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March 2014

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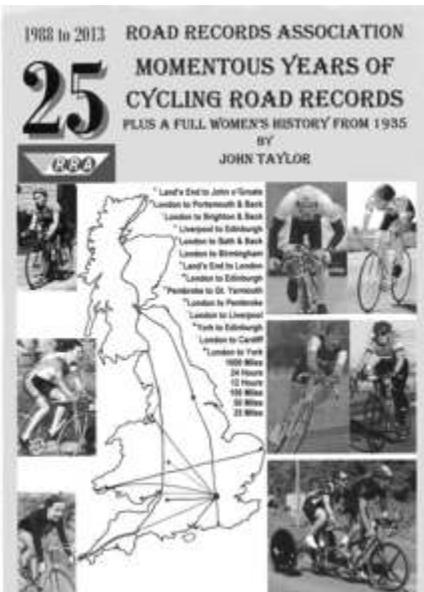
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THE VETERAN

The quarterly magazine
of the

VETERANS TIME TRIALS ASSOCIATION

*Founded in 1943 to promote cycle time trialling
for the 40 years old and over*

Number 40

March 2014

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(10, 25 and 30 miles)**

Rob Pears

by Kimroy

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President

Alan Colburn

Annual General Meetings - what would you do with 'em?

Some opinions I've heard include boring/confusing/pedantic/no real meaning/no real use/archaic/not fit for purpose. (There have been other opinions offered but the Editor doesn't allow bad language).

There's a little bit of everything in an AGM but they are part of the fabric of any well-run organisation and in the main serve a very useful purpose in that the membership has a say in what goes on in their name.

One of the opinions recently voiced was "secret society" which rather baffled me! We have a handbook which contains the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, we have Group AGMs to which every member is invited and we have a National AGM to which Group delegates are invited. We have civilised, occasionally robust, discussions followed by a vote. How open can you get?

This was quite evident at this year's AGM when the topic of Performance Awards was discussed. This innovation was introduced at the previous AGM, discussed and then voted through – by the members. During the course of the last season, opinions and execution varied so much that on this year's agenda there were three, broadly similar, proposals to revert to the well-established system of Standard Awards. The vote went in favour of a return to Standard medals.

So Democracy works but more importantly - it is seen to be working!

The other thing that seems to be working is the weather – what a diabolical wet winter! I do hope that everyone has survived safely and managed some decent miles although conditions have been more suited to water polo.

New Year, new bike, new goals, and new records – it's all out there for you

Good Luck!



More True Church Bloopers

This evening at 7 pm there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church.
Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Please place your donation in the envelope
along with the deceased person you want remembered.

Chairman

Jim Burgin

As the years fly by, I contemplate the changes I have witnessed and the friends on the National Committee who have joined and left. At the outset I was conscious of the perceived longevity of my fellow members but in fact they have been replaced surprisingly often in comparison with the Groups.

The Chairman went as I arrived, the Treasurer very soon after, then the President, the Secretary and the National Recorder. After that it was the Awards Secretary and the Webmaster.

In most cases there followed a (mercifully) short period of anxiety as replacements were sought but, with the exception of the Awards Secretary, new officers were found and without any loss of expertise. It was the experience of those periods of anxiety which was uppermost in my mind as I contemplated the possibility of there being no nomination to fill the role of National Secretary. A short period without one or other of the officials might be accommodated with the help of the rest of the NEC, but Ann Butterworth had proved to be so meticulous as Secretary that for any one of the existing officers to take on the job on a temporary basis would be too much to ask. Thus it was that I sought the support of the membership in changing the rules so that it would be policy to 'employ' a National Secretary. Of course it could not be on the basis of employment in the real sense, there being insufficient funds for that, but I did think that there could well be qualified individuals who would welcome a potentially interesting secretarial job for a few hours each week. A retired person perhaps and not necessarily a cyclist although such experience would be useful. The main aim being never to be in the position of seeking a volunteer for such a vital part of the running of the Association.

That a name would appear, unprompted, was fortuitous. That the person should be a cyclist and whose interest was not prompted by payment was particularly so. The AGM's decision to support the change and in particular that it should so readily support the proposal 'That the vote be taken' which meant that no discussion was necessary, was endorsement indeed.

And so my eleventh year as a member of the National Committee begins with fresh impetus. There have been many changes in the past ten years, most of which are not particularly evident but all form part of what is now a different organisation to that of a decade ago. Still to come are the modifications to joining and renewing membership. The settling in of the new standards. The further uptake of the Short Distance Competition and doubtless further innovations as a fresh Committee begins another year.

But I shall miss you, Ann Butterworth. Already my inbox has shrunk as I look round for another confidant. And who will replace Jim Ogden, a gentleman in every sense. I console myself with the thought that Rachael Elliott, a young as she is, will soon adopt the materfamilias that we became used to during the reign of the Manchester Group's Butterworth.

A late piece of information which encourages my optimistic outlook is that we have at last found an Awards Secretary: Ian Greenstreet, recently transferred from Surrey/Sussex to London Group, has volunteered. Ian is one of Newbury Road Club's top racing men and will doubtless bring an active rider's viewpoint to the quarterly meetings, for it is an important fact that each official not only does the job he or she volunteered for, he/she becomes part of the Executive which is responsible for the creativity and furtherance of the Association.

A happy new year to all!





Secretary
Rachael Elliott

When you embark on a new role on any committee, there are always concerns that you will fail to deliver the same service as the previous person in that position. When you are taking over a role from someone with the respect, dedication and hard working ethos of Ann Butterworth, the concerns start to verge on downright fear.

I feel both excited and privileged to be taking on the role of National Secretary of the VTТА. I am relatively new to the world of time trialling having come to the sport in 2011 from a running background. A previous life as a professional violinist, however, meant I could translate the hours of obsessing about minor

intonation problems into obsessing about power statistics.

Indeed, statistics are my friend. One of the things that had always fascinated me as a runner were age graded performance scores where you were given a percentage score for your run based on the national record for your age. Discovering an even more established system in the form of veteran standards was already in place in the time trialling world helped me draw immediate parallels between the two sports.

I am in my second year of being General Secretary of the Newbury Road Club, a role which I very much enjoy. In fact, nearly a year of not being able to ride due to health issues has meant I've taken on more than my share of admin and organisation duties. However, far from viewing this as a burden, it has made me realise I enjoy this side of cycling just as much as the riding. Nevertheless, every unriden time trial that passes provides me with an added itch to get back out and compete. And I firmly believe the best way to truly understand the wants and needs of time triallists is to ride events yourself.

I am excited about my new role of National Secretary and look forward to the challenges ahead. I am indebted to Jim Burgin and Ann Butterworth for their help in transitioning into the role. Part of this transition has meant inheriting a number of large crates containing all meeting minutes and copies of *The Veteran* since the inception of the VTТА. What better way to become fully indoctrinated into the fascinating world of the most exciting cycling association in the country than by reading the minutes from the 1949 Annual General Meeting?

I look forward to answering all your queries and speaking to many of you over the months (and years) to come. In the interim, I would like to wish you a safe and successful time trialling season in 2014.

A truck driver was driving along on a country road. A sign came up that read "Low Bridge Ahead."

Before he realised it, the bridge was directly ahead and he got stuck under it. Cars were backed up for miles. Finally, the police arrived.

The officer got out of his car and walked to the truck's cab and said to the driver, "Got stuck, eh?"

The truck driver said, "No, I was delivering this bridge and ran out of diesel!"



Membership Secretary

Merv Player

The flow of new members has been steady during the first two months of 2014. With better weather now in the offing, February shows an increase to those joining in January. In January we had 35 new members with 10 rejoining whilst 12 decided not to, and two lapsed. Sadly five died. The net gain was 26. In February there were 32 new members with seven rejoining. Five did not re-new for personal reasons and two passed away. During the month we had a net gain of 32. Comparing the above figures with 2013 indicates an overall increase of 28. Of the 84 added, 40 are in the 40-49 age band, which may well be due to the increased possibility of Standard awards available to the younger riders with the new allowances introduced two years ago. Total membership, including partners, is now 2613, in February 2013 the number was 2789. This reduction is mainly due to a large number of lapsed and members at the end of March/April last year.

You will see in last quarter's *Veteran* that there are a large number of members over 70 who are still racing. My thanks to all the Group Secretaries who furnished me with the figures necessary to compile this comprehensive list. I hope not too many were missed out.

Although the number in the younger age bands is increasing, those who are achieving Honorary Life Membership status is also on the up, with the total now standing at 348— 68 being granted HLM status in 2013 and seven so far this year.

Finally I should like to thank all the Group Secretaries and Membership Secretaries for their patience in dealing with my numerous queries and requests during the years.

Over 70 and Still Racing

The new system of Group Secretaries sending each list to Merv seems to have worked better than ever before resulting in a most impressive compilation. However, there were bound to be some omissions and apologies go to:

Mike Richardson (London and Home Counties)	73
Barrington (Barry) Day (Wessex)	78
Brian Griffiths (West)	74



Brian Griffiths

National Records Secretary

Geoff Perry



All the Age Record certificates for 2013 have finally been despatched including the late claims and inevitable corrections usually caused by me confusing tandem bikes with trikes and vice versa. The lists printed in the Handbook are up to date as at the end of 2013.

During the year a number of tandem riders contacted me regarding 'missing' records which had been published in the *The Veteran*. I undertook a thorough check against my electronic records and against old handbooks that I have in my possession and discovered a number of discrepancies in what had been printed in the handbook over the last eight years.

These discrepancies have now been corrected and therefore a number of records have 'reappeared' for:

Kevin Gill and Vic Haines at 30 miles

Jeff Bowler and Dave Bates at 50 miles

Peter Hopkins and Colin Bunnnett at 10 miles and 30 miles

Gwen Cook and Lea Marshall at 10 miles, 25 miles, 30 miles, 50 miles and 100miles

Jeff Bowler and Anne Staley at 10 miles and 25 miles

Paul Holdsworth and Jill Bartlett at 100 miles

J Churton and Rose Almond at 100 miles

Nikki Hunt and Peter Hopkins at 30 miles

Please let me know if you spot any discrepancies or think any records are missing.



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GROUP REPORTS

Nottingham and East Midlands

David Herd

Since the last report the NEM group AGM on 17 November 2013 has taken place with more than the usual attendance. Our Group Secretary Russell Gent has issued a detailed set of minutes of the meeting. All present serving Officers were re-elected.

The group have the following events planned for 2014:

Saturday 17 May Ivan Mahon 25 A25/20
Russell Gent

Saturday 26 July Jack Watts 25 A25/32
(In association with Melton Olympic)

Saturday 20 Sep Bert Christian 25 A25/32
Malcolm Mann

Another event to be aware of is the South Pennine RC (Joes Diamond) Jubilee 25 to held on the A25/11 (Etwell) course 24 May 2014, event secretary Joe Summerlin.

