

# DE LAUNE CYCLING CLUB

*Founded 1889*

**OUR ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH YEAR**

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*Just a reminder that our visit to Newnham is this month,  
the photo from years gone by with our President  
1910-49 Capt. A Faunce de Laune on the left.*

**November 2019**

YE. 114. ALPH. 111111

**BALFE'S BIKES**

[balfesbikes.co.uk](http://balfesbikes.co.uk)



# *Birthday celebrations for September*



*9<sup>th</sup> Jeremy Phillips – 10<sup>th</sup> Nick Kinsey – 24<sup>th</sup> Terri Shotton*

## **NEWNHAM SERVICE - LUNCH AT THE GEORGE 17TH NOV.**

If attending please let us know whether you require lunch, ASAP, so we can give a rough estimate to the Landlady.

[jazzymalc@aol.com](mailto:jazzymalc@aol.com) or 01227 373045

*Malcolm Adams*

## **OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CLUB RUN**

Will be held on Sunday the 1st of December in Richmond Park. The start will be from the Roehampton car park at 10am. Three laps of the park, or 21 miles. Mulled red wine and mince pies to follow. Then another trip to the park cafe for coffee and talk about old times!



*Kav.*

Club Rides (Sunday): Meet 9am,  
Cadence Performance  
2A Anerley Hill, Crystal Palace,  
London SE19 2AA

**CLUB NIGHT  
SECOND MONDAY  
OF EACH MONTH  
HERNE HILL VELODROME  
104 BURBAGE ROAD  
LONDON SE24 9HE**



### President's Pen



**PRESIDENT  
WILLIAM WRIGHT**  
61a Burns House  
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020 7735 9605

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ROY SAVERY**  
01959 777455

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101 Manor Park  
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**MEMBERSHIP  
BILL WRIGHT**  
61a Burns House  
Doddington Grove  
Kennington  
SE17 3SX

Happy November! My apologies for missing last month's issue. All down to me procrastinating and not checking the previous DLN for the copy date. Luckily Mark Ballamy emailed me this month with a week's notice this month, and I still left it until the night before!

It's great to be racing again after a long lay-off. So far I've done the OMA 10 and a couple of cyclocross events. Two of our new members, Jean Bergin and Elaine Owen, are also racing quite regularly now, so to be honest I ran out of excuses! On the other hand, I have no pressure on me to actually produce any results, so a gentle pootle at the back of the race can be a nice way to spend a Sunday Afternoon. I race so other people can win. I might even get fit at some point.

Elaine is doing a fair bit better than me, however – she is currently lying 4-overall in the London & SE Cyclocross League. She also rode in the OMA 10 last month, her first ever time trial. It sounds like there is a thriving road racing scene out there, and he is racing in De Laune colours still.



I went to a talk the other night, given by Grayson Perry, called 'The handlebars of life'. In between being a Turner Prize-winning transvestite ceramic artist, he has been a keen cyclist all his life, and says that he has spent far more time on two wheels than he ever has in a dress. I first met him long before his Turner Prize, as a regular competitor in the Beastway mountain bike race series that I helped to run, and for which De

Laune helped marshal many events over the years. In the talk he showed a few photos from those days, racing on the mountain bike circuit at the old Eastway circuit, prior to its bulldozing ahead of the Olympics.

A few times he made us some trophies, one time to be awarded in the Vet category, and another year he made a male and a female award, for 'Mr and Mrs Ordinary' – and said we should just pick out a couple of people who finished mid-pack and give them the trophies. Since this was before he was famous, I don't think all of these survived – I know of at least one that was left behind in a house move because the person never really liked it much anyway!

An interesting talk – all without notes, and covered all kinds of cycling-related topics such as tribalism within cycling; the propensity for the older, heavier male to be the larger part of the market of lightweight cycle components; and the perhaps surprising finding that wearing a dress he gets more respect from other road-users than when dressed more conventionally.

Elaine is doing a fair bit better than me, however – she is currently lying 4th overall in the London & SE Cyclocross League. She also rode in the OMA 10 last month, her first ever time trial.

Also doing rather well is young Eddie Buckley, who moved out to the States last year. There's a report from him elsewhere in this issue, [see below](#).

