with the Cymru Farmers' Union (see issue No.707 p.3).

After a long and stern chase, the lamb collapsed and the rest was easy. The rest of this day was a haze of 1st, 2nd and finally 3rd degree bonk.

#### Stage 2. Borth - Crickhowell

This was a quiet day and only two spokes were broken before lunch - sprinting for "primes" (telegraph poles, trees "mud on

road" signs) continued and had its effect.

Traffic was surprisingly light for a holiday week-end and we eventually reached Crickhowell via Rhayadr and Talgarth.

The hostel was full and Dave Birchall and I (who hadn't booked) were faced with a 30/- B.& B. hotel or just waiting for something to turn up. We did and it did! A large party had overbooked and the Warden offered us one bed and one doss on the floor. Before we could fall out over who had the bed it transpired that the party had over-cancelled - so we both slept on the floor!

### Stage 3. Crickhowell - ?

This was a rest day. Dave Superfit went South to cross the new Severn Bridge, while Birchall and I set off to cover the eighty-odd miles to Broom Hostel.

We passed through Ledbury to Tewkesbury where by sheer chance we joined up with David Barker again and continued, once more a threesome, to Broom where, once more, a house-full notice greeted us and the two non-bookers had to go on to Stratford Hostel, one consolation being the monster outsize stamp used here by the Warden.

### Stage 4. ? - Birkenhead.

I found this stage the easiest with all "primes" neutralised and a slightly helpful cross-wind. In Bridgnorth I lost the two Davas and found them again in Whitchurch - don't ask me where we had all been in the meantime.

From Whitchurch it was an easy run to Chester and as far as I know we all reached home safely. Book now for next year!

J.F.T.

### EASTER 1967

On 24th March, Good Friday, quite a number of cyclists were lunching at Bangor on Dee, these included Jeff (on his way to Edgebolton), Alan Rogerson (out for the day in a frantic effort to keep his weight down), Alex Beaton (looking as sun tanned as ever), all the way from bonny Scotland, and on his way to the meeting of the rough stuff fanatics at Llanfyllin; I was accompanied by Marian and two friends, who were taking us to Llangynog for a week-end's moderate rough stuffing.

Our headquarters at Pen-y-bont fawr were comfortable and left nothing to be desired.

Saturday's trip was to the waterfall and surroundings, with an open air brew-up as part of the programme.

On Sunday we cycled to Penygarnedd and then struggled up the

track along the eastern slopes of Das Eithon. Occasional flurries of snow were no deterrent, and we decided to brew up in an opening in the hillside. Judge our surprise when at least 20 others came along and did likewise (members of the R.S.F. on one of their excursions from the Llanfyllin base). Later, after sheltering in the thick woods to obviate caping up, we pushed on towards Llanwyddyn, and were surprised when we met Alex Beaton and his pals coming from the opposite direction. The back road to Penybontfawr and then the north side of the River Tanat to Llangynog brought this showery day to a close.

Monday took us to Penygarnedd again and then up above the snow line where we picnicked again at a point marked on map as Blaen y Cwm, near to a peak called Y Glog. The view from the summit was superb, with the snow covered peaks for miles looking like low lying clouds. A drop down a newly surfaced track brought us to New Mills and Llanfyllin for a "cuppa" and a warm. Then a pleasant retrace up the valley by way of Soar Chapel to our HQ for the last night. We returned on Tuesday and made a call at Llanarmon where the Raven gave us an excellent tea. On our cycling trips we never caped up once.

A.L.L.

#### HALEWOOD - 11th March 1967 - THE BIRTHDAY RUN

Once again the Derby Arms provided the setting for our Annual Birthday Run and what a birthday celebration it proved to be. Absentees (and there were far too many of them) certainly missed a treat for in addition to an excellent meal and some splendid gargle we had a film show by our old friend Cliff Baxter which alone was worth going many miles to see.

Syd del Banco presided over a gathering of some forty-five diners, including official guests Bill Barrow, Eric Mustill, Cliff Baxter, Cliff Ash (on a bicycle from Shrewsbury and back again when the fun was over!) Ossie Dover and Ken Matthews. We were also delighted to have with us Ed Green, Johnny Williams, Alf Prescott, Tom Henderson and Ted Barnes.

Fortified by the usual Halewood fare, the President called to the top table those athletes of our number who had won Standard Awards during last season, then in a few short but sincere words he welcomed our guests, Bill Barrow of the W.C.T.T.C.A., Eric Mustill (R.T.T.C.) Cliff Baxter, Lancs. R.C. and our evening's entertainer, Cliff Ash, Mid Shropshire Whlrs., Ossie (L'pool Century) Dover and Ken Matthews Kirkby C.C. but here to represent the Press.

In his reply, Eric Munstill offered greetings to the Anfield

on our eighty-eighth birthday and said he felt sure the old club would flourish when he looked across to the table full of young keen members, many of whom had earlier been acclaimed for some excellent rides during the 1966 racing season.

After a brief interlude (ostensibly to give the staff a chance to clear the tables) we made our way back to the dining room to be taken on a Continental rough-stuff tour which Cliff, his wife and a couple of friends had enjoyed and recorded on celluloid for our delight.

The writer frankly admits to being allergic to most amateur cine stuff which is so often a miserable substitute for good 35 mm 'stills', but there is no suffering and only sheer delight when Cliff Baxter has been behind the camera. For too soon we were boarding the plane for home but still we were to make a brief visit to Scotland and again we marvelled at the photographic skill and the beauty so near our doorsteps.

With the Anfield successfully launched into its eighty-ninth year, we prepared to wend our ways homeward, thankful to Mr. Sharp and his staff for their efforts to make our party a happy one, to Cliff Baxter for a marvellous hour's entertainment and to fellow cyclists, of the Anfield and of kindred clubs, whose comradeship gives a gathering such as this a flavour that is quite unique.

LLOC - 18th March 1967

They say that March 'comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb', and it was certainly true on the way to this lunch stop. The only trouble was that the wind was like a lion, and I was the lamb. On the first leg to Queensferry via Willaston and the Mills, the wind was at my right shoulder but once up Ewloe Hill that was it! I struggled in bottom gear (66) all the way to Holywell, and eventually ended up WALKING the last two miles uphill until the drop down to Lloc.

It didn't really surprise me when I found no-one at the Cafe, so I tucked into a good mixed grill and looked forward to the return journey. I had intended to go via Caerwys to Mold, but I determined to get revenge and retraced to Holywell. Here my spring-link back-plate snapped, but fortunately I was able to replace it fairly speedily. The rest of the trip was done at great speed and after a pause to watch a football match at Queensferry, I pressed on to Two Mills for tea and a pleasant chat with fellow Anfielders.

A.R.

TWO MILLS - 18th March 1967

While Alan Rogerson was having a 'flyer' back from Lloc on the wings of the wind which had harassed him all morning, a number of less energetic clubmates were wending their several ways to the Eureka Cafe. It would be difficult to find anything very original to say about a run to Two Mills and a list of those out must suffice.

First a cheer for Wally Rees who came out in a nice bright chunk of sports car - his waistline looked as if a new bicycle would have been a better buy - but never mind - it was the same old Wally. Then in no particular order we saw the President, Jeff Mills, Eric Reeves, Dave Bettaney, Dave Birchall, Ken Barker, John Moss and John Thompson.

TRICYCLE ASSOCIATION "OPENER" GOOSTREY - 19th March 1967

About 60 diners with President Ed Green in the chair. Of "Ours" there were Rex and Edna Austin (just back from Switzerland), David Barker, Jeff Mills, Percy Williamson and Allan Littlemore who organised the affair.

EASTER 1967 - For the attendance record:-

Bangor (Good Friday), Alex Benton, Mills, Rogerson, Littlemore.

Five Crosses (Saturday) Stan Wild.

Y.H.Tour. David Birchall, John Thompson, David Barker.

A MIXED BAG - The Captain (slow but sure) sends notes re:-

Barton. 21/1/67 - A pleasant but wet ride through Tattenhall, Utkinton etc. Arrived as Blotto and Jeff were leaving.

Somerford. 11/2/67 - A.L.L. set off for T.A. meet at Lichfield. Late start, head wind and other mishaps decided him to abandon the trip and make for Somerford. Found Bob & Mrs. Poole there and enjoyed a natter.

Parbold. 19/2/67 - A T.A. fixture which had been added to A.B.C. list but only Captain Littlemore of "Ours" out.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Eddie Morris, in Ward E2 at Clatterbridge, was sitting up and taking notice when seen by Syd del Banco, Frank Marriott, Len Hill and Ken Barker at various times recently. We wish our veteran member a quick and complete recovery and a speedy return to his accustomed haunts.

The Committee are very concerned at the fall off in attendances at Club runs and would welcome suggestions from members (including Cadets) as to how the programme might be amended to attract a better turn out of riders.



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Liverpool 11. (STAnley 3285)

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MAY 1967

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## FIXTURES

June 1967

- 3 KELSALL (Oasis Café)
  - 4 CLUB "25"
  - 5 Committee Meeting, Free Church Centre, Liverpool.
  - 10 TREUDDYN - SOMERFORD
  - 17 TATTENHALL (Milk Bar)
  - 24 BARTON (Garage Café) GOOSTREY
  - 25 BANGOR-ON-DEE (Smithy - 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, F.E.Marriott,  
13 Wirral Mount, Grange, West Kirby, Cheshire.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 12th MAY 1967

COMMITTEE NOTESChange of Address:

P.T. Stephenson, "Gara", 22 Rockbourne Avenue, Woolton, Liverpool 25.

IN MEMORIAM

E.O. MORRIS

Eddie Morris joined the Anfield in 1912 and his death at the end of April, just a week before his eighty-eighth birthday, robbed the club of one of its longest and strongest links with the past.

