

**The World Of
Way Into Focus**

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Fortnight

oper & Vic Cowell

**Bringing T
Cycle Speed**

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Every

Edited by Ken Co

ISSUE NO. 7.

THE

VOL. NO. 1.

CYCLE SPEEDWAY SPOTLIGHT

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MONDAY APRIL 9TH., 1956.

RESULTS!!!

From this issue until the end of the main racing season, "The Spotlight" will contain a classified section composed of all the latest results, etc.

It is also hoped to publish most of the League Tables from time to time, together with the accompanying area reports, and of course, the usual general items such as Pits Portrait, Team Focus, etc.

We would stress, however, that although the general items of news etc., may be sent to us at any time, the up-to-date results, League Tables and reports, must reach us by the Tuesday prior to publication. For the next few issues the dates are: 17th. April, 24th. April, 1st. May.

We regret that if late news is not received by these dates, we may have to omit it from the current issue.

We would also like to apologise to some of our readers for not replying to their letters as promptly as we would have wished. We regret, that owing to the rapidly increasing number of letters received, it will not be possible for us to reply by letter to all our correspondents.

THE FIRST NEWS TO ARRIVE WILL ALWAYS BE GIVEN THE SPACE, AND, IN THE CASE OF GENERAL ITEMS SUCH AS PITS PORTRAIT, ETC., AN ENDEAVOUR WILL BE MADE TO PRINT THESE IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY ARE RECEIVED.

RESULTS

WHIPPS X COMETS TOUR OF MANCHESTER & DISTRICT.

BELLE VUE COBRAS 45 (B.Cramer 15, C.Nanfan 10, K.Graham 6, J.Yacoby 4, D.McGee 4, R.Turner 3, D.Bull 2, J.Earp 1.)
COMETS "A" 51 (E.Hemsley 11, T.Howse 8, J.Brown 7, S.Kingsnorth 7, T.Bunce 6, T.Nastri 6, S.Pipe 4, K.Taylor 2.)

BLACKLEY FLYERS 51 (J.Anderson 13, J.Hughes 11, D.Barlow 10, D.Marshall 7, B.McArthur 5, B.Taylor 3, P.Ashton 1, R.Hyde 1.)
COMETS "B" 45 (T.Bunce 10, K.Taylor 7, T.Sear 7, S.Kingsnorth 6, K.Mills 5, T.Lewis 4, J.Woolnough 3, S.Kain 3.)

GARRS WOOD HUNTERS 68 (A.Clark 14, D.Williams 11, D.Tegg 10, B.Moston 10, A.Bailey 8, N.Collier 7, R.Carter 6, G.Riley 2.)
COMETS "A" 28 (J.Brown 5, T.Nastri 4, T.Howse 4, T.Bunce 4, S.Kingsnorth 4, E.Hemsley 3, S.Pipe 2, K.Taylor 2.)

WILMSLOW HAMMERS 48 (P.Rollason 14, F.Latham 10, J.Mottershead 8, L.Grange 7, M.McDonald 6, B.Rollason 2, R.Powell 1, P.Lomas 0.)

COMETS "B" 48 (K.Taylor 10, S.Pipe 11, T.Bunce 8, S.Kain 6, T.Lewis 5, J.Woolnough 4, K.Mills 4, T.Sear 0.)

OFFERTON DEVILS 40 (K.Bass 12, D.Garnett 11, T.Lawton 6, H.Wood 4, F.Heath 4, V.Hinchcliffe 1, P.Russell 1, B.Ham 1.)
COMETS "A" 56 (T.Nastri 10, J.Brown 10, T.Howse 10, E.Hemsley 9, T.Bunce 6, S.Pipe 4, K.Taylor 4, S.Kingsnorth 3.)

LONGSIGHT PEGASUS 46 (P.Loseby 10, T.Mann 9, A.Sulbury 6, E.Skelton 6, A.Heywood 6, J.Darling 5, B.Murphy 3, B.Sherwin 1.)
COMETS "B" 48 (S.Pipe 11, T.Bunce 10, K.Taylor 7, S.Kingsnorth 7, J.Woolnough 6, S.Kain 4, K.Mills 3, T.Lewis 0.)

The date of the postponed second half of the Test Matches between Herts. and Essex looks like being set at 10th. June.

