



10.02.05 am -

The pure Saturday Run Action!

- Salters Lane / Peloton / Motorised back-up ?



10.28 am - Vanguard duet.

KOOKABURRA ARRIVAL (1)

10.29 am - Executive Run.





10.29.40 am – Peloton Fastpack.

KOOKABURRA ARRIVAL (2)

10.29.45 am – from across the Globe, still they come !





10.29.50 am – more hardmen

KOOKABURRA ARRIVAL (3)

10.29.58 am – The Cream spot on time!



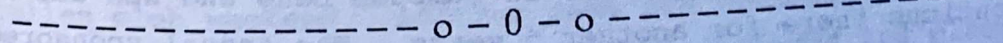
RECENT CLUB HISTORY

The reason we say "recent" is because the story of club achievements through the first fifty years of its life had already been admirably recorded in Stan Bray's book "AWHEEL".

Now, on the occasion of our seventieth year, it seemed only right to bring the whole thing up to date and review what had been going on through the past two decades. Some of those years saw a lot more action packed into them than did other years. But the end result is that the Club is not just surviving, it's thriving.

You've only got to be outside the "Barley Mow" in Solihull town centre early on a Sunday morning to realise how well the Club is thriving. Many of the riders are wearing the red, white & blue club colours - which means the Solihull name gets advertised not only up and down the British Isles but at plenty of places abroad as well.

And nowadays it doesn't only have to be Sundays. In the past decade the clubrun programme has so expanded that there's hardly any day in the week when one Solihull C C group or another are not out and about in the local countryside.



CATCHING UP

A brief (!?!) review of the past 20 years with Solihull Cycling Club : -

1979

Just to set the scene, this was the year when the Club celebrated its Golden Jubilee. The staggering total of 408 people attended the Dinner & Dance on Saturday 7th April at St. Johns Hotel. Names prominent in the racing scene at this time were H.Reynolds (surprise surprise), Mal Eccleston, Chris Moseley, Alan Boden, Pete Janes and a young Keith Reynolds.

In June, Harry Reynolds won the Vets National Road Race Championship in the Isle of Man, supported by John Holland (11th) and Pete Janes (24th). In the Clarks Cables sponsored races in Cannon Hill park, Keith Reynolds won the Schoolboys event - just one of 34 wins he notched up in 1979 - while John Holland trounced the rest of the Solihull opposition in the Vets event. A little earlier, in May, Dick Bowes had put himself out of contention by breaking a variety of bones after crashing on the Wellesbourne airfield circuit.

In other fields our rough-stuff specialists, the Taylor brothers, were pass-storming through the wilds of Scotland's Glens Lyon and Lochy. Pauline Smith, besides being an extremely capable racer, was the new Editor of the club magazine (a "first" for the ladies) while her husband Pete was out on the roads scoring impressive performances in the middle-distance time trials. Harry Reynolds was elected to Honorary Life Membership in honour of the way he'd emblazoned the name of the Solihull club in National & international records.

1980

January saw the Dinner again at St. Johns and a now-repaired Dick Bowes started his 2nd year as Chairman, while Mal Lawton was into the 2nd of 5 years as General Secretary. Clubroom at this time was at the Woodbourne club in Rumbush Lane and was destined to continue there for another 5 years. The annual sponsored-rides day was a well-supported event, not only boosting club funds but also providing substantial amounts each year for charity. A name 'R. Batchelor' may be closely associated with this event.

Amongst membership applications this year we note the names Dave King, 2 Crowther lasses 'S.J.' & 'J. A.', as well as Paul Nix and Bob Jones.

Runs from the "Barley Mow" were arranged on an "informal basis" with the said Mr. Batchelor organising Fast Runs. By the end of the year this same gentleman was awarded the "Most Promising Member" trophy, while ace tourists Albert & Frank Taylor were elected Honorary Life Members in recognition of the many ways in which they had contributed to the well-being of the club. Names that featured in this years racing successes included Rob Gill, John Burrridge, Ian McQuaig and Chris White besides sundry vets including Roy Gordon - who took the Vets BAR, 2nd year in succession. Keith Reynolds rode for the Midlands team in the English Schools 2-day stage race at Butlins, Filey. Local inter-club events were, with our involvement, particularly well-supported with fields numbering anything between 60 and 80.

1981

Our most promising Mr. R. Batchelor chose this year to start a 3-year stint as Chairman, Yvonne Smith took over as mag. editor, Dick Bowes continued as Dinner organiser - the venue switching now by popular acclaim to the Greswolde Hotel at Knowle.

