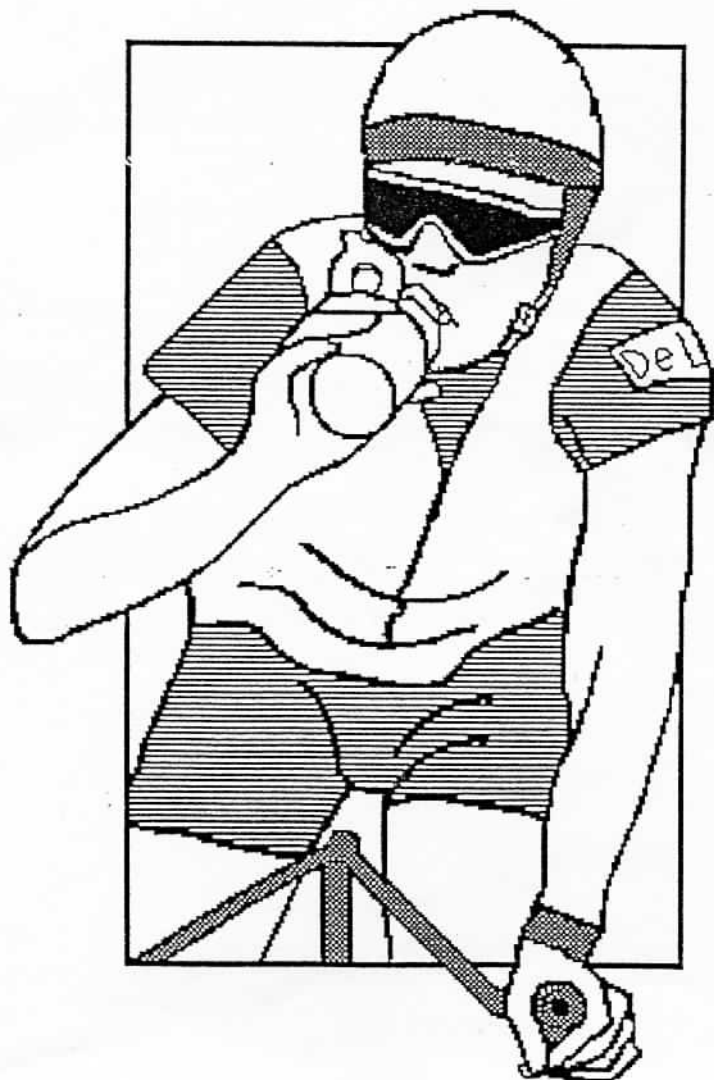


DE LAUNE

News



DE LAUNE C.C.

FOUNDED 1889

Sponsored By EVANS CYCLES (UK) Ltd. & SPECIALIZED CYCLES

November 1999. No. 809 -70th Year

OFFICIALS		
PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER
MIKE PEEL 56 Bourne Way Hayes, Bromley Kent BR2 7EY 020 8462 2505	KATIE CHOWN 28 Ewhurst Road Crofton Park London SE4 1AQ 020 8690 3874	STEVE CARTER-SMITH Winchelsea Upper Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AN 01892 770245

Peel's Keyboard November 1999

Matt Goodes was our best rider in the National Hill Climb held on 31 October, he finished 18th. Ben Neville and John O'Brien ably supported him and the team finished in fourth spot - well done, watch out next year.

Not much else to report this month as we head for the Millennium celebrations. De Laune was started in the nineteenth century, lasted the whole of the twentieth century and is almost in to the twenty-first century. Can't all be bad....

Sadly at the last Committee meeting we had to strike off 33 members who have failed to pay there subs or respond in any way. It is always disappointing when we loose people especially as several of those removed had been in the Club for many years. We can not afford to keep subsidising them.

In case you were wondering (?) the Handbook is being updated and will be circulated soon!

Don't forget to book up for the famous Rudd's Christmas Bash. Good time, good food, good company and good racing.

Keep em turning!

LETTERS



Dear Mark

Please could you enclose the following in the next issue of DLN:

This is one of the few times I have felt prompted to write to DLN but I felt very annoyed after having read John Darroch's letter in the August issue. However, I suspect I might annoy some people with this as well, but I am fairly representative of the members who are thirty something or who joined the Club in the mid-80's, so here goes!

I found John Darroch's letter both patronising and very out of touch. I do not know whether he was including me as one of those "ladies who often reluctantly do these jobs year after year" because that is not how I see myself at all I have been in the Club for nearly 15 years (and in all that time I've never met John Darroch, not down the Clubroom, not at a Club event or even on a bike). Initially I started out in the Club as a very active racing member. Very quickly I also became involved in doing the clothing and in more recent years as General Secretary. None of this was reluctant and now, despite a heavy schedule with work and college, I enjoy being involved in some way with the Club, especially since I don't have time to race anymore.

