

AMATEUR



See Page 3

VIC COWELL (Arsenal Aces) Above you see Vic going into a split. One of best shots yet.

## NATIONAL TROPHY—277 TEAMS



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# AMATEUR CYCLE SPEEDWAY

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15 LOCKET ROAD  
WEALDSTONE  
HARROW  
MIDDXX.

## NATIONAL TROPHY 'OFF'

THE News Chronicle National Team Championship for 1950 is off. Over 270 teams have been entered and the draw for the first round has already been made. Indeed, by the time you read this most of the first round results will be streaming into the Chronicle offices.

The draw is divided into areas, biggest of which is Middlesex with 27 teams. Essex is next with 24. London has only one match, that of Hackney Comets versus New Cross Rangers. All other teams received byes into the next round.

Sussex have a strong representation with 23 teams, 10 of which have byes. In all, 26 counties are involved, and the draw has so been arranged that the North champions will play the South champions in the following rounds.

A well-wisher recently told me that the National Trophy would be a farce unless NEUTRAL stewards presided each match. Remember the Speedway World Trophy? he went on. I hope all of the teams in the National Trophy do their best to have neutral stewarding.

All the first round results of the National Trophy will, by now, be in the hands of the News Chronicle. First to reach this office was the 55-35 win by Newcastle Diamonds over Northside Flyers at the Diamonds' track. The Flyers were local favourites for the trophy. John Laidler, in his first outing on this track, notched maximum points. Full scorers: Diamonds, J. Laidler 18, R. Dobson 14, C. Close 11, T. Coutts 5, J. Forster 4, J. Robson 3. Flyers, C. Venus 10, J. Johnson 9, A. Cooper 7, J. Parker 4, A. Temple 4, T. Scott 1.

In Middlesex, Ruislip Aces beat Northwood Broadriders 71-25 in their Trophy match.

later, slipped his pedal and finished second. Even when he was disqualified in his last but one race, the reason for which was unapparent to me, he was still in the running for the title.

I would liked to have seen him win this title, but he finished a fighting third, half a point separating him from the second man. First three were: Jimmy Henderson, of Cray Tigers (previous holder) 12½, G. Stark (Welling Wings) 10½, Henk de Bruin (Hollandse Welpen) 10.

Hartog de Ronde told me that he hopes to bring a Dutch team over in August.

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Here is Individual Dutch Champion, Henk de Bruin (left) with the President of the Dutch C.S.A., Hartog de Ronde.—Photo, H. Messum (A.C.S.) copyright.

## Henk de Bruin (Dutch Champ) here---third in first meeting

By the EDITOR

TALL, curly haired Individual Dutch champion, Henk De Bruin, came over here for a week during Whitsun and left behind him a trail of broken English and broken records.

I made the trip down to the Woolwich R.O.F. Vampires' track inside the famous Arsenal, where Henk has his first race in England against top notch English riders. With him on the tour was Mr. and Mrs. Hartog de Ronde, President of the Dutch Cycle Speedway Organisation.

The meeting that afternoon was the Kent Individual Riders' Championship and sixteen riders from the top Kent teams were competing for the golden helmet and Individual trophy. Henk had been entered to gain experience on our tracks.

"What do you think of our tracks?" I asked Hartog de Ronde. He smiled and shook his head.

"How you say?" he grinned. "Not a patch on ours?" Yes, it seems that the tracks in Holland are 100 per cent better than the average over here. More care is taken over them.

The racing started, and a roar of approval went up as Henk pedalled to the tapes. Then we saw how the Dutch lads ride. Henk left the others at the gate, was in and out of the first bend before you could say "Dutch cheese." Then half way down the straight he went into a perfect slide which took him completely round the other bends.

His machine, specially cut down with only a platform of sponge for a saddle, straightened smoothly at a touch and it was fitting that Henk won his first ever race in this country. He was beaming all over back to the pits. Henk repeated this performance during his next races, and

## Touched tapes first time for five years!

THE Poole Speedway Cup first round matches were raced off recently. All the results are not to hand, but it is known that Rossmore Tigers beat Ashley Broadriders 53-31. Pennington Jets lost at home to Wareham Dragons by 34½-49½. Ringwood Aces beat Parkstone Devils 46-34. Gem Pirates received a bye.

In the Dorset League, Gem Pirates A and B teams are so far unbeaten. It is interesting to note some of the performances of the Pirates. In a match against Pennington, Gale of the A team was excluded for touching the tapes, the first time this has happened to him in five years racing!

## Gruelling decider in Jubilee final

WHEN Ray Braddon (Peckham Stars) beat E. Lawson (Albany Aces) in the last heat of the Camberwell Jubilee Cup Final, he dead-heated with D. Ross, also of the Stars, and forced a thrilling re-run.

Over 800 people turned up in Wyndham Road, S.E.5, at the newly opened Council track to watch the last of six rounds in which the top riders from South East London have competed.

The decider between Ross and Braddon was a cheer-jerking affair. Braddon, determined to add this trophy to his South East London Individual Championship, led from the gate and held off Ross for a lap, then as most of us thought it was all over, Ross cut in through an impossible gap to win the race and the Trophy. As both riders thundered past the post, Braddon slithered from his machine and lay panting on the track. He was helped off.

Tommy Jarrett (Peckham Stars) who was unbeaten throughout the rounds and started favourite, had a poor evening. His total of 11 points meant a decider with E. Cooper (Clapham Panthers) for fourth place, which he gained.

During the interval, five of South East London's Test Team who beat Newcastle recently—R. Braddon, A. Palmer, H. Brand, T. Vinter, V. Winter—were presented with attractive butterfly plaques, given by Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd.

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## London & Home Counties end to help N.A.C.S.A.

THE London and Home Counties are no more. Aspirants of the National Board and themselves the oldest and most known cycle speedway organisation, they have decided to disband in order that national needs might more easily be fulfilled.

When, at Camden Town last year, the Southern Region were forced to resign, there was a deficit of many pounds showing. It was left to the new board to overcome it, and overcome it they did, in less than a year they had managed to succumb funds.

They received many, perhaps unnecessary, kicks in the pants; but most people little realised the difficult task they were given.

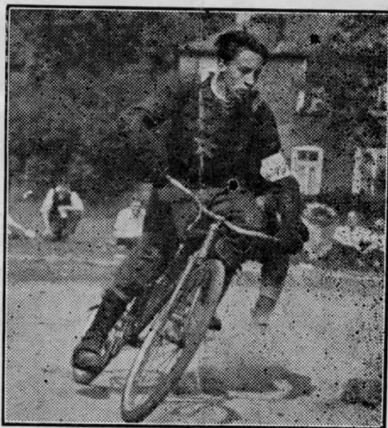
Indeed, they atoned for all slatlings by playing the leading part in the formation of N.A.C.S.A. A smaller, Southern Area Board may be formed in its place.

Names that will go down in the golden pages of the sports history are: Mr. S. Kippen, Mr. Keynes, Mr. Jones, Mr. Duffield, Mr. Cattle, Mr. Simpkins, Miss P. Taylor, Mr. Alery and all the others who assisted.

ing! In another match, against Oxford Lions, Bunter, Bennet and Gale scored maximums, Bunter and Gale equalling the track record thrice and four times respectively.

Parkstone Devils are racing well. They are, at present, occupying third position.

|                    | P | W | D | L | Pt. |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Gem Pirates B. . . | 5 | 5 | — | — | 10  |
| Ger Pirates A. . . | 5 | 5 | — | — | 10  |
| Parkstone D. ....  | 5 | 4 | — | 1 | 8   |
| Rossmore T. ....   | 5 | 3 | — | 2 | 6   |
| Wareham D. ....    | 5 | 1 | — | 4 | 2   |
| Ringwood A. ....   | 5 | 1 | — | 4 | 2   |
| Parkstone B. ....  | 5 | 1 | — | 4 | 2   |
| Ringwood B. ....   | 5 | — | — | 5 | 0   |



Peckham Stars dominated the final. The Stars had 10 entrants, 8 of whom reached the final. They had three in the first four.

**This is how they reached the final:**  
J. Jarrett 30, C. Buckingham 28, V. Winter 27, R. Braddon 26, P. Bailey 23, M. Griffin 22, L. Creuse 22, E. Cooper 21, D. Ross 21, R. Johnson 20, T. Vinter 20, A. Palmer 19, K. Carpenter 19, E. Lawson 19, G. Burt 18, K. Fryson 18, R. Jarrett 17, R. Lawrence 17.

**This is what they did in the final:**  
D. Ross 13, R. Braddon 13, V. Winter 12, T. Jarrett 11, E. Cooper 11, P. Bailey 9, T. Vinter 8, E. Lawson 7, C. Buckingham 6, R. Lawrence 6, A. Palmer 5, R. Jarrett 5, K. Carpenter 4, M. Griffin 4, R. Johnson 2, K. Ford 1.

## YANKEES ARE U.S.A. CHAMPS

From PETER SAUNDERS

NO matter how much you try, you can't get rid of the cycle speedway bug. Once bitten, always bitten.

When Roy Aldridge left England for U.S.A. little over eight months ago, and came to Logansport, Indiana, he found, as expected, nary a trace of enthusiasm for cycle speedway racing. But he set to work and managed to get a local paper interested, and three lengthy articles did the trick. In no time he had applications enough to form five teams. So he formed five teams.

The five grew to ten and then to fourteen and latest news is that a league has been formed. Roy is secretary and vice-captain of the Baronscourt Yankees. The Yankees are at present on top of the league and two of their riders—Ern Sherison and Homer Goldsbury—have yet to be beaten out of first and second place.