### **[race report from Eddie Buckley]**

The Washington DC road scene revolves around a two or three number of set piece 'training rides' that go out on weekends. They notionally organized by individual clubs but no club formally takes responsibility due to legal and financial implications. The net result is that anyone can join the rides. I typically join the Saturday 7am ride that starts with around 40 riders and swells as it leaves town, growing to around 80 or 90 on a good day.

There are pros and cons to this. The pros are that there is one main group for cars to negotiate. Sure it takes up the whole side of the road, but you could argue it's better than dozens of small groups. Also, it goes very fast and is a good proxy for race training - there is elbows-out positioning heading into the first climb, and towards the end there is a very competitive road sign sprint that opens up at the end of a long descent. The downside is that it's a proxy for a race and not very relaxing! And you get some idiots riding in the bunch with tri bars etc. The BC Ride Smart program would be welcome over here.

The actual race scene is reasonably lively, although not as busy as in London. Remarkably, all races have at least two police vehicles marshaling, sometime more. There are two big clubs in the Capital and lots of small sponsor teams that have a very high standard (or so it seems). There is a midweek crit on a Wednesday, and one or two races each the weekend. The region covers the whole of the mid atlantic so you can end up driving quite big distances to get to races, which is a nice way to see the country. There's no traffic and you can cruise along happily at 55 mph idly wondering exactly what goes on in one of the many 'gun exchanges' that one passes in rural Virginia or Pennsylvania :-)

I was delighted to be downgraded from Cat 3 to Cat 5 and have been working my way back up through the ranks. USA Cycling and the Mid Atlantic Bicycle Race Association can't make up their minds whether De Laune CC counts as bone fide club or not, so sometimes I am formally riding under club colours, others not. I have worn the jersey throughout the season, however, and I'm pleased to get good comments about the design. In terms of results, aided by my downgrade I have been able to win my first ever races. The best result was winning the Cat 4 Pennsylvania State Championships on a beautiful course that wove its way past Amish farms with happy children waving to us. And my last result of the season was placing 3rd in a very competitive 3/4 Crit in the grounds of an open asylum. I ended the season with an upgrade to Cat 3, so I will be back to 20th place again next season.

All the best,  
Eddie



## The Ultimate in Solo Sportive/Racing Comfort?

Do you hanker for that private solo shower experience after a sportive or race? Fed up with or ecologically opposed to wet-wipes? Can't quite stretch to a Team Ineos bus or a Winnebago? (There is one member who will be smiling smugly now as he considers his own transport arrangements.. )

Fear not! There are other options.. You could knock something up from some old shower curtain and a length of 15mm pushfit plastic tubing or you could consider something aimed at the camping sector such as the portable shower cubicle illustrated.. It has a facility for a solar shower (leave a jerry-can of water to fill from in your boot while riding on a summer day and a warm-ish shower is on the cards...) or you could simply use it for discreet, relaxed changing facility. You could even take a camping stool inside for a more comfortable changing experience. The illustrated model was on display at Decathlon, but I'm sure there are other models available if you're interested enough to look. (The Decathlon model is around £35 and doesn't have a roof, so unsuitable for changing in the rain... . Other models on the internet are around £20 and fully-enclosed though might not be as robust - caveat emptor as we used to say when I was a young lad.. (OK, I'm not really THAT old, just feel like it sometimes!)



**NIGEL SCALES**



# Mini Tour of Kent (much of it off road)

24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> September

Mick Jones contacted me to say his 'other club', Basingstoke – Old Basing, University of the Third Age, was coming to my neck of the woods, and I asked if I could join them along part of the route. Mick duly sent me their proposed route, and having inspected the route for 'Day One', it was with trepidation that I wondered what I had let myself into. The route was over familiar roads to me, and the first part made my legs ache just reading it. As it turned out the weather, which had been great over the previous weekend, was now going to turn to rain. Mick contacted me on the Monday to say they were going to shorten the route, due to the inclement weather. Sigh of relief, no hills!

95% of the ride, for me, was off road and the first 3 or 4 miles were a new experience. I had never had reason to navigate Canterbury, away from the traffic, from their direction, and was not even aware of the 'new' cycle paths. We continued onto the 'Crab & Winkle' path, which was the old railway track from Canterbury to Whitstable. I was the only person on a road bike, which was rather precarious in parts, due to the rough path. Everyone else was on mountain bikes/ e bikes, fully loaded with 'civvies' for the evening and a change of cycling clothes for the next day.

