CHAPTER VIII

AN AUTUMN PERIOD : 1970-1974

After a bumper crop most plants experience a period of internal recovery - a re-organising of their constitution as it were - ready for Spring, and we have previously noted how the 'Solihull Tree' reacted to the climate of the times, in fact these reactions are the essence of our story.

During the above years, the increasing professionalism in all sports, including cycling, witnessed talented young performers setting their sights not on National championships or International selection as final ambitions, but merely as stepping stones to professional careers and who could deny that increasing costs were a contributory factor? To claim to have won a championship of one's country, or better still of the world, gave one more power in attracting a higher income from a sponsor. Any thoughts of the effects of professionalism on one's attitude to competing hardly ever entered the aspirant's mind until much later. Then may be, after a few seasons of being told what, where, when and how, to compete, at first thrilled by the molly-coddling with such impedimenta as equipment, a coach, a masseur, a soigneur, etc., feelings of wishing to be free, or boredom creep in, resulting in dissatisfaction. Still "talented young riders", if not having realised their full potential and not fully realising the causes, yet so losing interest that allied with marriage and maturity they give up their chosen sport and search for alternative

Mick Bennett

employment. Hence so many setting up in the cycle trade. To satisfy a return of the longing to compete they start clamouring for change of rules to allow them to apply for reinstatement as amateurs.

Naturally the Solihull C.C. was influenced by this climate.

In 1970 Mick Bennett was selected to ride the Tour of Bohemia and also for the World Track Championships but was unable to ride the latter although held in England at Leicester due to illness, fortunately recovering in time for the Commonwealth Games at Edinburgh. He did not ride in so many Club events or Open Road Races as he was beginning to specialise on the track, yet managed to come second to Mick Shakespeare in the Club Road Race Championship and earned CYCLING's congratulations for being one of the few trackmen to wear his Club colours. Tony Herraty (58-05) had the momentary glory of beating Mick (58-24) in the Club 25 miles Championship, but dedication was soon to take Mick to stardom, heralded by his choice as one of the STARS in the CYCLIST-STARS Calendar for 1971. Selected again in 1971 he won the Antwerp Amateur 6 day and in 1972 selected for the Tour of Holland and the World Pursuit where he gained a bronze medal then starting a phenomenal sequence of Team Pursuit rides with Ian Hallam (Nottingham Wheelers), Ron Keeble (34th Nomads), Willi Moore (Merseyside Wheelers) and Rik Evans in 1973 when he came second in the SOLIHULL NEWS "Sports Personality" of the Year. The rides of the British team in the 1973 World Team Pursuit was a highlight of our sport, as in a nail-biting final against the previous year's Champion East German team, during which the

lead changed almost every lap, with one lap to go the Germans crashed when fractionally up and the British team were awarded the Gold Medals! However their ingrained sense of sportsmanship made them refuse it and accept the Silver. My, did we feel proud of them as we watched the whole thrilling race on television? Mick went on to ride in the Milk Race, and Commonwealth Games of 1974, winning a Silver Medal in the National 1 km. riding in the finals of the Madison, Pursuit, and 20 km. A crash in the World Team Pursuit quarter finals put this superb team out. Not unexpectedly Mick was awarded Honorary Life Membership.

These individual successes of Mick Bennett were backed up by many other Club efforts of which more later after a look at the administration. All official positions had been filled by 1970 with more younger members coming forward, possibly inspired by Bennett's rise to "Stardom". Of the new 'sap' Bob Powell took over as Secretary, a post he held for two years. Eric Bridgwater, who had discovered the healing effects of cycling, became Time Trial Secretary and Organiser of the Circuit Races, with Roger Storey doing the Club Road Racing Secretary's job and Barry Moss Open R.R. Organiser. Even the struggling Touring side got a secretary, Sid Wood, though sadly he never managed to restore Club runs to their former glories - (an attempt by Eddie Lees, son of the Club's early star, Norman, and a most avid tourist, likewise failed in 1972) and from now on, as in most cycling clubs up and down the country, except for specialist "touring-only" clubs like the C.T.C., Club Runs tended to become quasi training bashes. A tote was still being run by Mick O'Hanlon,

(also discontinued in 1972), with Joan Berry and ever faithful Gladys Newton supervising the kitchen; Mrs Jacqueline Moss distributed the magazine and Alan Richards offered to organise the Cyclo-Cross, but the most pressing problem was the search for a new clubroom, the rent of the Knowle Community Centre having been excessively increased. So the Building Fund Sub-Committee were looking for somewhere to buy like the Packwood Old School while Frank Wells investigated the schoolroom or the Womens' Institute in Catherine-de-Barnes, to rent and Harry Reynolds was contacting a place out Earlswood way in Rumbush Lane.

Although the editor reported a successful year in 1970, increasing printing costs were beginning to cause headaches, only increased profits on the sales of the CYCLING - STARS calendars balancing the accounts, and there were murmurs from certain members which blew up into open hostility to a printed magazine in 1972. An editorial opined that there were two essentials for a good club, one was a Runs Secretary (as one had not been found in 1969 the Birthday Run had been forgotten!), and two was essential for a large club (membership had already reached 100 by May), a club magazine which should be published regularly so that members could be certain of picking it up on clubnights so increasing attendances and saving postages.

Another interesting attempt at innovation to keep up with the times was Graham Kelly's proposal to turn metric by organising a Club 20 km T.T. and an Open 75 km Team T.T., the latter being accepted as one of the trials for the selection of the National team for the forthcoming World Championship 100 km

event, and the Club's display at the Exhibition of Sport at the Civic Hall, Solihull, received the Council's compliment of being the best. Surprisingly, the club tourists won the Birmingham Evening Despatch Mystery Rides Cup for the second year in succession, with the most members taking part, so the 'Solihull Spirit' was still very much alive!

Cyclo-Cross was flourishing with Roger Page third and Mick Shakespeare fourth in the National, the former being selected for the World Championship and Mick first reserve again.

On the organisational side, the 1970 Invitation Scratch 25 saw a fine win by John Tooby (Coventry C.C) in 54-43, unfortunately on a short course due to two telegraph poles having the same number near to the turn, thus Bas Francis the Turn Marshall, himself a previous winner, quite inadvertently turned riders short, much to his sorrow. The Ladies 25 was won by our own Janet Crowther (1-11-58) backed up by Joan Berry, also taking the team award.

