



THE WHEELER

SPRING / SUMMER 05



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CLUB MEETINGS ALDERSLEY STADIUM WED 7.30 PM.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ALAN COOPER
ANDY WHITEHOUSE
JOHN MURPHY
RON ASPEY

JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE OLIVER KYTE
UNDER FIFTEENS JESSICA POTTS

COMMITTEE MEETINGS EVERY 2nd MONDAY IN MONTH.
VENUE THE SWAN COMPTON 7.45.

WELCOME TO 2005 (A BIT LATE)

It's great to see the **spring flowers** coming up, although the **lawns** are too. Still it's **pleasant** to note the **lengthening** days heralding another **SPRING/SUMMER season** on the **bike**.

I expect you are all getting fit, with all these weekend training rides. **The president and I** would love to join you, but after our **Thursday escapades** with the **Geriatrics**, we need the rest.

Welcome to all new members to the **Wheelers `Family`**. I hope you continue to enjoy the activities as I have over the past half century. We have about **110 paid up members** to date with a few more who have yet to **renew** their **subscriptions**. It's nice to see how many **family members** we have, sometimes in the past as many as **three generations**. But that's another story.

IT'S A BOY The latest addition to the `family` is **Andreas and Kasia Greiner`s baby boy Carl** who is now the **youngest club member**. Also we have **Alaster Carr**, whose great uncle is life member **91 years old Fred Nicholds**. **Alister** is dead keen to start time trialing. He has a reputation to keep up to, as **Fred** is out most weeks getting the **miles in**.

Other Newcomers joining us lately are **Paul Preston, Paul Roberts, Paul Smith & Lee Smith and Andrew O`Hare and partner Amanda Grundy**.

I understand **Andrew** rides **17 miles** to work along the Birmingham New Road every day, **15 minutes quicker** than in his car, he deserves a **medal..**

POP DID IT AGAIN

Robin Kyte won the club roller racing competition for the **ninth time** after a **naïlbiting** finish from **Dave Singleton**, a repeat of last years final.

Angela Pike improved her time to become ladies champion again. **Oliver Kyte** won the junior title (**watch out Dad**).

CYCLO CROSS

Dave Cunningham`s, merry men & ladies did a first class job in **organising and marshalling** the club`s annual event. It was a beautiful and clear day, if rather cold. Run over a **tougher course**, it certainly made the riders **sweat**.

Our best finisher was **Craig Ansell** in the **senior event** who resplendent in the new **Fred Williams/W`ton Wheelers jersey** put up a terrific fight to finish **5th**. He is getting back nicely into form after a year`s lay off.

Stuart Jones finished **4th junior** and **Rob Burns (jun)** finished **2nd** in the **youth event**

CHAMPION

Rob Burns (jun) has now been crowned **British Schools C.A. Midlands Champion** after a **gruelling race at Redditch**.

Unfortunately two of our colleagues have passed away recently, **Horace Smith** and **Ralph Jones**.

Ralph worked very hard with **Percy Stallard** to introduce **road racing** to this country and visited **UCI** meetings in **France** many times, to argue our case.

Horace helped out a great deal in the club, especially in time trials and the Cycle track where he was **invaluable** as a coach.

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THE FESTIVE SEASON went off well, with the usual Christmas morning appetizer ride which was led by Robin in fancy dress, stopping at various places for sherry and mincepies before calling in our favourite pub, The Hollybush at Epstree. Here they met other club members before wending their weary way home for lunch

Boxing Day saw Oliver taking an invigorating ride over Cannock Chase where they stopped at the café at Springslade Lodge for hot drinks.

Newyears Day Walk

Thirty of us turned up for quite an enjoyable walk via Beckbury, Ackleton, and Badger Dingle. I did think of dropping in to see Dave Cunningham, only he might have roped us in for a bit if bricklaying. Anyway we stopped at The Seven Stars where the landlord provided us with some welcome hot soup.

THE ANNUAL PRIZE GIVING.

Held at the Pigot Arms, Pattingham a good night was had by all. The chief guest was Gary Palmer of British Cycling who kindly presented the prizes. Dave (The Boot) Hill, did an excellent job of entertaining us, though try as he might, he could not get people up dancing, till the last waltz was played and the Three Ronnies got up with their spouses and performed. What happened to the "Rhinstone Cowboy"? It was a well organised event by young Oliver Kyte who put a lot of effort into it. (*Perhaps some dancing lessons could be introduced into the club, it might increase the membership?*)

THE CLUBROOM . Key behind the bar.(JUST AASK)

We are now allowed to open the clubroom from 7.30pm and have had some interesting evenings lately.

