



May 1985

## CLUB NEWS

### BISHOPS STORTFORD C.C.

The seventeenth edition of our Hilly 27 proved to be a real hard riders event, the riders having to contend not only with the usual long climbs and tricky descents but also with wet grit strewn and muddy roads and a cold damp wind. Having upped the prize money the event was relieved to receive 106 entries on time, a shame about the other four which were late, perhaps due to the postal dispute. On the day however 32 didn't make the start and another 12 failed to finish. There were numerous hard luck stories in the the Great Hornmead village hall, told over tea and cakes, but Noel Lilley had had no bother speeding around the course in 1.10.50, over five minutes quicker than second placed Ken Platts. Arthur Dobbin did another excellent ride for third place and Trevor Nutter was our best finisher in 6th place. Trevor opted to ride on HP tyres just before the off but he did not go to the extremes that Mike Smart did by riding with pressures, guards mudflaps and tights and still finished in 23rd place.

Assistant timekeeper Trevor Pedley was not amused when a passing dog decided his umbrella at the road side was not wet enough and duly corrected the situation.

Times throughout the month have varied according to the direction of the wind, for as we all know, it has hardly abated. Trevor did a 55.43 on Good Friday, Phil Horton 56.06 and Mick Hutchin 58.48 in the ECRA 25. In the same event Ray Asser did a personal best 1.3.45 and Michael Giles 1.4.40. Ray improved again a fortnight later in the Unity middlemarkers 25 with a 1.3.33, Michael Giles did a 1.4.10 and Vets Brian Roberts 1.4.27 and Peter Gale 1.5.12. Phil Horton braved the snow in the Elite 25 to record 59.18, Trevor did 1.0.16, Mick Hutchin 1.2.46 and Steve Bannington 1.5.46. I would not be thanked for reporting other times that I know of.

Trevor's best result on the road so far this season

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was a fifth in the Rockingham Forest 60 mile event at Corby and Mike Smart snatched a sixth place in the 50 mile Magnasport event at Braughing.

Juniors Paul Jolliffe, Glen Ryan and Kevin Matthews have been settling into their new class and the best results in April were Paul's 2nd and 6th places at Eastway and 4th in the San Fairy Ann 50 miler in Kent.

That brings me to schoolboy Darren Knight who already had two wins to his credit before the month started then following a 5th place at Eastway and fastest schoolboy in the ECRA 10, returned to Eastway for another win and then cleared up the prizes at Hertford. In winning the 20 minute + 5 lap race he took three primes plus money for fastest lap and most aggressive rider, his booty for the weekend adding up to £46.

Not content with that, the following weekend saw another Saturday win on the Hackney circuit then on Sunday at the same venue he lapped the field to take the North London Division title for the second year.

You would think all that success would make him happy but Darren still cannot understand why he was dropped from the Regional team for the ESCA three day at Whitsun, nor can we!

THE BISHOP