I had a great morning, and the first, for many a year, out in the rain. I remarked to Mick that it never bothered us out on the Jack Young club runs in the 60s, turning up in all weathers. After lunch



in Herne Bay the sun came out, and they had a dry ride from then on. I left them at Reculver.in Herne Bay the sun came out, and they had a dry ride from then on. I left them at Reculver.



I extracted the following from a report by Alistair, Mick's clubmate (whom some of you have met at 'our' BBQ).

### **Day 1 Canterbury to Ramsgate. (38 miles and 330m ascent)**

*The forecast for Tuesday was fairly dire with heavy rain, so we opted to delay the start until just after the rain was supposed to ease at 11:00 and shorten the route by cycling direct to Whitstable, missing out the leg to Faversham. It was about right as we all met up at the Wincheap car park, joined by Sheila who had stayed overnight in Ramsgate, Brian, Peter and Rod who had driven across in the torrential rain that morning and Malcolm a friend of Mick's who lives locally. Only Carol and I got wet as we cycled from the hotel, the rain having ceased at 11:00.*

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*It was overcast and windy as we set off from the car park through Canterbury on the Crab and Winkle Cycle Trail. However there were some light rain showers as we headed to Whitstable on the off-road section. We stopped at the harbour for a photo Just after we started off again, a dog ran into Richard's bike causing him to fall off - uncontrolled dogs not on leads on a shared cycle path again. and then carried on along the NCN15 along the coast to Herne Bay where we stopped in the Wetherspoons for lunch. Shortly after that Malcolm left us as at Reculver and we carried on along the coastal promenade along Minnis Bay, Westgate, Margate and Broadstairs to our overnight stop at Ramsgate.*

On the Wednesday afternoon Lyn and I drove out to our local 'yuppie' cycling cafe, The Independent Pedaler, who sponsor 4 bike riders, which include our local heroes, Chris Fennell, this years, National '25' Champion and Emma Lewis 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Ladies National '25'.

Lyn & I arrived at the cafe about 20 minutes before eight bedraggled riders came into sight. A pleasant half hour was spent with the intrepid riders before we said our farewells.

Mick far end, me to the right and Lyn obscured.  
Note the chain ring on the bike over the door.



Here is Alistairs report:-

## **Day 2 Ramsgate to Canterbury (46 miles and 598m ascent).**

*The next day after breakfast as we set off it was dry and bright though with a strong headwind along the coast. We cycled past Pegwell Bay to Sandwich for a quick tour around this pretty small town then along the coast to Deal where we stopped for coffee on the seafront. As we left, the rain started and it was hard going into the driving rain and strong headwind though it eased as we climbed up to St Margarets at Cliffe then on to the top of the cliffs above Dover the long climb into the headwind and driving rain made it very hard work and we were pleased to stop at the National Trust cafe for lunch. The rain stopped as we set off again over the rolling hills on the Skylark Trail back inland on quiet roads towards Canterbury with the wind now mainly a crosswind or behind us. Just after Adisham some of us stopped at the Independent Pedaler's cafe, whilst Richard, Ray, Rod, Brian and Peter opted to carry on to Canterbury. Malcolm and his wife met up with us at the cafe. From there it was an easy ride back then through the rush hour traffic on the cycle route to the car park then home.*

Thanks Mick for allowing me to join you, great to ride with a friendly group at a sedate pace.

*Malcolm*

## **Catford Hill Climb.**

Made the annual pilgrimage on the 13<sup>th</sup> October to Yorks Hill, where the De Laune always turn out in support. This year contingent was Roy Boy, Mike Peel, Alan Rowe, Lennie & Pat, Debbie & Mike, and Dave Burfoot. It also gives us an opportunity to catch up with other old cycling friends from the bygone days.

This year there was a full field of 150 riders and the event was oversubscribed. The winner was Calum Brown (Cycles in Motion) in 1min 49sec. A familiar name to us, on the start sheet, was Goodes, yes Matt's son. Michael is a juvenile and this was his first hill climb attempt. He produced a creditable 2min 53secs and was 87<sup>th</sup> out of 128 starters. Will he follow in his Dad's footsteps, who won the event on 4 occasions?