In the summer the club's perennial friend Tommy Godwin elected to ride Lands End to John O'Groats as a charity venture. The club not only supported his effort but also that of club-member Bob Knight who also completed the "End to End".

Amongst the new names joining were Tony Pierce and Kevin Wilson, whereas Keith Reynolds switched to 2nd claim following his move to sponsored racing club G S Strada.

John Burrridge, who was in the process of monopolising the Vic Pegg sprint trophy from 1975 through to '82, continued to display his manifold talents, not only winning a Malvern road race and taking 3rd in the Newcastle 3-day, and winning the club BAR for the 2nd year in succession but also organising winter runs and a Llangollen club weekend. Another name now noticeable in race results was Mark Paveley, whose successes included 2nd places in the 45 mile Saracen event and the Shirley RC 50 mile road race. John Holland set an Offa's Dyke cyclo-cross record - 48 hours!

1982

In the early '80s, as in previous years, there was a steady influx of members with usually a couple of new names appearing each month. With "natural wastage" the total membership hovered around 100. On Saturdays now there was a fast run, on Sundays a couple of runs but with no predetermined run programme.

Yet again the early season Dinner at the Greswolde went off well thanks to Dick's efforts. Unfortunately a home move meant that Yvonne Smith had to relinquish editorial duties in April but one of the Grainger brothers, Alan, took over the task - this despite other commitments like winning the club 12-hour T.T. championship and with it the club BAR trophy.

From the younger members Paul Nix gained the junior BAR, an achievement he would repeat next year. Paul also took the club junior road race championship, the start in this case of a 3-year dominance. On the track this same fellow was also performing well taking the club junior sprint championship in September. In the same promotion at Salford Park, Chris White took the 5-mile and the adult sprint titles, while for the 3rd time in succession he had won the club road race championship.

Talent seemed to be highly concentrated in certain individuals: Alan Boden, now a vet, took the club '25' championship, his 57-49 just pipping "H"'s 1978 time by some 6 seconds. The ladies example was Maureen Paveley, ever-active in the time trial scene and winning Ladies BAR but also motivating the social side by organising various functions such as a clubroom folk evening, a darts match or a disco. Continuing this theme the year-end awards list had Alan Grainger as Most Promising Member, while amongst new arrivals (*more of this later*) was one Robert Langley.

1983

Up to this year the club presidency was restricted to a maximum of 5 years but as a result of rule changes agreed at the AGM, the popular incumbent John Cordwell was re-elected as President, a position he was destined to hold for many more years. In the general clubrun scene and aiming to encourage some variety, Tom Kempshall began a runs list for the intermediate-paced section while Mal Lawton organised the slower run. "H" began organising "training road races" on the Beoley circuit, a pattern set to continue through subsequent years.

The Woodbourne clubroom had been refurbished and there was an opening ceremony at the start of April. Yet again the springtime sponsored Rides generated cash for charity; each year the beneficiary was liable to change, for '83 it was the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade.

By the mid-year yet more members of the Langley family had joined - dad Paul and daughter Carol. 16-year old Carol didn't mess about - she very quickly monopolised the ladies' '25' championship, a trend which continued through subsequent years. By the end of the year brother Robert had been awarded Most Promising Member trophy. Was a takeover looming?

The overall strength of the club was looking good. Paul Nix took the mens '25' championship with 58-30, Alan Grainger besides editing was recording impressive times over a variety of distances and Mal Lawton beat 25mph in the Warwickshire RC '10'. The annual Clarks Cables race day this year attracted 300 entrants. The Woodbourne club repaid a large £300 loan to our club funds - but then proceeded to raise the club rental! Sadly, after the summertime Cannon Hill Park races, Clarks Cables announced that 1983 was the last year they would be sponsoring the events - the end of a long and successful partnership.

1984

A "change at the top" again - John Hartga took the Chairmanship role for a 3-year stint. Concerns over falling clubnight attendance and pressure to utilise the Building Fund had initiated moves for an inter-club link-up; socials, roller-contests and the like were arranged with other clubs such as the Saracens, the M.C. & A.C. and two or three of the Coventry clubs. Maureen Paveley was very active in organising clubroom attractions, resulting in her being elected Club Official of the Year - this in addition to being part-way through her triple score for Best Attendances on clubruns.