Ten years after joining he was elected an auditor of the Club's accounts and a quick check of our records suggests that he held that office without a break until his death although circumstances may have prevented him acting on one or two occasions.

There must be very few men who treat themselves to new bicycles by way of celebration of their 85th birthdays and even less use them to get to West Kirby lake for a daily dip.

Eddie Morris never figured high on our annual attendance lists but right down the years he maintained his interest and came out perhaps fifteen to twenty times a year in his earlier days and for some years now on our high days and holidays when some kindly soul offered him a lift.

His love of, and interest in, the Anfield was unbounded but he had wide interests and we were glad to share him with Caldy Golf Club whose finances he watched over for twenty years until his retirement from office as recently as March last.

Leslie Edwards writing in the Liverpool Daily Post quotes a member of the Caldy Club as saying "he was the backbone of the place - everyone liked him and appreciated the work he did". A half-way pavilion on the Caldy course was to be opened in his lifetime and named in his honour and the Club intends to go ahead and finish the project which will become his memorial.

For many years Eddie had been a widower and it was a great blow to him when his only son Tom was lost during the war after volunteering for service on a hospital ship bound for Singapore.

It is not given to all men to enjoy some twenty-five years of retirement with full vigour of body and mind and if Eddie had his share of knocks, he also enjoyed to the full a long life into which he put a bit more than he hoped to get out. He was a great, if very modest, Anfielder.

\* \* \* \* \*

TREASURY NOTES

You might remember that last month's notes were written before we had any results to our first outpourings on these pages. We are delighted to report now the receipt of letters from both Harry Austin and Len Killip, and extracts will be included in this issue if the Editor can find the space.

During the month we have had occasion to write to certain members regarding subscriptions that have been outstanding for too long. Some have replied. Can we take it that the others wish to cease being Anfielders?

Recently we took delivery of a few more copies of The Black Anfielders, our Club history which caused such a sensation in the cycling world when first published twelve years ago. This is the story, in a most readable form, of our Club from its earliest days, and we should like every member to have a copy on his bookshelf. The price is 12/6d: we might add that it will soon be out of print, and then prices WILL rocket!

Apropos recent remarks on the matter of credit transfers. This is not a very satisfactory method of payment now. The Bank statement merely says "C.T.", without any mention of the sender's name, and on enquiry the clerk has to delve into a multitude of slips of paper in order to ascertain the necessary information. Can we say then that cheques are best.

We acknowledge with pleasure subscriptions and/or donations from Harry Austin, Len Killip, Eric Reeves, Stan Wild, David and Simon Jones, Richard Firth, Dave Brown, Frank Edwards, Jack Beanland, Bob Poole, Eddie Morris (a few days before he passed away) and Peter Stephenson.

F.E.M.

RACING NOTES

As these lines are being written the "100" looms up - it will probably be over by the time this issue reaches you.

Results since our last issue include:-

Club "25" - 1st April 1967

		H'cap	H'cap Time
1. D.W. Barker	1.5.54	1.15	1.4.39
2. D. Bettaney	1.6.26	1.00	1.5.26
3. J.W. Moss	1.6.55	5.00	1.1.55
4. J. Whelan	1.8.25	Scr.	1.8.25
5. P. Whitehead	1.8.46	4.15	1.4.31

Contd.over...

6. D.G. Jones	1.15.53	12.00	1.3.53
E.A. Rogerson	1.14.34	P.T.	-
J.A. Stinton	1.5.16	P.T.	B'head Vics.C.C.
J.A. Thompson - off course - not timed.			

A cold, wet, windy day and time around 66 minutes was excellent for the prevailing conditions.

W.C.T.T.C.A. "25" - 9th April 1967

D. Bettaney, 1.6.2. P.Whitehead, 1.9.40. J.Thompson (Tri),  
1.13.10. D.G.Jones, 1.14.46. D.Barker (lost brake nut at  
start) and J.Whelan (heavy cold) - D.N.S.

Rhos-on-Sea C.C. "25" - 16th April 1967

J.Whelan, 1.1.49. D.W.Barker, 1.2.4. D.Bettaney, 1.3.54.  
P.Whitehead, 1.7.21. D.G.Jones, 1.14.8.

W.C.T.T.C.A. "30" - 23rd April 1967

J.Whelan, 1.16.42. D.Bettaney, 1.17.18. J.Moss, 1.21.24.

Universities' Athletic Union events

25 Miles Championship

1st Team, Manchester University.

A.Ashworth (B.N.E.C.C.) 1.25; D.W.Barker (A.B.C.) 1.4.37; G.Brandt  
1.4.51; J.Thompson (Leicester Univ. & A.B.C.) 1.10.51, Trike.

50 Miles Championship (Finsbury Park "50")

1st Team, Manchester University.

A.Ashworth 2.8.51; D.W.Barker 2.10.35 and ?

72 Miles Road Race

1st Team, Manchester University. Ashworth, Brandt and D.W.Barker.

Inter Club "25". A.B.C. v. B'head Victoria C.C. - 29th April 1967

1. B.G.Whitmarsh	B'head Vics.	1.0.48	5. W.J.S.Rogers	B.Vics.	1.3.15
2. J.Whelan	A.B.C.	1.1.43	6. J.W.Moss	A.B.C.	1.6.15
3. D.W.Barker	"	1.2.6	7. T.E.Bell	B.Vics.	1.7.2
3. D.Bettaney	"	1.2.15	8. W.H.Turner	"	1.7.33
4. J.C.Williams	B.Vics.	1.3.4	9. E.A.Rogerson	A.B.C.	1.9.52
			10. D.H.Jones	"	1.11.17

1st Team, Anfield B.C. (Whelan, Barker, Bettaney).

Club Handicap - E.A.Rogerson.

CLUB RUNSClub 25 miles Events:-

1st April 1967 - Around the course (in addition to riders noted in results list) were Jeff Mills, J.W.Bennett, Len Hill, Ken Barker, Allan Littlemore, David Birchall, John Farrington, Geoff Sharp and Peter Jones.

29th April - Inter Club "25"

In addition to riders listed elsewhere there were the following helpers:- Peter Jones, Geoff Sharp, Les Bennett, Ken Barker, Syd del Banco, Dave Birchall, Len Hill, Allan Littlemore, John Farrington, Jeff Mills, Simon Jones and R.Firth.

FIVE CROSSES - 15th April 1967

Having very little time to spare I took a route to this hillside venue, along roads which are too horrible to mention, and on arrival, I discovered that the President and the Hon.Sec. were already in occupation. The former had ridden via devious lanes through Manley, and the latter had done a really extensive country lane detour, involving some 35 miles. Very soon, Mr.'Advancing Years' Littlemore arrived, on trike, with his wife, Marion, on bike. Having fed, and examined the machines standing and leaning outside, it was time to go our separate ways, and I headed back towards the Wirral, against the ever present wind. (Will it ever drop?). A.R.

TREUDDYN, PARKGATE & SOMERFORD - 8th April 1967

No reports are to hand on any of the above. The Editor was very early at Parkgate but saw no other Anfielder.

BARTON - 22nd April 1967

Allan Littlemore found the cafe at Barton's garage closed and went elsewhere for sustenance without meeting any other members.

A YOUTH HOSTEL WEEK-END

Halfway through April John Thompson, John Moss, Robert Hall and David Williams teamed up for a week-end jaunt to Bala Youth Hostel. The climbs up the new Ewloe hill and to the Rainbow sorted out

the unfit and even a packing of fish and chips in Ruthin failed to get all the riders to Bala without some lengthy rest periods and an attack of the "knock".

Eventually all arrived safely and could have a good look over the hostel and the plan drawn by our own Len Hill.

Next day the route lay over the hills to Lake Vyrnwy and here it was decided that the Cerrig Hotel in the Ceiriog Valley would be a suitable lunch-stop. Alas the hotel only caters for those booking meals in advance and so it was necessary to continue down the valley to Chirk for an excellent meal.

The route from here lay through Overton, Bangor and Farndon where a small group of riders returning from the Rhos-on-Sea "25" warmed up the pace and shot a couple of the Anfield contingent off the back.

A most enjoyable week-end concluded with a stop at Two Mills and a quiet potter through lanes to Thornton Hough and home.

J.M.

#### N E W S   I N   B R I E F

Older members who knew John Clucas of the Mersey Roads Club will be saddened by the news of his death following a collision with a van over Easter.

We hear that Ed. Green is to retire shortly (from work - not cycling. Fancy having Ed around the house all day!).

Peter Stevie is allergic to cheque books and to save the annual chore of sending his 'sub', he has 'commuted' and a very generous lump sum has come our way as a result. In addition, Peter offered (and the Committee gladly accepted) another generous donation to provide an annual award in memory of his father. The committee have decided not to pin down the award for any particular activity and consequently the George Stephenson Memorial Award will be available each year for recognition of any one of a wide range of achievements or services to the club or game.

During a recent week-end trip to Oxford the Editor spent a night at the old New Inn, Bourton-on-the-Water and renewed acquaintance with mine host Arthur Morris (Speedwell B.C.) who recalled, among other things, an Anfield week-end at Bourton many moons ago when

## NEWS IN BRIEF - Contd.

the party included Snowden, Chandler and Rex Austin.

David Barker struck an unlucky patch recently - Arriving back in Manchester after the University "50" Championship race near Cambridge, he found his other bicycle and some accessories had been stolen from the bicycle shed.

Then a few days in hospital for a rather nasty dental operation resulted in a couple of weeks lay-off from serious cycling and the decision not to ride in our "100"

Frank Perkins represented the Club at the funeral of the late Eddie Morris.

Cwm Eunant

Peter Stephenson says he agrees with the Editor's note last month on taking cars over this track. He writes "on our trip the vehicles were two M.G. sports cars, crewed by two future wives. This made the party four persons in all and three, not being initiated in the ways of cyclists, considered me crackers. In fact one, the owner of the other M.G., threatened to prosecute me! My memories are of a very delicately performed trip, the anxiety for the cars' well-being forming the greater part of the excitement. My opinion is that these crossings are better enjoyed with your rump on a saddle than your sump on an outcrop".