## RACE OF TRUTH

The truth is not many of our club riders faced a timekeeper this year. Only Steve Carter-Smith and I rode Open Events, Steve 5 and me 8.

Steve's rides collected him the following trophies:-

**Miles Trophy** for Championship 50 with a time of 2.21.15 in the VTTA event down on Romney Marsh.

**Alf Baldwin Memorial Cup** for fastest '50' of the year.

**De Laune Challenge Bowl** for fastest club rider in our Open 25.

**Midsummer 25** Gravesend C C 25 was the nominated event but the distance was reduced due to road works.

**Autumn 25** Steve ventured into Surrey as the nominated event was the Southern Counties 25 and he did 1.12.32.

**Club Open '10'** with a time of 26.12

Now me! Firstly I should add that I faced a timekeeper 15 times in all this year (all '10's) the others were private TTs with the Thanet Road Club.

What was my reward for my efforts? :-

2. club rider on scratch in the Club Open '10'

2. on scratch in the OMA 10, with a time of 29.20.

2. on VTTA standard in OMA '10'

On top of this, I had Roy Savery's age record of 28.48 set at age 81 as a target to attain the age 80 record. I got inside Roy's time with 28.39 in my 1. open event, the Medway Velo '10' on the Isle of Grain, and then improved to 28.21 around the Betteshanger circuit, and finally to 27.52 on the Thanet Way course in September.

So all being well if I ride next season I still have Roy's time as a target to beat, plus the Kent VTTA record of 28.25. We will see.

The other club riders to face a timekeeper on one occasion this year were Chris Gordon -Coker, Debbie Valentine, Peter Jenn, Roy Savery, Bill Wright and our new lady member Elaine Owen. This of course was in the OMA '10'

Chris took the JEF Butcher Memorial Trophy on VTTA age standard and the

Ken & Dot Fuller 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Trophy as the fastest on scratch 24.08.

I must congratulate Chris for producing such a quality ride with very little preparation, for when you compare it with veteran riders who compete every week and train extremely hard, he would be up there with these guys.

Well done mate! Finally we come to our last award winner this year. Welcome to the De Laune Elaine, and well done in taking the 1<sup>st</sup> Lady award in the OMA '10' with a time of 32.09 in this the first of many TTs in the future, very well done!

My thanks to Val for providing me with the award list to allow me to put this article together.

*Malcolm*

## *Prize Presentation & Lunch*

Having had an unofficial committee meeting at the Catford Hill Climb we thought it expedient to hold this in the New Year, due to short notification for an earlier date. We will discuss this at our November committee meeting and arrange a date. The venue will be the Three Horseshoes, Knockholt as before.

*Malcolm*

Last Sunday 22nd, having decided not to ride the KCA reliability trial, something which I have done for more years than I can remember.

However, I went out to keep Paul Mephram company at Potters Corner, Ashford, this is the starting point for us in the East Kent area, and checkpoint for the other riders who start at Collier Street, near Maidstone.

I stayed with Paul for an hour or so before driving 5 minutes down the road to pay Ken Knapman a visit. I spent a pleasant hour or so chatting with him, and he has asked me to say hello to all who remember him.

*Malcolm*

*Our member the not so well known conservationist*

*Terence Freely*

*Is about to market his latest advanced electric bike.  
(He's looking forward to a luxurious retirement.)*



*Large discounts available to members over 80*

*Ladies get it free*

*Contact Terry with your requirements*

*and a free quotation*

*You can try to find him on Facebook*

## MOVING ON

Maureen Jackson has recently downsized, having moved from her house in Farnborough, Kent to an apartment in Christchurch, Dorset. Anyone who has moved house will have reached the conclusion that this is the time to decide which items are to accompany one to the new home and which should be moved in another direction. Maureen contacted me, as one-time club archivist, for some ideas where items connected to the cycling world should end their days.