In 1971 John Pritchard (Port Talbot Wheelers) won the 33rd event 54-52 (event Record), Ann Horswell (Plymouth R.C.) winning the Ladies, also setting up an event record and first Lady winner 'under the hour' in 59-56, these being on the K16 course on a flat double-carriageway between Lichfield and Derby, which in the following years attracted aspirants after the Competition Record.

So in 1972 the Invitation Scratch 25 was accepted as one of the counting events in the season long Compagnolo Competition run by the

National cycling magazine CYCLING. This resulted in extra prizes and of course larger entries, giving a full field of 120 for the Scratch Invitation event but the Ladies event only got 24 including most of the top class riders. P G Wells (North Bucks R.C) won on a hard day in the disappointing time of 56-25, leading his Club to a team win and the great Beryl Burton, O.B.E. showed her outstanding class by setting up a new Ladies' event record of 57-47 and leading the Morley R.C. to victory. The Solihull C.C. members, Dave Moys 13th in 59-59 and Janet Kelly 1-18-43 and Gladys Newton 1-19-35 bringing up the tail end amongst the girls kept the Red, White and Blue still flying.

These events were the peak of the Club's Time Trial organisation, with every mile marked; spare wheels every five miles; plastic bags to transport riders track suits from the start to the finish, and half-way times as well as final times radioed to the large result board at the Headquarters, where plentiful refreshments were provided for a mood of dissatisfaction with time trials on "float courses" was abroad.

Such courses introduced more luck into the rider's times, some even claimed it was the passing traffic which often caused the fast times recorded, quite ignoring the luck of being in the right 'break' in road racing. Poor prizes compared with those offered in sponsored Road Races was another factor as was the lack of opportunity for International selection with all its glamour. More members were losing enthusiasm for time trials. 1973 found entries down a little but John Pritchard, now riding for the RAF C.C. returned to win again in 55-51, the Sols

Chris Moseley 15th in 58-51, and Beryl Burton again won the Ladies event 56-51, with a local rider, June Pitchford, (Beacon R.C.C) moving up to second after her third place the year before, 1-0-24.

A change of organiser in 1974 saw the men's event run as a normal Open 25 but still with the prestigious B.S.A. Trophy as chief award and over the following years, the name of John Patston frequently adorned its plinth.

Let us return to the Club magazine, flourishing during 1970, 1971 and 1972 but as already hinted at several members were desirous of change - to have a duplicated magazine which they hoped would save money in spite of the fact that AWHEEL was paying its way with the help of profits from the sales of the CYCLING STARS CALENDARS. This difference of opinion blew up into open hostility resulting in the calling of a Special General Meeting in May 1972. An unofficial duplicated 'AWHEEL' was circulated at this meeting as well as the official magazine and over 80 members under the Chairmanship of Cyril Lovegrove (Club President) debated the pros and cons, finally 50 voting for continuing to print, 24 for duplicating with 6 abstaining. The matter was settled with the editor agreeing to search for a cheaper printer. In February 1973 escalating printing costs finally caught up with income from advertisements, and calendar sales as well as an anonymous donation of #100. AWHEEL now came out with printed covers but the inside reproduced by a modern off-set litho process, still the same size with a circulation of 500 on the first Thursday of each month. At the end of the year Stan Bray gave up the editorship

after 26 years to Clive Povey until Dave Bates took it on in 1975. Another drastic change was in the office of President, hitherto an office for life or until the holder wished to resign, now was to be for 5 years; much to Cyril Lovegrove's delight as he had felt that there were so many members who had given distinguished service to the Club which should be recognised by a chance to serve as President. Perhaps sadly some will think, this eminently sensible principle was only to last for ten years.

During 1970 there were larger entries in Club events than ever; the Open Tourist Trial was won by our own Derek Shuttleworth and the Club won the BIRMINGHAM EVENING DESPATCH MYSTERY RIDES organised by Bill Oakley for the second year in succession, also 43 attended the annual Birthday Ride led by Eric Walker. So with 125 paid up members and so much activity, like suckers from a vigorous but unpruned tree, there was a lot of discussion about such things as a sponsor for the Open Cyclo-Cross held in Highbury Park, Kings Heath, Birmingham. Some developments faded away as did the running of Tourist Trials in spite of Cyril Lovegrove providing a trophy for the event, but others flourished as did the Cyclo-Cross with Ray Richards and his cyclo-cross enthusiasts eventually realising their long held ambition to organise the World Cyclo-Cross Championships in England for the first time, at Crystal Palace, London, in 1973.

The resignation of Ted Schilling, creater of "Airny Pairkins" who had provided humour in the pages of AWHEEL for so many years, on the grounds of unacceptable jokes being published by the new editor, and a long standing

member, promotes thoughts about the reasons for the continued success of the Solihull C.C. year after year even in such exciting times of change during the 1970's.

Without doubt, an important factor was the way members retained their interest in the Club, usually throughout their lives, aided by membership of THE OLD SOLS which allowed receipt of the magazine for a reduced subscription. Thus there was always a fund of experience to call upon to provide backup for the up and coming members. After auditing the accounts for 40 years, A R Dowson gave up in 1973 and ex-Tour de France rider, and Olympic Silver medallist Harry Reynolds initiated a Sponsored Ride to raise money shared between Shirley Disabled Club and a Club Fund to help young Solihull C.C. riders with expenses as their talents brought them into National class competition. Frank Wells, a member since 1931, who had organised the Annual Dinner and Christmas Raffle for many years, and was one of the Club's chief Fund raisers, when he handed over to the Taylor brothers continued to serve on committee and when he retired from his newsagent shop took the Marshalling Trophy for three years. These are just a few examples, but the 'old tree' was not immune from the climate of the times.

As we have seen, success depends on Club loyalty. The number of young people with a strong sense of loyalty was declining and an attitude of self before club prevailing more and more; the costs of everything were still rising. Factors like these resulted in lack of helpers to organise refreshments and clear away equipment at the Clubroom which with increasing rent had induced a search for

new Clubroom there being no feasibility in using the Building Fund to build one of our own. This finally materialised in 1974 Club H.Q. moving to the Woodbourne Sports Club room's in Rumbush Lane, Earlswood.