Herts. hold a slight lead in both matches and Essex will be all out to pull back those points.

TRACK BIKE

BY
BRIAN MOSTON

What gear are you pushing? This must be one of the most frequently asked questions whenever riders congregate. Today, the variations of gear ratios does not vary half as much as it did three or four years ago - the majority of riders having settled for about 40 - 20, giving a 'technical ratio' of 52", or more simply '2 to 1'

Just in case some are still in the dark about putting a gear ratio in inches, here is the formula:-

$$\frac{\text{Front Sprocket} \times \text{Diam. of Wheel}}{\text{Rear Sprocket}}$$

So for a 40 - 20 gear, it would be:-

$$\frac{40 \times 26}{20} = 52"$$

If a rider decides that his gear is a bit too high to enable a fast start, his move is to add a cog on the back or take 2 off the front to make the formula (for the former case)

$$\frac{40 \times 26}{21} = 49.5"$$

This is often referred to as "one below" (i.e. one cog lower than 2 to 1)

Now we come to the question of what gear is most suitable. For the answer, a lot must depend on the type of track on which a rider generally has to race. If the tracks are on the large side, and afford ample chances of passing, the best is 52" (48-24, 44-22, 36-18).

But if the tracks are apt to be small, with the result more often decided by the first bend, then a lower gear is advisable, such as 47.3" or "two below" (44-24, 40-22, 36-20).

Some riders like to change their gears for every track they visit, but I do not encourage this in my team, as different gears take a bit of getting used to, and as their rate of acceleration and top speed are altered for every match, their passing is more a case of luck than of a pre-determined and calculated attempt.

This concludes my present series, and in the next issue, I shall describe some of the "freak" machines that I have come across since I entered the Cycle Speedway World.

Auld Reekie

B Y
IAN BRANSTON

Auld Reekie, now with its ninth A.G.M. passed, looks into the new season ahead, with new officers elected for the Control Board. Members elected:-
President: Mr. Ian Fraser, Match Sec.: Mr. Ian Millar, Assn. Sec.: Mr. Ian Branston, 40, Pilton Gdns., Edinburgh 5.

The usual five league clubs have entered again for the league competitions; Edinburgh Falcons, Abbeyhill Giants, Granton Griffins, Hermitage Monarchs, Sighthill Tigers.

Owing to weather conditions, the start of the fixtures will not commence until near the end of April. The first competition will be the Edinburgh Shield team K.O. Trophy.

EDITORS' FOOTNOTE.

The letter bringing the above news to us, also conveyed the sad news of the loss of our reporters' father, Mr. J. Branston, on March 3rd, last year. Having been out of communication with Edinburgh for some time, it came as a shock. Mr. Branston was one of the pioneers of the sport in the Scottish capital in 1948, and was elected President of the Edinburgh and Lothian Assn. in 1951. He was the prime mover in getting Scottish cycle speedway on TV in September 1953. He represented the Assn. on the Scottish Council of Physical Recreation from 1952. Appointed President of the Scottish Association for 1955, he helped to formulate elaborate plans for the coming season. A great loss to the sport in Scotland, and indeed to the sport as a whole, for Mr. Branston welcomed many teams to Edinburgh, and was untiring in his efforts on behalf of cycle speedway.

Langley Lions of Stevenage still needs riders. If you know of anybody who might be interested, will you ask them to contact Ken Woolard, 37, Green Street, Stevenage, Herts - Telephone : Stevenage 530.

DOES YOUR TEAM NEED RIDERS? IF SO, LET US KNOW.

HERTS.

BY KEN COOPER

HERTFORDSHIRE LEAGUE TABLE UP TO AND INCLUDING SATURDAY 7TH? APRIL

TEAM	PLD	H O M E			A W A Y			PTS
		W	D	L	W	D	L	
WHIPPS X COMETS	4	2	0	0	1	0	1	7
WALTHAMSTOW WOLVES	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	6
PECKHAM STARS	4	3	0	0	0	0	1	6
HODDESDON KANGAROOS	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	4
FINCHLEY SABRES	3	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
EDMONTON SAINTS	4	0	0	0	1	0	3	3
CLAY HILL ACES	4	1	0	0	0	0	3	2
LANGLEY LIONS	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0

With the League now four racing Sundays old, there are still only three teams who have won away from Home, so this looks like being the closest battle for League points that the League has known.

