

The Spokesman - Team Cambridge Newsletter

# THE SPOKESMAN TEAM CAMBRIDGE



October 1999

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## Editors Notes

By the time you read this the cycling season will be over. I've quite enjoyed my cycle racing this year, despite not being able to fit in as much training as I would have hoped. Since converting my trailer to take 4 cycles, Steve Laurie, Michael Stanley, Dexter and myself have travelled quite a few miles and had more than our fair share of early Sunday mornings competing in the SPOCO SE series of sporting courses competition. I intend entering this series again next year and would recommend the events for anyone wanting something away from the dual carriage way drag strip courses with a little more ups and downs and some pleasant scenery thrown in.

Michael Stanley has made outstanding progress this year after competing in a commendable number of open events ( even by Tony's standards) and participating in this years Etape du Tour. So much so that Michael has now beaten me in the last club 10 of the season and a 50 open we did a couple of weeks back. I did manage to pull back a couple of minutes to beat him in a 30 at the weekend, but I am suitably inspired to try to get ahead again with some serious winter training.

I managed to catch Tony out with last months newsletter so you will find Tony's race reports spanning over the last 2-3 months. Just to remind everyone I aim to bring out a newsletter every 2 months on the first Monday of Oct,Dec,Feb,Apr,Jun and Aug. Any contributions to the news letter are very welcome especially those in electronic format so I don't have to TYPE!!!

See you out cycling.

Graeme

### Spokesman Articles

If you would like to write an article or race report for the Spokesman then please send me a copy of the article or if in electronic format (either Microsoft Word or save in RTF) email the article to [graeme@cam-cs.demon.co.uk](mailto:graeme@cam-cs.demon.co.uk) or let me have a copy on disk which I will return. Or by post to 4, Mill Road, Waterbeach, Cambridge, CB5 9RQ

## Dates for your Diary

Sunday 10th October 10:30am Hill Climb Barrington

Saturday October 16<sup>th</sup> 1999 7:30pm 'Cheese and Trains Evening'

From Monday November 8th 7:30pm Start Circuit Training with Tony

Monday November 15th 8:30pm Start (Prompt) AGM

## For Sale

No Bargains this issue I'm afraid.

## Annual General Meeting

The annual General Meeting of Team Cambridge will be held on Monday 15th November 1999 at 8:30pm

If you have any items you wish to be added to the Agenda for discussion please let Sue know.

## “Cheese and Trains” Evening

Tony and Sue are Hosting a cheese and trains (Like in Cheese and wine evening but with a demonstration of Tony's model railway thrown in ) at their home on

Saturday October 16<sup>th</sup> 1999 Starting at 7:30pm

The evening will follow the usual format of Bread and cheese etc. provided free; you will be required to bring along your own booze/soft drinks.

Please let Sue know if you will be attending.

Sue Can be contacted on (01223) 440399

## Circuit Training

By Popular demand Tony has kindly offered to run his Circuit Training again throughout this winter.

Starts 7:30pm at the Scout Hut Perne Road

Every Monday Evening From the 8th November 1999

## Race Round Up

### Team Clean 10 17<sup>th</sup> July 1999 E2/10

A nice, if rather windy afternoon saw a good contingent of Team Cambridge riders gathering at six mile bottom social club for the start of this event. Steve Laurie was first off for the club and returned in a very good time of 24-21 in the wind although he was still caught for 3 minutes by Sean Yates who finished with 20-03. He went round the course again later on a tandem with Vic Haines to record exactly the same time.

Andrew Horner was next off for the club and claimed 5<sup>th</sup> place with 21-10. I was next off and pleased with 25-32. Michael Stanley had only returned from riding the Etape du Tour the previous afternoon and found riding a fairly flat 10 miles in 29-39 rather short in comparison. Trevor Avis lost his chain with 2 miles to go and packed. The event was won by Michael Hutchinson who piped Sean Yates by 1 second with 20-02. Other local riders Derek Bailey 24-53, Steve Briggs 23-59, Rachel Horn 25-41, Lol Berman 24-18 and Tony Hornbuckle 25-19.

After the event we all sat drinking tea on the lawn outside the social club in the sun wishing England could be like this rather more often.