Following the NEM riders' successes in the National BAR, (three and two distance categories), our group recorder Graham Green kindly forwarded me details of the East Midlands awards, some of which were presented at the Annual Luncheon on 26 January 2014. Details are to be found in the *Results* pages.

Michael Church, who suffered multiple fractures and trauma whilst competing in the National 12 hour in August 2013, reports that he is well on the road to recovery and now able to ride on his turbo and is planning to compete again in 2015. Michael wishes to thank all those members from East Anglia who visited him, wished him well and sent cards.

He is now a member of Rockingham Forest Wheelers and is still very much involved in

cycling, becoming a time keeper. Good for you Michael, we all hope you continue to recover and look forward to seeing you competing next season.

As mentioned earlier in my report, the Annual Luncheon was held on the 26 January at Cleve Lodge, Long Eaton. Attendees were treated to an after luncheon address by Jim Goodwin which in most other cases would have needed censorship, but while both Jim and Win were in fine form, some members were slipping under the table with red faces. Not really; Jim was very funny and whilst the cringe factor was high, everyone had a good laugh at his well delivered spicy anecdotes.

Well, the new time-trialling season is upon us. I note that Notts Clarion are running their four early season medium gear events 10 mile club events (normal gears are allowed) commencing on 22 February 2014. Start time is 11 am at Cropwell Bishop. I was tempted but declined; I know Kath Smith rode the first one on a cool, windy but a sunny dry day. Ideal conditions for blowing away the winter cobwebs, well-done to the Nott's Clarion Cycling Club for keeping the traditional medium gear time trials going.

I wish everyone safe and fast rides for the 2014 Season.

Yorkshire

Malcolm Cowgill

A Happy New Year to you all. I am writing this piece after what seems like months of wind and rain, although so far it hasn't been freezing. I hope the ice and snow isn't being reserved for the first events of the new season. Let's hope the Summer starts before July this year. What we

don't want is the same July weather as two years ago when the Great Yorkshire Show had to be called off due to the heavy rain. If the stray gets churned up into a quagmire by tour vehicles, it won't go down well with the residents of Harrogate.

As it is a quiet time for news, let us look at the toughest un-paced effort of all, the hour record. Noises have been made of late by Fabian Cancellara and Tony Martin about an attempt on the record. If they have any self respect, it will be on Chris Boardman's 56.375 km and not some mark that was set 42 years ago as the UCI would like to think that's what the record is.

This brings me to the oldest living hour record breaker, Ercole Baldini. He broke the record in 1956 with 46.394 km, aged just 21 and still an amateur. He had come to British attention in the Isle of Man International Road Race when he got in the winning break of four; much to everyone's surprise, this young unknown lone Italian won it. 'How could this happen?' said the headlines. Three to one - it wouldn't have happened in Italy if it had been one British rider up against three Italians. We were soon to find out. He won the Melbourne Olympic Road Race in 1956. He then turned Pro and in 1958 won the Professional World Road Championship in one of the greatest Championships of all time; he broke away with three others with over 100 miles to go. The other three were the Belgian, Jan Adriaensens, the Italian, Gastone Wencini, and tour winner Louison Bobet. In pouring rain, they stayed away. Eventually Adriaensens and Wencini were dropped and two laps from the end when the field were closing, Baldini left Bobet and alone reeled off the fastest lap of the race. Bobet rode in no man's land and hung on to take the silver medal.

In 1964, at the World Track Championships in Paris, I had the privilege of seeing him ride the pursuit. Although past his best, his position on the bike was beautiful; elbows at ninety degrees and a flat back you could have balanced a glass of water on. Vin Denson once told me he was invited to join Baldini's team. He drove down to Forgi in Italy to meet him; when he was almost

there, he had a minor accident involving a female motorist, the police arrived and when they asked Vin where he was going and he said he was there to meet Baldini, it was a wonder the woman wasn't thrown in jail, such was the esteem in which Baldini was held. The Italians would do well to have a rider like him today.

Enough nostalgia! Our first event, Mike Williams' 10, will be here before you know it on 5 April. Sadly, there will not be a 30 in May as a promoter could not be found.

Now to our Annual Lunch and Prize Presentation which, as usual, was an excellent do with 86 present which was great, considering the CTT Champions Night was the evening before our Lunch. This had come about due to our Lunch being brought forward one week for reasons which were out of Mickie's control.

The first presentation was the Eric Linley Trophy for Meritorious Service to the Group; this year it was decided to make it a joint award and it went to Jim and Brenda Littlefair, East Bradford CC. Over the years, Jim and Brenda must have organised and assisted in running more events than you can shake a stick at and were truly deserving in receiving the award. Our Guest of Honour was Bill Holmes, Hull Thursday RC. Bill was a star of the fifties and sixties and was competition record breaker at 25 and 50 back in the fifties and won the Tour of Britain in 1961. He also rode in the 1956 and 1960 (Melbourne and Rome) Olympic Games. He told us some amusing stories from his long and successful career. A rider with his spread of talent would be hard to find these days.

Among the prize-winners was Brenda Littlefair, East Bradford CC, who at the age of 77 had set national age records at 100 miles and 12 hours. The oldest prize-winner at 82 was Arthur Thackray, Team Swift, who had standard medals at 10, 15 and 25 miles. Andy Asquith, Bridlington CC, had five standards from 15 miles to 12 hours. Peter Yates, Otley CC, won our Short Distance BAR at the age of 80; also, of course, he won the National VTTA 24 hour Championship with an age record of 343.04 miles. He has also been awarded the C W Cook

Meritorious Award for this performance.

Our Ladies BAR for the second year was Karen Taylor, East Bradford CC, taking the Harry McKechnie Trophy. Karen is also putting something back as she has taken over the job of Group Recorder.

The Yorkshire VTTA Champion for 2013 was John Dewhirst, East Bradford CC; he won the title with an actual average speed of 26.586mph and took the Oliver Cup for Best on Standard.

So that was our Prize Presentation. Special thanks are due to Geoff Hornby, our Medals Secretary, who did a great job in making sure the awards presentation went smoothly. Also thanks to Mickie for organising the Lunch. She has already booked The Bridge for next year; the date will be 25 January 2015 and let's try and make it 100 bums on seats then. The raffle raised £174: thanks to Janet Tate for selling the tickets and to all those who brought prizes. With the main excuse for testing positive these days being placed on suspect meat, a word of caution for all those who had the beef, Mickie has already sent a list of names to WADA! I myself have already knocked 30 seconds off my best time up the Red Wall, although that could have been due to a raging back wind!

Finally, I see that BT have bought the rights to show Champions League football; thankfully, this will remove it from mainstream YTV. All we need now is somebody to convince BT that it would be a good idea to buy Eastenders! I'm off back to the sun. See you all in April; it might have stopped raining by then.

East Anglian

Mary Horsnell

First things first – our first winners of the season must have been in Norfolk for the New Year's Day 10. Chris Nudds taking Best on Standard put Peter Baumber into a rare third place. These two were again at the forefront when the East District held their awards presentation, Peter

taking the title of King Vet in the SPOCO East contest for the sixth time.

This year there was a new compere, Ron Back, following Mick Gambling's many years of faithful service. Ron is keen to do well this season, having achieved over 800 miles at the time of writing, and will be spear-heading a strong team from West Suffolk Wheelers. He was recently picked out to be one of the top veteran sportspersons for a TV programme called "Amazing Greys", producer Siobhan Lloyd, and was able to advise them to borrow a Watt Bike from BC. Another top man there was Aberdeen hero Derek Stewart, well known to our Group; there was little to choose between them on results after 400 miles flat out. It must have been quite exciting to watch.

Another outing for Pete Baumber was to the VTTA National Prize-giving where he and his back-up team, Martin Reynolds and Mary Twitchett received medals for their team win in the National 10 and were well impressed with the occasion.

The group 10 mile points series is a relatively new competition and here there was a tie for top place between Peter and Ron Back, with Mary the best placed lady. The name of Mary Twitchett may be new in cycling circles, but not in other sports as she is an International marathon runner who turned to cycling about three years ago to aid recovery after a car accident in which her foot was injured. She also has a Masters gold medal for rowing and a Masters silver for biathlon in 2012 and still takes part in the latter, as well as coming over to cycle trials with a good deal of success.

Another lady who has been very successful in recent years is Tricia Goulden, a useful member of the West Suffolk Wheelers team. It is a long time since there was a real Vet in the Group and Tricia is a fully qualified veterinary surgeon who plans to move to a practice in Felixstowe quite soon.

Also on the move is Ann Shuttleworth, whose new address will be at Bocking.

For the last two years, Ann has been organiser of the Eastern Counties Lunch and the Prize Presentation where Lea Marshall takes over; they made a formidable partnership. New President Terry Anderson, aka Big Tel, resplendent in chain of office and colour co-ordinated tie, greeted the guests. It was good to see so many old friends: Alan and Jill Bates of E G Bates Cycles, generous donors of the Ladies BAR trophy so many years past; Mick Burrow, an event winner as long ago as 1963 and still riding; likewise Stan Broom, who was honoured with a special plaque for services rendered over his long cycling career. Chelmer nearly made a clean sweep of the team shields, new vet there being Scott Clark, while Ken Platts went home with more cups than he could carry.

The Counties have now chalked up 105 years and 22 events were run last season, but are now running at a loss.

Competitions Secretary Kevin Orrin, himself a third generation cyclist, gave a very perceptive report:

Again the weather and road works this year has resulted in many ECCA and other events being cancelled. I am sure this has affected the number of riders who have qualified in the seven season long competitions, with a total of 63 in 2013 compared to 77 in 2012 and 137 in 2011.

Yes there are far more people cycling and with clubs increasingly, but most of them are happy to ride Sportifs and club runs. They don't have the time or inclination to look into riding a set of events. They may try the odd club events or, if they go well, an Open event, but it is just another part of their life and must fit around that – not the other way around.

It is nice to see new winners of many of the trophies, especially as some of those are younger improving riders, some of whom I can say I have seen develop from when they started riding with the Chelmer CC. I can say I rode with both the Chelmer CC ladies who won the George Hunter Trophy on their first club ride.

Again the Veterans standards table have changed, making it difficult to compare the plus

with previous years.

Travelling to this get-together, one might have thought that the wild, wet and windy days were over; the sun shone and the lanes were adorned with cyclists in all colours both on and off their bikes – guess they were the unlucky ones with punctures or mechanicals, but were there the unlucky ones who had to sit indoors on the best day so far. However, after safely negotiating the ominously named Fen Lane, everyone was able to enjoy the view from the Golf Club, across the Langdon Hills, which had been blotted out by heavy snowfall in 2012. Alas, the joy was short-lived; the bad weather was to return with a vengeance; but now, after all the floods here, at least the Spring flowers are appearing and most members are ready for action.