The Yankees' track is 70 yards long with two bends of 20 yards each. Surface is of fine powdery sand and cinders. Spills are frequent, but they have their own medical service. They hold their meetings on Saturdays, and the juniors race on Sundays. They have their own supporters' club too.

# N.A.C.S.A. STRENGTHENED IN YORKSHIRE

AFTER recent developments, it is hoped that things will start to move in Yorkshire, writes **ERIC GREENWOOD**, secretary of the Bradford & District Control Board, members of the N.A.C.S.A.

There is promise of a Leeds Control Board being formed and Hull have now affiliated to the N.A.C.S.A. This will undoubtedly strengthen the National aims in Yorkshire.

Sheffield is something of a dark horse, for although teams are known to exist in that city, repeated efforts to contact them have met with no answer. County capital, York has also a few cycle speedway teams and it is hoped that they, too, will shortly form a league.

## 60 RIDERS

Halifax, however, refuses to join N.A.C.S.A. despite attempts by myself and others. Many teams there would like to join, but the people who run the Halifax League will not hear of it. Halifax of all places, would benefit by joining. They often allow one team to register 60 riders and allow riders, who have registered with one team, to ride with another for important matches. They are heading for trouble fast that way.

After a disastrous start in 1948, Bradford this year are concentrating on giving their riders sufficient rides to ensure enthusiasm being at top

## STOKE LOSE AT MANCHESTER

Manchester's Cheadle Hulme Tangers entertained Stoke Stars in an inter-district challenge match on Whit Monday, writes **G. W. Fernyhough**. Rangers, captained by Lew Grepp, won 75-45. Grepp notched maximum points. Scorers: Gheadle Hulme: L. Grepp 15, D. Maynard 11, M. Walker and S. Rycroft 9. Stoke Stars: J. Hawley and J. Ellis 8, R. Kett and J. Wheildon 6.

Abbey Hulton Dragons from the North Staffs league visited Stockport recently and played Chapel Panthers. Panthers won 76-30. Later in the return, Panthers completed the double with a 61-46 win. Aggregate scores being: Panthers 137, Dragons 76.

pitch throughout the season. A league of nine teams, a knock-out trophy, an Individual trophy and the News Chronicle Trophy should ensure this.

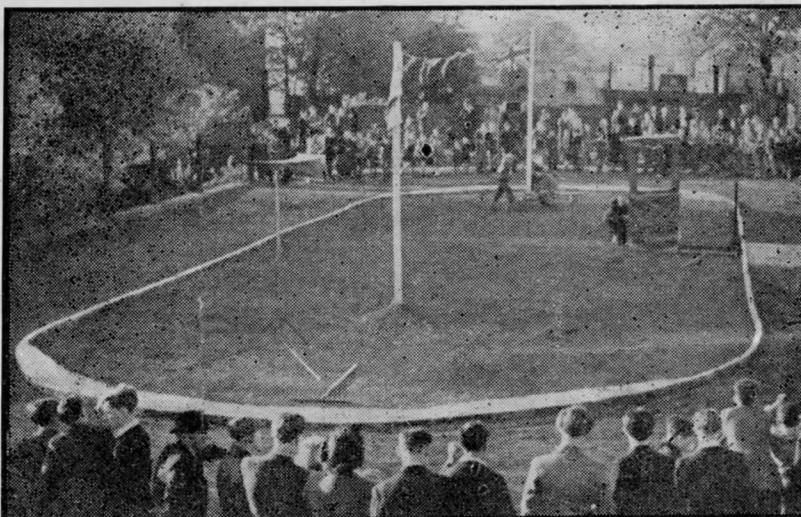
The Board of Stewards was reorganised recently and now has a separate secretary. New competitions have been arranged for August and September. The teams finishing in the first four positions of the league will play one another, home and away, likewise the last five. Then the top dogs of each section will ride in the final.

Here is the latest table:-

|                   | P | W | D | L | Pt. |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Grange .....      | 7 | 7 | — | — | 14  |
| Harbour Road ...  | 8 | 7 | — | 1 | 14  |
| Pit Hill .....    | 9 | 7 | — | 2 | 14  |
| Bell Dean R. ...  | 8 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 7   |
| Lower Lane .....  | 6 | 2 | — | 4 | 4   |
| Frizinghall ..... | 8 | 2 | — | 6 | 4   |
| Montague .....    | 8 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 3   |
| Dovesdale .....   | 4 | 1 | — | 3 | 2   |
| B. Dean Aces ...  | 7 | 1 | — | 6 | 2   |

Pit Hill, after winning five matches in a row, were unlucky to lose 43-41 at Harbour Road and 42-41 at Grange. The Harry Hornby Knock-Out Cup is now in the semi-finals stage. Pit Hill v. Lower Lane and Grange v. Harbour Road. All were expected to reach this stage.

## Comets' new track open



By **HENRY MESSUM**

**B**ET Norwich speedway star Bob Leverenz and manager Fred Evans didn't know they would be at a cycle speedway meeting in less than three hours after they had landed in this country from Australia. They, the editor of the Walthamstow Post, Reg Reeves of Walthamstow speedway, and myself, were present at the opening of the Whipps Cross Comets' new track at Eton Manor, Temple Mills Road.

It's really a pukka affair, in fact more like an actual speedway track. There was a crowd of 500 at the opening, but there is room for at least a thousand. There's a stewards' and starters' box in the centre, loud speakers at each end, proper pits and a huge 12 foot fencing enclosing the whole track.

The ground and material to build was given by a Mr. Villiers, whose generosity in the interests of sport is well known in this area. Playing fields and dressing rooms on Hackney Marshes owe their existence to this gentleman. With tools to hand, the Comets got down to hard work. They cleared the huge weeded area, laid the 75-yard long track and later installed an electric starting gate. I think we shall see some outstanding matches staged here this coming season. The track is easily accessible by bus and tube.

Riders from Loughton, Chingford, Chigwell and Woodford were present. An Individual Trophy was run, with J. Brown the winner with 15. P. Coyle second with 13 and J. Maynard and K. Seaforth joint thirds with 12 each.

## NORWICH NOTES

### HELMETS? -- we don't want 'em SAYS WOG VICKERS

THANKS to our unanimous decision not to tolerate crash helmets and steel shoes, cycle speedway in this area is becoming known as a sport in its own right and has completely outgrown that "playing at speedway" label.

Everywhere I go, people ask: "When's your next match?" or "Did the Norwich team win last week?" and certainly interest is being aroused. Never before have our matches attracted such large attendances. I remember in 1948 when Norwich played East London, that the visiting supporters outnumbered our own. This year, however, Seething Stars, Earlham Eagles, Hellesdon Lions, Saxlingham Stars and Hethersett Hornets all have regular attendances of 100 or more.

Our recent test with East London drew a 600 strong crowd, and the Wembley teams visit attracted nearly 1,000 despite unsettled weather.

In these two tests against London teams, our riders showed up well. Especially captain Malcolm Flood who, although he took the outside starting position every race, scored 17 points on each occasion.

#### RESULTS

Norwich League results for the past four weeks show several close matches. Hethersett, Seething and Earlham all having narrow away wins.

Hellesdon Lions 43—Hethersett 40. Seething 45—Red Devils 39. Eagles



WOG VICKERS

44—Hellesdon Hammers 40. Red Devils 41—Eagles 43. Saxlingham 53—Costessey 31. Hammers 61—Costessey 23. Seething 39—Eagles 44. Hethersett 44—Devils 40. Seething 43—Hammers 41. Saxlingham 41—Hethersett 43. Lions 32—Eagles 49. Saxlingham 36—Seething 48.

#### Latest League Table Issued

|                | P   | W | D | L | Pts. |
|----------------|-----|---|---|---|------|
| Red Devils     | ... | 7 | 3 | — | 4 6  |
| Earlham Eagles | ... | 8 | 7 | — | 1 14 |
| Seething Stars | ... | 6 | 4 | — | 2 8  |
| Hethersett H.  | ... | 5 | 3 | — | 2 6  |
| Hellesdon L.   | ... | 5 | 3 | — | 2 6  |
| Hellesdon H.   | ... | 5 | 2 | — | 3 4  |
| Saxlingham S.  | ... | 6 | 1 | — | 5 2  |
| Costessey      | ... | 4 | — | — | 4 0  |

Manager Bill Clarke tells me that Hellesdon Hammers have arranged a visit to Dagenham in July for a challenge match.

Fred Smallwood's bike caused

## NORWICH THRASH WEMBLEY

FROM N. H. GUEST

HEAVY showers and overcast skies greeted the huge crowd of 1,000 who turned up to see Norwich thrash Wembley 70½—48½.

In the first two heats, a Wembley rider was disqualified for breaking the tapes, and they got off to a poor start. Heat 3 was drawn and later the Wembley reserves scored a maximum.

Heat 5 was unsatisfactory as Norwich captain, Malcolm Flood, was fouled by Wembley's Hollick who was disqualified. But Wembley's Dixie Dean had built up a huge lead which Flood could not overcome, and the visitors took the Heat 3—2.

Then through Rogers and Luke, Wembley gained a 5—1 win which put Wembley three points in the lead. Then Wog Vickers made a magnificent effort in the next heat to force through a small gap to dead heat with Smallwood for second place behind Leggett to level the scores 20½ each.

From then on Norwich forged ahead and finished 22 point winners. Final Scorers: **Norwich** (70½)—Flood 17, Leggett 13, Vickers 11½, Claxton 10, Eaglin 7, Platfahrd 6, Rix 4, Wells 2. **Wembley** (48½)—Smallwood 9½, Dean 9, Rogers 8, Hollick 7, Mildenhall 6, Luke and Howard 4, Coleman 1.

plenty of amusement when he came to Norwich recently as captain of the Wembley Test Team. It was all patches and adhesive tapes; just like it used to be when he was a Norwich rider in the good old days.