Other notable happenings in 1973 were Richard Travis' winning the Birmingham Divisional Road Race Championship and John Monk managing a British team in the Tour of Holland. The SKOL CLASSIC Road Race was organised by Barry Moss, the winner being Geoff Wiles (Holdsworth) and the Sols Richard Travis did brilliantly to come ninth amongst these professionals. In the Open 25 only two riders got under the hour, D Holliday (Gordano C.C) 59-01 and Roger Queen (Luton Wheelers) 59-20 but the Sols riders excelled, Ian Dean coming third 1-0-50 backed up by Chris Moseley 1-1-34 and Bob Richards 1-1-46 to take the team award. President Cyril Lovegrove had 40 members out on his Reunion Run. At National level, Mick Bennett got gold in the 20Km, silver in the 1 Km and bronze in the Amateur Pursuit behild Willi Moore and Ian Hallam. The original Club Best All-Rounder for the Gilbert-Barlow Trophy was won by Stan Bray's son Eddie for the fastest average speed in 25, 50, 100 and 12 hours for the last time as the following year, 1974, it was decided on points gained for places in Club events, which made it possible for it to be won without riding a long distance event such as the 12 hour, rather detracting from the Trophy's status as an All-Rounder Trophy. Chris Moseley tied with John Tall under the new conditions. The Cyril Lovegrove Open Tourist Trial Cup was now used for a Veteran's B.A.R. won by Bill Massie.

John Moore had had a difficult year as Chairman with many rather petty problems such as non-payment of subscriptions by prominent members, but somehow managed to prevent them causing too much damage to the 'old tree'.

CHAPTER IX

APPROACHING ITS JUBILEE : 1975-1979

As if influenced already by the approaching Golden Jubilee, the Solihull Cycling Club in 1975, experienced a surge of rising sap. It was a time when a strong lead was needed to channel the many vigorous enthusiasms about, and the election of Tommy Kempshall, who had come up through the Club during its halcyon days, as Chairman - it was a case of the right man for the job. Besides strong chairmanship of committee meetings, he steered the change to the new Club Headquarters which had been found by Harry Reynolds, at the Woodbourne Sports Club, Rumbush Lane, Earlswood, and generally encouraged members to pull together for the good of the Club.

Founder member Eric Walker was beginning to write to old friends who had been associated with the Club. He estimated almost a thousand people must have been concerned with the S.C.C. during the almost 50 years. Suggesting that they should plan to attend the Golden Jubilee Dinner and meet many old friends, he himself, as loyal as ever, led the 49th annual Birthday Ride to Yarningale Common. However, the death of late President Cyril Lovegrove in the May, a Club stalwart since the 1930's, emphasised that older members could not be expected to 'carry on forever' so the many younger members would have to maintain the Club's growth.

Stan Bray won the Birmingham and Midland Veterans B.A.R. this year and his daughter Sheila encouraged by tricycle 'Star' Howard

Bayley, rode Club 10, 15 and 25 miles on a tricycle with times only seconds outside the National records for these distances, yet surprisingly these times were not accepted as Club records, a break with Club traditions that fastest times by a member be accepted as Club records if no such times existed. Frank Hately, the General Secretary, came seventh in the Western 12 hour; Chris Moseley, Malcolm Eccleston, Roy Gordon, John Tall, Ian Dean, Ian McQuaig, Tim Crumpton and Robert Gill were keeping the Solihull C.C. in the Time Trial news with Mick Bennett of course a national 'star' who during the year became a professional. As had happened before, this seemed to inspire junior riders.

The Open 25 was won by J. Patston 57-27, who also won the Open 10, 22-05 in which the Club's Ian McQuaig came second, 23-55, while Inez Finch won the Ladies 25 in 1-5-25 as a veteran having previously won this event.

In the Road Racing sphere, Barry Moss, an International performer whose career had been cut short by artery trouble, organised the Ansells Skol Classic for professionals, which was won by Nigel Dean (Holdsworth).

Unfortunately only four issues of AWHEEL appeared and Dave Bates took on the editorship.

Then in 1976 Tim Broadhead, a keen schoolboy began to show great promise eventually winning the National Schoolboys Cyclo-cross Championship and actually coming eigth in the senior event won by Chris Wreghitt! So he was selected for the National Squad. After so many years, traffic lights at Henley in Arden necessitated a new course for the Club

Hardriders 25 and Ian McQuaig won in 1-18-51. The Sponsored Rides were a success benefitting the Sponsored Fund formed to provide team vests and track suits at reduced prices to junior members or help pay fees to Centres of Excellence if selected, in the hope of discouraging any youngsters being bribed away by Sponsored Clubs. Trevor Charlton, a violinist in a City orchestra, became the new editor of AWHEEL and the Birthday Ride was led by Barry James. Clarke's Cables sponsored mass-start races for Professionals; First Class Seniors; Second and Third Category Seniors; Veterans; Juniors; Schoolboys and most entertaining, Old Ordinary races organised by J Pinkerton, in Cannon Hill Park, Barry Moss being overall organiser. They were a huge success bringing wide publicity to the Club. J Reybrouck of Belgium won the Professional event and Harry Reynolds came third behind another local Club rival, J Perks of the Earlswood Road & Path C.C. (now defunct) as well as organising the Club Dinner later in the year.

A new noticeboard purchased alaong with a set of numbers from the Sponsorship Fund administered by Maureen Paveley adorned the new Clubroom. Members were encouraged to wear Solihull C.C. track suits and caps supplied at reduced rates and with so many Club events being organised based on courses near by the Clubroom there could have been few Clubs able to offer so much to its members.

The passing of a second Founder Member, Tommy Hawks, a sad event this year.

1977 saw Tim Broadhead selected for the Frankfurt 3 day Race and having a good

season, being placed in nearly all the events he rode with third in the National Junior R.R. and second in National Junior Cyclo-Cross.