Yes, the group is flourishing and membership secretary Merv Player has recorded the first new signings of 2014; they are:

David Saunders (70) Kings Cliffe Flyers
(transferred from Notts/E Mids)

Shane Martin (42) Met Police CC

Henry Wood (59) West Suffolk Wheelers

John Shellard (69) None

Max Nunn (70) VC Elan (trans from Kent)

Andy Blower (40) Cambridge CC

Andrew Ferry (46) Bigfoot CC (rejoined)

Lee Bark (51) Stowmarket & Dist (rejoined)

Robert Day (66) CC Breckland
(transferred from Manchester/NW)

Mark Elmy (48) Bungay Cycle School

Mark Newton (47) Elite Cycling
(transferred from Surrey/Sussex)

Simon Carr (47) Essex Roads (rejoined)

Matthew Fuller (40) Velo Schils-Interbike

But it's sad to lose some old friends:

Laura Gambling Resigned

Ken Nichols Resigned

Ray Ross Resigned

Kevin Brown Resigned

John Vidler Resigned

Sue Rudkin Resigned

Mick Pepper, new President of Wolsey RC, a long-time newsletter Editor, is kind enough to send me a copy each month and from it I see that Karen Eaton represented her club at the Suffolk Sports Awards ceremony, when the Suffolk Cycling Racing series was runner-up in the Project of the Year Category. Karen, who was originally Mick's cycling protégée, has made a very good recovery from her ski-ing accident some years ago and has now started leading Saturday rides, as well as riding Sportives and organising various things for her club, thus setting a good example to all.

Keep up the good work – it won't be long before we meet again; till then, best of luck for 2014.

See you up the road.

Wessex

Thomas Hardy's resurrection of the name "Wessex" is largely responsible for the popular modern use of the term to describe the south-west region of England (with the exception of Cornwall and arguably Devon); today, a panoply of organisations take their name from Hardy to describe their relationship to this area. Hardy's conception of Wessex as a separate, cohesive

geographical and political identity has proved powerful, despite the fact it was originally created purely as an artistic conceit, and has spawned a lucrative tourist trade.

It is also the name adopted by a VTTA Group adjacent to Surrey/Sussex, Kent, London and Home Counties and West.

Amongst its members are the Webmaster, Jim Gibb and NEC Committee Member, Barry Quick together with such notables as Nik Bowdler, David Collard Berry, Eddie Green, Ray Hughes, Dick Poole, Martyn Winter and John Woodburn.

The Group had a total membership of 149 at the last count and it is administered by Ken Blowe who is ostensibly the Secretary and Treasurer with some assistance from Peter Warhurst who is the Recorder and Press Officer.

A troll through the past ten years shows that Ken was contributing the Wessex notes back then and doubtless before that.

The current Handbook shows that, in 2003, Ken was handed the Ted Bricknell Memorial Award in recognition in part for all this effort so one can only imagine how much further back he goes than the decade mentioned.



A bemused Jeff Matthews, recipient of the infamous Wooden Spoon at the recent Midlands Group Luncheon (see page 14)

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So very little happens at this time of year and I apologise for the brevity of these notes.

We returned to Rowfant House for the lunch and prize presentation this year. It was quite a subdued affair, perhaps because we hadn't been able to ride our bikes much in the awful weather and also because we had lost two of our stalwarts. Steve Avely and Tom Dimmock, both in the Tooting BC, had died in the past few months. Steve had been ill for a year or two but Tom, who was ninety last year, looked hale and hearty at the 2013 Lunch and we had looked forward to his presence for another few years. It was not to be but his clubmates joined us and I think they had a quiet toast to their old friends.

Carole Gandy, the Kent Group secretary and racing woman of great repute was our guest of honour and she told us that she had been an enthusiastic hockey and squash player before she moved on to cycling. Carole was trying to persuade me to ride the Kent Group reliability trial on the Sunday after our lunch, and I promised that I would if the weather was ok. I never made the event and Carole did not finish it as she fell off her bike in Hamstreet and bashed her head on the kerb. From all accounts it was very nasty but Carole was fortunate inasmuch as a paramedic was riding in her group and was able to perform CPR after which she was airlifted to Kings College Hospital. At the time of writing things seem promising as she has been giving John his orders - we wish her well and hope by the time this issue of the Veteran arrives that she is regaining her fitness.

We had a smattering of prize winners at the lunch, both of our record breakers were in attendance. 87 year old Ray Dare claimed national records for the 50 and 25 and David Shepherd the 12 hour; David was our BAR champion and Michael Turner was our first Group 12 hour champion.

I reported the prizewinners in the last edition but the one award presented at the lunch is the Sportsman's trophy. This year our treasurer Keith Wilkinson was the worthy recipient. Capo Keith, he of the "horses head in the bed" if you don't

renew your membership, has been working as hard as ever. I seem to be getting a steady stream of emails telling me of new members. It does seem that the Group is bucking the trend of many others by maintaining our membership levels. We were never a big Group, and perhaps that has made it slightly easier.

We have two important events on our calendar this year. Esther (mother) is organising the RTTC and VTTA National 24 Hour, so hopefully you will be riding or helping, and the Lewes Wanderer's 30 promotion is also the National VTTA championships. The respective promoters, Esther and Simon Yates will both be very grateful for any help you can offer. This is our opportunity to show off our Group, so let's pull out all the stops.

We have a full programme of events beginning with the 10 on June 7th promoted by Dave Cox and finishing with the KCA 12 hour exactly three months later. All our events are on the Group website and the VTTA handbook.

Finally welcome to: Rupert Dickinson; Stuart Hewling; Paul Jackson; Sam Ramsey; Brian Molloy and Carl Richardson.

The Midlands VTTA Awards Lunch

(Miranda Harris)

After a warm welcome from Chairman Andrew Simpkins, Alan Coburn asked all guests to remember friends and relatives who are no longer with us: Les Lowe, Mick Ford and Reg Bromley. It is always good to reflect on those who have contributed so much to the sport, often for our benefit.

After that sobering thought, I must say the lunch was an extremely jolly affair and very well attended. I was particularly impressed with all the work of our MC, Alan, who seems to have mastered the art of technology in a very sophisticated manner. Word documents were emailed in advance of the Lunch, no doubt created on his new iPad. In fact due to his excellent notes for the various presentations, I have decided to include them 'as read by him'. He

even colour coded names of those not present.

Alan introduced a little known custom of cross toasting, before handing over to last year's winner of the wooden spoon, Steve Lockwood, to announce a new winner. Steve has absolutely no idea what he was involved in that was so provocative or controversial to cause this achievement. Since he hadn't been able to attend last year's lunch the trophy was put in the capable hands of a Committee Member, who was entrusted with the simple task of getting the trophy to him safely and promptly. Unfortunately, things didn't quite go according to plan. On arrival at his home the said committee member realised that he no longer had the spoon. He was forced to set out again in his car, in the snow, retracing the steps of his journey home. After much searching he finally discovered the wooden spoon buried in the snow, or at least part of it. He realised that not only had it fallen out of his car but he had driven over it, breaking it into several pieces. He then had to search for the remaining pieces.

The wooden spoon spent a considerable time in the care of a leading wooden spoon repairer, so it was a few weeks before it was finally delivered to Steve. Thankfully the repair had been successful and hopefully you can see from the photographs taken at the dinner that it is now almost completely recovered from its ordeal. As a result the wooden spoon was awarded to the Committee Member responsible for this sorry tale, Jeff Matthews.

After an excellent and very ample meal, including half a roast chicken each, Jeff Matthews welcomed the guests. Jeff began by noting that everyone who wasn't on the Committee was technically a guest. Although this was Alan's helpful observation, perhaps it was important to be a bit more specific; for instance, the long-suffering partners of racers who had put up with eccentric clothes, habits and language, in some cases for very many years. These people were clearly very welcome guests.

The situation was more complicated where both raced. Who was the guest? With the new Points Series and a flatter, more even playing field, this

needed to be decided by whoever was higher up the table – the guest was to be the runner up, as it were. Jeff was then heckled by a member of the audience who was keen to know how this would be settled for partners who rode tandem. He had to admit that the Committee hadn't thought this through. (We will be convening a special meeting and an announcement will be made in time for next year's lunch to avoid any future embarrassment and confusion.)

Moving on to "Guests who should be named", Jeff mentioned the bus driver from Walsall Road's Club, Paul Edwards, who had driven down in the security van under armed guard, so as to transport the silver back up North. Eddie and Mavis Smith were welcomed next and his effort in the Open 25 was noted. Eddie is probably the oldest competitor currently active in the Midland VTTA and has now celebrated 47 years as a District Official in all guises.

Ruth Eyles, our Special Guest from 2008 was thanked for her work on producing the "Dr Eyles Formula" which underpins the Points Series and the Midland Rankings. This formula is then turned into a table which appears on the Midlands DC VTTA website by Steve Lockwood. Jeff suggested that whilst other officials were doing an excellent job keeping the sport running, between the two of them, they were providing some of the most exciting developments in the sport in years.

Special mention was made of Tim and Emily Wood. Tim has agreed to sponsor the Point Series again for 2014, which is something for which he was thanked. He is also entitled to be a member now, as a result of a birthday in early January and therefore could be winning some of his own money back in 2014. Jeff thanked him for bringing the Guest of Honour in the back of his car, a Chris Boardman 2014 9.8 TT bike. With its sleek lines and elegant looks it was attracting far too much attention. Drooling riders had to be dragged away by long-suffering partners, used to having to compete for their attention.

As the bike couldn't speak for itself, Jeff introduced the Guest of Honour who could- Colin Sturgess. In doing so, he drew the meeting's attention to Colin's extraordinary 10 mile

competition record, achieved in July 1988. The first rider to go under 19 minutes, it was achieved at 19 years of age on a standard 753 road bike, replete with Alan Colburn's 28 spoke wheels (built by Ken Bird, tied and soldered with silks. We never did get to the bottom of that story).

Colin was World Pursuit Champion in 1989, a story that was shown to the audience in an exciting video of the event. Probably one of the most thrilling pursuit matches of all time, Colin received a stirring round of applause as the image of him, on the top step of the podium in a World Champion's jersey, appeared on screen. In his response, Colin was generous in his praise of the officials and the committee and then shared insights into his life as a pro bike rider. We had the chance to ask questions and to this, Colin Sturgess replied, ending with a toast to the Midlands Group.

Next up was our Chairman, Andrew, who responded by thanking everyone, especially Tim and Colin. He drew our attention to the exhibition of Les Lowe's awards which were here for all to see. His only other point was the need for more committee members. After Sue Kelly had toasted the Prize Winners, all Presentations to the various winners were made with Colin and Tim sharing duties in handing out the envelopes and the silverware.

Phil Brown, who has had a spectacular 2013 season, responded on behalf of the prize winners. Thanking race organisers, marshals and all other supporters, he was also grateful to sponsor, Tim. "It's nice to get a meaningful sum for your efforts." Greta Spiers drew the occasion to a conclusion, which was formally closed by the Chairman.