## WANTS SEASIDES TO HAVE TEAMS

HAD a visit the other day from Mr. S. Harris, of Topsham, famous figure in Exeter Cycle Speedway circles. He tells me he is anxious to put the sport on a firm footing in Exmouth & District. "Exmouth is a far better sporting district than Exeter, and I know there are many lads interested," he says.

He wants to form a league with teams from Exmouth, Withycombe, Budleigh Salterton, East Budleigh, Woodbury and Otterton. He is also getting together some of his riders to stage an exhibition match in Exmouth to let the public see what they are missing.

In Exeter, cycle speedway is progressing in leaps and bounds. There are twelve teams. Mr. Harris is manager of the Hill Barton Magpies, who recently opened their new track. There are at present the league ladders. "We have a busy season ahead of us," he goes on. "Our season is from May until September and in that time we have 48 rides, not including the News Chronicle and Individual trophies we have."

At the same time, Mr. Harris hopes to introduce the sport to Torquay and other seaside resorts.

## IF NOT - WHY NOT?

Do you sell Amateur Cycle Speedway at your meetings? Do your supporters get a chance to keep up with the latest developments? If not, why not?

Write today to: Circulation Manager, Amateur Cycle Speedway, 15 Locket Road, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middlesex, for full details of fun raising scheme for your team and supporters.

We have many letters from some supporters who say that although they often see members of the team with copies of this magazine, they never see them on sale to the public.

What about it team managers and secretaries. Write to us and have that remedied right away.

# HAM AND EGGS FOR LONDON RIDERS

## ON DUTCH TOUR

CAN you remember the pre-war meals of ham and eggs? They used to crackle and spit on your plate and tasted delicious with a little salad cream. I faintly remember them, but remember them, but recently my memory was given a nostalgic jerk. I was one of the four London riders from the New Cross Rangers who travelled to Holland to play the Dutch lads in a series of matches, and the whole trip developed into a time table of ham and eggs and thrilling racing.

When we arrived at the Hook, the Windmolens (Windmills) were waiting at the station and before anything else, rushed us off to a restaurant to a plate full of the good old food. It was not until we had wiped the plates clean that we encountered our first difficulty. We could not make hay wire of what the Dutch lads said to us. But we managed somehow.

Our first match was against the Windmills that same afternoon. We were taken to the track which was situated in a field surrounded by football pitches. A huge crowd had collected and were paying 25 cents (5d.) to go in. In the centre of the track was a large circus tent and there we changed into our riding kit and rode a couple of practice laps to get accustomed to the sharp bends. The track was 87 yards long and 15 feet wide. The centre of the track was only 9 feet, which will give you some idea how small the bends were.

### By LEN EASTWOOD

There were seats for spectators and a stand had been built. A loud speaker system was sending out marching music on the records. We arranged for two riders from the Yellow Stars to ride for us to enable us to field a full team and have five rides each. After a while, a gentleman arrived and gave us full particulars of the afternoon's racing in fluent English.

At 3 o'clock we lined up in front of a jury of seven appointed by the control board to act as a panel of stewards. We were then introduced over the speakers to the committee and spectators and after the English and Dutch national anthems had been played we rode back to the pits for our first ever match against Holland.

J. Goody and myself were in the first heat and we both noticed the fly-across starting gate was much slower than the type we use here. As it shot away, C. Hamelink, the local captain sped into the bend, followed closely by Goody and myself. We finished in that order and the score was 3-3. In the next heat K. Hopkins and T. Jarrett scored a 4-2 for us and we went on to win the match 53-41.

As I was captain of the New Cross team, the chairman of the Windmills presented me with a silver cup together with wooden clogs and brushes for my team mates.

That evening we were introduced to many teams and a boy who could speak English very well. He offered

to come along with us and act as interpreter, which was very helpful. Our next match was against the Slippery Dutchmen, their track was five miles from the Hague. Before the match we were asked to meet outside their manager's house in full kit. There waiting for us was a band of 60 members and we formed behind it and were led to the track through the cheering streets. Talk about blooming D-day!

We had two Windmill riders this time and started off with a 4-2 win. We won 52-32 and were presented with a large garland of flowers weighing over 50lbs.! By the time we were very much at home on their tracks and we won our next matches in fine style. 46-38 against the Yellow Stars, and 38-16 against another Slippery Dutchmen team.

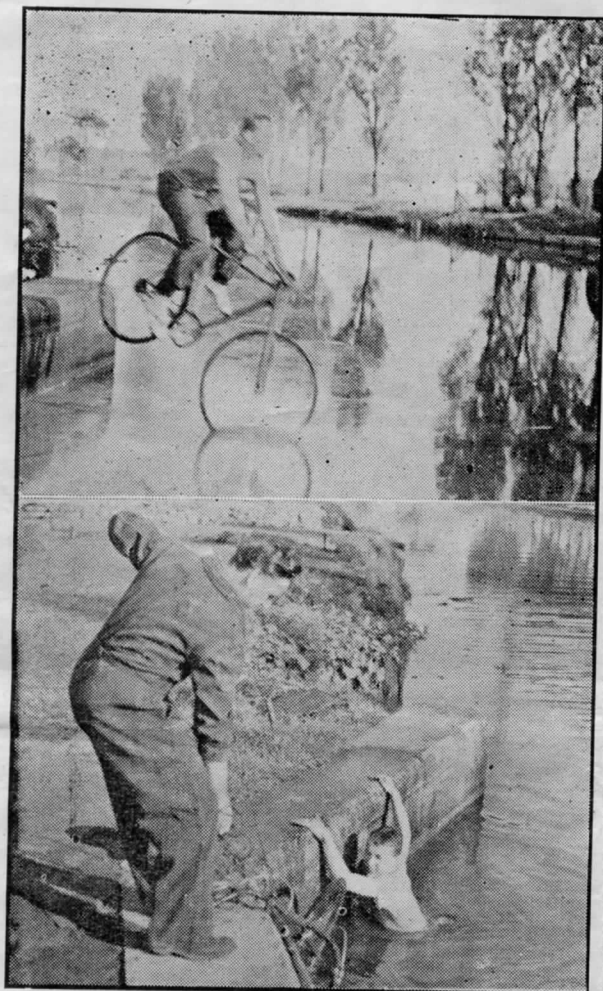
(Top) London lads go sight seeing in Masterdam. (Middle) Windmolens captain lead our Tommy Jarrett into the bend. (Bottom) Len Eastwood, London captain, is presented with the Windmills Cup.

Having won and ended all our matches, it was time to return home.

We bade all our new found friends good bye and arrived at Harwich on Sunday morning, April 23. And even when we were piling into the train at Liverpool Street Station with the smoke and fumes from the dusty engines up our nostrils, we could still hear that Dutch band playing and smell those lovely plates of ham and eggs!



## THE (SPLAASH!) URGE OF THE SEA!



WHAT'S happening on the left? Mr. Tighttights performing his daring 50 ft. drop into a wet sponge? No, nothing so glamorous—just one of them cycle speedway riders. It's Stripey Roach of the Sudbury Kangaroos jumping to conclusions—and getting wet too!

Latest craze is stunt riding led by Stripey. In fact Stripey's the only rider who stunts anyway! Nothing like an early morning ride and swim—at the same time. And Stripey plungers into the 9 ft. deep local canal for the fun of it.

He rode against many Third Division riders, but gave up riding on doctor's advice. We think the doctor must have said: "You a rider? Don't make me laugh. Go and ride into the canal and cool off..." And he did!

## PLYMOUTH'S TRIO ARE AT IT AGAIN

THE Plymouth League is now well under way, and the hay wire first-of-season form is sorting itself out, writes **JIMMY BRICKNELL**.

Foulston Eagles, Flying Devils and Laire Wasps are at the top as last year, they are living up to their name "The Terrible Trio." The Eagles and Devils are so far unbeaten, but last year's champions, the Wasps have lost three matches. It seems they have struck a bad patch for a while. The Weston Millers have riding well to occupy third place at the time of press.

The Foulston Eagles are having a visit from the Cray Tigers (Kent) in July. This should prove if the standard of riding here is as high, if not higher, than that of London and the Home Counties.

Alan Dabinette has been appointed Eagles' captain and his partnership with "Ginger" Friend is the league's strongest.

The stewards are giving the teams excellent service and are rapidly making matches pleasing to both rider and spectator. Perhaps the only black spot in some areas this season, is the bad sportsmanship of certain riders. It does not leave a good impression on the spectators. I hate to see a rider deliberately foul a fellow rider or attempt to start a fight after another has just beaten him. Somebody watching the sport for the first time, will form a bad opinion of it. We can only keep on trying to stamp it out.

## Accident—Board to assist Police

FOLLOWING an accident of a child who sustained injuries in Swindon from a cyclist riding a machine used for cycle speedway, the Highworth Rural Council reported to the Swindon Police. They wanted steps taken to prevent similar happenings.

A Wroughton member of the Council complained that cycle speedway racing was apparently unorganised and had been taking place, without permission, on land in the centre of a housing site. Mr. W. Barker, the Wiltshire representative on the N.A.C.S.A., and member of the Wiltshire & Swindon District Control Board replied: "We should like to make it known that there is no official team in Wroughton affiliated to N.A.C.S.A. If these boys

had got in touch with us they would have been guided. All tracks are inspected by Board officials, and we make sure permission has been granted before ground is used."