A new schoolboy member, David Price, appeared on the horizon. He had already achieved a kind of notoriety by riding all the way to Cape Wrath with his Father, on tour on a so-called "Chopper" cycle, a type of small wheel machine for children which were forerunners of the current BMX machines. He experienced a marvellous season. 14 wins to his credit including fifth in National Schoolboy R R; sixth National Schoolboy Pursuit; second in Divisional Pursuit; second in the Sprint; second in the G H S 10 miles; and fifth in the National Road Race. It seemed certain that here was a new "Star" in the ascendant!

Bob Gill took the bronze medal in the Midland Division Pursuit and set up a new Club 25 mile Record 53-20 while Harry Reynolds won the National Veterans 10 miles Championship and came second in the Veterans R.R. which he was determined to win behind Alan Boden (one of our second claim members). John Holland was fourth in the National Veterans Cyclo-Cross.

However, three more stalwarts passed on: Ken Humphries, a member from the earliest days and Club regular Timekeeper; H N Brearley, one of the Club's greatest Presidents and Geoff Bull, father of Trevor Bull, who had done so much for Track Racing both locally and nationally. But membership was steadily rising and spirit of optimism was abroad as 1978 arrived.

Another famous stalwart passed on, W A H Bailey, star rider of the 1930's, and Vice President Frank Greenwood, the first man to beat 2-15 for a 50 miles T T, also died aged 87. The Skol Classic R R had to be cancelled.

Harry Reynolds again just failed to win the Veterans National Road Race coming second but was beginning to get involved in the organisation of the forthcoming Golden Jubilee Dinner, as were many more members.

A competition for a best design for the Dinner Menu was won by Ken Topliss, based on the first meeting of Eric Walker and Tommy Hawks under a lamp-post in Hampton Lane. The venue was decided, at the St John's Hotel, Solihull, the only place big enough to hold the many guests expected, the result of Eric Walker's and older members efforts to let all ex-members know about it. A small sub-committee under Ron Dowson was gathering memorabilia and photographs to put on a display of the highlights of the 50 years. This eventually resulted in twenty large hardboards most attractively arranged and mounted by Ron, which was displayed in the foyer during the Dinner, then went the rounds of the Libraries and some Secondary Schools in South Birmingham, containing as it did so many historic photographs and items such as Ralph Dougherty's R.T.T.C. Certificate for the first 25 miles ridden "under the hour" in England.

BUT we have overshot our story.

For 1979 - the Club's first Lady editor of AWHEEL took over from Trevor Charlton who had succeeded Dave Bates - Pauline Smith. Husband

Pete had already established himself as a a most enthusiastic veteran aiming at 'beating-the-hour' which he did also winning the Veterans B.A.R. and Pauline was no mean performer breaking the Club Ladies 30 mile record. She produced a special 500th issue of AWHEEL. The Schoolboy B.A.R. was won by Andy Freeth, who became very active in taking Club runs under the Secretaryship of Jim Godsall with Youth Hostel W/E becoming popular again. The Cannon Hill Park races were organised by Denis Bolton and Sid Barras won the Pro event, John Holland of the Sols coming third in the Vets. event.

The Juniors were making their mark. 16 year old David Price was selected for the Midland Team, Richard Elson was third in the Schoolboys Cyclo-Cross Championship, while Keith Reynolds, who had been steadily winning more and more Club events and creeping up the placings in Open Road Races, came third in the National Schoolboys Road Race and was selected to represent England at 17. His father, Harry, won the Veteran's National Road Race Championship. Chris White, John Burridge and John Stephenson were also showing their talent, the foremost soon to win a Silver medal in the National Amateur Road Race, but most of these potential "Stars" within a year or two had drifted away to sponsored Clubs and later to be lost to cycling SPORT in the seas of professional showbiz. However Racing Secretary, Chris Moseley, was reporting that the racing strength was greater than for many years.

Albert and Frank Taylor, organisers of the Christmas Draw and well known in the Midlands for their slide and film shows on their foreign tours, were elected Honorary Life Members, as was Harry Reynolds. It was apt

that the old multi-international rider, Dick Bowes, should be elected Chairman to succeed his old team-mate, Tommy Kempshall, who could look back with satisfaction at having steeered the Club through its Autumn period. Another old member was President, John Cordwell.

Inevitably this account is a personal one, viewed through the memory of the writer, although the facts carefully checked against the Club Minute Books and Magazines as well as being doubly checked by Founder Member, Eric Walker, and early member Ron Dowson, who may not necessarily agree with all of the writer's interpretations. You too, dear reader, may also disagree, but I make the plea that you relook at the early predictions and compare with the cycling SPORT as it is today, then judge for yourselves - is it what you wanted?

Our seed, over 50 years has grown into a tree. There it stands, a giant amidst the forest of Sporting Cycling! But its roots are washed by the seas of "Shamateurism" and its branches blown by the fickle winds of professional showbiz. Can it adapt and survive another 50 years?

It can if its newest members can learn from the first 50 years' experience!

Harry Reynolds winning the 1979 Veterans Road Race Championship. Harry was also 1953 National Junior Champion,won a silver Team Medal in the 1956 Olympic Road Race, rode in the World Championship Road Race in 1956 and 1957, and the 1960 Tour de France. Son, Keith, is winning the 1979 Birmingham Division Schoolboy Road Race Championship.

CHAPTER X

(FACTS AND FIGURES)

(i) OFFICIALS

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs. A. Parry; J. E. Walker; A. R. Dowson; R. W. Bowes; B. B. Francis; D. Moreton; W. A. H. Baily; K. E. Humphries; S. P. V. Bray; A. Houlston; C. W. Brown; C. Constable; D. W. Osmonde; Gladys Newton; F. Wells; E. Newton; E. A. Arthur; M. F. Lawton; H. T. Reynolds; Albert and Frank Taylor; M. Bennett.

ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBERS

R. S. Cross; F. T. Baker; T. Hawkes; P. Flemming; Mrs. C. Lovegrove; Mrs. J. Lomas (nee Heeley); Mrs. P. Dowson.

PATRONS

From 1954 when Solihull received its Charter as a Borough Council and Cllr. D. Cooper was elected the first Mayor, it became the custom to invite the current Mayor to be Club Patron. As the club developed parallel with the new borough, this practice was instrumental on numerous occasions in obtaining permission to run Road Races and getting publicity in the local newspapers.