Manchester and North West

(Jim Ogden)

As I write this report, newspapers are reporting 'worst weather records' being broken on a daily basis. With the floods and gale force winds reaching 100mph, turbo trainers just might seem attractive. I think the pros might have the right idea: a choice of either Qatar or Majorca.

Casting the mind back to last year, Group member Dave Fearon (Weaver Valley CC) promoted the M & DTTA Christmas 10 on Sunday 8 December. It was well supported with over 100 entries, including a Fancy Dress section. Sitting with the timekeeper, 'phoning results back to HQ, I noticed that some were taking the event more seriously than others, which resulted in the fastest four all doing 22s. Actual fastest was Scott Burns (Manchester Wheelers' Club) in 22:16, for which he wins the Jim Broome Memorial Trophy. On Standard, Peter Greenwood (Clayton Velo) had the best plus 23:58 (3:46) ahead of promoter Dave Fearon 23:40 (+3:01), Dave Bates (South Pennine RC) 25:27 (+2:47) and Roger Wrenn (Macclesfield Wheelers) 26:32 (+2:20). After the presentation of awards there was ample time to move to Chelford Church for the Cyclists' Annual Carol Service - a fitting end to our competitive year.

Any Christmas plans that the promoter of our Group 30, Louise Cuming, may have had were changed on 14 December when, en route to post a parcel to her brother Peter in New Zealand, she was knocked from her bike by an approaching right-turning motorist. Louise, like Denise Hurst, sustained a broken pelvis and, like Denise, six weeks later she was back riding with the Chelford Chicks.

The Group celebrated its 67th anniversary at Middlewich Masonic Hall on Sunday 24 November and details of the prizewinners were given in the last report. As at similar functions held recently, numbers attending were down, however, it enabled the organiser Helen Gresty to use round tables which, together with the free bottles of wine on the tables, proved popular. Our visitors were welcomed stylishly by Christine Ashworth, including our Guests of Honour Jill and Andy Wilkinson (Port Sunlight Wheelers). When they addressed the assembly, they held us all enthralled by their 'double-act', but it still left us no nearer understanding how a man could cover 541.17 miles to set the 24Hr Competition Record as Andy did in 2011. They went on to reveal that Jill intends entering the championship this year, which will be held on the same course used by Andy.

The Association's National AGM was held at Kings Court Hotel near Alcester on Saturday 1 February. When the agenda had been received with the December Veteran, the Group committee held a meeting in order to instruct their delegates, Jim and Helen Gresty and Brian Camfield, how to vote on the various items. The Group had one item on the agenda which, if passed, would have given members the choice of attempting to achieve either Individual Performance Awards or Individual Standard Awards. However, another item on the agenda by the North Midlands Group proposed to delete completely the regulations covering Performance Awards and reinstate Standard Awards.

At the AGM our delegate Jim Gresty proposed that the North Midlands item should be taken first and, if approved, the Manchester and NW Group would withdraw their 'either/or' item. This is in fact what happened: Performance Awards will be removed from the Handbook and members may now apply for their Standards.

I had previously intimated that I was not up for re-election to the NEC and, with Ann Butterworth retiring as National Secretary, the election of officials for 2014 saw all the remaining members of the NEC re-elected with the addition of Robert Jones (South Wales) and Rachael Elliott, a member of the Newbury Road Club, installed as the new National Secretary.

An earlier item on the agenda gave the Treasurer the opportunity to confirm that subscriptions would not be raised in 2015.

More National prizewinners were in attendance than in recent years so that, after the AGM and a buffet lunch, President Alan Colburn distributed the awards, with Kimroy Photography in attendance. Rob Pears (Bath CC) was present as Champion at 10, 25 and 30 miles. Brian Sunter (Condor RC) collected his medal and photograph as 50 mile Champion, as did Jim Gresty (North Shropshire Wheelers) for winning the 100 mile Championship and Brian Camfield (Stone Wheelers CC) collected his awards as runner-up in three Championships: the 25, 100 and 12Hr. The only complete Championship Team present to collect their medals was the Cambridge CC 10

mile Champions: Peter Baumber, Martin Reynolds and Mary Twitchett. All medals not collected were given to appropriate Group delegates to be passed on to their members.

Ending the day's proceedings, a universally approved presentation was made to Ann Butterworth who received the Ted Bricknell Award, a suitably engraved silver salver, in acknowledgement of her six years as National Secretary. In reply Ann said she can look back pleased that the committee on which she has served has achieved a great deal in that period. Her fondest memories are however for the people she has met, both on the Committee, and across the Groups.

A much bigger proportion of prizewinners attended the M & DTTA Luncheon on 26 January. It was a full house at the Middlewich Masonic Hall, hosted by their President Derek Hodgins. Some Group members were prominent among the prizewinners. Caroline Fearon (Weaver Valley CC) was their Middle Distance (25 and 50) Ladies' Champion. Wayne Powell (Congleton CC) took the Freddy Brown Trophy as winner of the 25 mile Handicap and the Lilian Heald Trophy for winning the 100 mile Handicap. Rod Brooks (Warrington RC) took the Nick Carter Trophy for Vet on Standard in the 100. Certificates were presented for places in the Senior BAR including: Andy Tubbs (Wills Wheels), Steve Hargeaves (Warrington RC), Steve Stoddart and Phil Holden (Seamons CC) and David Steele (Lyme RC). Similarly, in the Middle Distance Competition, Dave Fearon, Brian Camfield, Phil Holden and Caroline Fearon were awarded certificates.

Roy Deakin is already receiving entries for the Group's first promotion: a 10 (J2/1) on 8 April, which certainly shows promise and enthusiasm.

My best wishes to you all for an accident-free year and all those personal bests you are hoping for.

North

(George Lawson)

First a message from our Social Secretary, Ruth Crossley. Our Annual Luncheon and Prize Presentation took place on the 12th of January at

our usual venue, the Hardwick Hall Hotel. Feedback from the 66 people who attended was positive and we hope to run our 2015 event similarly, so please keep the same weekend free in your diaries next year. The only disappointment was that we were hoping that more prize-winners would attend to collect their hard earned awards.

Whilst on the subject of prize-winners, I wish once again to remind you, *do not forget* to submit your times for the Group Competitions - however poor that you think they are - to Dave Oliver. As an example, your Secretary claimed to keep the numbers up and ended up with a medal. Everyone has been sent a *claim form* but if you have lost it just ask for another one or go online.

For some years now we have not had a Club Team of three riders with BAR distances 25, 50 and 100. No excuse this year, we have two 100s in our group, the Tyneside Vagabonds on 3 August on the fast T1002 and on 10 August the event promoted by Stockton Wheelers.

You should know by now of the demise of the *Individual Performance Awards* and the welcome return of the Standards basically as of old, but using the new Standard Tables.

A reminder that our Group is affiliated to The N & DCA and that all of our members are eligible for the BAR which is on a points basis.

That's all folks, by the time that you read this you will have some idea of your form; let us hope for some decent weather.

North Lancs and Lakes

(Dave Brown)

Our Group Annual Luncheon and Prize Presentation in early January was its usual success with excellent company and fine food prior to the main activity of handing over the awards for the 2013 season. Brian Sunter - who needs no introduction to readers of *The Veteran* - was our Guest of Honour and it was particularly relevant on this occasion because Brian had himself won the VTTA National 50 on a local 'L' course in 2013. Assisted by our Group Recorder, Richard Taylor, Brian presented our treasured

range of Group Trophies along with a good number of medals and certificates.

Our Chairman and Master of Ceremonies, John Leach, was first up for his award followed by Kevin Shand, Mick Ellerton, Jamie Carson, Paul Fleming, Andy Smith, Harry Haseley, Noel Healey, Sue Cheetham, the NLRC team and finally the major beneficiary, Peter Greenwood.

Since the last *Veteran* it has been confirmed that Mick Ellerton finished second in the National Short Distance Competition and was presented with his Silver Medal and also that Peter Greenwood had taken second in the National Three Distance Competition and was also presented with his Silver Medal.

One multi prizewinner was given leave of absence on the day as Sharon Clifford's role on one of the local maternity wards does not readily offer automatic Sundays off! At least Sharon's plaque for her six Performance Awards will now be a 'Collector's Item' with that particular award now being shelved at the recent VTTA National AGM!

As usual the New Year was welcomed by Group members when they met at The Plough at Eaves, located in the midst of our long established patch of time trial activity in the Garstang/Brock area. A round dozen stalwarts arrived there to welcome 2014 and no doubt they returned home even slightly more round after the portions of food that were being dispensed! One of those present may just have been the exception as Dave Hargreaves of the North Lancs. Road Club was the only one to brave the weather and arrive by bike!

With the loss of both the 12 Hour and the 100 on 'L' courses and only one 50 - unless we count the very hilly Circuit of the Dales - there has had to be a total review of our Group competitions for the 2014 season. There will now be a revised Group Championship based on 10 qualifying events as follows:

April 16 Wednesday NL and L VTTA 25	L2521	1pm
April 19 Saturday North Lancs. RC 10	L101	3pm
April 27 Sunday Wigan Wheelers 30	L304	8-30am

June 15 Sunday Border City Wheelers 50 (helmets compulsory)	L505	9am
June 18 Wednesday NL and L VTTA/WPRC 25	L256	7pm
June 29 Sunday Manchester and DTTA 100	J4/18	6 am
July 27 Sunday Lancashire RC 25	L2525	7am
August 9 Saturday NL and L VTTA 15	L153	2pm
August 16 Saturday Congleton 50	J4/16	2pm
September 7 Sunday Lancaster 25	L2524	7-30am

Members will be required to ride a minimum of four of these events to qualify whilst at least one of the events ridden must be of 50 or 100 miles.

The three NL and L group events shown are the only ones to be organised by our group this year and we thank Richard Taylor for promoting the two VTTA 25's and Derek Black for the 15 which is now an additional distance to have VTTA Standard Tables.

It has been a very sad start to 2014 with the deaths of three of our long term members in the first few weeks of the year.

Ron Mellor was one of our top racing members and also a hard working committee member and event organiser for the Group over many years. Jean Ainsworth was an ever present supporter of our sport and Leo Wall an active group member in his earlier years and was only awarded his Honorary Life Membership last year. Obituaries for all three will be found in the back of this edition of *The Veteran*.

The area also lost another tireless worker for cycling in our area with the death of John Mallinson who, along with wife Doreen, did tremendous work, not just for time trialling but also road and track cycling. John was organiser of the Len Main memorial 10 at Garstang but not a member of the VTTA.

We should be grateful to four of our Group

members for joining up with three other enthusiasts of our sport to save the North Lancashire Time Trials Association which has enjoyed a wonderful history since 1928.

At the first of two crisis meetings towards the end of last season the present committee collectively stood down and it was expected that the end of the NLTTA had arrived. A second meeting was held and the 'Magnificent Seven' raised their hands to offer to form a new committee and keep the organisation alive. The four VTTA members were our own Group Recorder Richard Taylor, who became Chairman of the NLTTA, Jamie Carson took on the Secretary role, Sharon Clifford took on the Assistant Secretary role and VTTA HLM, Harold Woodcock, is a committee member.