Edmonton Saints joined the away winners last week, when they took 3 points from the Lions at Stevenage. The Stevenage team just can't seem to draw those extra riders to make them a winning side. How about some of the old Hitchin Aces giving a hand?

The Hoddesdon v Whipps X derby at Rye Park resulted in a win for the local Kangaroos, due mainly to captain Clive Hitch being unbeaten by an opponent. As usual there wasn't much between the two teams, although the Comets did not seem to have that extra little bit of dash they usually possess.

Clay Hill's visit to Peckham provided a very close tussle, with the Stars only just retaining their Home record.

Edmonton's tarek at Montagu Road opened last Sunday with a Challenge Match between Saints and local Tottenham Kangaroos. (See results). The Council have made many improvements during the winter which will add greatly to the comfort of the spectators.

MANCUNIAN

MANCHESTER, STOCKPORT & DISTRICT LEAGUE TABLE UP TO 1ST. APL.

TEAM	PLD	WON	DRN	LOST	FOR	AGNST	PTS
BELLE VUE COBRAS	4	3	0	1	207	173	6
OFFERTON DEVILS	4	3	0	1	208	176	6
OPENSHAW MONARCHS	3	3	0	0	154	131	6
CARRS WOOD KESTRELS	4	2	0	2	210	170	4
CARRS WOOD TUDORS	3	2	0	1	155	130	4
BLACKLEY FLYERS	4	2	0	2	182	201	4
LONGSIGHT PEGASUS	4	1	0	3	197	182	2
WILMSLOW HAMMERS	3	0	0	3	120	166	0
LADYBARN KINGPINS	3	0	0	3	92	196	0

League racing in the Manchester, Stockport and District League brought another two close results in the matches ridden on March 25th.

The closest tussle being at Longsight, where the home team almost brought off a surprise win over Belle Vue Cobras. With two heats to go, Cobras had a 5 point lead and seemed happy, but a 5-1 from the Pegasus and they were in a position to win providing they could manage a 4-2 in the nominated. Home rider Skelton flew out of the gate, but Cobras riders tacked in 2nd and 3rd and so won the match by an odd point. Carrs Wood Kestrels were kept well in check when they visited Wilmslow Hammers, but a 15pt maximum from Art Bailey was one of the factors in their 9 point win. The match of the day, however, was at Openshaw, where Offerton were the visitors. Up to this match both teams were unbeaten. After a close tussle, the home team ran out winners, and so with only 4 weeks gone in League racing, Openshaw alone have an unbeaten record.

Ladybarn's visit to Blackley was an unsuccessful one, the home team having a comfortable win. This was Kingpins first visit to the Heaton Park circuit, which is considered by some to be a tricky one.

F. ASHTONHURST.

RESULTS!

MANCHESTER, STOCKPORT & DISTRICT LEAGUE.

WILMSLOW HAMMERS 43 (Rollason 8, Grange 8.)

CARRS WOOD KESTRELS 52 (A.Bailey 15)

BLACKLEY FLYERS 68 (J.Hughes 14, B.McArthur 11)

LADYBAIN KINGTINS 28 (B.Jope 7, R.Boole 5.)

LONGSIGHT TEGASUS 46 (E.Skelton 10, T.Mann 9, A.Sudbury 6.)

BELLE VUE COBRAS 47 (K.Graham 13, E.Timmis 9, D.Bull 7.)

OLINSHAW MONARCHS 55 (N.Nairn 11, T.Lawton 9, N.Edwards 7,
F.Davies 7.)

OFFERTON DEVILS 41 (D.Garnett 14, F.Heath 8, K.Bass 7,
V.Hinchliffe 6)

LONDON & HOME COUNTIES LEAGUE

WESTERN BROADSIDERS 49 CHEAM CHEROKEES 47

BURGH HEATH ACES 37 WESTERN BROADSIDERS 59

CHALLENGE MATCHES

WHIPPS X COMETS "B" 52 (Pipe 12, Woolnough 11, M.Brown 9,
Sear 9.)