However, in 1975, the Mayor Cllr. G. Gibbons was elected Club President, and the office of Patron ceased, perhaps due to the changing atmosphere of the times, with less respect being shown to Civil dignitaries and disillusionment over the failure of the Solihull council to implement the promises of successive Mayors to build a Cycle Track in the Borough. Furthermore, the courtesy of proposing a toast to the Borough at the Annual Dinner, if the Mayor was present, did not find favour with many members who disliked what they called irrelevant speeches.

PRESIDENTS

No President from 1929 to 1930.	
First President:	Cllr. W. H. Painter 1930 to 1935
1936 to 1946	C. F. Dawes
1947 to 1968	H. N. Brealey
1968 March to July	H. Gibbs, resigned due to ill-health
1968 to 1974	C. A. Lovegrove
1975 to 1977	Cllr. G. Gibbons
1978 to present	John Cordwell

VICE-PRESIDENTS

A list of persons who have served as Vice-Presidents:- Capt. Oliver Bird, M. C.; J. W. Bryan; M. Davies; H. Sheldon; F. W. Barnes; G. Harper; J. W. Kinchin; Mrs. A. Parry; H. Smith; W. R. Crabbe; S. Coxhill; S. T. Capener; H. S. Capener; Mrs. E. Parkes ("Petronella"); H. H. England; Rev. R. M. Goodfield; Cllr. W. E. Wright; A. Y. Jarrett; W. P. Waldron; H. R. Horden; W. F. Janes; C. F. Dutton; V. Pegg; I. Goodman; H. Gibbs; Mrs. E. Hamilton; E. Dewar; A. A. Tomkins; C. Wharrad; W. G. Gameson; F. Greenwood; J. E. Walker; S. F. Digby; A. G. Cave; J. Birk; A. R. Shuck; D. A. B. Roe; T. S. Camplin; J. Cordwell.

CHAIRMEN

A. A. Logan	1929-1932
J. Barlow	1932-1935
T. Hawkes	1935-November 1937
A. Collins to the AGM	
J. E. Walker	1938-1940
C. A. Lovegrove	1940-1945
A. R. Dowson	1945-1949
C. Constable	1949-1953
N. K. Topliss	1953-1956
C. A. Lovegrove	1956-1964
N. J. Lees	1964-1968
R. J. Richards	1969-1970
F. Wells	1971-1972
J. T. Moore	1972-1974
T. Kempshall	1975-1978
R. W. Bowes	1979-1980
R. Batchelor	1980-1983
J. Hartga	1984-1986

TREASURERS

T. H. Hawkes	1929-1937, resigned due to ill-health deceased 1970
N. J. Lees	1937-1938, deceased 1982
A. R. Dowson	1939-1946
W. A. H. Bailey	1946-1948, deceased 1978
J. E. Walker	1948-November 1948
R. W. Griffiths	1948-1950
J. Cordwell	1950-1951
R. W. Griffiths	1951-1953
M. F. Lawton	1953-1954
D. Newbold	1954-1955
D. Lawton	1955-1956
J. Shirley	1956-1957
M. F. Lawton	1957-1959
A. Owen	1959-1960
During 1960 no treasurer, accounts prepared by	
R. J. Richards	
E. A. Arthur	1961 to present

GENERAL SECRETARIES

			MEMBERSHIP
Vic Pegg	February 1929-1930		29
J. E. Walker	February 1931-1938	103 months	194
A. R. Dowson	1939-1945	82 months	157 (50 in forces)
W. A. H. Bailey	1945-1948	37 months	169 (30 in forces)
J. E. Walker	February 1948-1948	11 months	275 (36 in forces)
C. W. Brown	1949-1950	24 months	252 (13 in forces)
Ernest and Gladys Newton	1951-1953	36 months	177 (17 in forces)
John Moore	1953-1957	60 months	208 (10 in forces)
R. J. Richards	1958-1963	72 months	205 Forces sec.
E. Newton	1964-1966	24 months	205 discountinued
M. F. Lawton	1966- October 1967	10 months	
R. Barlow	1967-1968	15 months	
B. Keogh	1968-1969	22 months	
R. Powell	1969-1971	24 months	125
B. Moss	1972- August 1972	8 months	
Gladys Newton	1972-December 1972	4 months	
John Reeves	1973-1974	24 months	
Frank Hateley	1975-1976	24 months	
Barry James	1977-1978	12 months	135
Malcolm F. Lawton	1979-1984	60 months	134 1983 143
Margaret Towers	1984 - to present		

MAGAZINE EDITORS

J. E. Walker	1936-1938 (3 months)	Printed by Colmore Press
R. J. Bourneman	1938-1940 (15 months)	
B. J. Pinson	1940-1946 (68 months)	In april 1945 printed by A H. Meacham, Haymills

Introduced half-tone blocks; special 100th issue: title the Spinning Wheels; Victory Day issue; title 'AWHEEL'

S. P. V. Bray	1946-1966 (247 months)	Produced Olympic issue

First NCU Road Race Programme; got circulation up to 500 per month

Pauline Godsall	As Assistant Editor produced 6 issues in 1957	
M. Lawton	1966-1969 (30 months)	
S. P. V. Bray	1969-1973 (55 months)	From February 1973 printed by off-set Lithio IMEDIA PRINT
C. Povey	1974-1975 (20 months)	1975 onwards duplicated
D. Bates	1976-1977 (25 months)	
T. Charlton	1978-1978 (12 months)	
Pauline Smith	1979-1981 (24 months)	
Yvonne Smith	1981-1982 (14 months)	
A. Grainger	1982-1985 (36 months)	Published approximately every two months
M. Adams	1986 to present	

DISTRIBUTORS

Eric Walker	1936-1938
Dick Borneman	1938-1940
Don Pinson	1940-1946
Gladys Newton (nee Weeks)	1946-1948
Miss L. Pipe	1948
Eileen Mortimer	1949
Margery Cooper	1951-1952
Edna Bowes	1951-1953
Christine Marchant	1954
Edna Bowes	1955
Jean Ramsey	1956
Pauline Godsall & Stan Bray	1957
Cyril Shave	1957-1959
Mrs. Reed	1959-1960
Christine Slater	1960
Sheila Bray	1961
Jacquline Stone	1962-1964
Susan Burton	1966
Frank Wells	1968
Bob Powell	1968-1969
Jacquline Moss (nee Stone)	1968-1971
Stan Bray	1972-1973
D. Bates	1974-1976
Maureen Paveley	1977
Brenda Wright (married Trevor Charlton)	1978
Pauline Smith	1979-1980
Yvonne Smith	1981-1982
Frank Wells	1982-1985
Mrs. P. Langley	1986 to present

(ii) WINNER OF CLUB-EVENT TROPHIES

(a) Club Best-All-rounder Champions (GILBERT BARLOW MEMORIAL TROPHY)

This trophy was presented by Eric Walker in memory of Gilbert Barlow, killed while on a training run in 1932. for the best average speed over 25 miles; 50 miles; 100 miles and 12 hours in Club events if run. This was changed to points gained in Club events in 1974.

