

# DE LAUNE NEWS



*After I sent my copy to Mark for December, Mark and I received an e mail from Nick How, Arthur How's son, saying that Arthur had passed away. I would personally like to offer my condolences to Arthur's family.*

*In my reply to Nick I said that whilst I cannot recall having ever ridden alongside Arthur, I do remember the club meeting him at the gates of Whipsnade Zoo in 1959, when we successfully got there, after previous years attempts had failed.*

*I often saw Arthur when he was out marshalling and at A.G.M's during the late 50's and through the 60's. He impressed me, as he was always immaculately turned out.*

*Once he kindly loaned his gleaming tandem to Chris Challet and myself to ride an event when the club tandem was in a state of disrepair. I last saw Arthur at Max Dod's' funeral 12 years ago.*

*I much appreciated that he took the time to contact Mark earlier this year as he wished to offer me congratulations on becoming President, in the end he did not phone me but took the trouble to write in the DLN, for which I thanked him.*

*May he rest in Peace  
Malcolm*

**CLUB NIGHT  
SECOND MONDAY  
OF EACH MONTH  
Crown & Greyhound  
in Dulwich Village**

**1889 DE LAUNE 2010  
CYCLING CLUB**

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

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Belgium Night! What can I say, another brilliant, successful evening. Thanks go to all concerned, Dot for organizing it, Kav and Stack for rowing over the Channel to fetch the beer and wine. To Cliff & Carol for the wonderful meal, as usual, and to the new waiters, Steve, George and Simon, with guidance from old hand Tich and young Cassia, you did a magnificent job guys. Hope you got more than a few scraps after the serving of each course.

I am typing this on our return from our annual visit to Newnham. Some 40 of us, members, family and friends attended the church service, paying our respects to the members of our club who lost their lives during the two world wars. After the service, and laying of the wreath, (it stayed on the nail thanks to Stack bringing along some wire and snippers – I will know what to do next year!), we adjourned to the George for lunch. Thanks once again to Dot for organizing the lunch bookings and to Rev. Roy for representing the club in the pulpit giving us one of his 'short' sermons. Was it short or did I doze off! Seriously though, I think Roy's contribution to the service makes it more personal to us members.

Well we are coming up to Christmas so from Lyn and myself, we wish you all a happy one. I am not sure about a prosperous New Year, in monetary terms, but certainly a prosperous one in health and in all other

spheres.

For those who are going to Richmond Park on the 12<sup>th</sup> enjoy your day, bit too far for me to come! Plus Mr. Rowe and I are jazzing it up in deepest Kent the night before. Kav, don't look out for that little lady who tends to turn up and eats your mince pies, she won't be there, she will be with us, having driven down in her Honda car, model JAZZ!

## *Merry Christmas*

Malcolm

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It is with sadness that I have to tell you of the recent death of Arthur How, there are not many of us that will remember Arthur, so I thought that I would include the following article that he wrote for the DLN in May 1954.

Mark

### BATH AND BACK by ARTHUR HOW

As has been the custom over the past four years, a large number of the Club's active members, 33 to be exact, entered for this years Bath and Back reliability trial. This event is noted for its fine weather, but the run of good luck had to break sometime, and this year was the first exception. A few minutes before the "off" it was raining sufficiently hard to don capes, and it turned out that we were to wear them for almost the next five hours, until we were between Newbury and Hungerford.

The majority started, but I regret to say that only 11 riders were successful. The Club's entry was split for starting purposes, some in group 9 starting at 4.40am and the remainder in group 10 following five minutes later. I was in the latter group with Eddie Sharp as company on the back of the tandem for the 210 mile journey, a similar pair in group 9 being Charlie Carlton and Mark Ballamy, of whom you will read more later.

From the start at Harrod's Sports Ground we wound our way through the riverside streets of Barnes and Mortlake, over Kew Bridge, and left on to the Bath road. At once it was noticeable that we were pushing into a relentless wind, but thoughts of a wind-assisted return journey made us

## From the Treasury

At our last committee meeting I mentioned that club members who do not have any 3rd party insurance when riding their bikes should be aware that the Cyclist Tourist Club offer an 'affiliated membership' for club members for just £12.50 pa. The club membership is paid on 1st October each year therefore if anyone wishes to take advantage of this attractive offer please let me know. I believe you can take up this offer direct with CTC but you need to mention that the club is affiliated. Incidentally anyone can become a member of the CTC for £30 pa, alternatively individual membership of British Cycling also gives excellent insurance cover - well worth the money for peace of mind.