Len Killip writes:

You'll be glad to hear that I've disciplined myself to get out on the bike once a week, for two or three hours every Sunday. I've managed to keep this up for nearly a year now, so there's hope for me yet. I've learned a bit more about the lanes of Bucks, Berks and Herts as a result. Please give my best wishes to any who may remember me.

From Harry Austin:

"Your much appreciated notes from the Treasury have prompted me to let you have my subscription and a small donation for the current year. I, too, can claim nearly half-a-century of continuous membership in what I consider the finest of cycling clubs, and my only regret is that I have been unable to take a more active part.

Active interest has revived again in the past year or so, the

## NEWS IN BRIEF - Contd.

old bike has been cleaned up, and I frequently get into Wharfedale (lovely country around here by the way) for a 30 or 40 miles ride.

John, my son, and I had a few days in Galloway last year, taking our bicycles on the car roof rack. We centred at Castle Douglas, and had daily rides from there. Galloway is a lovely, unspoilt area, and equally good these days is the fact that the motor traffic seems considerably thinner than in the populated West Riding".

Subject to confirmation, the runs list for July will be:-

- July 1 - Two Mills - Somerford.
- 2 - Inter Club "25" with Birkenhead Victoria C.C.
- 3 - Committee Meeting.
- 8 - Hatchmere - Photo Run.
- 15 - Llanarmon (Raven).
- 16 - R.T.T.C. Championship "100".
- 22 - Tarporley (Candle-light Café).
- 22/23 - Mersey Roads Club "24".
- 29 - Holt (Castle Café) Goostrey.

Please note (and book) the date of the Photograph Run - 8th July at the Forest Cafe, 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: A. L. LITTLEMORE

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

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No.711

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## FIXTURES

July 1967

- 1 TWO MILLS - SOMERFORD.
  - 2 Inter Club '25' with Birkenhead Victoria C.C.
  - 3 Committee Meeting - Liverpool.
  - 8 HATCHMERE (Forest Cafe) PHOTO RUN
  - 15 LLANARMON (Raven)
  - 16 R.T.T.C. Championship "100".
  - 22 TARPORLEY (Candle-light Cafe).
  - 22/23 Mersey Roads Club "24".
  - 29 HOLT (Castle Cafe) GOOSTREY.
- 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, F.E.Marriott,  
13 Wirral Mount, Grange, West Kirby, Cheshire.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

\* \* \* \* \*

Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 3rd JULY 1967

COMMITTEE NOTESChange of Address:

Ben Griffiths, Garage House, Brynkinalt, Chirk, Near Wrexham.

RACING NOTES

A sizeable list of performances in 'Opens' is being held over until next month when there should be less pressure on space.

TREASURY NOTES

The Editor tells me that space is fairly scarce this month, so these notes must be brief.

Subscriptions are welcomed from Reg Wilson, Ned Haynes, and Keith Orum. Don Stewart and the Orrell family have included a welcome bit of "plus" with theirs.

Might we remind the "outstanders" that a sub. from them would be very welcome, too.

F.E.M.

SPRING HOLIDAY SIXTYSEVEN

Search the Book of Records, scan the Anfield tally from Warrington to Weeping Cross and you will not find the name - Housman! Maybe a potential cycling scribe was lulled into practical idleness by the lure of winsome heritage.

Salop, at Whitsuntide, took abundant toll of soical sweat in the prime of youth; in the maturity of old age and ossification an unbegrudged bead may still bedew the byways of this enchanting corner of Mercia of The Hundreds. Now one rides them at will, praise be to God, simulating halcyon days when temerous tyros, lithe, obese or skinny were invited-money-no-object-guests teaming-up as free diaphoretics. At the present time the natural courses of Anfieldland are at a premium on the name-day and foremost among formalist money-grubbers are Howarth & Littlemore, parsimonius pedlars from the grinning-feline shire. Neither the famous ones nor the fleetest are exempt, all are usuriously mulcted in fee or fine for a more copious fall of saline precipitation. Screened on the bureaucratic basis of time and motion, athletic adventurers bear a treble handicap.

Happily the Mercian Hundreds, dateless and devoid of affidavit or other annoying imposition, offer autonomous freedom from initial pecuniary impediment and computer hobble. When the Anfield is dead: Long live the Anfield! pastoral Chirbury and comely Purslow will

still recall the kindred shades and reflect the kindly light of other days. In the fullness of time and genial virility the dedicated has-been may dawdle or twiddle along ambagious upland tracks: man alive there is food for thought in those provocative Housman hills, and "beds for all who come" scaling steep trails to win the heart-warming prospect of wide panoramic horizons. Let rapacious full-card fanatics and tardy tricycle-trundlers mark well!

Not completely bereft of the excited enthusiasm of adolescence, I sought the bunk when the guardian beam of The Kish submerged beyond the western rim of the sea. Guinness is a good soporific draught with a built-in natural call forestalling bespoke rousing! A train-trip to Craven Arms and then, self-propelled again, into Hope Dale on the magnetic road to the Anfield 100. A map in the pocket can be an importunate taskmaster and Corve Dale insistently called. That is why I crossed the watershed and defected to the Munslow Hundred. A smattering of architectural lore lent leisure to the going and led me to the Hundred House. There was not even a bikie to be seen in the precincts despite an accommodating change of name and purpose of the building to Crown Inn.

Why cannot the Anfield have a Hundred House of its own? In a hostelry, not starch-glazed, endemic devotees of our cult could foregather, knobbly-knees, trouser-clips, motor-goggles and all, to pay due respect to the Presider and the First Lady. And quip-quaff before the Monday-morning stint begins. It is good to meet the boys, the youths and the lads-not-so-young who will man the far-flung points athwart the Plain. These are history-makers of Ours to meet in the flesh, not as mere unrecorded names to be brought to mind in a future reading of the first epilogue to The Black Anfielders. Even the cyclist "creed" should beget ecumenism! The re-formation of the yclept "chapel" in some homely headquarters would be more than an answer to gag a querulous questioner. Wem of the Ales comes readily to mind; a snug unpretentious haven might be made available to a persuasive "buyer" or "lease-seeker" where members and friends could, with rustic simplicity and without extraneous distraction, do their devoirs to our own charming ladies; adorable domestiques adorning the baggage-wagons of the unfailing support-column on the famous Week-end.

In an age of rapid and radical change and behind ancient facades forsooth, it might be rewarding to re-assess the traditional relationship between the Anfield and the burghers of Salop. Pentecostal Pengwern-ness is no longer a prestigious Club asset and Spring Holiday will assuredly mark the end of an era which witnessed the

annual cyclist invasion of the county town of Whitsuntide. Shrewsbury was liberally chartered from the days of Richard I. Sydney the First ought now to extinguish one of the modern but outmoded Salopian privileges!

I love talking to myself and the peevish absent-minded sermonising preceded an inspection of Munslow Church. The weathered pile seems to embody three Periods but the porch is a classic cure for sore eyes; a pleasing allegory in stone, mutely striving to inject the Message without allergic reaction. My own material message awaited urgent fulfilment and surely a stoup of ale would not impair chronological balance! I hied me to the inn. Then down the Watling Street towards that capricious river and no man my enemy on this Thursday evening in May. In Clun, on an even keel and without accompanied diesel diapason of shuddering thrust I went to bed, soundly to sleep.

BILL FINN.

The Saturday which heralded the Spring Holiday week-end saw the start of the main trek towards Salop town.

Frank Perkins and Len Hill journeyed together, reaching Bangoron-Dee to lunch in company with, among others, Jeff of "Ours" and Johnny Williams of the Mersey Roads Club. After tea at Harmer Hill our two veterans reached the Lion in fair order and condition just in time for dinner.

Others were converging on the Shropshire capital during the day; David Barker after a pleasant morning's ride with Brian Kilson of the T.A. lunched at Whitchurch and carried on to book Pa in at "Castle View", Edgebolton for Sunday night.

With a bed booked conveniently on the course and only a few miles from the finish, the Editor was able to wander through quiet byways to Sunday lunch at Holt (during which a violent storm flooded the road outside the Castle Cafe).

Almost deserted roads led to Bangor and even Ellesmere was not unduly busy though many cars and picnic parties lined the roadside.

The next hour was spent wandering round the lovely meres which abound in this area, then, with thoughts of a 'cuppa', a course was set for Welshampton, Loppington and Wem where a pleasant little cafe provided refreshment and a chat with a Warrington Road Club tricyclist.

It had been a tough ride into a persistent wind but only the few pleasant miles to the Rock Cutting and Shawbury remained before Guy Pullan was discovered comfortably esconced in Mrs. Heynes' brass bedecked dining room.

That night we spent with the goggle-box, watching as Sir Francis Chichester finished his amazing single handed circuit of the globe; then in good time it was up to comfortable beds to be out and about early for the sixty-eighth Anfield "100".

#### CHIRBURY WHIT SUNDAY LUNCH

At five o'clock in the morning, in flagrant contravention of Y.H.A. rules, a worthy member of the Merseyside Y.H. Committee had Shrewsbury hostel annexe in uproar. Ossie Dover was getting up and he was making sure everyone else did so too. Some were riding the T.A.100, others were marshalling and in a weak moment the previous night I'd promised to help Brian Kitson dish out the numbers. It was early, it was dark and it was bucketing down.

We got to the start and did our job which wasn't made any easier by the event's super-efficient organiser who shall remain anonymous and lives at Acton Bridge. He gave me a bag of pins and told me to give two to each rider. There were 40 pins and 30 riders. The organiser nearly got one of his precious pins up his precious.....