At the time of writing our Treasurer Hazel Matthews advises me that only 100 Group members had renewed their membership for this year. If you had not paid by the end of February you would have had a reminder. The fees are £12 single and £13 joint and Hazel would be very happy to receive any that are still outstanding on publication. Last year we had 167 paid up members. She reports that we have two new members and we welcome Maurice Duke of Garstang and Duncan Alton of the North Lincs Road Club to our Group.

Scotland

(James Skinner)

The Scottish Group warmly welcomes new members: Lee Gardiner, of the Glasgow Green CC, Jonathan Ward, from Cove, riding for the SVTTA, Malcolm Edward Young, from Deeside Thistle, and myself James Skinner riding for SVTTA; the group wishes everyone all the best and hopes for some performance awards/Standards from the new guys.

Many Happy Returns to SVTTA member Isobel Campbell who celebrated her 100th on the 8th December. She reports a good recovery from the injury to her shoulder. For those who don't know Isobel, her racing results speak volumes.

Winning the VTTA BAR in 1983, and being 2nd in

1984. Isobel won numerous SVTTA championships, gained 54 SVTTA age records from 1974 to 1996 and still holds 28 age related records from 1983 to 1996, for all distances from 10 miles to 12 hours.

A stack of results, considering women only started racing in the SVTTA in 1974 when Isobel was 60.

Past member of the group Frank Gamwell (Perth United) passed away on the 13 January after a three year battle against cancer.

Frank came late to the SVTTA but still managed to put in some very good performances. He was introduced to the Group by David Mitchell, also of Perth United C.C.

SVTTA member Alex Munro of Lancashire Road Club was presented recently with a medal by Chris Boardman at his club's 90th Presentation & Dance, for his efforts in the 50.

It transpires that Chris Boardman has now bought a house in Aviemore, so Michael Devlin's son whose bike shop is in that town may soon be getting a famous customer calling in

We're pleased to hear that Jock Milne is making a good recovery after the fall that was noted in the last issue.

Several members have been involved in accidents of late: Jim Cusick, George Stewart and even myself have all come off at the hands of motorists driving with their eyes closed, let's hope there are no lasting effects and everyone is back to enjoying their cycling. Be safe everyone; ride in groups, or pairs, and let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

George Stewart has been getting the miles in of late; as we go to print he is riding the 500 miles from Las Vegas to Los Angeles passing through Death Valley with his son George Jnr. They are riding for Barnardo's and hope to raise as much as possible through ride donations and fund raising events. Check out the charity page <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/deathvalleycycle> or search for George Stewart on Facebook for more info.

A note from the Secretary regarding the subs for 2014: Solo - £15.00, Couple - £20.00, Life members' magazine – solo/couple £6.00, Standards – solo attempt at single distance £3.00, multi attempts at single distance £4.00, and multi attempts at all distances £10.00.

Club Christmas events

The Ivy CC enjoyed their Christmas dinner at the Torrance Community Hall, with SC Gold Badge of Honour, Ian Thomson, in attendance along with Les McLeod, Kenny Clarke, Peter Reilly and nephew Stephen, and many others. Head cook and bottle washer, Willie McLuskey, was ably assisted by Hyslop Dickson, Shaun Campbell and George Hardie who ensured that everyone enjoyed the evening – and the fare.

A number of the Royal Albert CC members, having braved the inclement conditions, sat down to enjoy their Christmas meal at the Hollandbush Golf Club, Lesmahagow. Accompanying them were the 'less inclined cycling enthusiasts that travelled by car making the number attending in excess of 50, of which a good number were also members of the SVTTA. After the Christmas pudding was scooped and members were enjoying their coffee the various club prize winners and club champions were then presented with their well earned trophies.

On the 7th December, a contingent from the Law Wheelers, which included four SVTTA Group members, attended the Last Shift Inn at Braehead, Forth, where they enjoyed an early Christmas Lunch before several of them set off for home in some very unpleasant weather conditions.

Prize Presentation / Lunch

A change in format at this year's prize-giving presentation, the annual dinner dance was replaced by a lunch, albeit in the same venue at McQ's Bannockburn.

Thanks to all 59 attendees, and thanks to the staff at McQ's, the food and service being up to the usual very high standard.

Davie Miller was the only one dedicated, or brave enough to travel by bike, but the furthest travelled was Alex Munro from Lancaster with a 450 mile

round trip; also noted was Peter Robertson from Forres clocking up over 300 miles to be there.

This year's prizes were presented by previous multiple champion Dave McCallum. First up was Mhari and Gavin Iaffoley to receive the three standard medals earned by Mhari's late brother, Alistair Speed.

Mhari thanked the group for the minute's silence at the opening of the presentation, and shared some heartfelt words about what was a difficult few months for her family.

Then the prizes flowed a total of 33 medals, 11 trophies, 13 Plaques, 2 shields, and 3 lifetime memberships being handed out, with this year's champion Derek Stewart taking home five trophies, a shield and a plaque.

Not present was Isobel Campbell who turned 100 in November and was enjoying the sun in Majorca. Everyone wishes Isobel all the best.

Thanks to all who attended for making the event a success and to all who donated to the raffle, which raised £207

Racing Results

Fullarton Wheelers held the annual Icebreaker 10 Mile 2-up Time Trial on Sunday 16 February; the event was won by Silas Goldsworthy and Alan Thomson of Sandy Wallace Cycles in a time of 20:21. With 55 teams riding including nine SVTTA members, a good show turnout for so early in the year. Fastest SVTTA member was Gerry McGarrity partnered by Benjamin Peacock both of Paisley Velo Race Team - 20:54

Other members riding included:

Steve Macluskie, VC Glasgow South	23:09
Geoff Smith, Glasgow Couriers	23:44
Gordon Dick, Lomond Roads CC	24:20
Allan Ross, Lomond Roads CC	24:42
Jocky Johnston, Icarus Racing pacing young Tony Nugent	
East Kilbride Road Club	25:09
John Campbell, Royal Albert CC	25:27
(Good to see big John with a number on his back after so long)	
Andrew Wilson, St Christopher's CC	28:45

Kent

(Ian Turner)

The Group's Annual Lunch and Prize Giving was held on 16 February at Smarden Charter Hall. The organisation of the event by Tom Morton, who took over the role when no volunteers came forward, was impeccable and I am sure that everyone who attended found the occasion an uplifting experience due in no small way to the fine talk by our Guest of Honour, Geoff Thomas.

Geoff was a professional footballer and enjoyed great success with Crystal Palace FC following his initial signings with Rochdale and Crewe Alexander. He followed Crystal Palace with spells at Wolverhampton Wanderers, Nottingham Forest, Barnsley and Notts County, finally returning to Crewe Alexander from where he retired in 2002. In June 2003 he was diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukaemia and was told his life expectancy was just three months. Inspired by Lance Armstrong's book 'It's Not About The Bike' he took up cycling and in 2005, having started training in February, he completed every stage of that year's Tour de France in 21 days, a few days ahead of the race itself. In doing so he raised £150,000 for Leukaemia Research and won that year's BBC Sports Personality of the Year Helen Rollason Award. Geoff has now established the Geoff Thomas Foundation, a charity that raises funds for the treatment of cancer. He is planning to ride the TdF again next year, opening the ride to other riders. Geoff's talk was humbling and truly inspirational and his enthusiasm for cycling, and what it can do for people, was a lesson for all.

MC duties at the lunch once again fell to Paul Mepham who ensured proceedings, in particular the presentation ceremony, were enlivened with his vast knowledge of the Kent time trial scene. There was, as usual, some excellent cross-toasting during the lunch. It was a shame that only ten prize winners attended the lunch this year out of a potential forty one; overall numbers were also down.

The Group's programme of events kicks off on Saturday 8 March with the ten mile event on Q10/22 for the Mick Dansie Cup. Here's hoping for some nice Spring weather to get the season off to a fine start!

Last but by no means least, our thoughts are with Carole Gandy, our General Secretary, who was involved in an accident on 9 February whilst riding in the Group's Reliability Ride. Carole was blown off her bike by an extreme gust of wind and had to be airlifted to Kings College Hospital by the Kent Air Ambulance. Reports of Carole's recovery are favourable and we hope to see her back riding soon. Meanwhile, our thoughts are with her for a speedy and complete recovery.

Safe training out there and the very best to all for an excellent 2014 season.

West

(Brian Griffiths)

As spring comes into view through heavy rain clouds and buffeted by strong winds, we have good expectations for the coming racing season. Here in the West we of course predict more top performances from Bob Pears and there are lots of others standing in the wings, trying to build up their fitness for the early events, starting with the Severn Road Club 25 on 23 February which is combined with a tricycle event on the same day.

I was pleased to attend the VTTA National Annual General Meeting recently along with our secretary Gordon Scott. It's a grand way of getting to know the people who run our branch of the sport and find out what a really enthusiastic and business like bunch they are.

When we sat down for the meeting it seemed at first glance that we had a pretty formidable agenda to get through. However, Chairman Jim kept a very firm hand on the rudder and despite a few minor distractions steered an extremely purposeful course through all the items to achieve the required results in the absolute minimum of time. I won't go into details as I am sure these will be covered elsewhere in the magazine.

We were all sorry to see Ann Butterworth present her final report. She has done us proud over a number of years and it seems has been instrumental in keeping committee proceedings in neat and tidy order for some time. We are all very grateful for what you have done for us Ann and we are sorry to lose you. Our new secretary is

already aware that she has a hard act to follow but I am sure she will be up to the mark.

It is re-assuring for me to know that we have a very capable National committee in place but I must continue to remind you that there is an increasing demand to get someone interested in taking on some of these important duties in the not too distant future. Especially welcome would be younger members prepared to show their capabilities. I know that there are people out there who have the qualifications and experience to take us forward, so please think seriously of showing your faces.

After the AGM the prize presentation was not at all what it used to be but it was particularly pleasing to applaud at least some of our award winners. Bob Pears was present with his family to collect a hard earned collection of trophies. We in the West are very proud of his success which we all like to share.

Talking of prize presentations, I understand that our secretary Gordon Scott and his dear lady wife are preparing to restore the West Group's annual prize presentation. I am told that this is to be on Friday 9 May at Seagry Village Hall, which is just off the motorway at Chippenham. There will be a 10 mile evening time trial followed by the prize presentation and a buffet meal, which we hope will attract families and friends for a most interesting get together. The details should appear in the next edition of the WestVet due almost anytime. Please put this date in your diary and do your best to support this event in any way you can.

Now a quick reminder to our members, and I suppose it applies to all VTTA members really. Please check that you have paid your subscriptions so that Ian Pritchard, or whoever your treasurer is, doesn't have to spend time and money chasing outstanding monies.

