

DE LAUNE C.C.

Founded 1889

Sponsored By EVANS CYCLES (U.K.) Ltd. & SPECIALIZED CYCLES
March 1998 No 790- 69th Year

OFFICIALS		
PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER
MIKE PEEL 29 St Davids Close West Wickham Kent BR4 0QY 0181 402 8809	KATIE CHOWN 13a Elsinore Road Forest Hill London SE23 2SH 0181 291 6663	STEVE CARTER-SMITH Winchelsea Upper Hartfield, East Sussex TN7 4AN 01892 770245

My apologies to our senior members that were unable to read Peels Pen in last months DLN due to the type of type that it was printed in. Thank you for letting me know Ken, I will not use it again. I trust this apology is big enough for you. Ed.

BCF RACING LICENCES & MEMBERSHIP CARDS

The BCF send all racing licences and membership cards fortnightly direct to Club secretaries so that they can ensure that riders are fully paid-up Club members before the rider gets the licence. As I receive each licence / membership card, I check with Steve whether the intended recipient has paid their Club subscription for the current year. If so, I forward it immediately. If not, the rider will not receive their licence / membership card until they pay. I will also accept proof of payment, such as a receipt from Steve.

So... if you are waiting for a 1998 BCF licence or membership card, it could be because you need to pay your Club subs first.

Katie

Gorrick.MTB races

15th March, 5th April, 3rd May- Various locations.

Sat/Sun 22/23 March

NPS Round 1 at Matgam Park, Wales,

ROAD RACING NEWS

The opening Kent League of the season is on the 15th March and is a De Laune Promotion. All De Laune riders entering Kent League races this year must marshall this event as a condition of membership, although it is also possible to ride one of the races. Any other members, who can help on the day, please phone me as soon as possible.

As outlined in the previous DLN, Kent League entries are now free to De Laune members. Phone me **two and a half weeks** before the event with your Kent League registration number and racing licence number and you will pay **ABSOLUTELY NOTHING!**

At the time of writing, I have not received the registration cards from the Kent League. I will distribute these as soon as they arrive but phone me if I do not get one to you.

IAN CLEVERLY
0171 652 7060

DATE	COURSE	9.30am	13.30pm
15 th March	Horsmonden	4/3/J	3/2
22 nd March	Markbeach	4/3/J	1/2/3
29 th March	Biddenden	4/3/J	-----
5 th April	Frant	4/3/2	-----
12 th April	Kennordington	4/3/J	1/2/3

CANADA

Albert Bannell

"Living in not too good out here,

we are not rationed for anything but we sure have to pay for what we get.

We have had a long hard winter; it started snowing first week in November and froze up, but for a few hours thaw in February it has never thawed. This is March 31st and all one can see is snow and to let us know Spring is not here, it was 9 below zero at sunrise this morning, some parts 20 below. March 3rd. It was 34 below, the second day of Spring 17 below, one day in February, 40 below, have not seen a car on the road for 5 months.

Was pleased to see letters from C. Hardy and A. Saxton, it brought back happy memories, they were a great team, Charlie at the piano and Arthur singing. Charlie, do you still play Cavalleria Rusticana? Arthur, it is 43 years ago this week you sang "I am off to Philadelphia" for my benefit, happy days.

Am enclosing my old Club Badge in another letter, perhaps one of the boys would like it. (Many thanks, I am sure the recipient will be proud of it. Ed.)

Well, will say goodbye and best of luck to old England and you all in 1948.

Sask,
Canada,
31/3/48

The above article appeared in DLN No 234 in June 1948.

Fifty years on the De Laune were once again represented in Canada, this time by the ski team, consisting of John Kavanagh (team co-ordinator), Roy Savery (coach), Brian Shambrook (treasurer) and Brian Saxton (refreshments).

We normally ski against the San Fairy Ann CC in Europe but they chickened-out this year from the Canadian trip. Although they are a little more skilled in the skiing department, having people like Roy Manser and Roly Crayford, we are level pegging on the injuries bit. Roy Savery came off of a chair lift a little awkwardly and, much against his will was stretchered down the mountainside. Carol Gandy of the Fairies matched this back in France performing the same sort of manoeuvre but without the stretcher thrown in.

I was very interested in Roy's description of the ride in the stretcher. I have always marvelled at the way the first aid people ski down the pistes with the stretcher and contents flying along behind them, but Roy tells me that there is a brake on the underside of the stretcher, which is operated by the first aider. I am now not as impressed 'though I'm glad he is the one who found out.