On the racing side, and despite the ending of Clarks support, Harry laid on a superbly-organised day of races at Cannon Hill park. Regularly recording good race performances we had Mark Paveley, John Burrridge, Bill Halsey, Roy Gordon & Chris Moseley.

Carol Langley became the first Solihull member (since inception of the event in 1979) to win the prestigious Ladies Open '10' for the Rita Cordwell trophy. She underlined this success by winning the BSA Bowl in the Ladies Open '25' and with a 1-1-22 in an Essex Roads event set a new Club ladies '25' record.

No surprise, end of the year, to see her nominated as Most Promising Member. Back in the summer John Burridge joined Messrs. Reynolds, Lucas & Stephenson to ride the Raid Pyrennean, taking in all the high cols and enabling "H" to pay his homage on the Port d'Aspet.

In the autumnal cyclo-cross front Michael Bradley not only took the club championship (this year & next) but also took the Birmingham & Midlands title both years AND won bronze medals in the National Championships. At a slightly less intense level, Mark Paveley won the autumn freewheel contest and John Holland was nominated Chief Hobo - his second reign in this most regal of roles.

1985

Clubroom evenings had for several years been in the Woodbourne club yet committee meetings continued an earlier association, being held at Knowle village hall. Joining the committee this year as General Secretary was Margaret Towers - a commitment which would continue for a dozen years or more. Although the Dinner in January went off well, the same couldn't be said about clubroom attendances where members payments on the night were falling well short of the rental cost, necessitating a year-end subsidy of nearly £400. This year's Cannon Hill races seemed to misfire, with reduced entries and poor support from the public, and on the clubruns there was concern about how few Solihull jerseys were in evidence.

But all was not gloom & doom - Maureen Paveley was instrumental in pulling off a couple of novel 10 mile time trials, on the unopened section of the M42! These took place in August, along the stretch between Alvechurch and Forshaw Heath. Clive Grainger was also active in race promotions particularly the club track championships, which resulted in 2 wins for Rob Langley, 1 for Mick Ottley and 1 for junior Carl Ratcliff.

Come December, Margaret Towers was nominated "Most Promising Member", Bas Lewis took the vets BAR, Clive Grainger was elected Official of the Year, Frank Wells rounded up a dedicated half-decade of winning the Musgrave marshalling trophy - and 'Old Sol' Jim Winter was Chief Hobo.

1986

With John Hartga still exercising the steadying hand, this was destined to be one of those years when it all starts to happen!!

Early in the year contact had been made with Highgate United football club with a view to change of clubroom. By the 20th February we were up and running, installed in the Tythe Barn Lane premises for our first clubnight.

(*Whoever said The Solihull don't know how to move fast ???*)

Jim Jinks became our chief contact there. Happily the separation from Woodbourne was amicable and the Club presented John & Evelyn Leek with a carriage clock by way of thanks. The annual club dinner was marked by the presentation of another carriage clock - this time to Eric Arthur in recognition of his completing 25 years as club Treasurer.

In May, Dave Lucas organised two immaculate Cotswolds randonnées. Clive Grainger laid on circuit training at the new clubroom, while - observed within the list of new names lured into the fold - were Anne White, John Hooper and John Andrews. 3 noteworthy members, Lewis, Hateley and Pee, won the Handicap team award in the M.C.C.A. '100'. Thanks to a string of impressive results Rob Langley was selected for the G.B. training squad (ample justification for his being nominated Most Promising Member).

The club invested in a quadruple set of new competition rollers and Stan Bray's 50-year history of the club was close to publication. With so much positive activity it was disturbing to read of one troublesome aspect ; Dick Bowes wrote in "Awheel" criticising the disruption of clubruns by poser-racers.

Yet, as the year closed, there was an intimation in the wind.

Significant Club Sponsorship could be on its way . . .

1987

Clive Grainger was elected Chairman and Mike Adams became magazine editor in what were to become dramatic times for many in the club. The 1986 promise of sponsorship came very rapidly to fruition. New member John Hooper was able to offer monetary support totalling £6000 per annum through Edgbaston Insurance Services and Royal Life, an agreement becoming effective from the 19th of January. Sponsorship was not a totally popular concept but there could be little doubt that cash injection at the promised level should provide significant benefits to the membership generally and to top-performing racers in particular. To this end a sponsorship sub-committee was allocated the task of administering the fund year on year. An Open Evening was arranged on the 30th April for the Sponsorship press launch to which representatives of Solihull Council were invited. New club clothing, the Club History book, a roller demonstration and buffet supper were laid on for the benefit of guests.