We pottered back to the hostel and had breakfast. Then by the time Alex Beaton and I were ready to leave for Chirbury the rain stopped. Through Westbury and Worthen it was overcast but as Marton was reached the sun was out. We had a leisurely stroll over the Long Mountain admiring the views, then turned left to shoot down into Forden. On this descent Alex collected the first of a string of punctures (henceforth denoted by 'P').

The President and Dave Brown were already at the hotel when we arrived and soon the rest of the party arrived: Rex and Mrs. Austin, Len Hill (with Vivienne and two friends), Frank Perkins, Bill Finn, Stan Wild, Dave Birchall, John Farrington and John Thompson.

After lunch, some of us went up the church tower which was very jolly. Eventually we got down and I changed into shorts (the first time this year) and Alex and I prepared to set off for Rothinghope and tea (P,P). It was a glorious run through Churchstoke and Lydham (P) and up post Bridges to the cafe-cum-post office where much-needed sustenance was consumed (after all we'd done fully twelve miles since lunch and there were another 12 to go and you need a lot of energy to keep the brakes on down that big hill).

Miraculously P does not feature again in this account and we had a very pleasant evening run down into Shrewsbury where I left Alex at the hostel and went to join those crazy North Enders and others at the digs.

THE SIXTY-EIGHTH ANFIELD "100"

Timekeeper, Stan Wild, reports that at 4.0 a.m. on the morning of the race there was "a huge dirty black cloud suspended over Salop town and although the roads were dry one wondered for how long".

A south-west wind, light early on, steered the cloud gently away to the north and fair, if just short of ideal, conditions prevailed throughout the event.

Precisely at 5.0 a.m. Allan Rogerson ("Ours") was on the starting line and a minute later he was pushed off on his long trek, the first of 89 starters from a field of 100 on the card.

Of the eleven non-starters the most notable was Eric Moody (Gloucester City R.C.) and we understand that both he and his wife were ill. Naturally the non-appearance of the scratch-man robs an event of some of its interest but as we were to see there were others ready to make a real fight of it and one of the best races for years gradually emerged.

A check at Hodnet (25.1 miles) gave an early indication of the shape of things to come with Boden (Oldbury) eventually second apparently having a few seconds advantage over Short (Liverpool Eagle) with Murray (Apollo Whlrs.) Shimmin (Mersey Roads) and Greaves (Warrington) in close attendance. Norman Powell, Oldbury C.C.'s experienced hundred miler was going well but not well enough to cause any disturbance. At the fifty miles point Dave Short had taken command but by less than half a minute over Baden a further two minutes down was Murray then Greaves while fifth here was Icknield R.C. rider J.R. Baines who fell away over the second half and could only manage sixteenth place at the finish. Sixth at the halfway mark, seventh at the end with a handicap award and 2nd team medal for his pains was Allan Shimmin of the Mersey Roads Club.

Over breakfast, rumour reached the Timekeeper that No.5 (Bristow of Coventry C.C.) was doing a flyer and records might topple - Rumour on this occasion if not a lying jade was certainly exaggerating and Stan's hurried departure and slog up the long drag past Haugmond Abbey proved quite unnecessary as he had a twenty-five minutes wait for the first man to finish (No.5) at 9.26.33.

A time of 4.21.33 was an excellent beginning and soon No.15 (Tooby, Coventry C.C.) had clocked 4.23.10, then came Warrington's Greaves with the fastest ride so far (4.19.55) and this remained fastest until over forty minutes later No.70, Short, flashed over the line to clock 4.13.52 and defy all comers to dislodge him for first place. Spencer of Warrington, winner in 1963 and 1965 and second in 1964 was still to come as were Baines and Norman Powell;

Spencer not fully fit and still troubled by his back had packed while Powell and Baines failed on this occasion to justify the handicapper's faith in them.

It was left to Oldbury's Boden, No.81 on the card to romp over the line in 4.16.10 and push in between Short and Greaves to take second place. And so the sixty-eighth Anfield "100" came to an end and the great crowd of clubmen at the finish started the inquest.

Seventy-three of the eighty-nine starters survived to return to the timekeeper - among those gallants who fought and 'died' were John Moss and David Bettaney, but Allan Rogerson kept the Anfield flag flying with 5.16.39.

Merseyside kept most of the awards for after, allowing Boden to take away 2nd fastest and 1st handicap, local men pocketed the rest of the prizes, with less than a minute separating the team award winners. First place in this section went to Sprogett, Johnson and Hughes of the B.N.E.C.C. with an aggregate of 13.50.40 while Mersey Roaders Shimmin, Scott and Williams totalled 13.51.36.

Once again we are glad to acknowledge the valuable help given by other Clubs and individuals and it is a pleasure to say a simple but sincere "thank you" to the Mid Shropshire Wheelers, North Shropshire Wheelers, Johnny Williams and the Mersey Roads Club, Arthur Smith and Ed Green (N.R.C.C.), Mr. Mitchell for fixing up the telephonic communications at the finish, the Shropshire Constabulary for much help here and there and particularly at High Ercall and the finishing stretch and last but not least to Vivienne, Pauline and Margaret for enhancing the scenery even of lovely Shropshire and for dispensing gallons of tea with charm and efficiency.

This is an Anfield event and Anfielders are expected to lend a hand with no thought of any acknowledgment but surely it would not be out of place to say on behalf of the Club and of the riders (several of whom wrote or said their party pieces and paid tribute to a first class promotion) to Alf Howarth and Len Hill for shouldering the main responsibility for what was undoubtedly a most successful event.

#### NEWS IN BRIEF - MAINLY FROM THE "100"

Anfielders seen around the "100" course:- Littlemore, Dave Brown, Walter Thorpe, Weld, Howarth, Blotto, Perkins, Hugh Fletcher, Hill, Rex Austin, Dodd, Pitchford, Thompson, Orum, Whitehead, Whelan, Dave Birchall (father Don seen at Ratlinghope on Sunday), Farrington, Russ Barker, Bren Orrell, Pullan, Harry (& John) Austin, Birkby, Ira Thomas, Mills, Buckley, Beaton, Rigby Band, Haslam, Ken Barker, David Barker, Bill Fenn and Ben Griffiths.

## NEWS IN BRIEF - Contd.

Among the great mass of visitors to the event in addition to those already mentioned we noted Frank Fischer, Eric Robinson (Palatine C.C.), Alex Smith (Huddersfield R.C.), Arthur Wood (Chesh), Jack Spackman, Tommy and Peter Barlow, Joe Davies (M.R.C.) and Charlie Holland (M.C. & A.C.) whose veteran brother Jack was on the card and came in only three minutes outside "evens".

After the event, Stan Wild rode to Rhayadr for the night then home via the Wye and Usk Valleys riding 126 miles on the last day from Salisbury to Bexhill-on-Sea.

The Hardwick Garage Cafe, Hadnall housed a party of fifteen cyclists for lunch after the "100". In no particular order we noted Rigby Band (on a Moulton), Alex Beaton, A.B.Smith (N.R.C.C.) & Ida, John and Mrs.Haines from the Potteries, Bernard & Mrs.Wood, Clifton C.C.(York), Ken Barker, Brian Kitson and Denis Hornby (T.A.), John and Beryl Parr and the 'Arbour Master of Acton Bridge with Marian.

The T.A. "100" on the Sunday of Spring Holiday week-end was won by Howard Bayley in 4.49.49, second was Terry Kelly (4.57.25). John Parr with few if any training miles in his legs clocked 5.38.22 for sixteenth place.

Bill Ward, famous rider of the Stretford Wheelers and hero of many fine rides including quite a few round Anfield Courses, died in his sleep recently at the age of 60. In 1950 he pushed the trike 12 hours record up to 225.88 miles.

Congratulations and very best wishes to Vivienne Hill and Geoff Sharp whose engagement has recently been announced.

The August Runs list (subject to confirmation) reads:-

- August 5: Chester (Jolly Farmer Cafe - Frodsham Street)
- 12: Llanarmon (Raven) Goostrey.
- 19: Five Crosses (near Frodsham).
- 26: Two Mills Somerford.
- York Rally.



# ANFIELD CIRCULAR

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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)

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Vol. LXII

JULY-AUGUST 1967

No.712

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## FIXTURES

August 1967

- 5 CHESTER (Jolly Farmer Café)  
12 FIVE CROSSES, near Frodsham  
19 LLANARMON (Raven) GOOSTREY  
26 YORK RALLY, TWO MILLS, SOMERFORD.

September 1967

- 2 CLUB "25" (D.9) H.Q. & Tea TWO MILLS.  
4 Committee Meeting - Liverpool.  
9 HOLT (Castle Café) GOOSTREY  
16 FIVE CROSSES  
23 TWO MILLS  
24 W.C.T.T.C.A. "25" - WHITEWELL (Lunch)  
30 PONTBLYDDYN SOMERFORD

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS - Eureka Café, Two Mills.

## 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.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

\* \* \* \* \*

Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 4th SEPTEMBER 1967

COMMITTEE NOTESChange of Address:

W.H. Lloyd, "Granville", Tas de Geon, Trinity, Jersey, Channel Islands.

The following dates have been booked:- A.G.M. at Halewood, 4th November; Ladies' Night, 25th November (Halewood); and the Autumn Tints Tour, 14/15th October (Sun - Llansantffraid).

RACING NOTES

With the "100" week-end taking up all available space in the last issue, an unusually large crop of results are to be recorded this month.