Subscription renewal time is fast approaching, you will be receiving the usual reminder from Dave in the very near future imploring you to part with your money - please don't disappoint.

The latest clothing order has been received and Tony is in the process of contacting all members who have pre-ordered regarding delivery, so be warned to have your cheque books ready, he won't let you have anything unless you part with your money !! Some items have increased in production cost this has been recorded where appropriate. The latest stock list has been placed on the website so if you need kit give Tony a ring - number on page one of DLN.

By the time this report is read many members and friends will have enjoyed our annual get together - Belgium Night. We continue to call it 'the Belgium Night' even though the only reference to Belgium these days is the fact that Belgium flags adorn the venue and their national anthem starts the food flowing. For those unfamiliar with this strange tradition of a club with a French connection in its name - the original celebration hosted a roller competition. This was eventually abandoned as it was a bit noisy, sweaty and reminded everyone too much of athletes changing rooms ! Now the evening comprises of an excellently meal, prepared and cooked by the 3 C's - Clif, Carol and Cassia who again wowed the crowd with their expertise. We were lucky to have 4 new waiters this year - a younger

variety in the shape of Steve Valentine, George Lewis and Simon Lowe all guided by an old hand at the game - Tich. Pleased to say that the 'youngsters' all entered into the spirit of the occasion dressing in the appropriate garb and dishing out cuddles and kisses as appropriate.

The backroom 'boys and girls' (average age of about 75 !) of Dot, Kav, Tich and Stack should not be forgotten for arranging and decorating the hall, collecting the alcoholic beverages and making sure everyone paid their dues. Jon Archdeacon coped admirably with the MC duties in the prize presentation, disposing of the trophies he had arranged to be engraved together with the medals which had been organised by Claire. This ceremony finished off the evening and the competitive year admirably, all for it to start again in 2011. On behalf of the De Laune, thank you to everyone involved in the organisation.

Dot was busy the following week organising the annual trip to Newnham - it was 90 years ago that the Memorial Stone was placed on the wall of Newnham church in 1920 when the unveiling was witnessed by 33 members - I think we had a few more than that in attendance 90 years on a typically cold November morning. The Vicar was grateful to see so many faces in the congregation and of course the £50 donation to the church coffers from the club.



DOT

Val the Peach

## Eastern Counties Cycling Association

Considerable discussion took place at the last committee meeting debating whether or not we should continue our affiliation with the above association.

Like many associations when a club decides to affiliate it gives our riders the opportunity to ride on what can be fast courses – the Eastern Counties is no exception, however member clubs are expected to provide marshals in order for their events to run smoothly. For a club of our size and number of riders taking the opportunity to ride their events we are expected to provide a minimum of 2 marshals a year. However, for one reason or another the club has defaulted over the past two seasons and we are currently in deficit of 3 marshalling duties on top of the 2 that will be allocated to us should we decide to join for 2011.

There was limited support from the committee to rejoin however, those interested in continuing our membership, asked that a short note be posted in the De Laune News for all members to pass their opinion.

The bare facts are – affiliation cost £20 per year, plus a minimum of 2 marshalling duties, plus our 3 debits from 2009/2010.

The Eastern Counties promote 4 x 10's, 2 x 25's, 1 x 100, 1 x 12 hour. All the 10 are promoted on Saturday afternoon at 2pm, the 25 mile events are on Sunday mornings at 6 am, both the 100 and 12 hr start at 5 am. A total of 6 events. If we are allocated the 100 or 12hr to officiate on then the duty of the marshal could start extremely early.

Alternatively 5 individual clubs promote 10 open events on these same fast courses where the club would have no commitment to assist with the promotion.

If any member has a view as to whether the club should affiliate can they please make their views known to the Secretary Nigel Scales – [nigel\\_scales@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nigel_scales@yahoo.co.uk)

Val the Peach

# PEDAL POWER



# THANK YOU

To all those who attended OBRIS FARM back in February and donated to the Full Circle Fund for Leukaemia. Among those were members of the Godric CC, Redmond CC, Hastings & St Leonards CC, San Fairy Ann CC, South Western RC & De Laune CC.