HAWBUSH HAMMERS 53 (South 14, Warren 11, Stone 7, Cox 5 & 5,
J.Cox 5, Gibbons 5.)

There were no fewer than three ex-Cycle Speedway riders in one scratch race at Wimbledon Speedway on Easter Monday. Mike Broadbanks, the new Wembley signing used to Captain Hoddesdon Kangaroos; Tom Sweetman rode for Warwick Lions; Bobby Andrews was a regular for Lea Valley Knights and then Edmonton Saints.

Western Broadsiders are very proud of their up and coming young Gerry Wallis. Although still at school, Gerry is becoming a match for many older riders, and a bright future is predicted.

Comets' Tour Of

Manchester, Stockport and District League Easter week end programme was a tour by Whipps X Comets, who brought up two teams of riders. Their tour provided an excellent week-end of entertainment, and will be long remembered for the Comets' grand sporting behaviour and the friendly atmosphere which surrounded the tour. It is many years since so many handshakes and pats on the back were exchanged between local riders and a visiting team.

Weather for the tour was fine and sunny, and, apart from a cold wind on the first day, was ideal for racing.

The tour opened on Saturday with two matches at Belle Vue Cobras track. In the first encounter, the home team met Comets "A". With three heats gone, the score stood at Cobras 6-Comets 12. Cobras did pull a few points back on several occasions, but the Comets kept their noses in front to the end. Home trackman Brian Cramer scored a faultless maximum, but apart from Chas. Nanfan, the rest of the team gave very little support. Comets were a little more evenly balanced, but without doubt, the deciding factor in their win was superior reserve strength.

Difference in strength of the two Comets teams became obvious when the second match, with Blackley Flyers entertaining the "B" team, began. With three heats gone, the Flyers had a 14-4 lead, and it seemed that they would walk away with the match. However, the Comets kept at the job, and pulled up until a 5-1 in the nominated would have given victory. However, Blackley pair, Hughes and Anderson rounded off a good afternoon by slamming in a 5-1, and so the match ended with the identical score to the previous one, except that this win went to Manchester.

On Sunday, at the request of the Comets, the Carrs Wood Hunters were recalled from duty with the "Tudors" and "Kestrels", and were in devastating form, never allowing Comets one heat win. They won 10 of the 16 heats by maximum points. Only Comet to cross the line ahead of a Hunter was Tony Nastri. No maximums were scored, but four Hunters were never headed by the opposition.

Following this, the match between Wilmslow Hammers

Manchester Dist.

and Comets "B" took place, with the home team in front from the first heat. They kept this small lead until a heat 10 substitution of Sid Pipe for Ted Sear gave a 5-1 Comets win and the scores were level at 33-33. Tragedy struck in heat 13, when Ted Sear had a heavy fall and it seemed that something must be broken. The ambulance was called and Ted was rushed off to hospital. We were all very relieved to hear later that even though the injury, a torn ligament, was serious enough, nothing was broken. Comets gained a 5-1 in the re-run of this heat to put them in front. Two more 5-1s, one for each team, and it meant another last heat decider. Again the Northerners made no mistake and their dashing 5-1 made the final score 48-48. The Hammers must be pleased as they have lost every official match for almost two seasons.

The final day of the tour was the Comets most successful. At Longsight Pegasus track the proceedings opened with Offerton Devils meeting Comets "A". On a track where the Devils are never at home, and from comments heard apparently more to the liking of the visitors, the Comets went in front at heat 5 and drew ahead to record their biggest win. Once again they were the more evenly balanced team, but Garrett and Bass kept them guessing, the latter would have been unbeaten except for a Heat 5 "clang" when he found himself third over the line behind the Comets pair.

The "B" match which followed was a ding dong affair, with a few points separating the teams throughout and again a last heat decider was called for. The home team only wanted a three-all to win, but for the first time on the tour, the Comets grabbed a last heat 5-1 to win by 2 points.

The fit man of the tour must, without doubt, be Keith Taylor, who rode in all six matches for a total of 2 rides.

So ended an enjoyable week-end of sport, good racing, a friendly spirit and scores, especially in the "B" matches, to whet the appetite for more.

F.ASHTONHURST.

RESULTS!