Fifty years ago Albert Bannell was having a pretty rough time with little chance of returning to England, where as the ski team just got on the aircraft and in nine hours were back at Gatwick where, incidentally, it was colder than Canada.

By the way, I must do some research into my family history as I am sure that Arthur Saxton must have been related as he lived in Brixton and I was born there myself. In the meantime I must learn the 'correct words' to Cavalleria Rusticana!

Brian Saxton

Further to Don White's article in last month's DLN (No 789) on the Southon desk, I did, in fact, write to Mrs. Rudolph as follows (there was some mix-up in names as Don referred to her as Mrs. Montgomery):

"May I, on behalf of the De Laune Cycling Club, thank you for the very thoughtful gesture of handing over to us the Charles Southon desk.

It will be the oldest possession in our club's archives as the club committee minutes, cash books, etc, of that era have now disintegrated into paper fragments.

We have within the membership a first-class furniture maker and intend asking his advice on the appropriate amount of renovation required to just "tidy up" the desk.

For your interest, I am enclosing several copies of entries made in our club Gazette, which record Charles' death and also some information on the desk.

Thank you again."

(Len Brown - If you've just read this you are the first-class furniture maker" that I refer to above and you will be hearing from me!).

I have since received a reply from Mrs. Audrey Rudolph as hereunder:

"Thank you very much for your letter and the extracts from the club Gazette. As you can imagine, I was very interested in the

entries concerning my brother, Ralph Southon, and the letters from Peter Le Grys.

My brother, Ralph, and his family emigrated to New Zealand in the 60's and sadly he died suddenly two weeks before Christmas. He would have been so interested in your letter and the photocopies. He also was a keen cyclist - and up until the year he died (he was 67) used to join an annual cycle race around Lake Taupo (in North Island, NZ). He usually won a prize for the oldest member to finish!

Peter Le Grys is related to the Southon family through marriage - he is married to the elder sister of Ralph's widow - (we did not learn of the cycling connection until the publication of 'A Century Awheel!').

I am very happy for the desk to find it's final home with the De Laune Cycling Club, I think my grandfather would have approved.

With all good wishes to the Club.

Yours sincerely

Audrey Rudolph"

Brian Saxton
Club Archivist

"Steve Carter-Smith received a nice letter from Monty Watkins (dated Xmas 1997) in New South Wales, Australia, in which he thanked all the officials of the club and extended his best wishes to all the members.

Monty added that he was very honoured when he was elected a Life Member in February 1993. He went on to say that most of his contemporaries in the club have 'moved on', but he is still in touch with the Fletchers and Tookes; he mentioned that It was good to hear, via the DLN, that Les Pyne, George Wood, Bill Miles and Tom Bewsey are still going strong. He finished by mentioning that apart from a few bush fires last month, all was going well in Australia and he hopes to visit the UK some time this year, together with his wife."

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ROBERT JAMES

0171 556 5327 days 0181 852 0636 evenings

TIME TRIALS

After finishing last in the 1997 Inter Club Time Trial Series, I am hoping for a much better showing this season. In anticipation of mass De Laune participation in these events in 1998.

Here is this seasons full inter club list. Further details from me or off the club notice board. **(JEREMY BRIGGS 0181 284 5121)**

1. Sat 18th April Course TBA promoted by 34th Nomads start 8.00am
(Phone for more details closer to event)
2. Sun 19th Jul G25/18 "Fred Peachey" 25 TT start 6.30am
Promoter John O'Brien, De Laune
3. Wed 5th Aug G10/38 promoted by Catford start 7.00pm
4. Sun 6th Sept G10/42 promoted by De Laune start 9.00am
'O M A 10'
5. Sat 3rd Oct G10/38 promoted by 34th Nomads start 8.30am

More seriously, I hope that we can get plenty of riders to these events as all participants score points for the club. So it's not just a competition for serious testers but also for us time trailists (sic).

Yes I've done plenty of time – trailing as well.

JEREMY BRIGGS
TIME TRIAL SECRETARY

NORFOLK 1998

A turn out of four did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of participants at the De Laune CC training weekend at CASTLEACRE, NORFOLK, over the weekend of 20th February 98.