### North Bucks RC 50 FIG/50 18<sup>th</sup> July 1999

This was another variant of the A1 based 50 courses which consisted of riding from St. Neots to Alconbury twice. I think it could be quite fast for the right rider on the right day. I was certainly pleased with my time of 2-08-36. There was almost no wind for most of the event for the earlier starters, which included me, until the final leg south when it was getting up a little. It probably made it a bit harder for the late starters but then they had a longer nights sleep to prepare themselves. There was only one other local rider, David Jones who recorded 2-31-33 and no Team Cambridge riders at all. You missed a good morning. I do not know who won. Michael Hutchinson was the only very fast rider on the start sheet but opted not to ride which is most unlike him.

### Mildenhall CC 10 B10/35 24<sup>th</sup> July 1999

There were a lot of smiling faces at the end of this event which had been postponed from its original date in April because of torrential rain. A very nice warm still morning produced a crop of seasons fastest rides. It seemed strange to ride on a Saturday morning but it suited us well as we were going away for the weekend and I could ride this first. It was on the Risby to Kentford course so the slight rising westerly wind also helped the times.

I was the only Team Cambridge rider and finished with 23-38 for my fastest ride this year. Christine Willmets was also on the start sheet for the original event but was unable to ride on the rearranged date. The event was won by Martin Pyne with 20-09 other local riders Paul Taylor 23-09, John Taylor 25-55 and Derrick Baily 23-29

### Ickfield RC 100 F1/100 1<sup>st</sup> August 1999

The almost universal complaint about this event was "oh my feet hurt". Saturday had been hot and the forecast for Sunday was even hotter and so it proved. The thermometer on the north side of our house showed 30°C when we got home and it had got warm very early. Very nice for touring but not so good for riding a 100 Mile TT. There were 4 club members riding this event which must be a record. Chris Willmets was off first for the club. Hotly pursued by Michael Stanley who is still reaping the benefits of the training he did for the Etape du Tour. Chris's bike suffered a loose saddle which allowed Michael to catch her. Fortunately it happened nearly opposite the HQ so she was able to fix it but still lost several minutes. She then set about catching Michael again and finally recorded 5-10-06. Michael was pleased with his 5-12-35 for his first ever 100 and netted 3<sup>rd</sup> Handicap in the process. I was next off and rather concerned about Steve Laurie's capabilities at 100 as he was only 22 minutes behind and has been beating me well this season. I finished with 4-28-55 which I missed my vets standard medal by 46 seconds and Steve was fastest for the club with 4-27-48. The new course description looks very complicated but it is quite rapid although it needs dozens of marshals. The event was won by Peter Smith of the Border City Wheelers, who presumably thought the long trip was worthwhile, as his time was 3-40-22. Stuart Lemanski was the only local ride. He also broke 4Hrs with 3-56-13.

### Letchworth Velo Club 25 F1/25 8<sup>th</sup> August 1999

The first thing Michael Hutchinson said when I saw him was that he had managed a 48-45 for a personal best on the Saturday afternoon. I had got my entry back from that event as many of the places had been reserved for Northampton and District CA members and the event had closed on 58-55 for non-members. Despite this amazing ride he still managed to win again on Sunday morning with a 49-52 which put him 2 minutes clear of the next rider on a day when there was a brisk easterly wind providing hindrance out and back.

During the same pre race discussion I said I would try not to let him catch me but knew it would be a close thing as I was no. 107 and he was 120. I succeeded and he passed me as I wound down after passing the finish time keeper in 1-02-40. I was the only TC rider as Andrew Horner opted not to start. Other local riders were Ian Cammish 55-15 and I am sure there is an interesting story behind Tony Hornbuckle's 1-18-06 but I did not see him to ask.

**Finsbury Park CC 25 F1/25 14<sup>th</sup> August 1999**

The event HQ was at St. Neots Recreation Centre which made a change from the usual Tempsford Village Hall. There was a very nice room for the post race chat but teas had to be obtained from the café in the next room and there certainly was not the same atmosphere.

However, the event had to be ridden first, before the tea. The afternoon was windy with occasional heavy showers I missed the worst one as there was a heavy hail storm which fell on many of the early starters, as they reached the turn. Some of whom apparently sheltered under bridges and hedges. One rider who braved the conditions ended up with weals and bruises on his forearms from the hail stones. The main result of this was a lot of non-finishers in the early part of the field.