The inflow of new members escalated almost immediately and a significant proportion of the new funds went into acquisition of club clothing which members were actively encouraged to wear in support of the sponsors. Normal club activities proceeded apace such as inter-club roller contests, the reliability trial, summertime barbeque, autumn randonnée (which new arrival Anne White co-organised very effectively with John Moore).

Sadly, in mid-season, Clive Grainger chose to resign both as Chairman and from the sponsorship sub-comm. Mal Lawton took over as Chairman, Kevin Wilson moved into the sub-committee vacancy. In racing, things were accelerating rapidly. Steve York set a new National junior comp. record of 20-04 for 10 miles, with Gary Chapman & Rob Langley making up the trio for team honours. Steve York went on to take the national '25' title; Carol Langley took bronze in the national 1km, besides creditable performances in the individual pursuit & points events; Carl Ratcliffe scored his first road race win at Telford; Gary Chapman set a junior club '25' record, 53-03, as well as tandem records over 3 distances with Alan Philpott. In the autumn Rob Langley achieved 3 hill-climb wins. Come the close of the year Mark Paveley organised a Stow hostel w/e but also won the club downhill, while Mike Adams got nominated Most Promising Member.



Vice President **BOB MAITLAND** celebrates his 75th, in company of sundry Solihull members at Sutton Coldfield, March 1999.



Mallorca touring group – 1999 – climbing the Lluc mountain road.

SATURDAY — the home run — Wootton Wawen.



1988

A year could hardly have started on a worse note. Dick Bowes had gone into hospital for an operation but complications arose and he had died on Boxing Day. His funeral on 8th January was attended by over 300 people. Understandably many in the club were devastated but they contributed generously to a cash tribute which eventually went to provide 3 tandems on permanent loan for the benefit of local blind riders. Remarkably, a memorial edition of the club magazine was produced overnight by Derek Paveley in time for the club Dinner.

At more mundane levels club life went on. Coventry Road Club attended a clubroom social in March; "H" organised a training w/e to Wales; over 100 attended a "Birthday Ride" to Yarningale; a roller demonstration was provided in Mell Square. New members came in thick & fast.

In racing the gauntlet was thrown down early-season when the club promoted the first Birmingham roller racing league competition. Paul Nix went on to record 3 wins in the series. Matt Norman became 1988 BCF divisional champion; the Solihull team took bronze medal in the BCF team trial; Alan Philpott & Steve York brought the tandem '10' record down to 18-26 in the Savernake Velo event; Gary Chapman further reduced the club '25' record to 52-15 in the Letchworth Velo event; Carol Langley won silver medals for both pursuit & points events in the National Track Championships. Rob Langley, not to be outdone, took 3rd in the Brighton to London road race and came 4th in the National hillclimb. There were now 5 first-Cat. licence-holders in the club. Mark Paveley (yawn) again won the downhill; beer & skittles were enjoyed at clubnight in November, Bob Smethurst was Chief Hobo.

Sponsorship or not, essential life continued.

1989

The senior squad for sponsored support was now Gary Chapman, Richard Evans, Rob Langley, Matt Norman, Steve Tonge, Mark Paveley, Alan Philpott and Steve York together with ladies Sue Crowther, Sandra Curtis and Carol Langley. Dave Smethurst,

besides acting as Press Secretary for the past 2 years, again organised this year's Dinner. New members continued to join at a healthy rate and support on the club runs was very strong.

The club team took bronze in the RTTC team time trial, Rob Langley was in the GB team for the Irish Milk Race and again in Cologne. Members were elated to see our man Keith Reynolds holding the yellow jersey AND winning 2 stages in the UK Milk Race.

In the Moore/White autumn randonnée the unique riding performance came from 9-year-old Karen Pee who successfully completed the 100km ride. The racing men, as in previous years, were not averse to dabbling in the pleasures of tourist activities - Richard Evans organised a December weekend to Ironbridge youth hostel, while John Holland - always happy to oblige - accepted yet again the mantle of Chief Hobo.

Club life, in its many forms, continued unabated.

1990

Mal Lawton handed over the chairmanship reins this year to Trevor Bayliss while Margaret Towers & "Joe" Arthur still continued in their long-running roles as Sec. & Treas. John Hooper organised this year's Dinner which was held at the old venue St. Johns and attracted 142 diners. Mike Adams was having to end his spell as magazine editor, his last issue coming out for the dinner, and no immediate replacement was forthcoming. For a while the gap was filled by a news sheet thanks to Mark Paveley.