All other London cycling clubs are going through very similar times to our own – falling membership and members with little spare time. We, in many ways, are managing better than most - we have some very consistent riders producing impressive results (after all we are primarily a racing club), we promote good league and open events, and we have some excellent officers and officials, particularly Mike Peel, Bill Wright, Steve Carter-Smith, Jeremy Briggs, Ian Cleverly, John O'Brien and Matt Goodes. And we're pretty good at pub quizzes as well.

The officers and officials did not all just "reluctantly allow themselves to be re-elected this year". Most of us probably wish someone else would volunteer but then when they don't, we do have the choice of not standing for re-election. We're all assertive enough not to do something we don't want to do. Also, over half of us are under 40 and one of us only joined the Club in June (a fortnight before the AGM). Obviously we cannot afford to be complacent as a club. We do need to work at recruiting new members, having regular club runs and generating a greater attendance on Thursdays down the Clubroom.

I also find John Darroch's comments about Old Members quite divisive and not representative of what actually happens. Although officially I am an Old Member, I see myself purely and simply as a member of the De Laune Cycling Club. To me that means enjoying riding my bike, being involved in Club promotions, skimming through the results in 'Cycling Weekly' to find De Laune names, cheering people on in races, socialising, reminiscing and being with friends.

I'm certain the Club will survive past the early part of the next millennium.

Regards

KATIE CHOWN



Assuming you've all read the heated debate in the last few DLN's, here are my thoughts on the letters published. As a De Laune committee member who puts in as much time and energy as 3 children, 2 jobs and 4 bicycles (some of which I, occasionally, get to ride) will allow, I do sometimes feel aggrieved by letters stating what a great club this used to be and how it has declined in recent years. These criticisms, I am sure, are not directed purely at committee members but that is where the buck stops.

We now live in a world of overwhelming choice. Hundreds of T.V channels, computer games, videos, and e-mail. An 18-year-old has a choice of going out on his bike in the cold and dark, risking his life, or staying in and surfing the Internet. Come Sunday, there's mountain biking, cyclo-cross, hill climbs, reliability rides and, if all else fails, the humble

clubrun. We do our best to cater for all members' wishes, but gathering a large number of De Launes in one place seems to be increasingly difficult and perhaps it is time we realised this and got on with it.

The advice of older members is, of course, most welcome, but I'm afraid darts competitions and golf club lunches are not going to get the pick of South London's youth banging down the doors of Choumert Road! I do not claim to have any solutions, indeed I do not feel that the club is in such a bad way, just that the expectations of the older members are, understandably, very high.

The OMA may not be a 'secret society' but the De Laune must seem it to new members. Time trials on the Q/52/111234B (where's that, then?). We must explain ourselves and publicise, get a web site, put up posters in local sports centres. These are the things we do not do well. This is a positive debate, which will be beneficial to the club. The turnout for the hill climb of members, both young and old, was great, and Dots' piece in the last DLN explaining the service at Newnham was exactly what was needed.

Anyone for an evening of poetry????

IAN CLEVERLEY

POETRY CORNER

When corresponding with the DLN
Please dispose of purple prose.
Don't use wordy sentences when
Poetry can be composed.

John Betjeman could ride a bike,
To pick a name at random.
Yeats and Keats, 'tis said, did like
To team up on a tandem.

Now Poet Laureate Andrew Motion
When suffering from writer's block
Applies a smear of chamois lotion
And rides against the clock.

So when the steam is rising
And feelings you must vent
Then take a lead from our own
Malc Adams, Bard of Kent.

No stranger, he, to poetry
With anecdotes to tell.
He always rhymes and holds the key
Of how to scan as well, sometimes.

So, raise your glasses, drink good health
To Malc of many parts.
Write a poem, form a wealth
Of self-professed Old Farts!

I Twiddle (Age 92.75)

E - MAIL

Hi Mark, Tuesday 19th October 1999.

Thanks for the subs reminder, they did not say the amount, my brother is here in two weeks so I will make arrangements to pay subs for 1999 and 2000. I need to know the amount, it is not in the letter. My brother will send it in when he gets back to Brighton on November 15th.

I wanted to drop you a line anyway and say how nice the current edition of the DLN looked, very professional if I may say so.

I was very sorry to hear that Arthur How has been in hospital with a heart attack, I looked on the e-mail addresses but he is not listed. Would it please be possible for you to give him a quick phone call and remember me to him, please wish him a speedy and full recovery.