The Board were gravely concerned at the accident. Under a present ruling, they could suspend a rider for three months, or, if the case is serious, for good. Mr. Barker stated there are numerous youths riding who are not recognised or associated with any of their clubs. In future, all official riders will be given special licences. It was also decided to expel any riders seen on the roadways without brakes.

"We will assist the police every way we can," said Mr. Barker. "We know the police, in turn will assist us by taking action."

## TRANSFERS

Happily, this type of rider is in great minority in Plymouth. There were a few transfers recently. Dave Richards went from Green Aces to Foulston Eagles. Terry Eddy from Flying Devils to Lipson Bees. Norman Hambey previously unattached to Laire Wasps. I left Flying Devils to ride for Lipson Bees.

|               | P | W | D | L | Pt. |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Eagles ...    | 7 | 7 | — | — | 14  |
| Devils ...    | 7 | 7 | — | — | 14  |
| Millers ...   | 6 | 5 | — | 1 | 10  |
| Wasps ...     | 8 | 5 | — | 3 | 10  |
| Aces ...      | 5 | 3 | — | 2 | 6   |
| Lions ...     | 6 | 3 | — | 3 | 6   |
| Dragons ...   | 8 | 3 | — | 5 | 6   |
| Bees ...      | 7 | 2 | — | 5 | 4   |
| Falcons ...   | 5 | — | 1 | 4 | 1   |
| Wyverns ...   | 7 | — | 1 | 6 | 1   |
| Murcuries ... | 6 | — | — | 6 | 0   |

## STAN BURTON'S EAST SUSSEX REVIEW

**SUSSEX** is swiftly becoming a highly organised area, they have formed numerous control boards and all are under the East Sussex Controlling Board. At a recent meeting in Brighton, Mr. E. Hilton, from the controlling body met representatives of Fishergate Flyers, Lewes Rooks and Beddingham Tigers and formed the Mid-Sussex League. Support was also promised from Patcham Aces. This new board will affiliate to the N.A.C.S.A.

All riders are eagerly awaiting for July, for then a Scottish National team will visit Hastings for a challenge match. Visits have also been

# New Mid-Sussex Body will join NACSA

arranged with Cray Tigers, who will meet Ridge Eagles, and London's Peckham Stars are to play East Hill Swifts.

The first of a series of five inter-league matches between teams from Hastings and Sedlescombe was won by Hastings 64-42 at Rye recently. A crowd of over 600 saw tip top racing.

## BUSY MONTH

This month is a busy one for local teams. In addition to the News

Chronicle National Trophy, the first rounds of the Battle of Britain Challenge Cup and the Hastings Individual Championship will start. There are meetings during the Hastings Carnival Week as well.

One major event of the season has already been decided. P. Sellens and G. Burgess of Langham Lions won the Best Pairs Championship by a single point from Brett and Greves of Sidley. Third were Harris and Upton (Hellington Hammers).

Norman Parker of Wimbledon speedway has offered a trophy to be presented to the best all round rider of the season. It will be known as the Norman Parker Award, and he will attend the close of season presentation dance to hand the award to the winner.

## THE LEAGUE

In the league, East Hill Swifts are making the pace. Ridge Eagles, the favourites for the title, fell at their first away hurdle after six consecutive home wins. Leading positions are: East Hill Swifts P14 W11, L13, Pts. 22. Baldslow Boomerangs P10, W7, L3, Pts. 14. Rock-a-Nore Rockets P11, W7, L14, Pts. 14.

Teams in the newly-formed Sedlescombe & District League are slowly settling down. Even so, it does not appear that the erstwhile members of the Hastings League, Sedlescombe Saints, will have much trouble in annexing the Championship. League positions are: Sedlescombe Saints P4, W4, L0, Pts. 8. Northiam Knights P4, W3, L1, Pts. 6. Saplecross Swifts P3, W2, L1, Pts. 4.

The Westfield Wolves have had their track closed by order of the Sedlescombe Control Board. It was stated that in the Board's opinion, an above ground level sewer pipe was a danger to all riders. They order the pipe to be covered with bales of straw or other suitable remedies.

There is a correction to the notice in last month's "Help" column. It read as if Hastings Board had only four teams. The four teams were reference to the Brighton area.

## 'LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN—MEET THE SKID-GIRLS

**FAINT** heart never won a fair lady. I remember reading

some guy or other said that way back before petrol had been thought of, let alone rationed. But when it comes to the opposite sex riding in cycle speedway, I ask you. Not that I am entirely against girls riding. On the contrary, it's much more fun when you're interviewing, that is, if you can concentrate long enough.

Last month I met vivacious Aussie Naylor, of Welling, Kent, who brought along her howling team mates. "My name's Jean, my name's Betty, my name's Bunny..." They told me after, that on my fortieth time round, I broke the track record for the 95 yards three times!

Aussie is captain of the Red Devils, and up to now they've been content to race round the track after meetings. "We are after our own track," Aussie told me. "Then we'll show you." The Red Devils are: Aussie Naylor, Red Foster, Bunny Newing, Jean Shepherd, Rose Blockman, Betty Howard.

By the way boys, while we are on the subject, meet the Bevington

## GIRLS WILL BE BOYS!

Babes, the rage of Birmingham. N. Smith, our Birmingham reporter, tells me that they have their own track at Witton. It's modern and has a good cinder surface. Their captain intends to lead her team in the Birmingham Second Division next year. In the meantime they are hard away at practice and are saving to buy the remains of their riding equipment—leather despatch boots, breeches, army tunics, gauntlets and helmets.

Writing this, I am wondering whether I am in the wrong business. Maybe I was cut out as one of those women's magazine reporters. Still, the fact remains. The girls mean to take it up seriously; but should they? Supposing they have a nasty accident and lay in agony on the track, the spectators aren't going to form a good opinion on the sport, are they? On the other hand, will they attract more attention? Or will the boys ride against them? Between you and me, I'm cleaning my bike up already! What do you think? I would like to hear from you.

ROY BULLET

**TRY  
HARD  
TIM**

—He means  
well



## This form is simply haywire!

**C**URIUSER and curiuser—that's how the form of Glasgow teams is getting. At the beginning of the season, I was equally optimistic on Pollock Shields and Scotstoun Aces' chances, and now that Scotstoun have withdrawn from the League, it would seem that the Shields should walk it, writes **BARRY SHAPLEY**.

That is not the case. The Pollock team is a disappointment. Captain Johnny Weinman is off form, and this seems to have had effect on the rest of the team. They did well to beat Ruchill at Ruchill, but Craighton Eagles have had an easy time in their matches against the Shields, beating them home and away. Then when Ruchill lashed an under-strength Crossmyloof Giant team, I had visions of them becoming unbeatable. But then, as I mentioned above, the unpredictable Shields came along to pull off a surprise win.

Here's how they all stand at the time of writing:—

|                  | P | W | L | D | Pt. |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Craighton Eagles | 3 | 2 | 1 | — | 4   |
| Lambhill Lions   | 1 | 1 | — | — | 2   |
| Pollock Shields  | 3 | 1 | 2 | — | 2   |
| Ruchill Pirates  | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | 2   |
| Crossmyloof      | 1 | — | 1 | — | 0   |

### WHISPER IT!

Oh, horror! I suppose it's the journalistic temperament of mine which makes me now say: The best team won. I am referring to the opening two inter-city test matches between Glasgow and Edinburgh, which—and whisper it—Edinburgh claimed.

The first, at Wallyford, Edinburgh, produced the best racing yet seen there. Edinburgh won 54-52, and you can guess how close it was. Outstanding rider of the match was Glasgow's Bill Ritchie. Justifying his Scottish Match Race title, he dropped only one point to opponent Bob McKinnon. Danny McGrath, living up to his "tearaway Danny" label, made good partnership with Tommy McNeill and together they scored 23 points.

Full scorers: **Edinburgh** (54), D. McGrath 13, B. McKinnon 11, B. Hardine and T. McNeill 10 each, W. Newburn and R. Daley 5 each. **Glasgow** (52) B. Ritchie 16, B. Shields 9, P. Bell 8, J. Shields 7, B. Shapley 6, G. Wallace 6.

The second test was at the Lambhill track, Glasgow. Here Edin-



## There's No Trophy For This Title

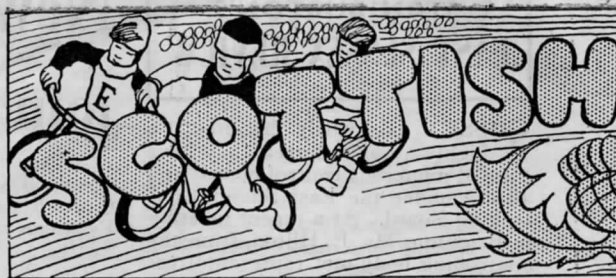
SAYS BARRY SHAPLEY

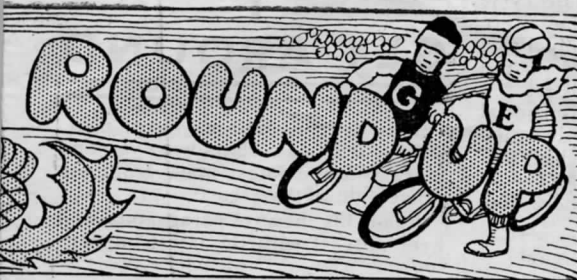
**I**N Glasgow there is a championship or title which is always being contested for from the first races of the first matches until the end of the season. It is an unpraised title—the winner receives no trophy—but is as important to the winner as all the Glasgow trophies put together. They call it King of Glasgow. Who will be this year's King of Glasgow?