One of the items was a large silver trophy which had been won by Alan in the mid-1950's when he was completing his National Service. Around the base of the trophy was engraved "Originally presented by Gillette Industries Limited to AA Command in 1943 as an Inter Regimental Association Football Cup" and towards the top of the trophy the words "Army 3 Day Road Race Challenge Cup". I took the trophy to Mark Ballamy, who enjoys researching such items on the internet. After much searching on the Army Cycling Union website, Mark was unsuccessful in tracing any background

to the trophy (which had obviously been re-dedicated from football to cycle racing).

Mark then contacted Maureen to see if she was prepared to sell the trophy. She was quite happy to do so and thus, Mark contacted a local jeweller friend who took it to the bullion market in London, where it sold for several hundred pounds! Maureen requested that Mark arrange for the proceeds to be donated to an animal charity.

over

Incidentally, I had also looked at the Army Cycling Union website, on which the home page shows a photograph of a young lady by the name of Lieutenant Colonel Christina Murray, who broke the Women's Competition Record at the CTT National 24-hour Championship in July this year with 478.42 miles, and in



August this year the 12-hour Women's Championship with a record of 266.37 miles. Back in the 1950's a Lieutenant Colonel would have been driving an MG sports car, not riding a bike! How things have changed over the years.

## *Brian Saxton*

### *Notes*

AA command was an Anti Aircraft Regiment and they were disbanded at the end of the war .

The Army 3 day race was in 1955 and I found the press cutting for this and it stated: *Alan Jackson and Paddy Boyd dominated the Army 3-day road race which started at Arborfield and finished at Aldershot.*

I also found a photograph of the Army Cycling Union prize presentation in London. In the photo is the Best All-Rounder Dave Tweddell from Alan Jackson also in the photo is John Darroch, so of the nine prize winners in the photo two De Laune members and Dave join the club later.

For your information the cup weighed 3 pound 3 ounce which converts to 44.48 troy ounce which is how it is priced. If you would like to know more about troy ounce I sure our Jeweller member could explain.

**Ed.**



# Giordana Club Clothing

The latest update on the Giordana stock

	Xsmall	S	M	L	XL	XXL	£
Jersey s/s	2	1	3				15.00
Jersey l/s	1	1					18.00
Bib tights with insert		1	2				25.00
Waisted tights no insert		3	2	1			20.00
Skinsuit		1	1		2		30.00
Arm warmers						1	6.00
Winter jacket				1			30.00
Caps - blue - one size	77						3.00
<b>Leisure wear</b>							
Sweat Shirts		2					5.00

All the tights listed above would be compatible to the new Bioracer Kit.

Hats are cotton, plain blue, with De Laune on peak

Sponsored clothing sold as a donation to the club

Tri vests					2		4.00
Tights (Impsport) no insert		1				1	10.00

Anyone wishing to purchase any of the above items can do so by contacting Tony Peachey on [tony.peachey36@gmail.com](mailto:tony.peachey36@gmail.com) or on 01622 727649.

17.10.2019

## CHAMPIONS OF THE ARMY



ALAN

DAVE

JOHN

Attending the Army Cycling Union prize presentation in London on Friday was Raleigh's London Manager, D. G. Domleo, who introduced Reg Harris to present to the Union the new Raleigh trophy for its Best All-Rounder competition, won by D. Tweddell from A. W. Jackson. Lt.-Gen. Sir Maurice S. Chilton, K.B.E., C.B., president, presented awards to the prizewinners, among whom are seen (l. to r.) Jackson, Tweddell (holding trophy), the president, B. Sandy, J. B. Darroch and B. Skelton. Tweddell and Jackson are chosen for the Tour of Egypt.



## ***Social Club Events for 2019***

<i>Sunday</i>	17 - Nov	<b>Newnham Memorial Service and Lunch</b>
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## ***Club & Inter Club Events for 2019/20***

<i>Sunday</i>	01-Dec	<i>Meet Richmond Park</i>	<i>0.416667</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	18 - Apr	Q10/24	<i>Clubs open "10"</i>
			<i>Isle of Grain</i>

**Members may like to know that it is now possible to join, or to renew your Club membership online.**

**Simply follow this link**

**<https://www.riderhq.com/groups/delaunec/join>**

**or click on the button on the membership page of the website.**

**SEE MESSAGE BOARD to keep UP TO DATE**

**<http://mikepeel.proboards67.com>**

**CLOSING DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE 27<sup>th</sup> November**

**Anything for inclusion please send to:**

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