Total money raised from a Sportive and individuals was £2700 and the cheque was handed over to Suzie Ruggles at St Georges Hospital.

Thanks once again, Peter Jenn



through the deserted street of Brentford and Hounslow, past the noise of London Airport, and into the blackness of the Colnbrook By-Pass.

Along this part of the road in the distance could be seen a couple of people carrying something. As we approached it was obvious that they were cyclists in some difficulty, and as we drew nearer we recognised Charlie and Mark, tandem in one hand and a smashed front wheel in the other - a new wheel bought only the previous day. It seems that they collided with the hindquarters of a grazing horse belonging to some gypsies camping nearby. The only consolation about hitting something of that nature was that they had a soft landing! All Charlie and Mark could do was to walk to the nearest station - Slough, and as we could render no assistance we continued our journey, and left them to continue theirs.

At the second check at Beenham a large number of our riders decided to retire from the event due to continuous rain, and thus the Club lost its chance of winning the £2 prize and Bath and Back shield. However, we carried on to the next check at Marlborough.

We eventually arrived at Bath in glorious sunshine, and checked in at the Great Pump room. There I saw Peter Staff, our new Secretary, and to my astonishment he asked me if I'd seen Mark and Charlie, as he had lost them. Thinking that he had taken a "parcel" I began to wonder just what else could produce such hallucinations as we had left Mark and Charlie about seven hours before, proceeding to Slough by Shanks Pony. Peter would insist that he had seen them, and then to our amazement they appeared. Apparently someone had given them a lift into Slough where they had left their machine with the police. While proceeding to the railway station the spares car had stopped, and one of the Castlenau officials lent them a front wheel - a solo one.

On arriving at Marlborough they met their helper again who remarked on their speedy journey, needless to say, he was horrified to learn that that his solo wheel had been used in a tandem, but Charlie managed to calm him down with an assurance of compensation for any damage done.

## De Laune Cycling Club

1928 started as 1927 showing a loss on the club funds to the tune of £16.13s.3d. Mainly due to lack of support at the dances, loss of subscriptions and increased rent. Affiliations to National Cyclists Union, Southern Counties Union and West London CA continued. A track pursuit team for the NCU Championships was agreed as in previous years. All club events required a minimum of 5 entrants and all events to be held on Southern courses rather than Bath Road. Frank Holland had identified an alternative clubroom at the St.Pauls Tavern which would save the club £2.10s.0d a year, the landlord was not concerned what drink was consumed and he was prepared to donate a silver cup for competition as he wanted to take an interest in the club. The change of venue was eventually agreed, the first clubnight to be classed as a gala night with a supper.

Only 2 dances were scheduled for 1928 to reduce any losses and the annual dinner would not include a concert (for the first time) but a dance would be held instead following the dinner, though initially this would be short lived, probably because there was no-one to dance with ! The purchase of a rubber stamp was agreed at a cost of 2/-. It was decided to invite adverts for the club handbook to reduce costs. Fees to be arranged by Secretary. One advertiser however 'paid' by donating a Lucas lamp. After discussion it was agreed that this lamp should be a prize in the novice 25. The recipient however had no need of said lamp and promptly donated it back to the club. It was offered to the person selling the greatest number of dance tickets which turned out to be Frank Holland selling 40 tickets, he eventually accepted the lamp.

At the December 1928 committee meeting the Secretary (Frank Holland) stated he has a large number of members (chiefly 'old' boys) complaining that they heard very little about the activities of the club, he therefore proposed to send out a monthly newsheet in future, the commencement of DLN. This was greeted enthusiastically.

Start of a new era – 40th year of the De Laune which witnessed the start of the DLN with the first edition in January 1929 produced by Frank Holland on one side of a single page distributed at the 1st clubnight of the month. It was well received and the fact that the dance in that same month saw 300 members and friends in attendance was duly celebrated especially as £13 profit was made. The second edition carried a plea for members to

donate one shilling each year to offset postage, and an advertisement for the February dance was included however two members Butcher and Gardham would not be repeating their 'walking act'. These two gentlemen escorted some lady friends home to Epsom after the first dance and owing to a lengthy farewell missed the last train to town. Forthwith they commenced to trudge their weary way homeward in the wee small hours of Sunday. Their adventures on this journey were too many to enumerate, but one included the Morden Constabulary. I don't think they spent the night in the cells !