Stuart Perry gave us a remarkable slide show covering the journey back home with his father Dave who joined him in Greece on completion of working there for three years.

Maintenance & roadside repairs demonstration by Pete Harthill and Terry Jones proved very informative and I am sure it will be invaluable in the future when broken down out in the Welsh mountains or elsewhere.

A well attended talk by Garry Palmer of British Cycling showed us an insight into sports science as applied to bike riding.

Always worth listening and taking note of are our Chairman's talks on tips and team strategy when training and also taking part in road racing.

I have just read a most interesting book by Tim Hilton. He embraces most aspects of cycling, including in depth, about The Tour, the Classics and the riders, such as Coppi, Bartalli, Reg Harris, up to the present time. not forgetting humble cycling clubs.

I could not put the book down. It is called ONE MORE KILOMETRE AND WE ARE IN THE SHOWERS published by Harper Collins. If you want it from the library, get in the queue now or buy it from Waterstones.

THE CYCLE TRACK is open for training Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8-9.30pm. price £1.20 u/16 and £2.40 seniors. This includes tactical training and mock races

IAN POTTS will be organising THE TWO COUNTIES R.R. on 24th April again and is also waiting police sanction for THE SEVERN VALLEY R.R. ON 24th July. If possible, give him all the help you can.

CLUB ACTIVITIES, INFORMATION & PUBLICITY

Oliver is doing an excellent job with his weekly Email news shot also we have the notice board, the club web site and also Richard Allen, our press secretary with his articles in the Chronicle.

CLUB RUNS

Start from the stadium on Sunday mornings u.o.s.

Experienced at 9.30 am. Approx 50-80 miles.

Younger and inexperienced at 10.00 am. App 30-40 miles at a gentler pace. See notice board for list of leaders & venues.

YOUTH

Rob Murphy has been working hard on the youth programme and has produced a list of events that cover from March 12 to June 25. A few local ones are listed here and the rest may be seen on the notice board or our web site. If you want to compete in any national series events, please contact Rob on robmurph@tiscali.co.uk or by phone so that arrangements can be made for team entry and transportation. For youth training, see CLUB RUNS.

WEST PARK SERIES

Well worth a visit since the paths have been refurbished and the variable course is ideal and safe for youth riders. Start 9am on Saturday mornings. April 16, May 14, June 25, July 16, August 6.

The Midland Youth Tour. To be held during August will include the bank holiday Monday 29th at RAF Cosford. See Rob for details.

TIME TRIALS START AT 7pm 10 & 25s start from Coven . Hilys from Halfpenny Green

JOINT ORGANISERS WTON WHLS & WALSALL RC

19. APRIL	K6/10	10 MILES (2 UP)	W/WHEELERS
26. APRIL ..	..	10 MILES	WALSALL RC
3 MAY	..	..	WRC
10 MAY ..	..	..	WRC
17 MAY ..	..	..	WRC.
24 MAY	K21/22	22MILES HILLY	W/W
31 MAY	K6/10	10 MILES	WRC
7 JUNE	K6/25	25 MILES	WRC
14 JUNE	K21/22	22 MILES HILLY	W/W
21 JUNE	..	..	W/W
28 JUNE	..	..	W/W
5 JULY	K6/25	25 MILES	WRC
12 JULY	K6/10	10 MILES	..
19 JULY	..	..	..
26 JULY	..	..	..
2 AUGUST	..	..	..
9 AUGUST	..	..	..
16 AUGUST	..	..	..
23 AUGUST	..	..	..
TBA (SEPT)	HILL CLIMB	IRONBRIDGE	W/W

I happened to be on "shanks" the other Sunday with Wolverhampton Rambling Club and saw many of our members arriving at the Hollybush after riding the 50 in 4. They all seemed very happy especially with a pint in their hands and the landlady was very pleased to see us all. It was another wonderful day with wall to wall sunshine, though I understand it snowed over Wenlock Edge.

Have a good summer. Sorry if I have missed anybody.
RON/ED