Work commitments and racing (yes the 98 season is already underway) meant that a number of the stalwart racers were DNS, and so it was that

myself (JB), John O'Brien, Katie Chown and her intrepid friend from Norwich "Debbie" met up late on the Friday evening in the local hostelry. Myself and John were to comprise the hardcore group and a level 2 ride of just over 60 miles was planned, whilst Katie and Debbie planned a round trip of 40 miles, meeting us for lunch.

Saturday dawned bright and we disengaged ourselves from our beds in our beautiful hotel (worth all of the £10 nightly price) ate a leisurely breakfast and set off. John O'Brien critically assessing my bicycle and concluding that my sprint and tub selection with a racing block and broken rear wheel spoke might not be best of condition. I didn't like to point out the worn pedal cleats and malfunctioning front changer for fear of adding further to the affront. As I hadn't ridden the bike since October these problems weren't that surprising to me.

We set off at John's level 2 pace about level 4 for me, and made good progress through the undulating extremely quite Norfolk countryside. The next two and a half-hours past quickly as John 'half wheeled me up the many short steep ramps and we chatted about cycling and club life. Well John chatted and I gave monosyllabic answers between gasps.

The Norfolk country side whilst not spectacularly beautiful has a lovely mixture of short hills, open fields and it's quiet backwater roads make for ideal cycling country. And it was thus myself and John arrived in our lunchtime rendezvous pub in Warnham to find Katie and Debbie, in good spirit. The pub offered excellent fare and we all agreed that we were going better than we thought.

Kate and Debbie having covered 20 effortless miles, despite a few detours due to lack of map reading. Katie suggested that although she felt better after a recent period off the bike, with a chest infection, we might find this was because where'd had a back wind on the way out. I laughed this off suggesting that the wind always seemed to come from all directions in such undulation country...how mistaken I was.

On leaving the pub John and myself found ourselves cycling into the teeth of a howling gale as we continued on our circuitous route out of Walshingham. On entering Walshingham we caught up with Katie and Debbie who were negotiating their way through the Pilgrims visiting the

shrines of Walshingham. Some of these pilgrims showing blind faith by stepping into the road in front of an ever vigilant Katie.

Myself and John rode on past Kate and Debbie promising to put the kettle on when we got in, and ground along into the wind, which were strong enough to have even John muttering darkly. Only stopping to read the map (talk of Gary Birch and his bar – bag map reading sprang to mind) we crested the final climb into Castleacre around 4pm and headed for a hot bath after the obligatory cuppa. Just before dark the clatter of shoe plates outside hailed the arrival of Debbie and Katie having struggled back. We then all chilled heading to the cheap, excellent fare of the local pub and the anaesthetic of a 'few pints'.

Sunday dawned bright and myself and John took a blast to the Royal Estate of Sandringham the 33 mile round trip concluded on the same traffic free roads of the previous day. Whilst Katie and Debbie took a visit to the CASTLEACRE priory and local hostelry after the exuberance of the previous day. The day culminated in a lovely lunch in the pub and talk of how good the cycling had been and the excellence of the hostel. All decided another trip this summer was a must and next time we'd hope for a better turn out to this most excellent cycling venue.

JEREMY BRIGGS

PLEASE NOTE

I HAVE MOVED TO

**43 ATHLONE ROAD
TULSE HILL
LONDON
SW2 2DT**

0181 674 7611

JOHN O'BRIEN





FINISH

STOP PRESS

MORE DATES

Saturday 18th April

Interclub Hilly

Q10/19 SEVENOAKS

Thursday 28th May

Interclub Evening TT

Sunday 4th October 11.00 am

Club Hillclimb

TITSEY

Details from Jeremy Briggs or from the clubroom. 0181 284 5121

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Committee Meeting	2 April 1998
OMA SPRING LUNCH	3 May 1998
Committee Meeting	7 May 1998
Committee Meeting	4 June 1998
Committee Meeting	2 July 1998
Fred Peachey '25'	19 July 1998
Committee Meeting	6 August 1998
Committee Meeting	3 September 1998
Committee Meeting	1 October 1998
Committee Meeting	5 November 1998
Committee Meeting	3 December 1998

SEE INSIDE FOR TT & MTB DATES

Please let us have your dates for 1998
So that they can be included on this page

**THE LAST DAY FOR COPY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT
ISSUE IS WEDNESDAY 8th APRIL
THIS SHOULD BE SENT TO US AT**

**41 MAYES CLOSE
WARLINGHAM
SURREY, CR6 9**

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