New members at the 1929 AGM - W.G. Tanner (seconded by his brother Laurie) and Percy Shrimpton. Another Lucas lamp was received in return for an advert in the club handbook. This was offered as a prize for the member introducing most recruits to the active membership of the club. Enthusiastic reporting in the DLN on social events as well as club runs where the captain encouraged members not to pay entry fees to race when they could join the clubrun and 'suffer the same'. However riders must arrive on time at 9.30 am, late comers will see only tyre treads and the 'skippers' 30 bob suit disappearing over the horizon. A reminder being made to pay 2d for any chairs used whilst waiting for fellow members to arrive. A proposed long clubrun reminded members to take a 'nose bag' in case hunger sets in as carrots and turnips may not be pulled from wayside fields ! A request was made in April for the donation of any photographs for the club album, especially where plus four suits are worn - it was thought this would make an ideal historical album for future generations.

An incident of foolhardy riding on a club run resulted in a member needing to obtain a new front wheel, tube and tyre and had to expend 2/6d to replace all items - care must be taken in future. Sadly only 9 members attended the Newnham memorial service at Easter, a plea to increase attendance in future was made. Ted Jackson had an 'argument with a cat' during the Highbury 50 falling and suffering contusions and abrasions. The Club Benefit Society was reported on, which centred around the Malvern Whist Drives where members' gambling capability are indulged fully but inexpensively where one of our members always managed to win something. A snippet from the June DLN noted 'will all members and especially the member who was doing inside 'evens' across Clapham Common at ¼ past 6 the other morning, remember that during the racing season the handicap per never sleeps'. Clearly some sneaky training going on.

Stop press – LOST on Epsom Downs between Ewell and London – the Captains pipe, a family heirloom and of great sentimental value – finder will receive award. Editors note – this is the best news we have heard for years, most members will be pleased to hear that this obnoxious object has gone at last. For sale item – Selbach yellow oilskin cape, small size which would fit a small rider! Never been used, owner having been fair weather cyclist. Price 7/6d.

The 40th year of the club saw another first a visit to Newnham in November. It was decided to place a wreath of Flanders Poppies, purchased from British Legion, at the foot of the De Laune Memorial. Any donations towards the purchase of wreath gratefully accepted. The racing season of 1929 ended in a running race with Belle Vue and Balham CC twice round Epsom Race course. Winning team of 4 receive silver medals which are purchased by two losing clubs, unfortunately only 3 De Launites finished, others having 'died' en route.

1930 commenced with NCU including 3rd party insurance for claims up to £1,000. Note was made that this was particularly pertinent to Beefy Russell who, it appears had a reputation of falling off on every clubrun, on one occasion falling into a puddle very deep and very wet, causing a dampening to his ardour. A member advertised Beefy's services as a bike tester, described as 'any make of bike smashed – just give me a trial'.

The club subscription fees stood at 6/-, though our 90 members were encouraged to send 9/- (6/- subs, 1/6 NCU, 1/- for DLN and 6d for Newnham wreath). A night ride was organised for 31st May 1930 starting at 11.30pm. Various pieces of advice were offered ie, take food, hot tea, lights, extra clothing etc however it was emphasised that no singing should take place whilst riding through towns and villages. A change of clubroom became necessary and the Malvern Cricket Club agreed to share their clubroom but only on a Wednesday, where ping pong and billiard tables were available for a small charge. This was later changed to a Friday evening. An easy payment scheme for dinner ticket payment was suggested again. Six pence a week for 13 weeks before 13th December means that you can attend the dinner without a care in the world. The winter of 1930 saw yet another new winter activity – swimming at Manor Place Baths – a 100 yard swimming handicap race, unfortunately this resulted in a wash-out as no timekeepers

turned up. The Epsom Race course running affair with Balham and Belle Vue was also scheduled as was Newnham. Members were encouraged to ride down and make a weekend of it, travel by bus the return fare being 7/- or train at 8/2d return – an all male affair strictly no wives. Ten eventually rode whilst a further 10 arrived by other means. The free wheel contest was won by 12 stone Laurie Tanner on Percy Shrimptons bike, beating all others who 'lost' various bricks, rocks, tools etc on the way down.