HERTFORDSHIRE LEAGUE

LANGLEY LIONS 51 (Graves 12 & Reeves 1, Woolard 9 & Rumney 1
Buckridge 4 & Emmings 8, Ovey 16 & Saul 0)

EDMONTON SAINTS 87 (Cowell 17 & Keay 9, Kilbey 9 & Jackson
11, Westwood 15 & Reading 9, Delaney 7 & Sayer 10)

HODDESDON KANGAROOS 75 (C. Hitch 18 & Hutchin 10, Skeggs 6 &
Catley 6, A. Hitch 10 & Cooper 9, Jeffery 10 & Hannington 6.
WHIPPS X COMETS 61 (M. Brown 9 & Hemsley 9, J. Brown 6 &
S. Pipe 11, Howse 7 & Taylor 6, Bunce 10 & Kingsnorth 5)

PECKHAM STARS 71 (Cable 11 & Heard 15, Dryden 10 & Bryan 8,
Atkinson 12 & Mason 11, BQ Brown 3 & Walker 1)
CLAY HILL ACES 67 (Brewer 5 & Mumford 2, Jones 6 & Washbou-
rne 10, Hart 12 & Scott 3, Doggett 17 & Gibson 12)

SOUTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE

BECKENHAM 43 (P. Jarmen 11, V. Burns 9, D. Daniels 8, R. Hudders 7
THORNTON HEATH 53 (E. Bean 12, I. Smith 12, E. Cooper 9.)

RAYNES PK. STARS 24 (T. Cracknell 10)

TOOTING TIGERS 72 (C. Elmer 15, T. Davis 12, K. Archer 10,
H. Matthews 10)

WILDCATS 22 (D. Fairfoul 4, D. Hazeldeane 4, T. Hautot 4)

RAYNES PK. TIGERS 74 (D. Chivers 15, R. Chivers 14)

WILDCATS 41 (D. Fairfoul 11, D. Hazeldeane 9, BQ Angold 8)

HUNTERS 55 (T. King 14, M. Gilliat 10)

DITTON DEVILS 25 (M. Smith 5, J. Clark 5, M. Pullen 5)

S. LONDON RANGERS 71 (G. David 12, B. Wood 11, R. Webb 10,

F. Hollis 10)

CHALLENGE MATCH

EDMONTON SAINTS 63 (Cowell 12 & Reading 9, Westwood 6 &
Taylor 7, Keay 4 & Jackson 10, Kilbey 6 & Delaney 9)

TOTTENHAM KANGAROOS 75 (Adams 13 & Potter 11, Wills 9 &
Berwick 13, Dunn 16 & Bennett 0, Collins 10 & Hill 3.

S.P. LEAGUE

BY
BILL CATTLE

SOUTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE UP TO MARCH 25TH.

TEAM	PLD	WON	DRN	LOST	FOR	AGNST	PTS
TOOTING TIGERS	3	3	0	0	200	88	6
RAYNES PARK TIGERS	3	3	0	0	192	106	6
RANGERS	3	2	0	1	185	103	4
STARS	3	1	1	1	131	156	3
COBRAS	2	1	0	1	92	100	2
HUNTERS	3	1	0	2	120	167	2
PIRATES	2	0	1	1	91	101	1
DITTON	3	0	1	2	108	180	1
WILDCATS	4	0	1	3	138	246	1

S.P. LEAGUE announce that Peter Mason of "Tooting Tigers" has been fined 30/- and suspended until the fine is paid, for conduct prejudicial to the interest of Cycle Speedway in that he rode in competitive racing for Peckham Stars whilst registered for "Tooting Tigers". The findings of the Southern Premier Cycle Speedway Board of Control have been forwarded to N.A.C.S.A. His transfer to "Peckham Stars" will be accepted if he pays his club subscriptions up to his application for transfer, and his fine is also paid.

PECKHAM STARS are disputing the fact that Mason was in fact a registered rider for "Tooting Tigers"

HERTFORDSHIRE LEAGUE CONTROL BOARD at a recent Control Board Meeting decided that no action whatever could be taken until N.A.C.S.A. had given its decision.

IT IS WITH THE GREATEST POSSIBLE REGRET THAT WE HEAR OF THE DEATH OF MALCOLM FLOOD, FROM INJURIES RECEIVED RIDING FOR NORWICH SPEEDWAY.