- 7th May: Derby Whlrs. "25". J.Whelan 59.42. D.Bettaney 1.1.17.
- 14th May: Westwood C.C. "25". J.Whelan 1.1.7.  
B.N.E. C.C. Mountain T.T. D.Bettaney 2.18.34.
- 21st May: W.C.T.T.C.A. "50". D.Bettaney 2.7.26. J.Moss 2.27.30.
- 27th May: Kettering Amateur C.C. "25". J.Whelan 59.32
- 28th May: Tamworth R.C. "25". J.Whelan 1.1.7. D.Jones 1.10.26
- 4th June: Club "25".  
1. P.Whitehead 1.7.35 (1st Handicap)  
2. J.Moss 1.8.9  
3. D.Jones 1.12.42  
National Championships "25". J.Whelan 1.0.33.
- 9th June: Middleton C.C. "25". D.W.Barker 1.3.42
- 11th June: East Liverpool Wheelers "50".  
D.Bettaney 2.6.56. D.W.Barker 2.15.56.
- 18th June: Fylde R.C. "25". J.Whelan 59.30.  
Manchester & Dist.T.T.A. "50". D.W.Barker 2.8.36
- 24th June: Brereton Whlrs. "25". J.Whelan 58.22 (Club Record)
- 25th June: W.C.T.T.C.A. "100". D.Bettaney 4.36.20  
West Pennine C.C. "25". J.Whelan 59.18

Continued...

2nd July: Inter Club "25" with Birkenhead Victoria C.C.

1.	J.J.Whelan	Anfield	1.1.51
2.	D.Bettaney	A.B.C.	1.2.24
3.	J.W.Dickens	Vics	1.2.25
4.	G.W.Nicholl	Vics	1.2.42
5.	P.J.Ward	Vics	1.2.43
6.	D.W.Barker	A.B.C.	1.2.49
7.	J.Stinton	Vics	1.4.1
8.	A.Porteus	Vics	1.7.43
9.	W.H.Turner	Vics	1.8.13
10.	S.Forfar	Vics	1.9.11
11.	T.E.Bell	Vics	1.11.27
12.	E.Dalton	Vics	1.12.16
13.	S.Colquhoun	Vics	1.17.20
	B.A.Whitmarsh	Vics	D.N.F.
	J.W.Williams	Vics	D.N.F.

9th July: North Staffs C.A. "100". Univ. Athletic Union "100"

D.W.Barker 4.22.53

Fastest and team medal U.A.U. event

3rd fastest & 1st handicap in Association event.

Ystwyth C.C. "25". J.Whelan (2nd) 59.8

16th July: R.T.T.C. National Championship "100"

D.W.Barker 4.26.42 (19th).

### "AFTER THE HUNDRED"

With the "100" over for another year the crowd gradually melted away and, as noted last month, a sizeable party of cyclists gathered at the Hardwick Cafe (near Hadnall) for lunch.

In brilliant sunshine Rigby Band and the Editor set off for Shrewsbury but not before the latter had made a lunch date with Alex Beaton for the next day at Leintwardine.

A mile beyond Hadnall the heavens opened, rain cascaded down and it was two very bedraggled cyclists who parted company in Salop town, Rigby to pack his Moulton in the van and drive home to Lydney, Ken Barker to push quietly up the Hope Valley, encircle Stiperstones and dash into the cycle shed at Bridges Hostel just in time to miss another ducking.

Bridges is famous for its warm welcome and cold washes but unmistakable signs, in brick and concrete of "all mod cons" were there for all to see. So far only up to floor level, yet there is promise of less spartan ablutions at this justifiably popular hostel under the shadow of the Long Mynd.

Next morning was showery but between the damp patches bright sunshine lit up the scene showing to perfection great masses of golden broom on the hillsides and cottage gardens gay with colour.

My route was to Lydham then to see the hounds at Bishop's Castle Kennels before turning for Lydbury North, Basford and Craven Arms where a roadside cafe put on a welcome morning coffee.

After a glance at Stokesay Castle it was right turn into the narrow winding and climbing lane over Brandhill and so to Clunton and Leintwardine (Bravonium of Roman times) on the swift flowing Teme.

Alex had laid his head in Ludlow and had spent the morning in quiet lanes to Wigmore before turning north for our meeting.

An excellent lunch put us in good heart for the afternoon which we planned to spend searching for relics of the old Bishops Castle - Craven Arms railway which finally closed down, after a profitless existence, in 1935.

It was fortunate that the Editor was armed with an ancient "Barts" sheet of Shropshire printed when the line was still in existence and so it was that after wandering through Clungunford Broome and Aston-on-Clun we worked round to Little Brampton, turned for Kempton and so to Horderley and Plowden with unmistakeable signs of the old line and here and there the stonework of long lost bridges which had carried the railway over numerous byroads.

Now it was time to turn our wheels towards Bridges where we were to spend the night. A sign post pointing to Hardwick tempted us on to a narrow track along a river bank and a chance meeting with a former Rector of Munslow, now into his eighties and living in retirement at Ludlow. The old man had come to this quiet curve in the river to watch the martins skim the surface of the water and dart to the bank and gather mud for their nests.

Almost unnoticed big storm clouds had gathered over the Long Mynd which looked black and forbidding so that we did not dispute

its claim to be the oldest (equal with Malvern) rock in Britain.

Two or three miles from Bridges we started to sprint and eye-balls were out like organ stops as we dashed into the cycle shed just in time to hear what sounded like a convoy of tractors drive over the corrugated iron roof.

It was fully ten minutes before we could risk the few yards to the hostel door, then in a lull we made a dash for it. We were home and dry!

Next morning bright sunshine greeted us and after breakfast we parted at the hostel. After attention to one of his now famous punctures, Alex was to ride over to Llanfyllin leaving the scribe to make his way to Merseyside.

The climb up past Ratlinghope Post Office was soon done and from the top a twisting lane led through Habberley to Pontesbury, then via Asterley to Westbury on our old "100" course, over to Halfway House and down to Alberbury and a merry gallop for Llandrinio Bridge and coffee at the bungalow tea rooms, noting that high up on Breidden Hill the Rodney pillar was surrounded by scaffolding for its periodic maintenance and face lift.

Four Crosses, Llyncllys, a couple of miles up the Tanat Valley and the climb up to Trefonen filled the remainder of the morning before the dash downhill into Oswestry for lunch.

A lazy afternoon was spent covering the few miles through St.Martins, Bangor, Worthenbury and Shocklach before tea at Holt and so to Chester and Two Mills for the usual Wednesday evening meet, then home, well satisfied with a grand week-end's wandering in Anfieldland.

K.W.B.

### CLUB RUNS

(In brief)

Goostrey - 6th May 1967

Rex and Edna Austin, Stan Bradley and son, together with Allan Littlemore, made up the A.B.C. party competing for space and attention with a contingent of Manchester Wheelers, some Manchester ladies under Lillian Heald and a miscellaneous group which included

Les Heald, Arthur Word and Brian Kitson.

On the same afternoon Jeff Mills was at Bangor and John Moss pounded round Wavertree Playground in a circuit race.

#### Five Crosses - 13th May 1967

Only Allan Littlemore, John Farrington and David Birchall on parade, but others known to be busy early next morning with time trials.

#### Two Mills - 20th May 1967

President Blotto, John Leece, Len Hill, Frank Perkins, Jeff Mills, Eric Reeves and Richard Firth out for tea.

A W.C.T.T.C.A. "50" next morning occupying a few more.

#### Kelsall (etc.) 3rd June 1967

Allan Littlemore went to Kelsall but saw no other Anfielders. Earlier he and other members including Rex Austin, Syd del Banco, Len Hill, Jeff Mills and Ira Thomas had been out helping Ruth Williams with her successful attempt on the W.R.R.A. Birkenhead /Ludlow/Birkenhead record.

Next morning a Club "25" on D.6 ("Round the Houses") brought David Jones, John Moss and Phil Whitehead under starter's orders and the President, Editor, Secretary, V.P.Hill, David Birchall and Geoff Sharp out on the course. (For result see Racing Notes).

#### Treuddyn and Somerford - 10th June 1967

Jeff Mills, Allan & Marian Littlemore climbed up to the garage cafe at Treuddyn. Allan and Marian went on to Llanarmon for the night and enjoyed a week-end of glorious weather.

Bob and Mrs. Poole met Stan Bradley and son at Somerford for tea.

Next morning Davids Bettaney and Barker were riding in the E.L.W. "50" and Ken Barker was out in support.

#### Tattenhall - 17th June - No report to hand.

#### Bangor-on-Dee & Goostrey - 24th June 1967

Jeff Mills lunched at Bangor's Smithy; Allan Littlemore, Stan

Bradley and Bob Poole joined up for tea at Goostrey and what a wet ride home!

W.C.T.T.C.A. "100". David Bettaney rode while David Birchall, John Moss, David Jones, Keith Orum and Len Hill did the Club job of marshalling.

Isle of Man (Cycling Week - 17th/24th June)

Rex Austin, Frank Perkins, Jeff Mills and Bren Orrell crossed to the Island for the usual week of racing, touring and social activities.

N E W S     I N     B R I E F

In October we revert to the procedure (tried out last year) with lunch fixtures most Saturdays and a near home tea stop such as Two Mills or Parkgate.

The Tints Tour is booked for the 14th-15th September at Llansantffraid and for those unable to join the tour, tea on Saturday at the Jolly Farmer, Frodsham St., Chester.

While diaries are out, please book a run to Halewood on 4th November for the A.G.M. and another to the same venue on 25th November for the Ladies' Night.

On the 11th November, Rex Austin will be giving his illustrated lecture "By cycle from Venice to the Engadine" at the Y.M.C.A. Liverpool under the auspices of the Liverpool D.A. C.T.C. This was not known to the Committee at our last meeting but no doubt it will figure on our fixture list.

Belated news of Sid Carver is that in the spring he was troubled with a damaged sciatic nerve and getting about (or sitting around) was very painful. We hope by now he is really on the mend and able to push a bicycle around.

A note from Eric Bolton, our exile in Canada, concludes with greetings to all and in particular to "any pre-1924 members who knew me".

A lengthy letter from Bill Finn details his tour to and from

the "100 and we expect to find room for the highlights in a later issue. Bill has moved back to 5 Martin Grove, Blackhorse Avenue, Cabra, Dublin 7, and asks members to note this change of address.