Val the Peach All information and snippets of club life have been culled from minutes + DLN publications

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The homeward journey was fast, and comparatively easy as expected, with eleven of the Club - Mark Ballamy, Charlie Carlton, Arthur How, Tony Peachey, Eddie Sharp, Geoff Sinnet, Peter Staff, Charlie Yearsley, Jack Young, Don White and Ron Willey finishing within the stipulated time of sixteen hours.

More about Arthur next month

**“Investigation called for into fourth cat. Crashes”**



**SEE AT**

<http://www.cyclingweekly.co.uk/news/latest/506487/investigation-called-for-into-fourth-cat-crashes.html>

## **General Secretary's Summary of Committee Meeting**

**November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Sixteen members attended the November meeting in the "Crown & Greyhound " "Tap Room" (remember – you don't have to be on the Committee to attend – we're always pleased to see other members! In fact, as noted below, the next meeting, on December 13<sup>th</sup> will be a social gathering with no Committee business planned, so the perfect chance to mingle!!)

### *Meeting highlights*

Pledge of support provided to the "Save the Herne Hill Velodrome " campaign – a more detailed explanation of the background to this initiative will be included in a subsequent edition of the DLN.

Club finances discussed. No concerns.

Discussion of Eastern Counties Cycling Association (ECCA) affiliation. This is £20 annually, however it also involves a marshalling commitment. This has often been filled by members living locally to ECCA courses or by the former Time Trial Secretary. ECCA uses courses in the Cambridge area and we now have a marshalling deficit of 5 marshals carried forward from 2008/9/10 seasons into 2011. Only 2 members rode ECCA events in 2010 . It is questionable whether affiliating to ECCA makes sense for the club, since we struggle to meet the marshalling commitment and members make hardly any use of the affiliation. Members would be able to affiliate as private members if they wanted to assure access to events on "E" courses and lacked the fast times needed to enter Open events, but would incur marshalling obligations personally. Committee will consult members on membership.

SERRL thanked us for £250 donation towards newly obtained equipment/support vehicle for SERRL races.

Dave Haggart and Jon Archdeacon volunteered to represent the club at the Southern Counties Cycling Union AGM in Croydon on 20<sup>th</sup> January. 2011.

Treasurer noted that we have club membership of the CTC and individual club members may take 'affiliated' membership for £12.50 which offers 3rd party

insurance, plus discounts at CTC shop and a weekly e-mail newsletter. Useful for anyone without any cover whatsoever. Full CTC membership is £30

Discussed streamlining Time Trial awards process. DLN will include article in New Year explaining trophies and championships qualifying criteria and events.

Though it was well-received in 2010, it will not be possible to promote a “club morning” TT programme in 2011 due to availability of suitable dates . Committee thanked Time Trial Secretary (Claire Silvester) for her efforts promoting the series in 2010. President (Malcolm Adams) was congratulated on the interest in the Club Event Handicap competition.

Proposed 2011 TT programme was accepted by the Committee:

02/04/2011 De Laune Open 10 Q10/24

07/05/2011 Club Event – 15 miles Q15/20

12/06/2011 GS Invicta 25 Q25/8 (Championship & Novices 25)

31/07/2011 De Laune Open 25 Q25/8 (Midsummer 25)

13/08/2011 OMA 10 Q10/22 (OMA 10)

11/09/2011 Kent VTTA 25 Q25/12 (Autumn 25)

15/10/2011 Hill Climb - Whites Lane

Ken Fuller Memorial Road Race will be the LVRC event on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at Crowhurst.

Next meeting will be a Members Social event, not a Committee Meeting – venue will be the Tap Room at the “Crown & Greyhound” in Dulwich on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 8pm. Members are encouraged to attend and are welcome to bring along any prospective members who would like to meet other club members before making their decision.

THIS E-MAIL WAS RECEIVED AFTER BELGIUM NIGHT FROM LEN DANBY

Good evening Fellow Club Persons!

Great pictures on our web site. Well done! Dot Fuller told me she had asked not to be shown! Two pictures, she still looks the same as the Isle of Mann days! Less lines (face).

Alan Rowe still with lots of hair, I hate him! Me - hairless.

Don White, does not alter, wife ,still, in Command I notice!

Our President, always smartly dressed, needs a good scrub and shave. Not an ex National Serviceman?

Amy Thomas missing, 'toy boy' I hear?

Maureen Jackson, little more weight? I do not go in for 'solids'. Be like Len, liquids only!

