

# FARNHAM ROAD CLUB

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## FROM THE EDITOR

The last three months have flown past, as it seems only yesterday that I sat at the machine to pen my first ever effort at a newsletter. Nobody complained, so here I am again.

As promised my eyes have been open while cycling along the lanes and several members have been spotted along the way; Joanne Fricker pedaling furiously down Charles Hill, Ian Howard wheeling along

the lanes. Even Rob, Paul and Mike out and about. There are tales that John Essex has been hard at it in the early hours! Well done to Deana who is only a shadow of her former self. A certain cycling plumber has been spotted at the Seale Café. I understand that following his assault of Mount Ventoux,



he is planning to conquer the rest of Europe. To this end and to publicise his business he has changed his name, and is now known as Napoleon Boilerparts. He is pictured here in piratical headgear.

In this issue there is the first of a new feature called Pit Stop by Ian Howard and details of the West London CA programme and lots more.

Colin Mitchell

**Urgently wanted**

Your stories, thoughts, ramblings. Anything that might interest the members.

Any cycling pictures new or old.

Send to: [mitch56@btintemet.com](mailto:mitch56@btintemet.com)

Next Deadline: May 7th.

## PIT STOP BY IAN HOWARD

One of the features of a winter group bike ride is the statutory pit stop at a "cyclists café". These sought after locations provide

temporary respite from the thigh bursting attacks off the front by the younger members of the group, an opportunity to regain

some warmth before the ride home and of course, most importantly, a source of much needed carbohydrate replacement

to those who have “bonked” or who wish to avoid “bonking”(Or those too old to remember what it is! Ed.).

A few Saturdays ago I had gone out early without more than a snatched handful of crunchy cereal for breakfast and already had Bentley, Stanford, Liphook, Petersfield High Cross and Colemore under my belt when I came down off the back roads and passed the post office in East Tisted. I was cold and did not want to warm my hands by setting fire to my pubic hair as recommended by Dr Hutchinson in the comic. I wanted something more practical. I could also smell coffee. I had not intended to stop, being on my own and made of sterner stuff, but stop I did.

Yes they did do coffee and other yummy warm things. They are planning on opening up an area at the back for passing trade – like groups of cyclists. The husband and wife team were new – escapees from the London rat race, and were trying to make a go of what was clearly a somewhat run down enterprise. I think it will be a nice place to stop in the summer. They have Jude’s home made ice cream, while nothing to do with her in doors, apparently tastes very nice.

A few days later the Royal Mail announced the closure of 20% of its sub post offices. I hope this is not one of them as without the small but regular income provided by the post office, the proprietors will find it even more difficult to survive.

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**A blind man was seen running through Whitehill recently pursued by another man in black tights, a cycling helmet on the back of his head wielding a large axe while**

**chanting.... “Who needs a carving knife!”.**

## **HELPERS WANTED FOR THE OPEN EVENTS.**

We would not be able to run the Open Event programme without members helping out. The first event will be the Open 10 on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the event secretary John Cooke on 01252541473 as soon as possible. I will be there wielding the watch.

## **BRITISH CYCLING**

British Cycling is offering free Bronze membership to newcomers. This level of membership offers a range of benefits, see their website, and would allow the person to apply for a racing licence. More details can be obtained from Jim Parker 01252 722861

## **TRIPS AWAY WITH THE FRC**

**Isle of Wight:** Unfortunately this clashes with the Open 10 on the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup> May. However there are a few members keen to go and more details can be sought from the Chairman Paul Charman on 01420 475709.

**Duo Normand:** This is a large two-up event held annually in Normandy, this year on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. It is hoped that a party will travel together to compete. There is a whole variety of events for all ages and abilities. To learn more please contact Jim Parker on 01252 722861 who hopes to be able to arrange accommodation and travel.

## **HANDBOOKS**

The CTT Handbooks are now available from Jim Parker at the price of £5-50. These will be sold on a first come basis. Act quickly.

## **TIME KEEPING**

The current time keepers Jim and I are becoming part of an ageing population. If there is anyone out there who would like to help, (it is not compulsory to be a cyclist of any kind), please contact Jim Brown 01252312796, who will be only too pleased to arrange some training.

## **CLUB RUNS AND MONTHLY MEETINGS**

The weekly club runs continue from the Maltings on Sunday mornings. A steady group of four to six members have been consistent throughout the winter. These are likely to continue through the season and details can be obtained from Jim Parker 01252 722861.

Monthly Club meetings have been held with similar numbers on the first Tuesday of each month at the Bull Inn. Rob and Paul have been seen weaving their way home by tandem, after sampling the TEA. This is highly recommended. The last meeting until the end of the season is likely to be on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March but check at the first Saturday club event on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

## **WEST LONDON CYCLING ASSOCIATION EVENTS**

FRC members are able to compete in these events as the club is affiliated to the association. The details are in the CTT Handbook:

**Sat. June 2<sup>nd</sup> 25 H25/1: Mick Fountain 01235-813571**

**Sat. June 30<sup>th</sup> 30 H30/8: Don Ashton 01252 650783**

**Sat. July 7<sup>th</sup> 10 H10/17R: Marion Fountain 01235 813571**

**Sun. July 15<sup>th</sup> 50 H50/1A: Mick Fountain as above.**

**Sun. Aug 12<sup>th</sup> 100 H100/88: Jim Burgin 0118 9701147**

**Mon. Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> W Hinds 500m Sprint Champs : See WLCA or Reading Velo websites.**

**Sat. Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> 10 H10/2: Tony Deadman 01628 483559**

The hundred is being held on our local course and hopefully enough members can be persuaded to ride and form a team.

## **CLUB EVENTS**

The Club Committee, at their recent meeting, have agreed that the cost of taking part in the CLUB EVENT PROGRAMME will be reduced to £1 for all club members and that visitors will remain at £2. This will give a £28 saving if you take part in all the events. The price of two adult membership fees!

The first event is on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, starting at 0900. Do come along even if you do not want to take part. Jim and I are always hopeful that someone will help with the pushing off.

## **CLUB DINNER**

Paul Charman is keen to hear from anyone having ideas about possible venues and format for the annual dinner and prize presentation. It needs to be a venue that holds 50-60 people with bar etc. Call him on 01420 475709.

## **COMPUTOR NERDS**

Try quick release TV. I found it at [www.quickreleasetv.magnify.net:80/](http://www.quickreleasetv.magnify.net:80/) This site has video and audio pod casts on bicycling issues. Those receiving an e-mail newsletter can click on the link and it comes up.

Not paid your subs – no June newsletter.