The Liverpool Century R.C. staged the 1967 R.T.T.C. Championship "100". Our only representative was David Barker whose 4.26.42 was an excellent ride on a very lumpy course.

Len Hill has had a long letter from Fred Churchill who still rides a bicycle whenever possible. Last year his tour took him to Venice, Austria and here and there in Italy. Fred, who sends greetings to all, gets up north fairly frequently but always mid-week and cannot manage to see us on a run.

Fixtures in October (subject to confirmation) will be:-

- October 2nd: Committee Meeting (Liverpool)
- 7th: Bangor (Lunch) Two Mills (Tea)
- 14th: Chester (Jolly Farmer - Tea)
- 14/15th: Tints Tour.
- 21st: Lloc (Crossways Cafe - Lunch) Parkgate (Tea)
- 28th: Treuddyn (Lunch) Two Mills (Tea).

\* \* \* \* \*



# 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)

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1967

No.713

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## FIXTURES

October 1967

- 2 Committee Meeting - Liverpool.
- 7 BANGOR (Smithy - Lunch) TWO MILLS (Tea)
- 14/15 AUTUMN TINTS WEEK-END - LLANSANTFFRAID (Sun)
- 14 CHESTER (Jolly Farmer Café - Tea)
- 21 LLOC (Crossways Café - Lunch) PARKGATE (Copper Grill  
- Tea)
- 28 TREUDDYN (Garage Café - Lunch) TWO MILLS (Tea)

November 1967

- 4 HALEWOOD. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
- 6 Committee Meeting - Liverpool.
- 11 TWO MILLS: LIVERPOOL D.A., C.T.C. Lantern Lecture -  
Liverpool.
- 18 KELSALL (Oasis Café - Lunch) TWO MILLS (Tea)
- 25 HALEWOOD - LADIES' NIGHT.

## 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.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

\* \* \* \* \*

Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 6th NOVEMBER 1967

COMMITTEE NOTESApplication for Membership:

John Christopher Austin, 30 West Park Drive, Leeds 16.  
Proposed by Harry Austin, seconded by Jeff Mills.

Subscriptions. At the close of the Club year, thirty members had not met their obligations in the matter of subscriptions. It is quite impossible for any organisation to function when 25% or thereabouts of its membership are in arrears and the laggards (who will have found a reminder from the Treasurer in this issue) are asked to take immediate steps towards getting the Anfield current account out of the red.

The C.T.C., Liverpool D.A. Lantern Lecture "By Cycle from Venice to the Engadine" will be given by Rex Austin in the Y.M.C.A. Mount Pleasant, Liverpool on the evening of Saturday 11th November. Tickets are available from Ossie Dover, among others, and probably the Secretary will have a few.

This gathering of Merseyside cyclists will be our run for the day but a call at Two Mills for morning coffee or afternoon tea will also constitute a run.

RACING NOTES

Since the last report performances on the road have included the following:-

- 10.7.67 Clifton C.C. "50". J.Whelan 2.3.46  
 23.7.67 Birkenhead Vics. C.C. "25"  
 J.Whelan 58.22; D.W.Barker 1.0.57; D.Bettaney 1.3.13;  
 J.Moss 1.4.46; D.Jones 1.9.44.  
 30.7.67 Phoenix C.C. "25". J.Whelan 59.12 (2nd); D.Jones 1.10.0.  
 6.8.67 Rockingham C.C. "25". J.Whelan 57.57.  
 13.8.67 Lyme R.C. "25". J.Whelan 58.15.  
 " Merseyside Whlrs. "50". D.Bettaney 2.7.28  
 " Warrington R.C. "50". D.W.Barker 2.10.45  
 19.8.67 Apollo Whlrs. "25". D.W.Barker 1.1.10 (3rd)  
 27.8.67 Port Sunlight Whlrs. "25".  
 J.Whelan 58.49; D.Bettaney 1.0.52; J.Moss 1.7.22.  
 28.8.67 Doncaster Whlrs. "50". D.W.Barker 2.8.56  
 " Tom Simpson Memorial "25". J.Whelan 58.32.

## RACING NOTES - Contd.

- 2.9.67 Club "25". J.Whelan 1.0.32; D.W.Barker 1.3.48;  
D.Jones 1.12.53.
- 10.9.67 Liverpool Eagle R.C. "50". D.Bettaney 2.8.21  
" Seamons C.C. "25". J.Whelan 57.26; D.Barker 1.0.41;  
J.Moss 1.3.20.  
" Southport R.C. "25". D.Jones 1.10.36.
- 17.9.67 Chester R.C. "50". D.Bettaney 2.7.26  
" Crewe Clarion C.C. "25". J.Moss 1.4.53; J.P.Jones 1.9.5.
- 24.9.67 W.C.T.T.C.A. "25". J.Whelan 59.13; D.W.Barker 1.3.30;  
D.Jones 1.11.47.

HATCHMERE - 8th July 1967 (PHOTOGRAPH RUN)

Pleasurable anticipation of a full day in the saddle was tinged with forebodings for Junior proposed to come over from Manchester with the intention of attending the run. A U.A.U "100" next day however led him to invest in Home Rails and it was with relief that the Editor set off, without a pacemaker, for the far outposts of the Anfield empire. After a few chores around house and garden had been disposed of a latish start and a very early lunch in Chester left a sizeable piece of the afternoon for wandering.

The Dee Valley as far as Churton was followed by lanes to Tilston, then by devious ways to Tattenhall where the milk-bar provided a welcome "cuppa".

An old and battered 'Barts' together with a good deal of trial and error combined to get the scribe as far as Kelsall and into the Forest for the final undulating miles to the appointed venue.

So far so good but the Photograph Run by old Anfield standards was not a howling success. Only ten members managed to turn out (others no doubt were racing next day) and we were glad to add to that score Mrs. Austin, Mrs. Rogerson and John and Mrs. Pardoe.

Rex Austin brought his box of tricks and we are indebted to him for taking the photo and for providing all participants with an excellent record of the day.

In the absence of the President (in bed following an accident while on holiday) Rex was pushed into the place of honour while clustered around him were Len Hill, Jeff Mills, Ken Barker, Frank Perkins, David Barker, David Birchall, Allan Rogerson, Allen

Littlemore, and last, but by no means least, Baron Birkby of Dolwyddelan.

The homeward trip was into a steady and persistent wind but in due course Frank Perkins and the writer arrived, surprisingly little the worse for wear, at the top of the Sych, there to part company and drift homewards to bed.

K.W.B.

LLANARMON - 15th July 1967 & The Championship "100" - 16th July.

Only Allan Littlemore managed to slog up to the Raven for tea and perhaps this was not surprising for next day the R.T.T.C. Championship "100" was to be run off in Cheshire with an excursion into Flintshire and we had David Barker among the starters, a number of other members on the list of officials and still more out to cheer.

It was quite a pleasant morning as timekeeper Rex Austin set about despatching a field of 75 entrants with a special word for the only Anfielder on the card at No.19. Jeff Mills took a check at 50 miles and five miles from the finish the President, Len Hill and Frank Perkins turned the riders for the last gallop to the finish while a quarter of a mile away Ken Barker and Allan Littlemore had a marshalling job at Clotton cross-roads.

The race turned out to be a tremendous battle between Watson and Smith of the Clifton C.C. (York) with Keith Stacey unlucky to puncture with only half a mile to cover and still finishing 3rd, a mere 38 seconds behind the winner.

David Barker kept the Anfield flag flying with a very good 4.26.42 (four minutes slower and too soon after his winning ride in the U.A.U. Championship "100" a week earlier). This put him in nineteenth place,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  minutes faster than the third man of the Clifton C.C. all conquering team. Out on the course in addition to those already mentioned were David Birchall, John Moss, David Jones, David Bettaney and Peter Jones.

THE MERSEY ROADS CLUB "24" - 22nd/23rd July 1967

The party of Anfielders under Len Hill who ministered to the needs of the riders at Nant Hall were by no means the only members out on the course. The following list, which does not claim to cover all who may have been out, is taken from the official job sheet.

Allan Littlemore was at Alpraham Green and later at Hadfield

Hall, Ken Barker at Fourways Island and Shotwick fork; Ira Thomas looked after the time check at Battlefield Corner while Rex Austin and Jeff Mills were on the Circuit as Timekeepers.

For the first time in any "24" the names of three women figured on the card although to meet the letter, if not the spirit, of R.T.T.C. regulations they were technically riding in another event.

#### NANT HALL - 22nd/23rd July 1967

The gang, under Len Hill, duly gathered at Nant Hall Hotel, and after a quiet drink, moved on to Prestatyn for a supper of fish and chips. Then half an hours' snooze in the car and so back to our point for the real business.

Vivienne Hill and her friend Pauline sorted things out while the younger blokes, John Farrington, Geoff Sharp and David Barker, combined their respective talents towards correcting a faulty burner on the Primus.

It was soon working properly, and water was put on to boil, the Urn set up, the "makings" put inside and shortly the brew was ready for the competitors. Our expert "Tea Tasters" plus sundry course marshals, the chief timekeeper and other visitors, passed it O.K. and I think most riders did so when sampling later.

A late arrival, John Thompson, who had hitch-hiked from Heswall (stout fellow) took over the job of telling the riders to "dig in" but stop on return after turning further up the road.

The night was ideal, warm with a bright full moon, good for competitors and helpers alike.

Soon our job was done, the gear packed away, and the spot cleared of litter. The checker (Jeff Mills) was collected and then away to Two Mills to drop Jeff and continue home to our beds with many a thought for the riders with a further 12 hours still before them. Others not mentioned were Wally Rees, Dave Bettaney, Frank Perkins and Les Bennett.