Lastly I was somewhat surprised that my recent letter has stirred things up at the Club, I am pleased to note that in general the letters in reply have been in support, fancy Alan Rowe agreeing with me!

By the way I cannot believe Alan and his fantastic times at his age, my cycling right now is on hold as I am at the new house every day supervising what is going on there.

Best wishes to all my good friends in the DL.

JOHN DARROCH

Mark

Thanks for the forwarded letter.

Can you please inform Steve that I have no intention of EVER leaving the De Laune, no matter where in the world I reside. I will talk to my parents who look after my UK accounts and get them to send a cheque plus postage donation to SCS.

Thanks for the last email DLN, a really good read. I hope to have some words for the next issue.

Regards **GARRY BIRCH**

Very many thanks for the bumper issue DLN. The colour photos make it even more exciting to read; glad to see Adam Glasser looking fit and well. No rain either! I would have loved to have been there.

A big hello to all the De Launies...

Yours in sport
Chris Gordon-Coker

I send the above members their DLN by e-mail, and I received these replies back before Brian Saxton collected the October printed one from me to post out. That is why they receive a colour photo and you had to make do with the black and white one. Ed.

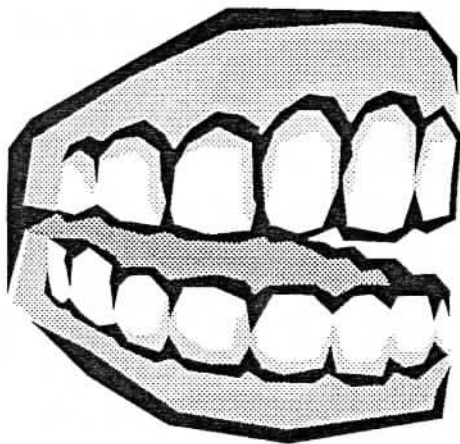


Young Members News (Y.M.A.)

Len Danbv's Scrapbook of De Laune Memories - Episode Four (4)
(Last one No. 3 was in DLN March 1994 -No. 745, 64th year)

TUBULARS

What a wonderful word! During the late 40's I used to envy the first class 'equipment' of Monsieurs Bill Miles, Roy Banham et al. Of course it was purchased before the War. How could I compete? With great difficulty!



One could not buy such things. May I digress (we will get there in the end, I hope). I use to attend the Borough Polytechnic for the 'City and Guilds' in dental mechanics (of course my enlightened friends always address my letters with RDT after my name (Registered Dental Technician)). After my period of instruction I would cycle over Blackfriars Bridge to Farringdon Street to a

prodigious cycle shop. Each week I would ask if they had any of those French things (tubulars). And on so many occasions I would return to my humble abode in Woolwich, without.

Of course the time came when I purchased these wonderful rubber things. And with the 'arrogance of youth' I used to go with such items on club runs. These 'tubs' were quite substantial, when I punctured, my friends would wait while I undid the stitching and repaired same. Mind you they were thicker than tyres of this day and age. And of need I was always very good with the needle and thread!

When I joined that remarkable organisation known as the 'De Laune Cycling Club' many of us were 'apprentices'. I often wonder if my father made the right choice (in those days one did as one was told!). In my first year I was paid 75p each week and in my last year at almost 21 £3.50. When my very good friend Ken Fuller, working at Earls Court made £18 per week, not an apprentice, and has a large house in Kent and Dot!

I did one months trial without pay. When I was accepted the man in charge said to me 'how do you wish to be addressed, Leonard or Danby?' 'I said Leonard' (I had never been called that before). He said 'Good an you will call me Sir'. Having worn the Royal Coat of Arms at the end of my sleeve for 16 years I now understand (well Ober Feldwebel Saxton late of the 'Queens' would).

A few years ago I waved/shouted at young Gunnel (?) and Fuller through my village, they 'turned' at the roundabout near the Church. Tell them I am now Officer in charge of flags, and if the Union Flag or the Cross-of Saint George is the wrong way up, do not tell me.



PS I see that a Aimee (well that is the way she spelt her name when I knew her, if it the same lady) Thomas is moving north, give her my regards.

For those of you who don't know Len spent most of his working life (if that's what they call it) in the R. A. F. Ed.



Hi All,
Just wanted to be the first gossip-monger to break the news: Quil and Renu Forbes have just become parents - a baby boy born 7.05pm on Nov 4th, weight 6.1lbs. Quil came down the pub to tell us, and won a bottle of Vodka in the raffle! We lost the pub quiz, though....

Regards,
Bill Wright

CONGRATULATIONS TO MUM & DAD, Ed.