I do wish you would place names under pictures. Dot told me Ken Knapman was present - I could not see the lad!

Kav needs new dentures, I could oblige - at a price!

I would love to attend, what could I talk about. Last time I rode my bike, was to the surgery, tranquillisers. Cheaper than beer!

You really look a healthy lot, seeing as how you all drink, smoke and go out with 'loose women' (males I mean).

I do all those things, given up the 'loose women', not on a pension?

God bless you all.

Len

PS At attachment see a member of the Bad Eilsen Reunion, asking if Len is well!!!!!!!!!!!!!! His 'English' minder/carer in the background!





## FAUNCE FAMILY MOVING ON FROM ROCHESTER

This month we start with Edmund's sister Anne married to John Tasker of Franks.

I had nothing on Anne, so here we go again! Yes, I googled FRANKS

FRANKS is an eminent seat in this parish, situated on the banks of the river Darent, and near the southern bounds of Horton, towards Farningham. In King Henry III.'s time, this seat was in the possession of a family, who came hither out of Yorkshire, and wrote their names, as appears by ancient deeds and evidences, Frankish, and bore for their arms, as appears by their seals, A Saltier engrailed. ....Susannah Hubert, of the kingdom of France, one sole daughter, Bernice, who, on her father's death, in 1738, became his sole heir, and carried Franks, with his other estates in this neighbourhood, in marriage, to Mr. Joseph Fletcher, of London; whose only daughter and heir, Susan, carried it in marriage to **John Tasker Esq.** of Dartford; and he, on her death, in 1757, became sole possessor of this seat, in which he resided. He married, secondly, **Anne, eldest daughter of Thomas Faunce, Esq. of Sutton-at-Hone**, but had issue by neither of them. He bore for his arms, Per pale argent, and gules, three saltiers counter changed; and died in 1796, leaving her surviving, who now possesses this seat, and resides in it.

Further investigation showed this gained wealth was short lived as on Anne's death 1810 (1814 according to Wikipedia) the house passed to a niece of John Tasker, who subsequently sold it, as it was of no interest to her.

Edmund's sister Jane married a lawyer, William Hey at St James Westminster in June 1766 & she accompanied him to Quebec (no mention of her below) sadly they only had 6 short years together as she died in 1772 and he remarried six or seven years later

HEY, WILLIAM, chief justice of Quebec; b. c. 1733 in England, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Hey; m. c. 1783 a Miss Paplay of Jamaica; d. 3 March 1797 in London, England.

William Hey was educated at Eton, at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge,

and at the Middle Temple, from which he was called to the bar in 1756. His subsequent career stemmed from his Kentish connections. Recommendation to Lord Hardwicke secured his appointments in 1763 as deputy recorder of Dover and as recorder of Sandwich, Kent. When Hardwicke's son, Charles Yorke, became attorney general in Lord Rockingham's ministry, Hey's career was further advanced. With the support of Yorke and another Kentish Whig, Lord Sondes, Hey was chosen chief justice of Quebec. The royal mandate for his appointment was issued on 3 Feb. 1766.

William Hey arrived at Quebec on 9 Sept. 1766, having travelled with the colony's new attorney general, Francis Maseres\*. .....  
(As I said above, no mention of **Jane**, but she was with him)

Next month will be about younger brother **Thomas** (7) the soldier, (1<sup>st</sup> of many Faunces to join the military) who was to become Mayor of Quebec and was the forefather of the large Australian branch of the family (more of them much, much later).

**Malcolm**

### Interesting Sites

<http://www.cyclevox.com>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/othersports/cycling/>

<http://www.classiclightweights.co.uk/news.html>

<http://cyclinginfo.co.uk/blog/timetrials/classic-time-trial-photos/>

[http://sargentandco.com/for\\_sale.htm](http://sargentandco.com/for_sale.htm)

## THE BELGIUM NIGHT

Another great De Laune night. Over 70 attended and a wonderful feast was provided by our fab chef Cliff Steel - a menu fit for royalty of course and, as always, assisted by Carol, his wife.

We had new staff this year, as the 'old' Belgian lads have given up, although 'Tich' Shambrook was still there, organizing the new 'young' waiters: Steve Valentine (very fetching in his red beret), Simon Lowe and George Lewis, all learning the ropes, and Cassia Steel - all of 6 years old. She has attended all our Belgium nights since she was a tiny baby and, of late, serving soups (not like Julie Walters though!).