#### C L U B   R U N S

##### July 2nd.

Inter Club "25" with Birkenhead Victoria C.C., in addition to riders (John Whelan, David Barker and David Bettaney) we had Len Hill, Ken Barker and Richard Firth out on the course.

Contd...

August 12th. Five Crosses.

Allan Littlemore and Ken Barker out but times did not coincide and they failed to meet. Allan later joined the Weaver Valley C.C. on their All Night ride to Pen-y-bont fawr.

August 19th. Llanarmon.

The President, Len Hill, Peter Jones and John Farrington climbed to the Raven on a bright and hot summer's day. On the same afternoon Rex Austin and Allan Littlemore went to Goostrey and joined up for tea with Les Heald, Stan Livingstone and others after a local "25" which Rex had timed.

August 26th/27th. York Rally

A great gathering of club folk including Anfielders Syd Carver (from Hull) Alex Beaton (from Dundee) and Allan Littlemore, John Parr had hoped to attend.

August 26th. Two Mills.

A pleasant ride through the lanes, congenial companions at tea and a nice easy ride home; these are the ideal conditions for a club run and so it was on this occasion for Len Hill, John Leece, Jeff Mills, Frank Perkins, Eric Reeves and John Whelan.

September 2nd. Club "25"

Five names were on the card; one had crashed in training and strained a shoulder, another was working earlier and D.N.S., leaving John Whelan to fight a nasty wind and return to the time-keeper in 1.0.32; David Barker took 1.3.48 and David Jones clocked a creditable 1.12.53 on what was really quite a hard afternoon.

If riders were scarce, helpers were plentiful and it was grand to see Laurie Pendlebury out again on a flying visit up North from his new home in Pembrokeshire. Then in no particular order there were Simon Jones, Frank Marriott, Jeff Mills, David Bettaney, Allan Littlemore, Allan Rogerson, Les Bennett, Peter Jones and Ken Barker.

WHERE DOES ALL THE WATER GO? - ask Bill Finn

Hope was reborn after crossing the Tern at Crudgington. The rain had ceased! The Mullah was at Grindley Brook, he provided a tempting variety of food, served hot; Turner was waiter, valet and mechanic. One fed and was simultaneously fitted-out with a snug

back and breastplate of brown paper which eased the discomfort of sodden clothes and tempered the wind which tortured the goose-flesh. As one prepared to remount C.H.T. brushed a mixture of oil and blacklead on to the grumbling chain. Peace to his ashes!

It was a bad day reminiscent of some early accounts of that erstwhile classic fixture but, in the absence of an abrasive compound called mud, we fared better than the stalwarts of old. The drip-dry process was not unduly retarded. The egghead knew all along that water finds its own level by seepage into the shoes; when foot-comfort was restored he also knew that he was down to racing-weight and academic advantage was pressed home with progressive acceleration. R.P.M. was as Greek to the bonehead, he plodded stolidly onwards savouring the exquisite misery of it all. The bonehead cannot win!

This was a three-tier day with three main ingredients. Eight hours of sultry, stifling calm which induced a yearning for a refreshing shower. It rained steadily for the next eight hours. A stocky, irrepressible Liverpoolian enlivened the proceedings somewhat; from dawn to dusk all and sundry were cheerfully informed of a tyre-changing sideline; two, three, five, seven, eight! Hunt did a good ride nevertheless and his Anfieldland record of eight punctures in one day still stands despite recent unpremeditated attack. The third moiety was cool and overcast until time was called. A silver was the guerdon but oddly enough, the memory of that bridge-crossing was cherished too; it marked the shining hour. The treadmill was spirited away and the kind fairy restored me to the saddle of my own fleet steed. Out of coma I came, fully alive, to explode like a rocket up to fourteens!

As ever, belief in the wiles of wee-folk gives way to mature appreciation of natural phenomena. So, a springtime occasion will give assurance that ancient arches still gauge the tribute of strip-ling Tern to the winding Severn. While water runs and sedgegrass grows by the reedy marge the parapet of a lichened bridge will provide a layby for a bicycle. In dell or dale an empty saddle will indicate a relaxing interlude by rippling rill or brimming river. The truant deserts the highway for the solitude of a remote river-crossing. Far from any hostelry he may indulge in heady stimulant and wonder where all the water comes from; what gullet does it scour, which rugged ravine gorges it to pass life-giving lymph down the green vale? His flowing tide of thought may even carry him down to Gloucester and the Severn Sea.

Practically all Salop water comes from the rainfall of its own hills. Severn, Vyrnwy and Teme, from sources without the shire,

contribute their share. Dee and Mersey carry a little of the rainfall into Liverpool Bay while a considerable area of the south sheds its waters into the Teme. All the rest runs into the Severn or its tributaries completely contained within the county.

Temperate toppers who prefer the limpid tippie and puritans who merely bathe in the stuff may, possibly, appreciate the steep, spectacular corrugations which form the watersheds of Shropshire. But if there be any weakling Anfielder who thinks Salop cycling is hard work he ought only to ride from north to south and vice versa. Even the longest Shropshire wet day brings compensation and intellectual diversion: ample reward for the peculiar type!

#### N E W S   I N   B R I E F

Congratulations to David & Irene Bennett on the safe arrival of a son.

It seems an age since the President went holidaying in Scotland and had a nasty fall while viewing the lighthouse at Port Patrick. After a day or so in bed at the hotel Mrs. Blotto managed to get him home (a near 300 mile drive) to recover in peace, and members will be glad to know that he is now fully recovered. As noted elsewhere he was in bed at the time of the Photo Run and did the check at the last turn in the Championship "100" with great difficulty.

Les Bennett called on Arthur Birkby recently and found him fit and well at his Dolwyddelan hide-out. Arthur sends his regards to all

Rigby Band had a few days off in September and during a tourlet covering parts of Essex, Sussex and the Thames Valley he managed to look up Norman Turvey who was fit and well and still enjoying a morning's cycling two or three times each week. Just after returning home Rigby was cycling back to the Mill one afternoon when he met Jeff Mills returning from a tour of the New Forest.

Via Johnny Williams we hear that Mersey Roader Gilbert Sutcliffe while on a tour in Scotland saw Jack Spackman (N.R.C.C.) and our own Alex Beaton at the start of Pete Duncan Scottish 24 hours event ride.

A note from Sid Carver tells of a weeks' holiday in September spent in Jersey where he spent three afternoons with Bert Lloyd. Sid says "we waited a bit but no-one else turned up and we hereby claim 3 club runs!" His back is still very troublesome and prevented him making a trip to the Wirral this year but he is hoping for an early improvement, though a wedding (his daughter's) next year will prevent him coming over for the "100".

Fixtures for the early part of December will probably be:-

December 2nd/3rd	Y.H.A. weekend.
" 2nd	Pontblyddyn (Lunch) Parkgate (Tea)
" 4th	Committee Meeting - Liverpool.
" 9th	Lloc (Crossways Cafe + Lunch) Heswall (Tea).

The usual pre-Christmas slide show at Two Mills, a Boxing Day run to Halewood and a coffee morning with the President and Vice Presidents are being arranged.



# ANFIELD CIRCULAR

JOURNAL OF THE ANFIELD BICYCLE CLUB (FORMED MARCH 1879)

President: SYDNEY del BANCO

Vice Presidents: L. J. HILL & F. PERKINS

Captain: A. L. LITTLEMORE

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

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NOVEMBER 1967

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## FIXTURES

December 1967

- 2 TREUDDYN (Garage Café - Lunch) PARKGATE (Copper Grill)  
& GOOSTREY (Tea)
- 4 Committee Meeting (Liverpool)
- 9 BANGOR (Smithy - Lunch) TWO MILLS (Tea)  
Y.H.A. Week-end (Shrewsbury) See John Moss.
- 16 TWO MILLS (Tea & Slide Show)
- 23 TWO MILLS (Coffee - 10.30 a.m. - Noon)
- 26 HALEWOOD (Derby Arms) Lunch 1.00 p.m.
- 30 KELSALL (Windy Ridge Café - Lunch) Two Mills (Tea)

January 1968

- 6 TWO MILLS (Committee Meeting 3.30 p.m.) - GOOSTREY  
SOMERFORD (Lunch)
- 13 BARTON (Garage Café - Lunch) PARKGATE (Copper Grill - Tea)
- 20 KELSALL (Windy Ridge - Lunch) TWO MILLS (Tea)
- 27 TREUDDYN (Lunch) TWO MILLS (Tea). KNUTSFORD (Heath 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, J.H. Mills,  
58 Townsend Avenue, West Derby, Liverpool 11.

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

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Closing date for next issue - MONDAY, 4th DECEMBER 1967

COMMITTEE NOTICES

Commencing in January, Committee Meetings will be held in the Wirral (probably at Two Mills) on Saturdays. This is an experiment in the first instance, but we hope it will prove both beneficial and permanent.

New Member elected:- John C. Austin, 30 West Park Drive, Leeds 6.

Application for Cadet Membership:

Peter Duncan Bradley, 10 Mentone Avenue, Heaton Moor, Stockport, Cheshire. Proposed by S.N.Bradley. Seconded by K.W.Barker.

Change of address:

Guy Pullan, 37 Lynas Gardens, Cressington, Liverpool 19.

The Annual General Meeting

A report of the proceedings together with a list of officers and committee members will be found in this issue.

Members interested in a Y.H.A. weekend (Shrewsbury Hostel) over 9th/10th December, should contact John Moss immediately.

Lunch is being arranged at the Derby Arms Hotel, Halewood, on Boxing Day and members wishing to book should contact Jeff Mills as soon as possible.

IN MEMORIAMSydney Capener

We record with regret the passing of the veteran President of the Speedwell Bicycle Club, Syd Capener, who died on November 6th, a mere three days before his ninety-fifth birthday. Rex Austin represented the Club at the funeral south of Birmingham, where a great assembly of cyclists gathered to say their last farewell to one who was respected and admired by all who knew him.