You will remember last year's title developed into a tussle between Pete Bell (Craighton Eagles) and Bill Ritchie (Eagles). Both shared 1949 principal honours. This year, however, with the increase in teams and riders, it tends to be a different story.

**Ron Braham** (Scotstoun Aces' captain) is better than ever before. This season he seems to have had a refill of speed or maybe it's just because he's heard that petrol's off now. **George Wallace** (Lambhill Lions) is the season's find. Matching both Pete Bell and Bill Ritchie in every aspect, he rides with his brains. Of course, **Pete Bell** (Eagles) is naturally on my list. He will have tougher opposition this year, but he'll be up there kicking. Ditto with **Bill Ritchie** (Eagles). Bill is highest scorer in the league. **Jim Shields** (Ruchill Pirates) could easily be taken for a veteran. His partnership with brother Bob is already famous up here. **Johnny Weinman** (Pollock Shields) merits a place on last year's showing alone. Illness prevented him from starting this season on time, but he's fit and ready now.

are Norwich, London and Southend. Remember last year? We lost; but had a grand time making new friends. The other day Johnnie Weinman was talking about the midget cars at the Southend Kursal. Bill Ritchie was wondering how five of them got into one bed at East London! We are coming again—Jovial Johnnie, Dashing Jimmy, Redhead Ritchie and the rest—be seein' yuh! By the way, there will be 20 of us this time instead of last year's 10.





## GLASGOW-versus NEWCASTLE....

"Don't take it to heart so. Your team came second didn't they?

Besides you get a free cup of tea after!"

## EDINBURGH NEWS

# England will Lose this year

EDINBURGH and Lothians are feeling on top of the world. The double defeat of Glasgow has soared their hopes of whitewashing their old opponents in the series. Something which has not yet been accomplished, writes **JACK CULLEN**.

The league has made a brisk start, with Musselburgh Giants right on top and, as far as I can see, with every appearance of staying there. Prestonpans Pirates have formed their own supporters club and are getting pennants for their road cycles. And two more divisions for Scotland this year. So we are not behind you in organisation, England, and prepare yourself for a hiding when we come down this summer.

Back to the two inter city tests. As Barry tells you in his article, we won the first 54-52 and the second 56-52. Those tests produced some of the best riding seen this side of the border for many a week. In each case, with only two or three heats to go it was anyone's match. The next test in the series is at Musselburgh, and the Provost will open the new track at the Levenhall end of the race course. This is going to be a big affair, and, I hope, Glasgow will suffer their third defeat off the reel.

Work is going ahead at the new corporation tracks in Edinburgh and it is hoped that they will be ready

for racing shortly.

### DOWN AGAIN

A Scottish Touring team will be coming down South during Edinburgh Trades Week starting July 1st. The destinations, although known, are not certain yet. But arrangements are going on with Southend and London. Scottish officials say that English will require all their wits to beat Scotland this year.

After watching the new Phillips Speedtrack in action, I don't fancy it at all. It is pretty, but I do not think it is cut on the proper lines for speed. The front fork stays seem to me to be merely ornamentals, and do not prevent swing. The handlebars do not give the best bend control as they are too narrow for the amount of backsweep. Does anybody disagree with me besides Messrs. Phillips? Write to me through this mag.

**When sending in photographs for publication, please write name and address clearly on backs and enclose s.a.e. if photos are to be returned.**



## NEWCASTLE VISIT LONDON

THE Newcastle test team visited South-East London recently and raced off a series of inter-city test matches. The team and officials billeted on various South-East London Board members, and during non-racing time, they toured the city.

Although the Newcastle lads lost all their three matches, many of their riders were quite at home on the London tracks. Bill Bird, Newcastle captain, collected a total of 27 points throughout the tour, whilst G. Moody notched a total 22 points.

The first test was held at the Cardinal Monarch's track at Southwark, and S.E. boys won 68-40. Full scorers: S.E. London: R. Braddon 14, T. Vinter 11, A. Palmer 10, J. Goody 9, J. Lunan 8, G. Luck 8, V. Winter 5, H. Brand 3. Newcastle: E. Hodgson 8, A. Cooper, G. Moody, A. Temple 7 each, B. Bird 5, B. Close 4, G. Dobson and J. Laidlow 1.

The second test was at the Peckham Stars' track and was watched by the Mayor and Mayoress of Camberwell. Ald. Crossman, J.P. and Cllr. Mrs. Crossman were also there. S.E. London triumphed 60-47 in this match, but did not take the lead until the 12th heat. Chief scorers: S.E. London: H. Brand 18, R. Braddon 12, A. Palmer 11. Newcastle: B. Bird 12, G. Dobson 11, G. Moody 9.

Third and final match was at New Cross Rangers' track in Deptford. London won 67-41.

In the series, London's R. Braddon notched a total 38 points, A. Palmer 36, and H. Brand 31.

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## SCOTTISH SCOREBOARD

### GLASGOW LEAGUE

#### Division One

Ruchill Pirates 51—Crossmyloof Giants 29. (Pirates—J. Shields 12, J. Clarke 10, T. Guthrie 7, B. Shields and G. Paxton 6 each, L. Dick 5, M. McMillen 3, R. Paterson 2. Giants—B. Shapley 11, W. Hutton 10, H. Cassidy 4, G. Sutherland 3, S. Broadley 1).

Craighton Eagles 45 — Pollok Shields 34. (Eagles—B. Ritchie 12, D. Patterson 9, J. Cunningham 8. Shields—A. Miller 11, J. Young 7,

F. Hodgson 6).

Ruchill Trophy (Final). 1—Jim Shields, 2—Bob Shields, 3—Lewis Dick.

#### Division Two

A hfield Panthers 53—Renfrew Monarchs 29. (Panthers—I. Rannachan 11, J. Chestnut 10. Monarchs—H. Reid and I. McAllister 5 each).

Renfrew Select 24—Scotstoun 60. (Scotstoun—R. Braham 12, J. Le Brun 11, J. Braham 10, D. Robson 10. Renfrew—B. Shapley 10, H. Reid and J. McLean 4 each).

**T**HERE are some unfinished plans and blueprints of an up-to-date cycle speedway track laying in a house in Ruislip, Middlesex. They were drawn by Mr. Plumber, mechanic to present world champion Tommy Price and keen follower of the Ruislip Aces. Work was to have started on the track next month; but that is not possible. Mr. Plummer is dead.

He was a familiar figure at all the tracks in the area, but his special club was the Ruislip Aces and their second team, the Stags. He designed their starting gates, helped with repairs and was to have sprayed all the bikes different colours. His son, Les, is one of the Ace's star riders.

Riders from both teams attended the funeral at Greenford, there too, was Tommy Price. Wreaths in team colours and wording were laid. That same evening, the Aces raced their first round "News Chronicle" match against the strong Northwood Broadriders. Les Plumber decided to ride, his father's one wish, and scored a maximum. The Aces won 71-25.

Team manageress, Mrs. Vennai, told me: "You won't realise how much we all will miss Mr. Plumber." But I think I do.



## ACES WILL MISS TOMMY PRICE'S BEST MECHANIC

Highlight of the match was the Flying Five heat in which five elderly gentlemen rode the laps. Unfortunately for one of them, no one told him there weren't any brakes. He was informed, somewhat late, after they picked him up!

**J**OHAN GILLET of the newly-formed Fleetwood League informs me that the sport is progressing in leaps and bounds in that area. Since he wrote for co-operation in a local paper, many adults came forward and took up important offices.

Starting with only three teams and racing only challenge matches, he built up enthusiasm to nine teams, Marine Aces, Marine Panthers, Lingfield Cobras, Mayfield Eagles, Arden Aces, West View Aces, Oxford Hammers, Wingrove Warriors and Bloomfield Bulldogs.

They plan to start the League as

This is the Editor's own page. This is where he chats with you and gives you the latest news from the other side of the fence.

Read his newsy paragraphs and keep abreast with the latest happening.

soon as they get details of rules and insurance from N.A.C.S.A., whom they will affiliate to. A Mrs. Norman has presented the League with a cup which will be known as the Norman Trophy. League champions will win it.

**B**IRMINGHAM'S present champions, the Rogues, opened this year's fixtures with a win over Sutton Racers by 66-29. Lowest points notched by a Rogue was six. From what I see, there are many big wins floating about in this area. Hampstead scored 75 at Longbridge, and Monarchs 71 at Hockley.

Unusual win happened in Birmingham recently. In a match at Salford, three riders were disqualified and last man J. Davies cruised round to give his side, the Erdington Pirates, a 45-43 win over Aston Aces "B" team.

Great Barr have withdrawn from Birmingham's second division and most of their riders have signed on for other teams. Transfers approved by the Board are: M. Blunn to Rogues, J. Hart to Sutton Racers, B. Holloway to Hamstead, G. Potter to Handsworth, P. Dorman and B. Smith to Kingstanding Monarchs.

**I** HEAR that Kent's speedy Glover (Eltham Royals) did not ride in the Kent Individual Championship, and the home matches against Orpington Eagles and Cray Lions. He was undergoing a spot of suspension at the time. It seems he refused to leave the track after being disqualified for boring, and laid his bike in the path of other riders.