New additions to the race team were Ben Wilson and Jenny Thorp both of whom were sent on cycle-race training courses - which quickly produced useful results in open competition. Other race successes were recorded by Rob Langley (1st in Belgian RR), Matt Norman (bronze medal in team TT at World Student Games), Richard Evans, Rodney Downs and Danielle Smith. Mike & Sarah Adams had promoted a mid season Open Hilly event in which the winner and the fastest vet were both Solihull members. Despite an impressive set of competition results John Hooper expressed his concern that reporting and publicity was insufficient for his company's sponsorship. The one consistently good success story was the turnout on clubruns! Membership numbers were also

rising, now nudging past the 150 mark.

Although Alan Grainger had finished his spell as editor he was still heavily involved serving as timekeeper for all the club time trials.

In May a seat constructed by John Cordwell had been placed in Hampton in Arden churchyard in memory of founder-member Eric Walker and his wife Freda. In his will Eric had donated £500 to the club to be used specifically to aid magazine production, a sad twist seeing the present difficulty of attracting an editor. By the turn of the year Rob had yet again scored well in the National hill-climb championships with an 8th place, Jenny Thorp was awarded Most Promising Member award and Eric Arthur finally retired as Treasurer after 30 years in the post. How long before the club would see another example like that ?

1991

Two new names took over official posts in the club - John McCallum as treasurer and Richard Tall (despite being at school) picked up the threads as magazine editor.

From the start of this year there was a restructuring in the club's sponsorship arrangements. An "elite squad" was formed, comprising R.Langley, M.Norman, Philip Leigh, Brian Tinsley & Graham McGarrity. The latter 3 were "imported" - McGarrity was based in Scotland - but were proposed and elected as members.

Members of this squad would have expenses paid quarterly. John Hooper was happy with this arrangement and he again organised a successful Dinner, back this year at the Greswolde. The influx of new members continued unabated, names featuring in this years list included Anne-Marie Bathmaker, Steve Mountford & Mike Cope. The racing successes make formidable reading : Rob Langley was in the GB squad in the UK Milk Race, the Tour of West Flanders and for Northern Ireland Milk Race in which he took 6th place; McGarrity was in the Scotland team in N.I. The club took 1st team in the Birmingham CC 4-up team time trial, Richard Evans won the Concorde RR, the club retained the Divisional team pursuit championship, Bob Jones won the National Criterium Championship and the Nat. Vets RR champ., McGarrity became Scottish RR champion.

Away from pure competition, 22 members rode the Cotswold MTB randonnée, while across in France, early September, Anne White & young John Moore cruised through the 1200 kilometres of the Paris-Brest-Paris.

A very healthy year !

1992

Trevor Bayliss continued as Chairman while Mal Lawton moved in as Treasurer - this latter role destined to continue until 1997.

A new development in the runs programme was the mountain bike run, now taking place once a month on Wednesdays. The usual reliability trials took place in March, this time in lousy weather. Plenty of new members included Paul Carbutt, Karl Matthews, Colin Langham, Nigel Roberts, Brian Jones, Barrie Goodyer. A suitably crippling randonnée weekend in the Yorkshire Dales was organised by Anne White for 26 Solihull riders.

The elite race squad was trimmed to 4 riders - Langley, Tinsley, McGarrity and Dave Williams (ex-Liverpool Mercury). Four more Cat-1 riders were in the Solihull team.

Race successes continued to pile in. Some examples : Glos. cyclo cross, R.Langley 1st; Gravediggers RR, G.McGarrity 1st; Oxonian c/c, R.Langley 1st; 4-day South African RR, 1st Bob Jones (inc. 2 stage wins); Royal Sutton RR, Ben Wilson 1st; Div'1 RR Champs, B.Wilson 1st, M.Norman 2nd, R.Langley 3rd, R.Jones 5th; Div'1 Team Pursuit Champs, 1st Solihull; etcetera.

Good times, unfortunately, were coming to an end. Quite early in the season Edgbaston Insurance Services went into voluntary liquidation. The club had to call a special meeting to work out the way forward. This at a time when the club had already committed to organising a classic road race in the Star Trophy series and were supporting Mike & Sarah Adams in the promotion of an Open MTB race day at Ragley Hall.