Mick Walsh and I were the only club riders as Andrew Horner decided not to start. Both Mick and I crawled round the clover leaf at the start which was very damp and greasy and then had dry roads until Buckden. The north bit of the course was again wet and greasy in places which meant another crawl round the little roundabout at the turn. The delays cost Mick a sub-hour ride as he finished with 1-00-09. I was not quite so frustratingly close and finished in 1-01-59.

The event was won by R Hobson in 51-39. The other local riders were Stuart Lemanski with 52-04, Tony Hornbuckle and Michael Hutchinson did not start and Steve Briggs was in the part of the field were almost nobody finished.

**ECCA 25 B25/38 21<sup>st</sup> August 1999**

A inauspicious appearance to the afternoon was proved to be unfounded and resulted in a string of personal bests. A light northerly wind meant riders were actually blown up the slope on the Bury St. Edmunds bypass but struggled a bit more on the way down it on the return trip.

I was the only TC rider and got to the half way point in 28 minutes so I thought I might actually do a good ride. I turned the computer to time instead of distance with 2 miles to go and found I still had over 6 minutes left to get under the hour. Short of a puncture I could not fail. I did an all time personal of 58-54 so I was well pleased.

Other local riders who were pleased included Chris James with his first sub hour ride of 59-5 and Matt Dicker who also broke the hour for the first time with 59-10. Alan and Kelly Newark had ridden the earlier tandem event and did a personal best of 51-02.

The solo event was won by Ducan Alexander in 49-55. A VERY satisfactory afternoon!!

**Bedfordshire Road CC 25 F1/25 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1999**

A temperature of 9°C and the feeling of being on 'cloud nine' after my ride of the previous afternoon left me and the Cambridge CC riders, who had also done personal bests, trying to see who would go back the least. That dubious honour went to Chris James who only slowed by just over 3 minutes to finish 1-3-00. I went faster than Chris but back by more time to finish in 1-2-59 and Matt Dicker went back to 1-3-38.

Chris Willmets had been off in the earlier ladies event and finished in 1-10-24. I can not write anything about her ride, other than it must have been even colder, as she had gone home by the time I had finished. Other local riders included Nicky Peters 1-4-35, Terry Dickerson in 1-3-28 and Tony Hornbuckle with 1-00-10.

The men's event was won by Paul Dotch in 52-56

**Ely and District 10 B10/1 4<sup>th</sup> September 1999**

A lovely hot afternoon but a brisk easterly wind suggested that fast times were unlikely. Nevertheless there were 5 Team Cambridge members on the start list and many of the other riders were known to us.

Michael Stanley was first off for the club and continued his Steadily improving times with 28-54. Steve Laurie was next off and did another good ride of 25-45 despite professing not to like the heat. Sue Clarke was off next and really tried as she had spotted that there were 2 ladies prizes and she was likely to be second fastest if everyone rode to form. They did so she picked up £5 for her only open event of the year. I was next off and finished with 26-14. Last off for the club was Andrew Horner who despite having packed up for the season, again!! And riding his road bike still managed 22-14.

The event was won by Andy Proffitt, in 2054. The best bit was consuming the very nice Ely cakes on the green outside Witchford Pavilion in the sun. Indeed it was the cakes that decided us to ride this event rather than the other 10 on the E2 which probably also had some TC riders in it. The club is definitely increasing in strength.

**ECCA 25 E72/25 5<sup>th</sup> September 1999** The organiser managed to put Mick Walsh and I off exactly 100 minutes apart so it was a good job we were not travelling together. It was quite misty as Sue and I set off so I hoped the event would not be cancelled. However it quickly cleared up and was obviously going to be a good morning. We had not been there long before Mick, who was off number 18, rushed up to tell me he had done a 57-40. By this time I was getting rather worried as I knew I had to do a good ride and get under the hour although I expected Mick to beat me as he has been doing some fast rides recently. I finally started and it did not feel very fast but I reached the half way point in about 29 minutes so a fast ride was on. I finished in a very pleasing 57-39. I don't know who had the better conditions. By the time I started there was more traffic but there was a little bit more wind too. However we both beat Phil Onions veterans' record so we were both very pleased even though Mick only held it for 100 Minutes. The event was won by Steve China in 49-28.