1933	S. W. Pulley	
1934	N. J. Lees	
1935	Norman Lees	
1936	Fred Baker	
1937	Ken Topliss	
1938	Bert Tyler	
1939	Bert Tyler)	
1940	Pete Possart)	
1941	Pete Possart)	Events run in
1942	R. J. Maitland)	war years
1943	Bob Maitland)	
1944	Bob Maitland)	
1945	Bob Maitland)	
1946	Bob Maitland	23.502 mph
1947	Ken Topliss	20.478 mph
1948	Stan Bray	20.444 mph
1949	Cyril Starkey	22.214 mph
1950	Stan Bray	20.81 mph
1951	Doug Osmonde	20.960 mph
1952	Stan Bray	20.836 mph
1953	Stan Bray	21.574 mph
1954	Eric Seymour	21.725 mph
1955	Cyril Starkey	21.7 mph
1956	Cyril Starkey	22.017 mph
1957	C. A. Starkey	22.1 mph
1958	Bas Keogh	21.943 mph
1959	Bas Keogh	22.826 mph
1960	Bas Keogh	22.493 mph
1961	Bas Keogh	22.259 mph
1962	John Shaw	22.251 mph
1963	Bas Keogh	
1964	Tom Tall	
1965	John Tall	
1966	Tom Tall	
1967	Graham Kelly	19.908 mph
1968		
1969	Eddie Bray	22.249 mph
1970	Tony Herraty	
1971	Chris Moseley	
1972	Tony Herraty	
1973	D. L. Lewis	22.36 mph

Now renamed the J. E. WALKER Cup awarded on points, so 12 hour not essential.

1974	Chris Moseley)_ Tie	
	John Tall)	

1975	Chris Moseley
1976	Roy Gordon
1977	Chris Moseley
1978	M. Eccleston
1979	Chris Moseley
1980	John Burridge
1981	John Burridge
1982	Pete Smith
1983	Pete Smith
1984	W. Halsey
1985	Mark Paveley

A Y JARRETT CUP Awarded for OPEN B.A.R.

1965	John Tall
1966	Howard Baley
1967	Tony Herraty
1968	Ant Taylor
1969	Eddie Bray
1970	Graham Kelly
1971	Chris Moseley
1972	Tony Herraty
1976	Frank Hateley
1977	Pete Smith
1979	D. Paveley

(b) Club Junior Best All-Rounder Champion ('Pop' Bray Memorial Cup)

Presented by S. P. V. Bray in memory of his father, for best average speed over 5 miles; 10 miles; 15 miles and 25 miles. Best event at each distance in Club events.

1947	H. Gardener	21.59 mph
1948	D. H. Jarrett	23.26 mph
1949	R. M. Goldsmith	22.53 mph
1950	A. T. Denham	22.76 mph
1951	S. G. Payne	24.2 mph
1952	B. T. Swindells	23.78 mph
1953	Tom Hill	23.82 mph
1954	M. Hewitt	22.07 mph
1955	J. G. Brown	23.21 mph
1956	J. Pielow	22.69 mph
1957	Brian Archer	23.27 mph
1958	Brian Archer	24.02 mph
1959	Brian Archer	24.25 mph
1960	John Reeves	24.84 mph
1961	Alan Richards	24.049 mph
1962	Ant. Taylor	24.678 mph
1963	R. S. Richards	24.049 mph
1964	P. J. Plowman	25.195 mph
1965	P. J. Plowman	25.633 mph
1967	Mick Bennett	24.27 mphh
1968	Steve Tonry	
1969	Ian Dean	
1970	Ian Dean	
1971	Robert Gill	
1972	Tim Crumpton	23.88 mph
1973	K. Knowles	-
1974	Dave Bates	24.08 mph
1975	Tim Broadhead	22.823 mph
1976	Steve Thornhill	23.72 mph
1977	John Burridge	24.114 mph
1978	S. Mountford	24.004 mph
1979	D. Price	25.082 mph
1980	Keith Reynolds	25.64 mph
1981	Keith Reynolds	26.47 mph
1982	Paul Nix	24.323 mph
1983	Paul Nix	25.619 mph
1984	A. T. Smith	24.303 mph
1985	Carl Ratcliffe	24.850 mph

(c) Club 25 Miles Championship for the C. F. Dawes Trophy

1933	H. J. Bradley		)
1934	H. J. Bradley		)- W H Painter Cup won outright
1935	H. J. Bradley	1-7-53	)
1936	W. A. H. Bailey	1-5-01	) C F Dawes provided replacement
1937	W. A. H. Bailey	1-5-43	)- also won outright. Replaced
1938	W. A. H. Bailey	1-5-07	) by C. F. Dawes
1939	N. K. Topliss	1-7-17	
1940	P. E. Possart	1-3-23	
1941			
1942	R. J. Maitland		
1943		1-4-53	
1944	D. J. Averil		
1945	B. B. Francis	1-10-?	
1946	Bas. Francis	1-2-48	
1947	Bob Maitland	59-19	
1948	Bas Francis	1-0-09	
1949	Bas Francis	1-0-11	) Again won outright and
1950	Bas Francis	59-38	)- replaced by C F Dawes
1951	Bob. Page	1-1-18	)
1952	Cyril Starkey	1-3-03	
1953	H. T. Reynolds	1-3-23	
1954	Harry Reynolds	1-2-23	
1955	M. F. Lawton	1-3-29	
1956	Malcolm Lawton	1-2-12	
1957	Colin Wright	1-3-03	
1958	Bas Keogh	1-3-08	
1959	Bas Keogh	1-1-29	
1960	Bas Keogh	1-0-48	
1961	Bas Keogh	1-2-00	
1962	Graham Webb	1-1-54	
1963	Barry Moss	1-0-01	
1964	J. T. Tall	58-20	
1965	J. T. Tall	58-50	
1966	Ant. Taylor	1-0-16	
1967	J. T. Tall	55-16	
1968	Steve Tonry	58-00	
1969	J. T. Tall	58-21	
1970	A. G. Herraty	59-13	
1971	Dave Moyes	58-05	
1972	Dave Moyes	58-41	
1973	Dave Moyes	58-06	
1974	Robert Gill	59-13	
1975	Roy Gordon	1-0-39	
1976	Chris Moseley	59-56	
1977	Robert Gill	58-54	
1978	Harry Reynolds	57-08	
1979	John Burridge	57-55	(Veteran)
1980	Robert Gill	59-06	
1981	John Burridge	58-30	
1982	Alan Boden	57-36	
1983	Paul Nix	57-49	(Veteran)
1984	Mark Paveley	58-30	
1985	Mark Paveley	57-01	
		55-52	