This wet weather must be hindering efforts to get fit for the forthcoming racing season. Turbo trainers are very effective of course but are really not a substitute for being out on the roads in actual conditions. The Somerset Levels are a popular training ground for WestVets but are and will be out of reach for some time due to the

present situation of flooded roads. We still have to wonder what sort of condition they will be in when the water finally subsides. No doubt they will be plenty of pot holes and awful conditions for some time to come and we have to ask will they ever be restored to the standard we would really like in the foreseeable future.

The Editor of *The Veteran* intrudes at this juncture to mention that the West Group, in company with the London and Home Counties Group, are to promote a VTTA 30 on the Sunday 11 May. Up for grabs is the Brafman Cup to the winning club team of three on Standard. The West Group were 'awarded' the promotion by the National Committee but as there was no event at that distance in the Group's programme, the London Group have joined forces with West to encroach upon the West London CA who have kindly agreed to let the VTTA share their event. The course is H30/1 which uses the A4 between Thatcham and Theale with Headquarters at Aldermaston/Padworth. Event Secretaries are Gordon Scott and Jim Burgin.

May I make one final appeal with a new racing season ahead of us? If you haven't already made your new year's resolutions, please consider making a special effort to support our events this year. Either riding, marshalling, making the tea, pushing off or simply selling new membership to whoever you can. We want our Veteran Association to grow and to attract much more interest than it is at present.

South Wales

(Barry Williams)

Perhaps, it's hardly surprising that we had horrendous wet weather in early January, it being a time of year when expectations are generally low. However, it was good that The Milers successfully promoted their traditional New Year Day 10. The forecast was typical, gale force winds and rain, yet, between 2pm and 3pm the elements relaxed sufficiently for us to run the event in almost dry conditions. Of the 18 names on the start sheet, 14 completed the course. The winner,

Gerry McGarr, Gloucester City, produced an excellent 24:23, three minutes off his PB but not bad on our rolling track which can be demanding even on calm summer evenings. Other competitors, Paul Lambert, Chippenham & District with 25:00, Mark Nott, Ogmore, 25:52 and Andy Kelly, Bristol South, 26:20 were similarly short from their PBs. However, I would commend Paul Griffiths, Cardiff Ajax, his 28:56 getting within one minute of his PB; in such conditions he should be a proud time triallist. Bob Jones ran this promotion on behalf of the club and deservedly he received a round of applause from all present for organising what is without doubt a unique event. The Club would like to see more entries next year and I would suggest to our readers that this event is well worth your support, so please come to St Athans on 1 January 2015.

In early January I sent out the annual circular asking members to renew subscriptions for 2014, at the end of the month, I am pleased to report that over half of 2013 membership had renewed, additionally I am happy to welcome three new recruits. We look forward to seeing their names in the 2014 trophy list.

The weather has become an unavoidable issue during the last few weeks, with flooded roads and constant rain many cyclists will be glued to their turbo trainers, good luck to them, I find this form of fitness preparation something of a mind bender. With that in view, in late January, we travelled down to Houston, Texas, to spend time with our grandchildren, hoping to find some warm dry conditions to ride the bike. As ever, there were freebies. First, I was out of it with a virus picked up on the flight and second, USA is experiencing the coldest winter in 32 years and even as far south as Houston on latitude 29 we have had many days at or near freezing. US weather reports indicate very cold conditions in the mid-west, the plains and east into the maritime states; many cities have suffered below zero centigrade temperatures since 1 December. During the past few days a \$155 antibiotic prescription subdued my cold sufficiently to get back on the bike; now hopefully, a bright moment before we return to UK, a ride with the North West Cycling Club group at Zube Park just off Inter-

state 290 next Saturday.

To our members, I wish everyone a good season 2014 and above all that we should experience some long overdue fine weather this summer.

North Midlands

(Alex Deck)

2014 sees a new (well - slightly re-arranged) Committee and a new website: <http://vttanorthmidlands.co.uk>. It now includes a comprehensive list of Group records, events, galleries, classifieds and a rider feature. World Masters gold medallist Mick Allen (Belper BC) was our first candidate and we hope to follow this with many more. We've also got a Twitter feed - <https://twitter.com/VTTANorthMids> - so please follow us for the latest news.

The 2013 prize giving luncheon was a great success, with the following awards presented by Joe and Gail Summerlin:

Sheffield Central Cup

Both NM 25

events combined Trevor Mayne

Sid Sharman Cup - 50 Alan Cooke

Unity Cup - 100 Wayne Fuller

Brian Beardsley

Memorial Cup 12 hour Rob Townsend

Cleethorpes Shield 10 George Lascelles

Watson Trophy

Prestige Points Competition - Trevor Mayne

Ethel Scothern Cup -

Group BAR 25, 50, 100 & 12 hour

Rob Townsend

Colin Bell Cup

Group Middle Distance BAR 10, 25, 50 & 100

Rob Townsend

Meersbrook Trophy

Group Short Distance BAR 10, 25 & 50

Rob Townsend

Susie Denham Cup

Ladies BAR 10, 25 & 50

Alex Deck

Group age records were set by Alan Steward, Trevor Mayne, Wayne Fuller, Tony Morris, Brian Waslidge, Rob Townsend, Alan Cooke, Alex Deck (W), Graham Barker and Chris Duggleby. Worthy

of particular note are Trev's 20:13 (age 49) for 10m and Rob's 290.12m for a 12 hour (age 43). Alex set age records at 10, 15, 25, 30 and 50m (aged 45/6).

The Most Consistent Rider award goes to 73 year old Richard Watson (South Elmsall Social CC), who raced in the Barnsley RC 10 series on the 0C10/20. Richard's best times were 29:59 on the 4 June and... 29:59 on the 17 July. If you'd like to challenge Richard's time, check Barnsley RC's website at <http://barnsleyroadclub.org.uk> for details - Birdwell Wheelers <http://www.birdwellwheelers.org> also use the course on Tuesday evenings in July.

The full list of events for this season is on our site; first up is the annual 18k on the 8 March. This is a nice race to start the season with - three stretches of not-too-tough B road with a finish on the A1. For the first time there will be a handicap prize for North Midlands riders. The 18k was instigated in 1993 by then Chairman Ron Blythe to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the VTTA. John Tomlinson (Sheffield Phoenix CC) won the inaugural event with a 25:22 ride on an old fixed wheel bike. The course record is held by Kev Dawson, set in 2008 with an impressive 22:28. Ron Hallam won BOS with a plus of 10:30 in the same year.

As many of you will be aware, the motion enabling Groups to choose whether to have Standards or Performance Awards was recently approved; we have voted to stay with Standards.

If any of our members haven't joined the mailing list yet, please contact me at a.deck@shu.ac.uk and I'll add you. Finally, if you haven't paid your subs please contact Barbara Scott ASAP - contact details in the handbook or on the site.

London and Home Counties

(Peter Tasker)

This report was drafted as I sat by the pool at a Hotel in a place called Somerset West near Cape Town SA whilst visiting a relation, thus I had some difficulty in remembering all that has happened in the Group during the last three months.

The one thing that is clear is the very successful Group Lunch and Award Presentation held on the 26 January at the Aldenham Golf and Country Club near Watford. We had the largest attendance of members and guests at the Lunch for many years due to the efforts of the Committee and I guess in particular Jim Burgin may I say.

It was very noticeable that Westerley CC, who have many new veteran members, more than likely had the highest number at the Lunch, beating clubs like the Hounslow, Willesden and Icknield who have been the stalwarts over the years at these functions.

The meal was well presented by the staff but the art of cross toasting has been lost over the years as the older fraternity pass on.

During the proceedings, a surprise presentation of an Honorary Life Membership Certificate was made to Audrey Hughes whose 80th birthday was the previous day.

The guests of honour were Sheila Hardy Chairman of Cycling Time Trials and Dave Barry a National Committee Member, both of whom I have known for 25 years or more through the London North District Committee and attending National Council Meetings.

Their speeches were interesting in that both gave us an insight into the working of Cycling Time Trials, particularly over the last 12 months when there has not been a National Secretary (Legal and Corporate). Many riders who compete week in and week out have very little knowledge of the work the National Committee do on behalf of the sport and the riders when dealing with the Police, Highways Authorities, Sport England for drug testing, current legislation relating to the use of the public highway for racing on and the many other factors that allow our sport to be managed to such a high standard. Not just the National Committee either, there are others who give much of their time for the sport we all enjoy.

Both Sheila and Dave gave a short insight into how they got into cycling as youngsters which is very much a pattern with older cyclists having grown up at a time when the motor car was a

means of transport for the more affluent members of society.

Group Chairman Roy May gave a response to outline much of what the Group had achieved in the last year with its promotions, including a National Championship. He described how the Group had grown in recent years with new members and what it is doing in 2014 with the National Championship 10 mile in early May and then in conjunction with the Hounslow & District Wheelers, the 100 mile championship in late May.

Moving on to the winners of the various awards with Jim as Master of Ceremonies, Roy handling the awards and Sheila and Dave making the presentations to the winners.

Award winners in attendance included Ian Greenstreet best plus in the 10 on the 6 of May (7.19). Ian has just transferred from West Group to London ready for the 2014 season.

Geoff Perry, the newly elected Group Recorder and the existing Group and National Records Secretary collected medals for wins on a tandem in both May 10s as well as certificates for Group age records at 10, 15 and 25 miles.

John Sullivan was rewarded for being best on standard and fastest in the late May 10.

Bob Gilmour, one of the Groups most prolific winners in previous years, had a reduced haul this time, being part of the winning Group Team and third on standard the Rocco 25.

Peter Lawrence, a 41 year old fast man from Aylesbury who joined the Group in 2012, was presented with the Rocco Trophy for his win with +15:52. Peter also took the Autumn Cup for the fastest time of 50:21 in the event.

Following Peter came a rider from the other end of the age scale: John Lee set six outdoor track records at age 84 and walked off with a batch of certificates and a huge round of applause.

Jim Moffatt was undoubtedly the most prolific of the prizewinners. Age records (56) for 10 miles, 25 miles, 30 miles and 50 miles. The Arthur Wilkins Trophy, the Russ Cup, the Tom Drew Medallion and the Charlie Cole cup.

London and Home Counties Luncheon

(Photographs by Barry Quick)



One of the Group's most effervescent members is Andy Halliday and he received medals for three team placings, five performance awards and the Screwed Down Trophy as runner-up in the BAR competition.

New to the Group in 2013 was Katja Rietdorf who was awarded the Mae and Dolf Lang Medallion as women's Best Allrounder.

Finally Tim Davies, the Group BAR Champion collected replicas of the Laurie Dixon Bowl, the Members' Cup and the BAR Trophy for his season best 100 on standard and on speed.

A further 17 winners were not there to receive the approbation and had to make do with packages delivered by the Postman!