MALCOLM WAS FOR MANY YEARS THE KING OF THE NORFOLK CYCLE SPEEDWAY WORLD. AT ONE TIME MALCOLM WAS UNBEATABLE HOME OR AWAY, AND INDEED HAD ONE OF THE FINEST RECORDS RIGHT UP TO THE TIME HE BEGAN MOTOR SPEEDWAY RACING.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHIES TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

PITS PORTRAIT

RON HOLVEY - TOOTING TIGERS

The History of Ron is like the history of Cycle Speedway. He started riding in 1946 before any League was formed in his area. Riding for Wimbledon Wolves, he became their captain, led them to be League Champions in the original Surrey League, was his club's Individual Champ. and also the League Individual Champion.

Towards the latter end of 1949, Ron joined the Tigers who had now joined the S.E. London League. A surprising loss of form nearly caused him to retire, but the following year, however, Ron came back to form in a rush, and honours came his way. He was S.E. London Individual Champ. 1951, Best Pairs Champion with J. Cooper, led the South London area team to victory in the ill-fated Empress Hall Matches, and was Captain of the London V Birmingham Television Match at the Empress Hall.

Ron has represented S.E. London, London, and led the Southern Premier League in matches against N.W. Middlesex last year. He was second in the S.E. Individual in 1953, Winner in 1954, and had fifth place last year. Ron has been his club Individual Champ. for the past five years. After winning the "Larue Shield" four times in succession, he made it his own property. Last year he won the new Individual Trophy, the W.J. Cearn's Memorial Trophy.

Ron has been a member of the "Tigers" in all their successes, and he is without a doubt the most popular rider in the Southern Premier League, and it is considered an achievement to beat him. He is on the administrative side of the "Tigers", and in all his career, he has never been disqualified for unfair riding.

With D. Cattle, Ron now shares the club Captaincy, and has been co-opted on to the Board of Control for the selection of riders in future Representative Matches.

THE FACTS FOR THE ABOVE PORTRAIT WERE SUPPLIED BY
MR. W. J. CATTLE.

ESSEX WAY

WITH
RON BULL

The formation of the South Essex League for 1956 is:-

Division One

Hawbush Hammers
Longbridge Leopards
The Penguins
Warescot Stars
Tottenham Kangaroos
Fyfield Falcons

Division Two

Shelley Demons
Fyfield Cubs
The Gladiators
Warwick Lions
Whipps X Comets "B"
Tottenham Wallabies
Barkingside Cobras

Division Three

This Division will not commence until about June, and then will consist of the Crusaders, Shelley Demons "B", and the three main youth clubs teams that are to start in the Ilford area.

National Trophy entrants from Essex to date are:-

Shelley Demons, Fyfield Falcons, Tottenham Kangaroos, Warwick Lions, The Gladiators, Longbridge Leopards, The Penguins, Warescot Stars, Barkingside Cobras and Welling Wings. Hawbush Hammers are expected to affiliate.

Managers Meeting was held on the 28th. March at Stratford and a report of the proceedings will be included in this column later.

Essex Competitions This season, in addition to the County Rounds of the National Team and Individual Championships, there will be a four-team tournament, a best-event, a mid-week K.O. cup for seven-a-side teams, and Test Matches against Suffolk, Hertfordshire, and the Manchester Stockport and District League. The complete fixture list for all these competitions, was recently drawn up, and was presented to all managers at their meeting.

The Finals of practically all these competitions, will be held at about the same time, and that period should see the cream of Essex cycle speedway constantly in action.

THE FOCUS ON

FYFIELD FALCONS

(Facts supplied by Fyfield Sec. Mr. J. Blatch)

With the signing of Alan Wood from Dagenham Diamonds and the all round improvement of the rest of the team, 1955 was one of the best ever for Fyfield.

Their first ever trophy was won on Easter Monday, when they took the Shelley Coronation Trophy.

Life was short for them in the National Trophy, and they were knocked out in the second round by Dagenham Diamonds, 99-92.

It was a different story in the league. They started by beating Shelley away, and were the only visiting team to win there. A defeat at Ferndale, was followed by home and away wins over Barkingside and Tottenham "B". A home win over the Gladiators, put them at the top of the table. In July, came the shock defeat of the season as far as they were concerned, for they lost at home to Shelley in the return match 62½-45½.