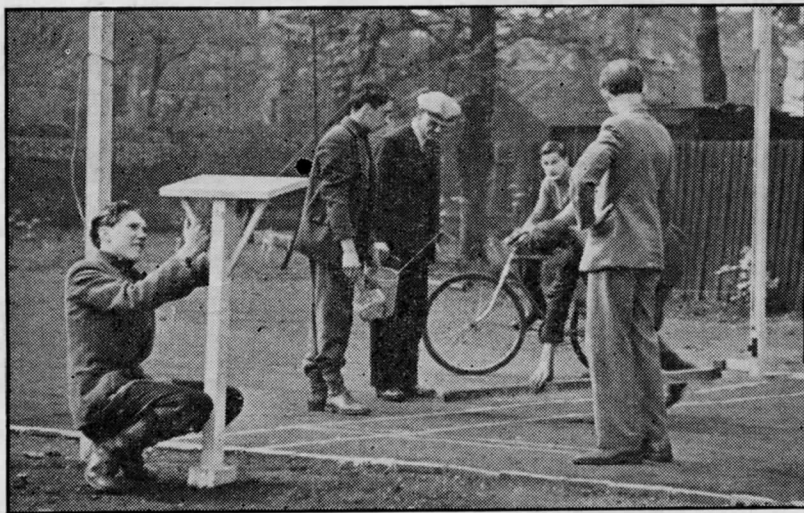
A three match suspension was inflicted on him by the Board, and I consider Speedy to have got off lightly too!

Kent have at last decided to have only neutral stewards in charge of meetings.

**H**EARD from our South African correspondent, Neil Mortimer, the other week. He told me of his "Mortimer Special" cycle speedway machine. It was an ordinary 28in. frame with high seating until Neil got hold of it.

And from what I can gather, he's made a real job of it. The crossbar reaches down to the back wheel hub and a comfortable saddle juts out just over the wheel. Took a long time to perfect, but it was worth it. He's practically unbeatable now!

**C.** HILL, radio doctor cum M.P., opened the Scouts Fête at Harpenden last month. Although there were the usual side shows and stalls, biggest attraction was the cycle speedway challenge match between the Harpenden Aces and Harrow. Harrow won 76-68.



Mr. Archies, manager of London's Black Lion Monarchs, designed this novel idea for a stewards' stand. Stewards can have their hands free and papers pinned down.—Photo, D. Bentley.

**M**OST reporters have a maxim. They say news should never be distorted and no account—good or bad—should ever be suppressed. That strikes me as being a good maxim to follow, for as far as I am concerned, the reported who continually dishes out sugar and praise in his articles is just a menace to his paper.

Maybe I'm wrong. But I think we ought to hear of the naughty side of anything, we'll be able to stamp it out all the quicker that way. While the 30,000 riders in this country are striving to put the sport on the map of national and healthy recreations, there are some who, by their actions, are liable to spoil things. During the past few weeks I have made it my business to sort out some of these blacker cases, and many of them are bound to shock you.

One manager I know was worried by the number of letters he received from tenants of the houses around his track. The complaints—some threatening to go to the police—told of the hooliganism of some of the team supporters. It seems that regularly after matches, groups of them would trample over the front gardens.

Naturally the manager denied any knowledge, but he decided to lay in wait for the culprits with a few of his friends. Each evening, after matches, they hid in bushes near the gardens but nobody turned up. Then one evening, the hooligans ventured back to be met by the manager and his livid companions. In the short battle that followed the hooligans took to their heels and to date have not returned.

My friend is manager of one of the sportiest teams in the country now, and when I visited his track the other day what caught my eye most was the rows of neat gardens in the opposite houses.

## NO TRACK

**T**HERE are many teams in the country who are without ground for a track. In most cases, it is tough luck for the teams concerned. But in one example I investigated, perhaps it is better the team in question hasn't a track to ride on. They stage their matches on Sundays when local supporters manage to turn up in strength to cheer on their riders.

Unfortunately, many of them

Rocky Hill tells you stories that shock

## TEAM HID IN BUSHES TO CATCH HOOLIGANS

chose to do more than that. Bad language was hurled at the opposing teams and younger enthusiasts repeated certain words at home. Parents advised the parish council to turn the boys from their track unless they curbed their language. Surprisingly, the Council offered the boys another chance and asked them to attend the next council meeting. But the team failed to turn up. At the time of writing the council are still willing to co-operate as they realise cases of this sort are few and far between.

## VICE AND SMUT

**I**N a certain large town where the sport has a big grip, the underworld's nasty vice of smut and corruption is coming out in some team supporters. They make a habit to carry coshes and razors when they consider their team's opponents stand a very good chance of winning.

One manager I know was more than worried when he found his colleagues too scared to attempt to stop the "cosh kids." And he decided to take his team away from the district to another league. This action spurred enthusiasts to rout away the hooliganism from the sport and a new organisation was formed. They are today, one of the best in the country. By the way, the other manager didn't do so bad either!

## Captain who never won the toss

**L**AST year, big news in the Thames Valley area was the official opening of the Hanworth Racers' track, this year, the Yiewsley Racers opened their at Dawley Parade, Hayes. Den Crosby, Wembley speedway starlet officiated.

It took the Racers eight weeks to build the track, which was on a waste patch of land. They worked often into the late hours of the evening with picks and shovels. It is 72 yards long, 5 yards wide on the straights and 7 yards at the bends. They laid a thin surface of fine cinder which, they found, was ideal for fast racing. Next they laid concrete for a starting grid and Mr.

## YORKSHIRE

All teams and riders in the Leeds area who are interested in forming a Leeds Control Board, please contact **Mr. Rome, 13 Charing Cross Street, Leeds 6.**

Anyone in the Sheffield area, interested in forming a Sheffield League, write to the **Bradford & District C.S. League, c/o 15 Greenway Road, West Bowling, Bradford.**

## DORSET

The Gem Pirates wish to challenge any teams to home or away matches. Please contact **Gem Pirates, c/o "Seaspray," Bampton Road, Poole.**

## MIDDLESEX

Riders wanted for Hanworth Vampires. Team fully inured. All interested contact manager **W. Ingram, 16 Grove Crescent, Hanworth, Middlesex.**

## KENT

All riders and teams in the Kent area who are interested in forming a sound Kent Board please contact **Mr. Pacey, 1 Station Approach, Orpington, Kent. (Phone ORP 6029).**

## CHUMS CORNER

**D. Currie, 11 Church Close, Mountnessing, Brentwood, Essex,** wants girl pen pal (age 17-18). r.f. Mountnessing Millers. o.i. speedway, football, films. m.a. 18, p.r.

**D. Drinkwater, 69 Church Road, Teddington, Middlesex,** wants p.p. (age 15-17). r.f. Teddington Vampires. o.i. speedway. m.a. 16, p.r.

**J. Hawtin, 51 Turfbits Lane, Erdington, Birmingham, 23,** wants girl p.p. (age 15-16). r.f. Hilltop Tigers. o.i. speedway, swimming, cycling. m.a. 16, p.r.

**W. Bishop, manager,** designed and built the starting gates, with controls hidden from view of the riders.

The Racers have at present nine registered riders whose average age is 16. The club has been aided considerably by A. F. Childs, the local cycle agent who loaned them loudspeakers and donated blank programmes.

Their big handicap in their first season of racing was the lack of adult support and transport for away matches. They have overcome that since. J. Fulker is captain for the present season, he takes the place of R. Mapley who never won the toss as captain.

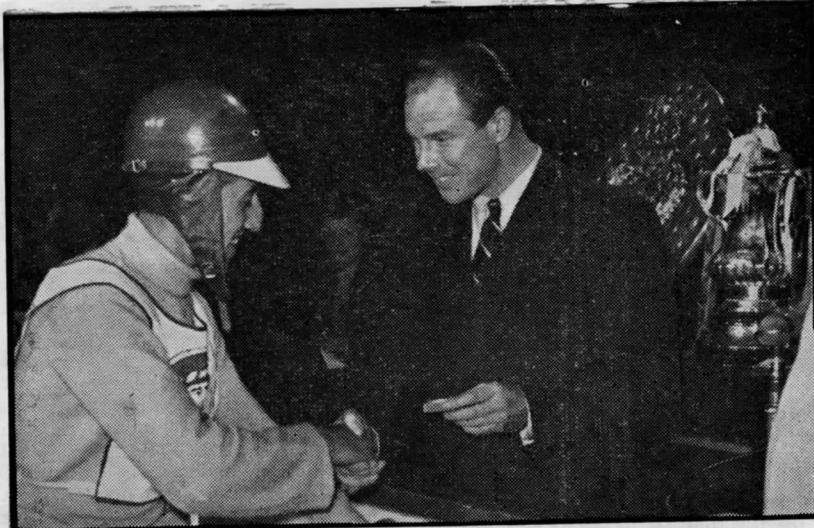
# Floorboard gladiators

BY THE EDITOR

AS the lights dimmed, the spot light picked up the four riders as they rode round to the starting gate. They jockeyed into positions and for a moment, the galaxy of colour, the fever heat excitement even the huge crowd itself were lost as the interest settled on the four figures. The tapes flew up. The lights plunged on and the atmosphere returned as man and machine thundered over the floorboards.

This was indoor cycle speedway making a very successful debut at the famous Empress Hall, London. What a great boost for the sport it was. Most of the huge crowd were watching it for the first time, yet their unsparred admiration and applause for it was greater than that for many other famous sports being performed that same evening.

The meeting, lasting half an hour in all, was a London versus Home Counties challenge match and was organised entirely by members of the London and Home Counties Control Board. Mr. Kippen, London Chairman, had a difficult task



being in charge of a type of meeting never before attempted. Steward Cliff Gibbs found it a tricky job on a floorboard surface.

But the riders quickly adapted themselves, and many considered the wooden surface easier for broadsiding. Indeed the effect was startling. A jab of the foot and a lean sideways swept them round the bends perfectly.

Sportsman of the Year and Champion Cyclist, Reg Harris, presents Johnny Fortune (Kent) with his medal. Behind Reg is the Second Div. Football Shield and F.A. Cup—Photo, Matthews, copyright.