(d) Club Ladies 25 Miles Championship for the Evelyn Hamilton Trophy

While in the Club's earliest years there are plenty of records of splendid Ladies efforts, alone and on tandems in Reliability Trials, such as 50 in 4 or 100 in 8 hrs none of the fair sex are recorded as racing, yet there were events for them being organised like the Midland Ladies 25 miles. Then in 1942 Gladys Weeks recorded 1-19-55 a Club Record in this event, and came 5th with 32 mins 5 secs in the West Heath Ladies 10 miles.

In 1943 she was backed up by Elsie Bird, G. Colley, Nancy Musgrave, Edna Price, Nora Hollick and Maude Nielson, and she even recorded 2-57-15 in the Birmingham T. T. League 50 but Nancy Musgrave took her 25 record with a 1-18-01.

Although or perhaps because the War was on, there was more action on the female front, from now on. Gladys, always a fighter, regained her record in 1944 with 1-17-22 and won the Club Championship 25 so designated in 1945 with 1-21-05 but in 1946 no one finished the event amongst the girls.

Was this a factor in the presentation of the above trophy by Mrs. Evelyn Hamilton in 1947 when Gladys regained her record?

1947	Gladys Weeks	1-14-37
1948	Mu Maitland	1-10-02 Record
1949	Betty Bragg	1-12-06
1950	Betty Bragg	1-11-52
1951	Audry Knight	1-18-22
1952	Gladys Newton	1-20-10
1953	Sheila Chappell	1-18-46
1954	Sheila Chappell	1-18-24
1955	Mrs. S. Lawton	1-17-19
1956	Mrs. G. Newton	1-18-18
1957	Mrs. P. Godsall	1-11-52
1958	Not Awarded	
1959	Mrs. Jean Bray	1-18-04
1960	Gillian Wright	1-13-58
1961	Mrs. J. Hunt	1-14-17
1962	Denise Tomlinson	1-11-59
1963	Sheila Bray	1-14-01
1964	Gladys Newton	1-15-58
1965	Denise Tomlinson	1-13-49
1966	Valerie Hunt	1-8-55
1967	Gladys Newton	1-17-01
1968	Gladys Newton	
1969	Gladys Newton	1-22-30
1970	Janet Kelly and Joan Berry	
1971	Janet Kelly	
1972	Janet Kelly	
1973	Not Awarded	
1974	Not Awarded	
1975	Not Awarded	

1976	Mrs. M. Paveley	1-18-17
1977	Maureen Paveley	1-12-32
1978	Mrs. P. Smith	1-13-29
1979	Pauline Smith	1-12-04
1980	Maureen Paveley	1-15-17
1981	Pauline Smith	1-6-46 Record
1982	Pauline Smith	1-8-44
1983	Carole Langley	1-7-53
1984	Carole Langley	1-5-24 Record
1985	*Carole Langley	1-6-06

* National Junior Best All-Rounder 1983

(e) Club 50 Miles Championship

The first 50 miles was suggested by T. Hawkes in 1932 to be run in conjunction with the MCCA event; the BTT League during the War

Scratch Winners (D. S. H. Jones Cup) (Allocated for this event in 1965)			Handicap Winners 'Wally Jones Memorial Cup' Bought by subscription in memory of Wally Jones killed riding back from 1940 event
		1932	
		1933	
		1934	
W. A. H. Bailey	2.21.15	1935	K. E. Humphries
A. Collins	2.18.00	1936	
N. K. Topliss		1937	
W. A. H. Bailey	2.14.37	1938	
	Club Record		
Cancelled due to war		1939	
P. F. Possart	2.11.01	1940	A. V. Bramley
	Record		
P. F. Possart	2.18.50	1941	
		1942	
R. J. Maitland	2.15.29	1943	
R. J. Maitland	2.13.44	1944	
R. W. Bowes	2.15.45	1945	
		1946	
N. K. Topliss	2.19.32	1947	K. E. Humphries
A. A. Hobson	2.14.36	1948	
C. A. Starkey		1949	W. J. Thomas
R. S. Page	2.10.50	1950	R. S. Page
R. S. Page	2.10.24	1951	G. Wood
B. Swindells	2.11.33	1952	P. E. Jones
B. B. Francis	2.04.46	1953	A. S. Stanley
B. A. Seymour	2.10.14	1954	M. Hewitt
C. A. Starkey	2.12.13	1955	P. Head
C. A. Starkey	2.10.15	1956	T. Hill
P. Burrows	2.10.53	1957	P. Burrows
B. Keogh	2.07.05	1958	B. Keogh
B. Keogh	2.08.09	1959	R. J. Richards
B. Keogh	2.12.30	1960	S. P. V. Bray
B. Keogh	2.05.01	1961	E. Harris
G. Webb	2.5.57	1962	L. McCormick
R. Cromack	2.3.56	1963	L. McCormick
B. Keogh	2.10.58	1964	Steve Lloyd
B. Keogh	2.10.26	1965	J. G. Kelly
John Tall	2.5.18	1966	T. Kempshall
Roy Gordon	2.4.30	1967	T. Kempshall
Jim Dale	2.9.34	1968	Jim Bassett and Roy Gordon
John Tall	2.3.45	1969	Bas E. Banner
A. G. Herraty	2.4.40	1970	Chris Moseley
C. Moseley	2.8.04	1971	R. W. Bowes
A. G. Herraty	2.10.24	1972	Dave Lucas