In August, Fyfield travelled to Ipswich, and won an exciting challenge match with the Kesgrave Panthers 50-46. Later in the year, in the return match, Fyfield were again victors, this time 58-50.

In their last and most important league match of the year, they faced The Gladiators. With the destination of the title depending on the outcome, Fyfield went into the match with a sadly depleted team, and lost 61-47.

Geoff Letchfield, Alan Wood and Roy Wilkinson were the back-bone of the team, and Dick Barlow, Robin Howland, Peter Fuller and Ron Sutton could all be relied upon. On their return from the forces, Arthur Ottely and Norman Sutton both settled down.

In the Fyfield Whitsun Trophy, Wilkinson, Letchfield and Wood finished in that order. Alan Wood finished the season as the Falcons Match Race Champion. John Blatch had an unfortunate season, breaking his wrist and then his ankle, and for the most part, was kept out of the saddle till towards the end.

The Falcons have gained promotion to Division One this year, their "B" team, Fyfield Cubs, step into Div. Two, but should be able to hold their own quite easily.

RESULTS

BIRMINGHAM TOURISTS IN ESSEX

WARESCOT STARS 45 (Gladstone 9, Ayres 8, Woodhouse 6, Trembling 6.)

BIRMINGHAM TOURISTS 61 (Hemus 15, Blackwell 12, Loasby 11, Bond 10.)

FYFIELD FALCONS 66 (Ottley 14, Turner 11, A. Wood 11.)

BIRMINGHAM TOURISTS 42 (Hemus 10, Wilkinson 9, Blackwell 7.)

SHELLEY DEMONS 58 (Avery 15, Pitt 9, Day 9, R. Ketley 8.)

BIRMINGHAM TOURISTS 47 (Hemus 12, Bond 9, Wilkinson 9.)

THE GLADIATORS 64 (Warren 13, Pratt 11, McGilivray 10.)

BIRMINGHAM TOURISTS 44 (Wilkinson 13, Blackwell 10, Loasby 7, Mills 7)

THE CRUSADEERS 62 (Gibson 12, Stevens 11, Cox 10.)

BIRMINGHAM TOURISTS 46 (Toldby 11, Day 11.)

BARKINGSIDE COBRAS 54 (Barker 10, Wyborn 9, Stevenson 9, Koehler 9.)

BIRMINGHAM TOURISTS 51 (Hemus 15, Taylor 10, Wilkinson 8, Mills 8.)

Has your County sent the names of its nominations for the International matches to the National Secretary yet?

DON'T FORGET THAT ALL RESULTS MUST REACH US BY TUESDAY 17TH. APRIL FOR INCLUSION IN OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Who would you nominate as the best team captain in the Sport? Write to us giving your suggestion, together with your reasons for your selection. The best letters will be published in a future issue.

SPARE

SPINDLES.

SOUTH LONDON: Peckham Stars' Captain, Johnny Atkinson, was married on March 24th., to Miss Rosemary Tollerton. The "Spotlight" wishes the couple every happiness.

ESSEX: Warwick Lions appear in the Fixture list of South Essex League. Have the local Council relented in their plans to build on the St. Andrews Road track, or have the Lions found an alternative site?

NORTH WEST MIDDLESEX: This League now consists of four clubs: Harefield Pirates, Hillingdon Stars, Langley Leopards and Uxbridge Meteors. Both Harefield and Langley have new tracks, which they hope will be ready for League racing on April 15th.

SOUTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Billy Larue, Ex-Tooting rider, is now hitting the headlines in Australia, where he has taken several Motorcycle T.T. Championships.

KENT: Rolvenden Rockets, who are looking forward to another good season, are expecting a visit from a Scottish team this year, and six matches and Individual events are on the Fixture List.

LEICESTERSHIRE: Coalville Stars entertain London visitors Peckham Stars in a Challenge Match on 28th. April.

AUSTRALIA: A recent newspaper cutting, received by one of our correspondents from Australia, shows Cycle Speedway "Down Under". The bikes have large fenders across the wheels to protect the spokes.

YOUR TOWN: The next issue of the "Spotlight" will be on sale on Monday 23rd. April '56. Order your copy now!