E. Hockaday (Thames Valley) was unbeaten in all his four rides. A grand performance. I also liked the showing of Ken Cooper (Herts) who was the perfect white (red in this case) liner. G. Stevens with 10 was London's best, and B. Tozer (Surrey) notched 9. London won in the last heat by 50-46. Full scorers: **LONDON:** G. Stevens 10, B. Tozer 9, J. Fortune 6, S. Gammage 6, T. Clifton 6, T. Vinter 5, B. La Rue 4, J. Wilson 4. **HOME COUNTIES:** E. Hockaday 12, R. Russon 8, K. Cooper 8, J. Henderson 6, P. Leckie 5, D. Clement 4, D. Burton 3, J. Outten 0.

Reg Harris, Sportsman of the Year, M.C. of the Festival of Sport Exhibition, presented each rider with medals and pen knives. He was a most interested spectator when not on the roller record breaker.

## LONDON TEAM WILL RIDE IN STADIUM

On June 21 at New Cross Speedway Stadium, Old Kent Road, London, two cycle speedway teams—Peckham Stars and New Cross Rangers—will hold a meeting before the speedway begins.

Both managers met Fred Mockford, New Cross promoter and it was decided that the boys would ride once round the small track of 262 yards. It will be a 12 or 16 heat match.

Last year, Johnnie Hoskins, then Odsal promoter, staged many matches at the Bradford track. They were highly successful.



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## HALIFAX APPROVE OF NEW SCORING SCHEME

At a general meeting of the Halifax, Brighthouse and District League recently, held at the Friendly & Trades Club, Halifax, all riders were against the present ruling on match point, writes **D. C. SMITH**. A new one was submitted and passed. It allows three points for a win, two for a draw and 1 for a defeat. The previous ruling stated that the difference in number between each team's total score would be credited to the winning team and in the event of a draw, each team would receive 42 points.

A Best Pairs competition was run off last month between Beech Aces riders. Derek Hollingworth and John Skidmore finished winner with 16 points. A small trophy put up by the Aces club was presented by their secretary, Miss Ann Longbottom.

Out of the eleven teams in the Halifax area, only two—Skircoat Saints and Cross Road Panthers—have had their tracks officially opened. Ryecroft Rockets, who were the latest team to join the league have had to move their track some 30 yards as their former ground was sub-let to a poultry farmer. Beech Aces have just acquired a track which is situated on the Heather Moores near Halifax. Lee Mount Lions share the Ovenden

## One Point For Losing

Hearts track on an old tennis court at Holmefield.

Mr. B. Howley, team manager, of the Halifax Cobras, made application to the Halifax Town Council for permission to use the one time reservoir in Hanson Lane as a speedway track. It would accommodate large crowds. It was felt, however, that as a development of the whole of the reservoir area was being considered, the proposal could not be accepted at present.

### COLLECTION "YES"

An application on behalf of the Skircoat Saints for permission to make collections during meetings was considered by the Committee at a recent meeting. The application was granted after it had been before the Town Council.

Captain Ron Clark and Manager Bruce Booth of Odsal speedway, attended the Cross Road Panthers' track at Shelf, near Halifax, on May 20. Vic Thorpe was riding his "Colthorpe Special" machine and was the only rider to gain a maxi-

mum for the Panthers. Panthers beat Halifax Cobras 67-17. The Cobras have struck a bad patch this season.

The question of obtaining a room centrally placed in the town as a club room and office for the league was raised at a recent meeting, and it was stated that a suitable room had been found. This matter now awaits the approval of the Control Board.

The Cross Road Panthers officially opened their track last month. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Booth of Odsal and Halifax speedways attended as did Ald. C. H. Lucas and Cllr. J. Smith, J.P., Chairman of Queensbury and Shelf U.D.C. In the opening match, Panthers beat Saints 45-39.

## Novel Newsheet

Novel idea which helps us a lot, comes from the Sunbury Sabres, of Thames Valley. They issue a neatly produced News Sheet. It contains gossip, results and small stories about the Sabres for all their supporters. It is free, and the idea is to promote greater interest in the club's activities.

It would be a fine idea for all other teams to follow the Sabres' idea—if they don't already do so—and while you are about it, send us one along.

## HOCKADAY (21) WINS THE DAY

**E**IGHTEEN hundred people saw Eric Hockaday, 21 year old Greenford Ace and 1947 Middlesex Champion add the Thames Valley Individual Riders' Championship to his honours at the Walton Swans' track last month. He notched 12 points and received the Trophy from Wimbledon's Cyril Brine.

Split Perrin finished second after a run off with Ronnie Gray, both scored 10. 90 riders thrashed it out between four deciding rounds and the final sixteen were truly the top men of Thames Valley.

Jimmie Luxton (Feltham Aces), who was one of six riders to finish with eight points, improved steadily with each race. He started off badly, failing to score, then two-thirds and finally two firsts. Dick Cooper (Molesey Meteors) started favourite as he had scored 38 points to reach the final. But he failed to score twice, was once third and although he fought back with two firsts, his total of 7 was not good enough.

All sixteen finalists received medals. Cllr. O'Loughlin, from Middlesex was also present,

## HOW THEY SCORED IN THE FINAL

|                 |     |     |         |                  |     |     |        |
|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|------------------|-----|-----|--------|
| E. Hockaday ... | ... | ... | 12 pts. | P. Honor ...     | ... | ... | 8 pts. |
| S. Perrin ...   | ... | ... | 10 pts. | J. Hannaford ... | ... | ... | 7 pts. |
| R. Gray ...     | ... | ... | 10 pts. | D. Cooper ...    | ... | ... | 7 pts. |
| B. Ellis ...    | ... | ... | 8 pts.  | P. Chirgwin ...  | ... | ... | 7 pts. |
| J. Wright ...   | ... | ... | 8 pts.  | R. Wallace ...   | ... | ... | 5 pts. |
| J. Luxton ...   | ... | ... | 8 pts.  | R. Ingram ...    | ... | ... | 5 pts. |
| B. Pearce ...   | ... | ... | 8 pts.  | R. Millyard ...  | ... | ... | 5 pts. |
| A. Shepherd ... | ... | ... | 8 pts.  | A. Hunt ...      | ... | ... | 4 pts. |



# Dorset Endorse It

DORSET have strengthened their lead over London in their claim to be the fastest county. In my Month's Best table, you will see their riders who scored. Newcomers this month are Yorkshire.

Have we had your track record yet? Why isn't your county in my table? Send we your records now mentioning holders, distance and whether standing or flying start. The six fastest will enter my Month's Best table and score a point for their county.

## WHAT TO DO

Remember that:

(1) Records must be signed by team manager to prove genuineness.

(2) No rider can score more than one point for his county.

(3) If he breaks his own record which has already been mentioned in my articles, he cannot score again.

## MONTH'S BEST TABLE

|   | Rider and County    | m.p.h. | yds. covered |
|---|---------------------|--------|--------------|
| 1 | R. Symonds, Norfolk | 17.42  | 460          |
| 2 | N. Murray, Dorset   | 16.65  | 285          |
| 3 | B. Cull, Dorset     | 16.36  | 264          |
| 4 | J. Hards, Kent      | 13.92  | 320          |
| 5 | T. Shaw, Yorks.     | 13.11  | 260          |

## BY ROCKY HILL

(4) Joint holders of a track record score one point each providing their record is one of the month's best. Idea is to find which county is the fastest and if we don't have all counties sending in records, our end-of-year decision as to whom wins the title might possibly be incorrect. I'm hoping to hear from you.

|            |     |     |        |
|------------|-----|-----|--------|
| DORSET     | ... | ... | 6 pts. |
| LONDON     | ... | ... | 4 pts. |
| KENT       | ... | ... | 3 pts. |
| BIRMINGHAM | ... | ... | 3 pts. |
| NORFOLK    | ... | ... | 2 pts. |
| ESSEX      | ... | ... | 2 pts. |
| MIDDLESEX  | ... | ... | 1 pt.  |
| SOMERSET   | ... | ... | 1 pt.  |
| YORKSHIRE  | ... | ... | 1 pt.  |

## Quilly Wins Surrey Championship

G. QUILLEY (Battersea Rockets) won the Surrey & S.W. London Individual Riders' Championship at the Thornton Heath Tigers track at Norwood recently. Another Rocket, captain D. Shackles, was third.

Prizes, which included ball pens, were presented by the Mayor of Croyden. Quilly holds the trophy for a year.

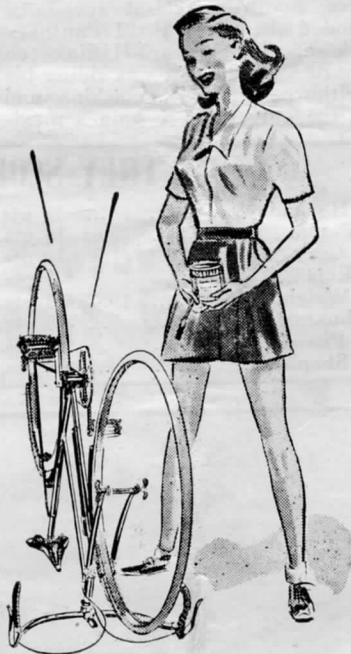
Latchmore Eagles' supporters had a disappointment. Skipper Kelley was not present; but in Redhill Hospital following a motor cycle accident.

Mr. Hyland recently resigned the post of General Secretary and his place has been taken by Mr. Wells, 60 Hazlewood Avenue, Morden, Surrey, and all correspondence should be forwarded to him.