It is rumoured that some of the group's faster riders have been at training camps in the Mediterranean islands getting lots of miles in with weather that is a lot better than many of us have been experiencing here in the UK; so look out for another good season of fast times and big plusses in the 2014 season.

Chas Jepson the Group Treasurer is awaiting your payments for the 2014 subs, if not received by 31 March you will be deleted from the Group membership list, £12 for singles and £15 for doubles, no increase again for the 3rd year – reminders will be sent out any time now.

Heard we have another new member who has joined since the Lunch so welcome to Andrew Clements of the Royal Navy CC.

Transferring from West is Ian Greenstreet, mentioned above and Teresa Goddard and Christopher Beals from Surrey/Sussex.

That's about all this time so keep riding if you can in the dismal rainy roads of the UK, but just keep thinking of those warm sunny days that we are due to have this summer, we hope.

Take care on the roads and ride with your head up to avoid the pot holes and puddles.

Merseyside

(Geoff Edgerton)

That's it. Christmas and the New Year is well and truly over. The Merseyside Vets Prize Presentation, held on the 12th January, is the final cycling lunch of the festive period signifying, well to me anyhow, the end of festivities, the end of over indulgence and back to training,

It all started in November with the West Cheshire Lunch held on the Wirral and a chance for us in the Shropshire outback to ride out, quickly followed by my club's annual dinner and prize giving. December saw the club run culminating with yet another lunch and of course Christmas itself, this time substituting family for friends. Whilst other sports I am associated with have 'lost' the club dinner, the cycling one remains strong and hopefully will continue to do so. It really is a lovely atmosphere and occasion, obviously a chance to honour the achievements of the winners but also a chance to sit amongst friends, to chat and share a comment or two.

And the Merseyside Vets dinner certainly fits the bill. Held again at the Cheshire View, Christleton, fifty five members and guests sat down to a Sunday lunch of roast beef and all the trimmings. Our President and Vice-President, Doreen and Harry Mahar were again in attendance and it was really nice to see them. The previous day they had been victims of a distraction burglary but even that couldn't stop them from attending.

Our chairman, Keith Nield, started proceedings off by welcoming guests and friends and introducing our guest speaker Jim Ogden of the Manchester group. Keith remembered racing against Jim in the sixties but not beating him.

Phil Guy once again announced the award recipients. He started proceedings by presenting life membership certificates to Ben Griffiths, Graham Ashbrook and Andy Durber. Unfortunately John Cadwallader was unable to attend to receive his certificate.

Standard medals and plaques were awarded to Phil Guy, Dave Smith, Mel Griffiths, John Maddox, Andy Clarke and Mick Ward (one medal), Dave Eccleston, Clive Gudgeon and Geoff Edgerton (two medals), Kevin Larmer (plaque for three),

Neil Southern (plaque for four), Jenny York and Dave York (plaque for five), Helen Tudor and Ian Casson (plaque for six).

Moving on to the group trophies, the Ron Yates Trophy and Leo Madden Trophy for best on standard and fastest were won by Tony Harvey of Mid Shropshire Wheelers. The Oscar Dover Shield and Derek Ireland Cup for best on standard and fastest were both claimed by Justin McIlveen. The George Butler Memorial Cup, for exceptional services to the group, was awarded to our retiring recorder John Maddox, who had to endure a most difficult three years with all the changes to standards and the introduction of performance awards. Sadly, these recipients were unable to attend.

However, I am pleased to say that the remaining trophy winners were. That was particularly helped by Arthur Winstanley of Phoenix CC who won nine individual trophies. His haul included the John Clucas Memorial Trophy and George Hayes Trophy for best on standard and fastest in the West Cheshire 30. In the Mid Shropshire Wheelers 50, a plus of 19:24 and time of 2:03:25 won him the Dick Corris Trophy and the Eddie Graddon Cup. He claimed the Dave Towell Cup for fastest 100 of the year with 4:17:42, The Bill Hanson Cup for best hundred on standard, the 12 Hour Cup with a distance of 252.92 miles and the Ben Bentley Rose Bowl for the best 12 hour on standard with a plus of 62:29. Finally, the Walvale Cup for the best on standard in the Phoenix 25 with plus 11:12.

Kevin Larmer of Port Sunlight Wheelers claimed three trophies, the Colin Rutter Cup for best on standard in the Rhyl CC 25 with a plus of 10:10, the WJ Smith Rose Bowl for fastest time in the same race with 56:16 and the Brooke Cup for fastest time of 57:58 in the Phoenix 25.

Mid Shropshire Wheelers' Jenny York was the winner of the Hilda Dover Cup for best on standard with a plus of 4:12 in the VC Melyd 10.

A newcomer to the awards table, Ian Casson of Birkenhead Victoria walked off with the Ted Fitzpatrick Shield for being nearest to plus 0:02 in the Phoenix 25 and the Lanterne Rouge Trophy for final place in the three distance competition.

The final trophy event of the season was North Shropshire Wheelers 25. The host club's Ian Boam, another newcomer to the top table, had the distinction of winning the Gomersal Cup with the fastest time of 57:47 and the Joe Brook Trophy with a best on standard of plus 9:28.

That just leaves the championships. The new two distance competition which comprised 2 x 10 mile events and 2 x 25 events, saw nine qualifiers. Phil Guy of North Shropshire Wheelers was the inaugural winner with a plus 50:56 to see off the challenge of Arthur Winstanley who finished second with a plus of 48:22.

Jenny York is the Women's Group Champion on both actual and standard. An aggregate time of 2:40:38 saw her win the Dave Swales Cup and the Doreen Mahar Rose Bowl on standard with a plus of 38:21.

Arthur Winstanley dominated the three and four distance competitions. He wins the Bill Taylor Memorial Shield and Wally Gradden Cup, and in the four distance, the Tom Johnson Memorial Cup. Arthur replied on behalf of the prize winners. He really is a very good after dinner speaker and had a captive audience in stitches. It was worth the entry fee to hear him. I feel sure he could do this for a living or a side line!

By the time this lands through your letter box, the season will be under way. You will have heard about reverting back to standards. Hopefully, this will now be followed by a period of stability. I will elaborate more in the Merseyside news letter.

Finally, I hope everybody has an accident free season and hope your goals are achieved.

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A Guide to Standard Awards

The 2014 Annual General Meeting voted to re-introduce Standard Awards for the coming season. This replaces the Performance Awards which were introduced in 2013 but did not prove popular.

Many members will be familiar with Standards Awards because we have had them for many years. However, it is worth explaining how they work for a number of reasons

- New members may wish to see them explained
- Even old hands may want a “refresher”
- All members may need some guidance on what they can claim

How do Standard Awards work?

Here's how it works:

- You can attempt Standard Awards at any of the standard distances: 10, 15, 25, 30, 50 and 100 miles and 12 and 24 hours. Attempts can be made on bicycle, tricycle, solo or tandem.
- Standards Awards are based on how well you ride compared with the VTTA standard. If you beat standard that is referred to as a 'plus'. If you don't beat standard that is referred to as a 'minus',
- To gain your Standard Award you have to beat your previous best plus or minus for which you claimed a Standard Award. If you don't have a previous best plus at a particular distance, you can claim your best plus or minus in the year to get you started.
- Before you make any attempts at Standard Awards, you should tell your group recorder in advance which distances you are going to be making attempts on and pay the appropriate fee. (Note, though, that some groups will accept claims at the end of the season.)
- If your attempt is successful you will receive an engraved medal. If you get four medals or more in a season, you can have an engraved plaque instead.

The above is a very simple summary of Standard Awards. The full rules are given in Regulation 3.2 of the VTTA Regulations.

Your new best plus or minus becomes the target you need to beat if you want to win another Standard Award in subsequent years. Because the age standards give you an extra allowance as you get older, this makes beating your previous plus or minus an achievable target. However, you can elect to ignore any rides done more than three seasons ago.

Questions and Answers

How do I work out what I need to beat?

There have been quite a few changes in recent years:

- In 2012 the age standards were brought up to date to reflect modern performances.

- In 2013 there was a small adjustment to the standards. Also Standard Awards were dropped in favour of Performance Awards

As a result, it's quite likely that members will be wondering how they decide what targets they need to beat in order to get a Standard Award in 2014. Here is some guidance on that:

- Any Standard Awards gained in 2011 or before, i.e. under the old standards, can be ignored. It was agreed in 2012 that members could start with a clean sheet in 2012.
- If you claimed for a Performance Award in 2013 then the plus or minus calculated from the time you submitted is what you have to beat in 2014.
- If you didn't claim for a Performance Award in 2013 but did claim for a Standard Award in 2012 then the target to beat is the plus or minus you achieved in that year. (This plus will have been based on the 2012 standard, which was in force at the time; you don't have to adjust it to the 2013 standard.)
- If you didn't claim in either 2012 or 2013 then all you need is claim your best plus or minus in 2014.

It's possible that you have a "mixture" of performances, some from 2012 and some from 2013 which give you your targets for 2014. That should be OK; just work out separately for each distance, using the guidelines above, what time you need to do in order to get a standard in 2014 at the distances you want to attempt.

Do I need to beat the standard in order to claim?

No, you don't. In 2012 we started to accept claims for minus times. We did this because the new standard was not as easy to beat as the old one. Following the reintroduction of Standard Awards in 2014, the NEC has decided that Standard Awards should continue to be open to riders of all abilities.

This means that:

- If you've never claimed before, you can simply claim for your best performance on standard in the year, whether or not you have beaten standard.
- In subsequent years you will need to improve on standard in order to claim. So if you previously claimed for a minus you can claim if you achieve a smaller minus (or, of course, a plus). If you previously had a plus, you will need to achieve a bigger plus.

Is there a calculator to help me with the sums?

We are working on it and hope to have a calculator on the website as well as an Excel spreadsheet.

I've already applied for a Performance Award, what happens now?

Groups may handle this situation in different ways. It is expected that most will simply transfer your application to a Standards Award. If you didn't want this to happen, you would be within your rights to ask for your money back.



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The Old Forge B and B and Holiday Barn, which is run by Wendy and Colin Pearce, is located in the village of Knockin, half-way between Shrewsbury and Oswestry in Shropshire, which lies about two miles from the A5 which is the main road that links the South of England to North Wales. Knockin is a central point for horse-riding, golf, fishing, walking, cycling and visiting National Trust Properties. In the village is a local pub which serves good food. Nearby there are also numerous eating pubs and restaurants.