Suffice to say the club emerged from this little funding hiccup with its credibility intact. Both the big race promos went off extremely well. However the sponsorship account had to be closed and this eventually resulted in migration from the race squad. On a happy note, Bob Maitland accepted an invitation to become a Solihull C.C. Vice President.

1993

With the ending of Trevor Bayliss' term as Chairman, Mal Lawton valiantly agreed to undertake the dual role of Chairman & Treasurer. The Towers family were now well represented, Margaret continuing as General Secretary, husband Fred as Press Secretary. Unfortunately the start of the year was marred by the death of Stan Bray - mile-eater extraordinaire, poet, writer and editor. To many in the veteran wheeler's world Stan had been chief flag-bearer for Solihull Cycling Club. There were tributes aplenty at this year's Moathouse Dinner and in the accompanying magazine.

On the general club front, life was blooming - 3 runs on the Sunday, the Tuesday all-day run now firmly established, Wednesday MTB rides once a month. Brian Hitchcock was doing sterling work as Social Secretary, "Bring & buy" nights were proving very popular. We even had Mick Ives over adding his goodies to those on sale.

Simon Martin, Lee Forrest, Rob Jelfs were among the new members. 15 members rode the ATB Tour of the Cotswolds; 20 did another Yorkshire Dales weekend. Four misguided individuals from the Tuesday brigade were joined by V/P Bob Maitland on a super-tourist "all lanes & hills" ride from Lands End to Cape Wrath & John O'Groats; Ann Bayliss and Barbara Richards were the long-suffering support crew. Another club group went with Fred Towers to France for a September randonnée.

In racing, the Ladies 4-up team of Mesdames Bathmaker, Evans, White & Langley pulled team prize in the Birmingham C.C. 50 kilometre event. Once again the MTB race day organised by Mike Adams at Ragley Hall was an outstanding success with over 500 competitors, the event prompting good publicity in the Redditch Advertiser, Stratford Herald & Birmingham Post.

By the end of the year Mike Cope's Neste Chemicals company made an offer of sponsored "Borealis" club clothing. Richard Tall was elected official of the Year for his work on the magazine; Liz Tennant took the Road Race Champion trophy; Ross Adams - with a string of placings in MTB & cyclo-cross events - was awarded Most Promising Member and Cyclo-Cross Champion; Tony Pierce cruised in as Downhill winner.

1994

At this years dinner Tom & Eileen Godwin deputised for John Cordwell and his wife, while down from Derby came Mick Potts as Chief Guest, his speech yielding protracted (!?!) memories of a mile-eaters life. At the Highgate clubroom Jim Jinks was making determined efforts to improve our facilities with respect to games, smoking control and avoiding clashes of evening usage. On the Sunday clubruns we were joined by a Japanese girl, Mina, this featuring in a Solihull Evening Mail article. In contrast, the fact that Andy Leacock & Rob Hampton were amongst our new entrants seems to have been totally ignored by the local press. "Drive & Ride" runs entered the Tuesday programme on a monthly basis, enabling riders to extend their day rides into the Welsh borders, the Derbyshire Peak or the southern Cotswolds.

In racing the Ladies Team (our strongest competitors at this time) gained a 1st in a 4-up event. Alan Boden won a Vets 2-day road race then later in the season scored third in his age category in the Vets world championships in Derbyshire. Alan, Paul Carbutt & Dave Driver took team award in the Coventry '25' TT. Several members rode the "Dieppe Raid" randonnée and came back with two or three trophies - one of these for the club with the largest number of finishers. Back at home Len de Vos organised the first of his popular "Green Heart" club randonnées. This was also the year when early stages of "Le Tour" came through southern England and several club groups went down to join in the festivities. Just before this, on June 23rd, there was a photo-night at the clubroom to celebrate the arrival of the new Borealis jerseys. These proved very popular and a second batch had to be ordered to meet the demand.

Richard Tall had to relinquish magazine editorship as he started university. Barrie Goodyer moved into the vacancy : To handle the word processing the committee recommended the use of a computer, using funds from founder-member Eric Walker's donation to purchase the relevant equipment.

Once again the Ragley Hall MTB promotion was an outstanding success and events at the Highgate clubroom were going well - Jim Jinks organised a Guy Fawkes fireworks night and later the same month Jim Smyth arranging a skittles evening. Paul Bowes took over from Jim Winters as Chief Hobo - but what's this ? First time in 45 years that the Taylor Bros have not attended ??