Stack, as always, set up the tables and decorated the room with De Laune racing jerseys from past years. Thanks for all your help Brian.

We were all up-standing to welcome our new President Malcolm and his lady Linda; then began the various National Anthems (still a good laugh), this year played on a wind-up gramophone by "Kav", then grace was said by Roy Savery. We were eventually allowed to sit down and battle commenced, cross-toasting began and the never-ending chatting by all, plus eating and drinking.

The wine and beers, as always, were transported over from France by the long-suffering team of Kav, Stack, Tich and Gordon who had to make the trip last over three days, to get in enough time for walking and dining out and the Duty Free shop before leaving for England with all the 'booty'.

The evening soon passed by, catching up with old friends and new, with the prizes presented at the end by our Chairman John Archdeacon and the lovely flowers presented to Lin, Carol, Cassia and me. Thank you all.

I am sure the evening was enjoyed by everyone and the new members agreed it was a great evening full of fun - thats the De Laune!

Thanks everyone, for being there.

Dot

## NEWNHAM

Our next get-together was at the Remembrance service at Newnham attended by 40 members and friends. We were lucky that it was a bright sunny morning in Newnham (not as in Farnborough when we left at 8.30 a.m).

We all met for coffee in The George, lunches were ordered, and then off we went to church for the 10.30 service conducted by the Reverend Richard Birch. He is getting used to our club now and welcomes us to the church and the village.

Roy Savery gave the sermon once again. Thanks Roy. We all listened attentively. Then it was out into the churchyard by the De Laune memorial tablet, where the names of the fallen were read out by our President Malcolm and the poppy wreath was laid by Rachel, the granddaughter of one of the fallen - Bernard Palastanga. Two minutes silence followed, for our thoughts, then it was back into the church for refreshments, provided by the ladies of the church, which is always welcome after our respects are paid outside.

There was a village magazine in the church, very nicely in colour, a page of which told part of the club's history. If anyone would like one, please let me know - £1 will go towards the church funds - well worth a read.

Back to The George for lunch, with the tables all nicely set out for us by the landlord and his lady - Marie and Chris - who always make us very welcome. Thanks go to them. I was sorry to hear that they are leaving The George and will not be there to look after us next year. Good luck to them in their new venture.

Lunch over, and still chatting, we finally made our way home.

I must mention our oldest members who attended - Bill Miles and Tom Bewsey (OBE), courtesy of the Geoff and Vi taxi service - great to see you there boys and, of course, everyone who attended: hopefully still making the journey for years to come. I wish some of the younger members would join

us on our annual pilgrimage to keep the De Laune flag flying in Newnham. It is a good day out and a good reason for making the trip - remembering the De Laune past and present.

See you next year, I am off to Suzanne and Mike in Adelaide, for Xmas, and to see the tour down under and to meet up with the Geoghegans, and maybe Harry Thomas, in Brisbane.

Happy Christmas and a fit New Year.

Dot



### Kav's Report. Part 1

From the reports I received, you all enjoyed the Belgium Night last month. I would like to thank everyone who made it happen. First I would like to thank Stack, Titch and Gordon for helping me to load all the Belgian beer and French wine into the car when on our French trip. It was obvious that we had to sample the drinks before we came home.

You who are regular Belgium Night attenders will have noticed that we had three new waiters and one old one this year. A big 'thank you' goes to them. First waiter, Big George Lewis who joined the club about two years ago but we never see him. He only rides a bike around Richmond Park. Second waiter was Simon Lowe. When I thanked him for his services he said he wanted to do something for the club, bless him. We have got you down for the next 10 years!

Our third waiter was Steve Valentine who came back to the club like a breath of fresh air (Airwick) and has got so involved with the club and he always has a smile. The fourth waiter was the old boy Titch Shambrook who at 76 years old insisted on being a waiter. You must have seen him walking up and down the isle with no plates in his hand, just walking up and down.

A big thank you to Stack who could not attend (had to take the dog for a walk) who decorated the Blackheath club room with posters, De Laune racing vests, and laid out and decorated all the tables and spent most of the day blowing up (by mouth) all the balloons. We had one of the balloons burst and we could smell lager!