Syd Capener had retained all his faculties until his last - and only - illness and was particularly noteworthy for his facility in finding common ground with all those whom he met, whether they

be old or young. In spite of his great age he refused to live in the past, but was always looking forward with joyous anticipation to the next event in his cycling calendar.

We extend our deep sympathy to his widow, herself only a few months younger than Syd, to his son, whose devotion to his father is well known to all who know him and to all the members of the Speedwell Bicycle Club, who have lost not only a President - but a friend.

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The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at the Derby Arms Hotel,  
Halewood on Saturday, 4th November 1967

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Present:- The President S.del Banco in the Chair together with K.W.Barker, D.W.Barker, D.Bettaney, A.E.C.Birkby, S.Bradley, D.D.Birchall, H.G.Buckley, W.G.Connor, J.Farrington, J.France, A.Howarth, L.J.Hill, D.Jones, A.L.Littlemore, F.E.Marriott, J.H.Mills, J.Moss, K.Orum, E.G.Pullan, F.Perkins, J.Whelan & P.Williamson.

Apologies for absence from 10 members were received.

Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed.

#### Reports.

The Hon. Secretary read his report for the year noting another drop in total attendances, a problem which requires urgent consideration and attention. Membership stands at 126, comprising 6 Life Members, 79 Full and 27 Honorary Members and 14 Cadets. The top attendance figures were, J.Mills 52, A.L.Littlemore 45, D.Bettaney 37, J.Whelan 36, D.W.Barker 33, S.del Banco 32, J.W.Moss 27, K.W.Barker 25, L.Hill 24, R.J.Austin and D.D.Birchall 23, D.G.Jones 22.

Highlights of the season once again were the Birthday Run, the Ladies' Night, the "100" week-end and the Autumn Tints Tour.

The report was adopted and the best thanks of the Club were accorded to the Secretary for all his work for the Club.

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The most disturbing feature of the Hon. Treasurer's report was the disclosure that some thirty members were in arrears when the accounts should have closed on the 30th September. Even an amount, included as an "asset" of nearly £40 for "outstanding subs - presumed good" left an unrealistic balance but it was apparent that we were in or very near the "red" on the year's working. We would appeal to those members who are in arrears and who have not so far heeded the special letter which they received last month to pay up immediately.

John Whelan, a most modest and unassuming Racing Secretary, tried hard to minimise his own performances but it was apparent that of the small and gallant band who are keeping the name 'Anfield' to the fore, he is the leading light with a long string of under the hour "twentyfives" to his credit (including a new Club record). David Barker had ridden well over a mixed bag of distances, among his best rides being a 4.22 "100" when he won the U.A.U. Championship (and clinched first place in the Universities' B.A.R. Competition) followed only a week later by a 4.26 for 19th place in the R.T.T.C. Championship "100". David Bettaney had also mixed it to good effect and his rides included a new club record at 30 miles. David Jones, Phil Whitehead, Allen Rogerson and Peter Jones had suffered in one or more events during the season and the only Standard won was by John Moss who reached the Silver level at 25 miles.

The election of officers and Committee followed with Percy Williamson in the Chair just long enough for Syd del Banco to be unanimously and enthusiastically re-elected President.

The remaining places were filled as follows:-

Vice Presidents:	Frank Perkins & L.Hill
Secretary/Treasurer:	J.H.Mills
Captain:	A.L.Littlemore
Vice Captains:	D.Bettaney & D.W.Barker
Racing Secretary:	J.Whelan
Open "100" Secretary:	A.Howarth
Open "100" Chief Marshall:	L.J.Hill
Editor - Monthly Circular:	K.W.Barker
Committee Members:	The Officers and L.J.Bennett, J.Farrington, A.Rogerson, D.Jones, G.Sharp, F.E.Marriott, J.W.Moss.
Auditors:	J.M.France & E.G.Pullan.

The arrangements for tours and club races were left to the discretion of the Committee and the meeting approved an increase to 10/- for the entrance fee to the "100".

It was now the turn of the proposed amendments of the Club rules and these had a fairly easy if lengthy passage through the "House". The proposed alteration to Rule 21 (Life Membership) was not accepted and in the case of Prize Rule 6 the first sentence was retained and the remainder of the rule deleted. Apart from these slight modifications the amendments as proposed were adopted.

A vote of thanks to the President for his able and fair conduct of the meeting and to the Officers, Committee and Auditors for their work during the year brought to an end yet another Anfield A.G.M. and as those present prepared for the homeward journey (at little short of ten p.m.!) there would be few to envy David Barker his lone dark ride back to the heart of Manchester.

#### BANGOR IS Y COED - 7th October 1967

It is a great pity that more Anfielders do not take advantage of the five day week and make the most of a fine Saturday like this one. After a brief stop in Bromborough I was away and heading for the Smithy; along the lower road to Upton and then the Chester backroads to come out at the junction of the Whitchurch/Tarvin roads, then through Aldford and Shocklach, forking right at the triangle to pass through Worthenbury and so to Bangor.

As expected, I was the only one there, and I did not linger long, for I was away again heading this time for Pontblyddyn to check on some information, then I went through Mold on the way to The Mills. Already in occupation were S. del Banco, J.Farrington, F.Perkins, J.Leece, D.Bettaney, D.G.Jones, A.Littlemore, J.E.Reeves and J.W.Moss.

After a brief stop I was away again accompanied now by Syd for a gentle amble home through Willaston.

#### LLOC - 21st October 1967

On this Saturday morning I had arranged to meet John Farrington at the Mills, and soon after 11 we were away down Woodbank Lane for Queensferry and Mold. Although the traffic was not very heavy I am always glad when I have reached Mold and am able to follow

the Denbigh road for which I have a great liking. If anything, the traffic seemed heavier than usual and I was glad when we started the climb to Caerwys and on to the Crossways Cafe. No other members joined us, so we set off towards Llanassa and after reaching this village we turned right and joined the coast road near Talacre. Here John's rear inner tube went where it should not have done, and we spent some time trying to rectify it. Eventually I gave John a tube which had a hole in it; this was mended and we made our way to the Mills for a brief stop before the last few miles to home.

#### LLANSANTFFRAID (Tints Tour) - 14th/15th October 1967

We hope to have a report of this fixture for our next issue. Apparently there was a full house at the "Sun" and the week-end proved a great success.

#### TREUDDYN - 28th October 1967

Again John and I arranged to meet at the Mills, although on this occasion conditions were not as pleasant as the previous week. However, with "nothing ventured nothing gained" as our motto we set off, down to Woodbank on to Queensferry, then left through to Sandycroft, Broughton and Kinnerton. Now we turned for Shordley and although it started to rain a little we carried on hoping for the best and shortly our confidence was rewarded. The road through Hope, Caergwrle and Cefn-y-Bedd, brought us to the Ffrith Valley and up to Treuddyn which was reached without any more wet stuff. It was apparent that our good fortune would not last and soon after we had ordered our meal the heavens opened. It was obvious that it would rain for some time, so we bowed to the inevitable, caped up, and set off again, climbing a little more before turning right at the cross roads towards Llanarmon. At this stage conditions were very wintry and it was with relief that we stopped free-wheeling and were able to get our circulation going. By-passing Llanarmon we joined the Mold/Ruthin road, turned right through Llanferres for Loggerheads, then left to Waen and the drop down towards Mold, before heading for Soughton and Northop. By this time conditions had improved a little and we were able to enjoy our ride to Two Mills where, after a stop, our ways parted.

J.H.M.

TWO MILLS - 28th October 1967

In addition to the energetic ones (see previous page) who scaled the dizzy heights to Treuddyn, a few more managed (without oxygen) to keep on the plain and reach the always hospitable "Eureka" for tea.

President del Banco took the chair and in support were Eric Reeves, Keith Orum, John Moss, David Bettaney and Allan Littlemore.

Next morning Rex Austin was starting the riders in the R.T.T.C. National Championship Hill Climb and David Barker was out busy with a camera.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Congratulations and very best wishes to Guy Pullan who was married recently and is now living in a flat at Grassendale.

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Among those who have written to the Treasurer recently and sent greetings to the Clan are Walter Thorpe and Tommy Sherman who confesses to being the only one in the family without a bicycle (shame!) at least borrows his wife's R.S.W. occasionally to fetch eggs from a nearby farm. Tommy sends regards to all mentioning in particular all the "old gentlemen who amaze me by that obvious energy - Frank Perkins, Eric Reeves, Len Hill, Ken Barker etc."

\* \* \* \* \*

The lynx-eyed Johnny Williams spotted last month's mistake and points out that the M.R.C. "24" of 1967 was not the first to have a lady riding. The North Road C.C. history gives the name of a lady tricyclist who started but D.N.F. in one of their events donkeys' years ago.

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The passing of "Old Cap", President of the Speedwell, is a great loss to cycling generally and the famous Midland Club in particular for he was a great character with a fund of knowledge

## NEWS IN BRIEF - Contd.

covering an amazing stretch of time. It is not given to every man to retain his faculties and zest for life for twentyfive years beyond the usually accepted allotted span.

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Allan Littlemore with Marian had a fortnight touring in the Isle of Man in the latish Autumn and found it excellent - but the trip back to the mainland proved to be rather rough.

Allan has handed over his N.W.T.A. duties to Andy Ovenall after some 32 years of service.

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Rumour has it that the dual-carriageway bit of the Top Road (Two Mills to Windle Hill) is to open shortly and may in fact be in use by the time these lines are in print.

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There is a story (though we cannot vouch for its accuracy) that when Barbara Castle fainted while telling the House of Commons how successful her breathalysers had been, George rushed over and gave her the kiss of life and she turned bright green.

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News from Leeds is that Harry Austin has sold up the shop and hopes from now on to be a bit more free to get over our way occasionally.

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