Surrey, like most other areas, will have a bumper racing season this year. Various competitions such as the News Chronicle Trophy, our own Saunders Trophy, Individual and Best Pairs Championships will be run. This is the first full season for the present control board.

Now for a quick run through our three divisions. Clapham Panthers underwent their first Div. I defeat when they visited the Morden Meteors and lost by four points. But in spite of this, the Panthers are certain of the honours this year. In Div. II the positions are not at all definite, with only four points separating the leading four teams. In Div. III Raynes Park Racers seem assured of the title.

Div. I played and beat a representative Div. II side last month. Div. II riders put up a great performance and went down fighting to the tune of 82-50. Ken Shepherd (Morden Meteors) notched 17 for Div. I. P. Jackson (Washington Wasps) was best for Div. II lads with 10.



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# POSTMAN'S KNOCK

HOW we love to hear that postman's knock on our office door. We don't suppose you realise the weight the poor man has to carry every time he makes the trip. Not that we worry. The more the merrier we say, so why not get down to writing to us. Any complaints? Any suggestions? Anything on your chest? (No comment there please). And, if you are interested, there's a free copy of Amateur Cycle Speedway for the writer of every letter published.

What's that? We'll be hearing from you? Thanks, and don't . . . oh-oh, here comes our postman.

## Post cleared every month by JAMES PRENTICE

SOME time ago, your magazine began publishing results and league tables, but ceased to do so shortly afterwards. Can we not have these items included once more? Even though they might be a little out of date, they are still of great interest to the many enthusiasts inside and outside of the areas concerned.

In challenge matches it gives clubs the opportunity of studying the form of future opponents. Another point: various clubs ride to different "heat formulae." Could it not be suggested that the various control boards be asked to send in for publication their formulae?

At present, most clubs use the old 14 heat or 16 heat affair in which numbers 3 and 4 or the away team get either all outside or inside positions. In Surrey, an 18-heat formula which I have designed, is used to the satisfaction of all riders. We would like to have views of other readers on this subject.—George Miles, Carshalton, Surrey.

(So would I.—J.P.)

## A COMPLAINT

I AM writing to lodge a complaint. It concerns a remark made by Rocky Hill in his "Which County is the Fastest" feature, and as much as we appreciate being top of the table, we feel very hurt on his remarks as to why we are so fast. No doubt the track has a lot to do with the exceptionally fast times; but to say: "No doubt the reason for this is the almost squareness of the track with its suicide bends" is a rash statement from one who has probably never seen the track.

I can assure you that the track is by no means square. In fact it is described by most local clubs as the easiest track in the league. This rather rules out the "suicide bends." The track has two long straights with rounded bends, and small short straights of 10 yards each.

We are lodging this complaint in view of the fact that we have challenged any club within 200 miles of Poole and we are shortly to visit Cray Tigers, Bristol, Hastings and Newcastle. If you print false things about our track, we shall not get any matches from all parts of the country.—The Secretary, Gem Pirates, Oakdale, Poole, Dorset.

(Sorry about this Pirates. Rocky assures me he is genuinely sorry for any inconvenience he may have caused. Why not see the track for yourselves, readers? There's a challenge awaiting you.—J.P.).

## EVEN BETTER

I MUST say your last month's issue (Vol. 2, No. 3) was a vast improvement on previous issues. And by all accounts, if you decide to publish this letter, this issue will be even better.

I like the new name, Amateur Cycle Speedway, it's nice and catchy, and I like your new Annual. What about some more photos and news from this area?—A. Malcolm, Whetstone, N.20.

(Whetstone the crows! We should be asking YOU for more news and photos Alan.—J.P.).

## FOR . . .

THE Phillips bike I have seen here was very good. I have had a try on it and am obliged to say it went very well on our red shaiie track. There is absolutely no trouble on our hairpin bends either.

—Hartog de Ronde, "Hollandse Welpen," Hilversum, Holland.

THE new Phillips Speedtrack has made its debut in Plymouth. Many riders, including myself, have purchased these excellent machines and others are intent upon doing the same.—Jim Bricknell, Mately, Plymouth, Devon.



"Don't catch me wearing a helmet. Look soppy I would!"

## . . . AGAINST

I THINK that the Phillips track cycle is not within the reach of most riders at £10 17s. 6d. It costs £10 more than mine that I made up from spare parts. Anybody agree with me that it is too dear?—B. Brennan, Southwold Road, Clapton, E.5.

(Anybody?—J.P.).

## HOT COOLEES

AT long last I received a copy of your Cycle Speedway Monthly, which I now understand, it called Amateur Cycle Speedway. I am afraid there isn't any speedway out here; but occasionally I do see a couple of coolees in short vests doing a few practise laps round the streets.

Still, keep your long and dirty editorials ears open. You might still be hearing from the newly-formed Chopsticks Cavaliers C.S.C.—Gnr. Charles, c/o Brit. Army P.O., Hong Kong, Farelf.

(And the same to you with a dash of Chinese herb.—J.P.).

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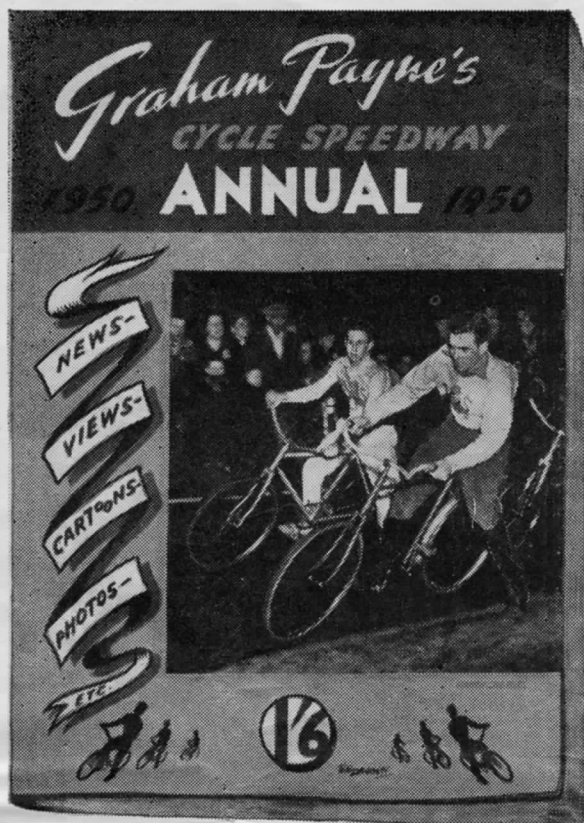
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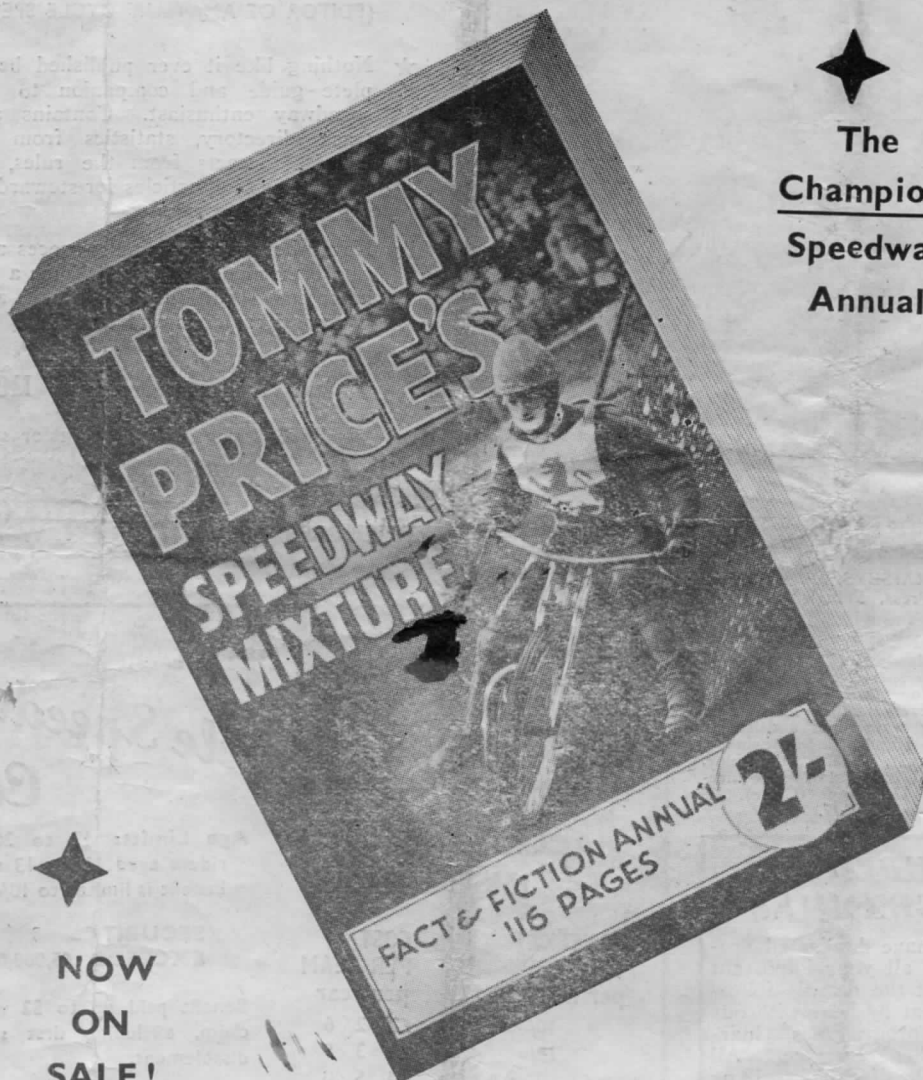
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