Dot Fuller. What can you say about her that has not been said before? Dot, who

is our Social Sec, who not only gets involved in the Belgium Night but the “Brighton Do” with Pat Burns and of course the Newnham lunch at the George pub. Dot collects all the cash from the Belgium Night and has the hardest job of laying out the seating arrangements. You who have done this job know what it is like when people want to be sat next to someone or do not want to be next to a radiator etc. A big thank you Dot.

I think the success of the Belgium Night is good wine, good company and good food but someone has got to cook that food and the lynch pin of the operation are our chefs Cliff, Carol and little Cassia. Cliff started working on our meal first thing Friday morning and left at midnight. Every year Cliff will not take a penny for his time and as Simon Lowe said “he wanted to do it for the club”

Our members insist on a collection for Cliff and Carol and this was done. Cliff has asked me to thank all our members for the collection as it was appreciated. I often think “what if”? What if Cliff and Carol went down with the flu? A fish and chip supper would not be the same. Thanks Cliff.

The next De Laune promotion is on Sunday 12th Dec. - the Christmas Richmond Park Club Run. We will have mince pies, sausage rolls and hot mulled wine for you - be you a rider or not. Just turn up.

The club run will start at 9.am. If you are driving to the start you should get into the Roehampton Gate car park before 9am.

Merry Crimples to you all.

Kav.

PS Is it true that our President went to Specsavers to buy two hearing aids because they were two for the price of one?

## Kav's Report.Part 2

Have you ever lost your mobile phone? You will know what a bind it can be. Let me tell you about my phone with, I hope has nine lives. I say that because I have lost mine three times already and I still have it.

Let me explain. I have one of the most expensive phones. Yes it is an iphone. You could say the best part of £400 to own one. The first loss was in France last year when we went to France to get the wine and beer for the Belgium Night .

We got back to the hotel in Le Touquet and I could not find my phone. We thought it We got back to the hotel in Le Touquet and I could not find my phone. We thought it could be in the bar/restaurant we had attended that evening but a long way from the hotel. Stack said let me ring your phone on my phone (are you still with me?) and see what happens.

Stack phoned and a voice said “Hello” and Stack said “hello” and then the person on the other end said hello. It was a bit like that comedy sketch on the TV Hello, Hello, Hello. Yes we got the phone back as it was in the restaurant.

The second loss. Stack and I decided to have a beer after an event at Herne Hill. We had a beer (only one!) in the Harvester, Dulwich Grove. Got home and no phone. I phoned the pub and the manager answered. I told him I thought I had lost my mobile in the car park getting into my car. Could he have a look for me? He said as it was dark he could not see a thing but if I phoned my number he might hear it ringing. He phoned me back and said sorry but he could not see or hear it.

I thought someone had picked it up so I phoned my own mobile again to see if it could be returned. Do you know what? I could hear my mobile ringing on my drive. Yes, I had lost it on my own drive as I got out of the car! I asked Stack to go in to the pub and thank the guy and buy him a drink, which he did bless him.

The third loss. We again went to France for the Wine for the Belgium Night this year. We always have a long walk when in France and so we decided to do the walk finishing at Wissant. The last two miles to Wissant was on the beach. As it was raining full blast in your face and I did not have my waterproofs on, I decided to put my Iphone in my waterproof rucksack on my back.

After about one mile we passed a couple walking the other way. After another half mile we saw one of the couple running after us. My phone had dropped out of my rucksack on to the beach. This guy had found the phone on the beach and chased after us following our foot prints in the wet sand.

We bought them drinks in the bar to thank them. If you see me with a big chain around my neck you will see my iphone on the other end!

Kav.

## Diary Social/Club for 2010

Sunday 12 December Richmond Park Christmas Social Ride

09:00

## Club & Inter-Club Events for 2011

Saturday	2 April	De Laune Open 10	Q10/24
Saturday	7 May	Club Event 15 miles	Q15/20
Sunday	15 May	Ken Fuller Memorial RR	Crowhurst
Sunday	12 June	GS Invicta 25	Q25/8
		Championship & Novices	
Sunday	31 July	De Laune Open 25	Q25/8
		Midsummer 25	
Saturday	13 August	OMA 10	Q10/22
Sunday	11 September	Kent VTTA	Q25/12
		Autumn 2525	
Saturday	15 October	Hill Climb	Whites Lane

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

**CLOSING DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE 29th DECEMBER**

Anything for inclusion please send to:

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