Critical Mass takes on a new aspect...

You can also find this article at:

<http://www.adbusters.org/magazine/24/bike.html>

DO-IT-YOURSELF BIKE LANES

FROM POLAND and France to Australia, people have been pulling off Robin Hood-like actions all summer long.



Just pick a strategic street and an early morning, grab some friends in white overalls, buy some cans of road-marking paint along with a walking-rolling device, throw around a few orange cones and diversion signs, and you're there. Don't forget to carry along some white spray paint and make a homemade cardboard stencil of a bicycle, with the

words "bike lane," or the local equivalent.

After the city government in Warsaw, Poland, stalled the building of a bike lane for two years, activists with the Green Federation painted a 600-meter-long bike lane on a main street earlier this year, with 150 participants of a "Critical Mass" bicycle demonstration joining in. They demanded the city build more bike lanes, or such actions would be repeated every month. In Dijon, France, the city council had planned to widen a number of main roads despite a new air-quality law, and no bike lanes were planned on any of the roads in question. So activists from the group Maloka painted the lanes themselves without permission, during another "Critical Mass" demonstration.

"Alternatively, you could write your council, ask it to put in a bike lane, wait for a response, lobby the planning or traffic committee, write more letters, and be told there are no funds available - even though the council is building that multi-story underground parking lot," says Karl Charikar of Friends of the Earth Australia. "It's your choice."

The above came from **Garry Birch**

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS	
Andrew Harding 21d woodlands Road Crystal Palace London Se19 1NS 020 8670 4662 d of b 2 July 1958	Justin Fogerty Flat 3 9 Cumberland Street London SW1V 4LS 07939 255490 d of b 25 November 1973

PETER JENN

1999 Results

April	Mid Oxon. med gear	'25' (72in)	1.1.14	
	Clarance Wh. Open	'25'	57.48	
May	V.T.T.A National Champ	'10'	22.54	
	Catford	'10'	22.22	
	De Laune	'25'	59.25	
	Hillingdon circuit race LVRC		Second	

LVRC NATIONAL TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

FIRST

(based on four event, points system)



2nd Geoff Hodges
San Fairy Ann CC.

1st Peter Jenn
De Laune CC

3rd Dennis Cunningham
Manchester

WORLD MASTERS CHAMPS. Manchester

5th Pursuit

Oct.	Verulam	'25' F1/25	59.50	Fixed
	Swindon	'25' U.94	1.1.45	Fixed
	Hillingdon	'25' H25/2	57.20	Fixed
	E.C.C.A.	'25' E.72	56.20	Fixed

VETS BAR 1999

FIRST	PETER JENN		
	10 Miles	22.22	26.825639mph
	10 Miles	22.54	26.200878mph
	25 Miles	56.20	26.627221mph
	25 Miles	57.20	26.454606mph
		Average speed	26.454133mph
	Age 55 standard	Average speed	20.637606mph
	Plus on age standard		+5.816527mph
SECOND	ALAN ROWE		
	10 Miles	22.51	26.258208mph
	10 Miles	23.04	26.011564mph
	25 Miles	59.00	25.423730mph
	25 Miles	1.00.29	24.800219mph
		Average speed	25.62343 mph
	Age 60 standard	Average speed	19.85611 mph
	Plus on age standard		+5.76732mph

Congratulations to Peter on winning the VETS BAR and getting another vets age record with his 56.20.

Due to the close competition between Alan and Peter, I had to calculate to more decimal places, as rounding up or down can affect the final result ---- **.049207mph** being the difference. In fact at one point Alan thought he had won by .0063mph,unfortunately we did not know of Peter's 28sec. improvement on his 57.48.

Peter's last ride (56.20) gave him a 25sec advantage and had Alan ridden this event, the hour dead would have won him the BAR. You will have to keep a closer eye on Peter Next year Alan.

Malc Adams

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

21st NOVEMBER

NEWNHAM

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

28th NOVEMBER

THE DOWNHILL

TILBURSTOW HILL

19th DECEMBER

Clubroom Christmas ride (10:00)

and lunch (14:00ish)

SEE INSIDE FOR TT & MTB DATES

Please let us have your dates for 2000

**THE LAST DAY FOR COPY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE
NEXT ISSUE IS WEDNESDAY**

8th DECEMBER 1999

THIS SHOULD BE SENT TO US AT

**MARK BALLAMY
41 MAYES CLOSE
WARLINGHAM
SURREY, CR6 9LB**

Phone & Fax 01883 627809

e-mail mark.ballamy@virgin.net

**Produced by Jason & Mark Ballamy
Distributed by Brian Saxton**