Ian Dean	2.10.21	1973	
John Tall		1974	Chris Moseley
P. Bramwich	2.5.38	1975	John Hateley
Roy Gordon	2.2.19	1976	John Hateley
Roy Gordon	2.1.34	1977	Pete Smith
Roy Gordon	2.5.55	1978	M. Eccleston
Alan Boden	2.3.23	1979	George Rogers
Dave Moyes	2.5.06	1980	Bas Lewis
R. Smith	2.2.13	1981	R. Smith
J. Burridge	1.59.30	1982	Mrs. P. Smith
Pete Smith	2.3.13	1983	Pauline Smith
M. Halsey	2.2.55	1984	Angus Dick
M. Paveley	2.2.54	1985	Pete Smith

Club 100 Miles Championship for the J. W. Bryan Cup

ted by Vice-President J. W. Bryan in 1935.

	N. J. Lees	5-8-32 Record
	F. T. Baker	5-3-27 Record
	Ken Joyce	4-56-40
	A. J. Tyler	4-47-05 Record
	A. J. Tyler	4-51-35
	P. E. Possart	
	P. E. Possart	4-39-36
	R. J. Maitland	4-58-50
	R. J. Maitland	4-52-32
	H. Musgrave	5-09-18
	R. W. Rose	4-55-31
	D. W. Osmonde	5-20-10
	Bob Maitland	4-21-52
	B. J. Buckley	4_50-22
	C. A. Starkey	4-30-38
	W. J. Thomas	4-55-10
	S. W. Middleton	4-56-31
	Cyril Starkey	4-47-12
	J. T. Allock	4-35-39
	S. P. V. Bray	4-38-31
	Cyril Starkey	4-32-30
	Cyril Starkey	4-30-40
	Cyril Starkey	4-33-51
	Bas. Keogh	4-30-28
	Bas. Keogh	4-22-23
	Bas. Keogh	4-15-42 Record
	L. Harris	4-29-35
	John Shaw	4-23-59
	Howard Bayley	4-35-51
	W. Massie	4-56-12
	John Monk	4-24-25
	John Tall	4-45-07
	Roy Gordon	4-35-10
	A. G. Wellum	5-12-37
	Roy Gordon	4-31-29
	A. G. Herraty	4-23-21
	Tony Herraty	4-21-21
	Tony Herraty	4-26-21
	Dave Meyes	4-27-40
	Tony Herraty	4-39-08
	Frank Hateley	4-40-15
	Roy Gordon	4-21-20
	Roy Gordon	
	M. Eccleston	4-31-35
	Roy Gordon	4-23-10
	Dave King	4-34-47
	John Burridge	4-22-53
	A. Neale	4-30-30
	A. Neale	4-27-12
	A. Neale	4-27-43
	Mark Paveley	4-19-30

(g) Club 12 Hour Championship

	Scratch for W. R. Crabbe Trophy Presented by Vice President W. R. Crabbe		Handicap for the "Pop" Maitland Shield Presented by Hon. Life Member K. Humphries in memory of his step-father in 1951 Handicap winners until trophy awarded
1935	N. J. Lees	213.2 m	
1936	F. Baker	214 m 1 f	Ken Humphries
1937	R. S. Cross and A. J. Tyler	219 m	J. Chinn
1938	Bert Tyler	219 m 3 f	G. Entwhistle
1939	George Juggins	233 m	B. G. Knight
1940	not awarded		
1941	not awarded		
1942	not awarded		
1943	R. Shuttleworth	224.75 m	H. Sandford
1944	R. J. Maitland	242 m record	
1945	Bob Maitland	242 m	
1946	R. W. Bowes	232.7 miles	
1947	R. J. Maitland	242.1 m	Ken Humphries
1948	S. P. V. Bray	219 m 7 f	D. W. Osmonde
1949	C. A. Starkey		
1950	Doug. Osmonde		Doug Osmonde
1951	D. W. Osmonde	217 m	Doug Osmonde
1952	A. D. Stokes	226 m 185 yds	"Stosh" Stokes
1953	Stan Bray	232 m 4 f	Arthur Stanley
1954	E. A. Seymour	232.779 m	E. A. Seymour
1955	C. A. Starkey		S. G. Payne
1956	Cyril Starkey	236.03 m	Ron Hackett
1957	E. A. Seymour	242.8 m	E. A. Seymour
1958	E. A. Seymour	234.86 m	R. G. Richards (Trike)
1959	Bas. Keogh	247 m 200 yds	D. W. Gillett
1960	Bas Keogh	237.3 m	Stan Bray
1961	Bas Keogh	239.94 m	Howard Bayley (Trike)
1962	Bas Keogh	242.59 m	R. G. Richards
1963	Bas Keogh	192 m	Bas Keogh
1964	Tom Tall (Vet)	212.6 m	A. T. Tall
1965	John Tall	245.62 m	John Tall
1966	Howard Bayley	257.7 m	H. Bayley
1967	A. G. Herraty	246.03 m	S. E. Bray
1968	Lutz Durlacher	245 m	Lutz Durlacher
1969	Ian McQuaig	234.86 m	S. P. V. Bray
1970	A. G. Herraty	252.74 m	J. G. Kelly
1971	Chris Moseley		Nev Gregg
1972	Tony Herraty	258.88 m	Tony Herraty
1973	Dave Lucas		Nev Gregg
1974	Eddie Bray	242.03 m	S. E. Bray
1975	Dave Lucas	221.70 m	John Hateley
1976	Frank Hateley	221.62 m	John Hateley
1977	Pete Smith	220.21 m	Pete Smith
1978	N. Eccleston	239.40 m	Mrs. M. Paveley

Derek Paveley	208 m	D. Paveley
not awarded		
John Burridge	249.19 m	M. F. Lawton
Alan Grainger	234.8 m	
A. Neale	228 m	
P. Blay	217.6 m	
Not awarded		