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RESULTS

Nottingham and East Midlands National Short Distance Competition Placings

8	Gill Henshaw	+70:14
10	Graham Green	+66:37
11	Colin Parkinson	+66:24
13	Nick Cave	+64:20
17	Ian Dalton	+61:48
27	Mick Wills	+58:55
28	Dave Bates	+57:52
33	Clare Ella	+56:06
44	Russell Gent	+53:52
58	Ken Stevens	+49:39

Nottingham and East Midlands National Short Distance Competition Placings

65	Malcolm Mann	+46:57
66	John Needham	+46:51
67	Peter Lavine	+46:29
69	Sean Hunt	+46:01
70	Steve Howgill	+45:18
79	Jeff Bowler	+40:35
90	Nev Bray	+33:18
91	Kathryn Smith	+33:01
105	Anthony Hardenberg	+06:58
Four Distance BAR		
26	Kathryn Smith	+36:15

Nottingham and East Midlands BAR

Pos	Name	Age	25	50	100	Mph	+mph	+mins
1	Colin Parkinson	51	51:35	1:47:09	3:54:11	27.566	+6.399	+49:10
2	Michael Wills	54	53:35	1:50:38	4:08:50	26.408	+5.451	+43:54
3	Steve Howgill	49/50	54:04	1:52:25	3:56:08	26.614	+5.335	+42:28
4	Dave Bates	65	57:35	2:00:44	4:22:11	24.594	+4.619	+42:09
5	Clare Ella	44	57:48	2:04:32	4:20:04	24.371	+4.326	+39:40
6	Steve Boat	54	58:34	2:08:54	4:22:49	23.905	+2.948	+26:18
7	Kathryn Smith	59	1:07:10	2:22:49	4:41:39	21.541	+2.511	+27:46
8	Michael Wilkinson	53/54	59:20	2:06:18	4:41:27	23.450	+2.447	+21:16

Eastern Counties CA BAR

(The Maude and Bill Temme Memorial Trophy)

Placings of East Anglian Group

1	Ken Platts	Cambridge CC	61	52:37	1:47:49	3:56:31	28.508	+6.848
4	John Golder	Chelmer CC	60	56:54	1:56:54	4:07:11	25.459	+4.983
8	Ann Shuttleworth	Chelmer CC	47	58:19	2:03:30	4:36:02	23.917	+4.001
9	Peter Horsnell	Chelmer CC	83	1:08:05	2:23:11	5:10:29	20.716	+3.987
11	Scott Clark	Chelmer CC	43	59:00	2:05:56	4:34:15	23.708	+1.996

The Keehner Shield for First Team

Chelmer CC : 12.971 (John Golder, Ann Shuttleworth and Peter Horsnell)

Festival Club Team Championship

Champions 2013 : Chelmer CC : 299.5 points

Leicester Series 2013

Top 20 Over 50s riders after eight events				
Pos	Name	Club	Points	Events
1	Michael Wills	Hinckley CRC	490	7
2	Peter Lavine	Coalville Wheelers	405	6
3	Geoff Platts	MG D'ecor Team Carbon	395	4
4	Dave Bates	South Pennine RC	365	4
5	Nev Bray	Coalville Wheelers	356	6
6	Russell Gent	Melton Olympic CC	345	4
7	William Harrison	Witham Wheelers CC	272	5
8	John Needham	Alford Wheelers CC	240	3
9	Steve Hegg	Coalville Wheelers	220	3
10	John Dixson	Team Echelon-Rotar	215	3
10	Brian Peto	VC Long Eaton	215	4
12	Terry Horsburgh	Ratae RC	210	4
13	David Herd	Witham Wheelers CC	204	4
14	Ron Hallam	South Pennine RC	200	2
15	Martin Lister	Witham Wheelers CC	189	4
16	Steven Boat	Welland Valley	188	3
18	John Arlott	Leicester Forest CC	185	4
19	Ken Stevens	South Pennine RC	170	2
20	Jeff Bowler	South Pennine RC	165	2

Yorkshire Group Short Distance Championship 2013

Peter Yates	80	Otley CC	26:10	1:06:29	2:18:23	+17:24
Andy Askwith	48	Bridlington CC	20:19	54:54	1:53:18	+16:33
Ged Millward	48	Ilkley CC	20:19	55:04	1:53:52	+16:22
Chris Yates	56	Otley CC	21:53	55:40	1:55:20	+16:19
Allen Bell	67	Yorkshire RC	22:26	59:50	2:08:12	+15:42
Brian Ward	78	Scarboro Paragon	25:25	1:06:30	2:24:00	+14:50
Stan Mills	69/70	Yorkshire RC	23:46	1:03:33	2:07:09	+14:21
John Baines	75	Yorkshire RC	24:25	1:06:07	2:18:42	+14:17
Jim Trevor	41	Hull Thursday	20:37	55:19	1:57:29	+13:32
Mark Philipson	56	City RC (Hull)	22:15	59:01	2:06:24	+12:23
Karen Taylor	46/47	East Bradford	23:45	1:02:22	2:14:03	+12:14
John Hatfield	67	Leeds Westfield	24:17	1:02:35	2:19:42	10:27
Michael Potter	54/55	Scarboro Paragon	22:39	1:01:27	2:10:50	+9:51
Greystone Small	58	Bridlington CC	22:20	1:02:41	2:15:40	+9:36
John Churchman	75/76	Otley CC	25:13	1:11:46	2:31:30	+9:31
Keith Richardson	77	Leeds Westfield	25:40	1:11:20	2:39:57	+8:28
Brenda Littlefair	77	East Bradford	29:22	1:20:24	3:01:14	+4:42

OBITUARIES

Jean Ainsworth

19.03.46 to 27.02.14



Whilst Jean was a keen cyclist in her youth, marriage and home life took over. However when husband Ian returned to cycling in 1993 with the Lancashire Road Club and with an enthusiasm for Time Trialling, Jean became his support team particularly for long distance events such as the 100 and 12 hours. At the same time she would also clap and cheer on the other riders and they knew who she was because of the barking dog in the back of the car!

In addition, Jean took a very active part in the organisation of cycling events including the 1999 and 2005 National Hill Climb Championships on the L812, The Rake at Ramsbottom. Her enthusiasm for the support of Cycling will be sadly missed.

Ian Ainsworth (Husband)

Martin Leo Wall

(1930-2014)

I first met Leo in 1946 when we were both members of the Preston section of the CTC where the Sunday runs got harder and longer and we started going on Hostel weekends in The Lakes and Yorkshire Dale. We were both 16 and along with several other like minded 'mile eaters' we rode to Lands End and back to Preston in a week. The YHA was a blessing!

We joined Preston Wheelers in 1948 and shortly after both Leo and I were called up to the RAF.

On demob, cycling became a priority and mile eating continued in earnest and in 1950 we did Preston to Lands' End and back on 69 fixed. In 1952 Leo began racing, winning his first event - a second class 50 and in April 1953 Leo won the classic 'Circuit of the Dales' 50 mile mountain time trial in record time and led his club to winning team. Also in 1953 he won a 12 hour event with club members in 3rd and 4th places, and that year travelled to the Isle of Man for the Jubilee Trophy event around two laps of the TT circuit.

Leo was Preston Wheeler's Club Champion twice and held records at 100 miles and 12 hours.

Leo emigrated to Canada and he married and returned to join Sam Williams in his cycle shop in Preston before joining the Police Force. He was awarded his Honorary Life Membership of the VTTA in 2013.

Phil Stevenson

OBITUARIES

Ron Mellor

The West Pennine Road Club have lost arguably its most influential figure with the death of Ron Mellor after a long illness – he was 78. His work with the club, his competitive spirit and determination and his willingness to help and assist younger members, leave a legacy that will never be equalled. He was simply Mr West Pennine.

Ironically he only became a member when his Littleborough Road Club was in decline, so he joined the West Pennine in the early sixties and soon became involved with all aspects of the club, racing throughout the country, promoting events and being active on both the social front and club administration.

Even though he rode to a good standard from his youth, Ron matured like a good wine to become a real force to be reckoned with as a veteran in over 40s time trialling. Both in the club and in the North Lancashire and Lakes Vets Group, he rode more than a thousand races winning countless events and championships. He won virtually every senior club championship, 52 in all, and was a member of seven team records, beating

the magical hour for 25 miles on over 100 occasions. But it wasn't all about racing for Ron, in what as he described as a 'life sport', cycling was a way of life be it touring, racing or utility riding, fresh air and countryside was all that mattered and he covered over 300.000 miles in a lifetime of enjoyment.

His official duties included event organiser, timekeeper and committee member for over 40 years, his enthusiasm was undimmed, advising and protecting young riders and being the archetypal father figure and as a consequence the club remains strong. Ron Mellor was an amiable and very well respected man not only to us cyclists who will sorely

miss him, but to anyone who was fortunate enough to meet him.

Rest in Peace Mr West Pennine.

Richard Taylor



In My Time



**Memoirs of a Sporting Cyclist
by Mick Coward**

I have been a cyclist for over 60 years, starting as a novice club rider with '34 Nomads CC on through my amateur days to become a professional road racer, then finally re-instated back to amateur again where I am still at it as a veteran time triallist.

Within the 203 pages of this book, you will find stories of my racing days, my working days, mostly in the cycle trade, plus other segments of my life.

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The Annual General Meeting

Saturday 1 February 2014



The Association's Annual General Meeting was held at Kings Court Hotel, Alcester on Saturday 1 February and, by the standards of some in the recent past, was a peaceful occasion.

The change in the rules to allow the appointment of a Secretary was carried unanimously and the decision produced a huge sigh of relief from parts of the room.

A little passion was aroused when the subject of the newly established 'Performance Awards' was debated; the outcome being that they are no more! The system was not without its supporters but its removal was supported by a majority of 16 to 10. So it is back to the Standards, the tables for which were revised for the first time in 70 years so recently.

A move to facilitate the joining and renewal of membership via the website received overwhelming support and the Webmaster, together with the NEC will be introducing the necessary modifications during the year.

Although the 'Official' Prize Presentation no longer exists, there remains a less grand affair to which all of the winners are invited and a number were there. They included Tandem Champion Geoff Perry as well as the Cambridge CC 10 Mile Championship Team of Peter Baumber, Martin Reynolds and Mary Twitchett.

Peter Anderson, part of the 25 Mile Championship team turned up as did all of the South Pennine RC team of Dave Bates, Ken Stevens and Jeff Bowler who were the first team winners of the Short Distance Championship: Notts and East Mids were Group Winners of the same championship, some of whom were there to collect.

Jim Gresty from Manchester took both the Doug Brunwin Memorial Salver and the Strevens Memorial Trophy, for his splendid performance at 100 miles. Brian Camfield took one gold and three silver medals for his placings during the year and the acclaimed Brian Sunter was present to receive the Cecil Paget cup for his win in the 50 mile championship.

There was a huge round of applause for Rob Pears, the Champion at 10, 25 and 30 miles. Rob won three The culmination of the occasion, was the presentation of the Ted Bricknell Memorial Award to Ann Butterworth, the retiring National Secretary (retiring in the sense that she was giving up the job, not of course, that she is a retiring person).

The awards were presented by the photogenic President, Alan Colburn and photographed beautifully by Brian Jones of Kimroy.

And so another year begins, bringing with it further changes to add to the many that have been introduced to the Association in the last few years.



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**Ann Shuttleworth
East Anglian Group
Fifteenth place and first woman in the BAR 2013**