TOLWORTH TUDORS
Back row l. to.r. Pete Rides, Mick Little, Chris Gale, John Gould.
Front row l. to r. Glyn Brimson, Roger Kirk, Reggie Squires & Trevor Winham.

ST. JOHNS CUP FINAL 1965 at HUNGERFORD

TOLWORTH TUDORS 53 WHIPPS CROSS COMETS 42

Tolworth became St. Johns Cup holders with this fine win over Whipps Cross. Mick Currey and Bill Kemsley apart, Comets put up little opposition to a solid Tudors side. Tolworth had the match won, with two races to go, having built up an eighteen point lead.
Glyn Brimson was at his best with his switching and team riding tactics. Pete Rides and Trevor Winham were also in sparkling form.
Is it not time that the running with a bike rule was reviewed. In the nominated race, Pete Rides was chopped down twice by Mick Currey. The first time a re-run was ordered but the in the second, Rides picked himself up, remounted and was promptly excluded for taking three paces.

TUDORS 53. P. Rides 9, T. Winham 8, G. Brimson 7 (1) R.Kirk 7 (1) R. Squires 7 J. Gould 6, C. Gale 6, & M. Little 3 (1).

COMETS 42 M. Currey 15, B. Kemsley 12, J. Morement 6, M. Marney 4, P. Rowlingson 3, S. Pipe 1, D. Blenco 1 & J.Brown 0.

TREVOR WINHAM

British Cycling - Cycle Speedway
British Rider Championships
Finals Day

Monday 29th August 2011 Eaton Park Norwich

From the Spokesman-online –posted 21 August 2011

VETS DAY OUT

A pleasing new feature on finals day will be a designated marquee where riders from yesteryear can meet and ***chat about the good old days****. The Veteran Cycle Speedway Riders Association (VCSRA) have provided the social gathering for the Vets as well as an opportunity to sign on new members.'*

Arranged and organized by VCSRA member Dave Hunting in conjunction with the event organiser Ian Grange of the Norwich CSC. Dave who also transported the VCSRA exhibition stand to Norwich for installation in the Marquee which was initially to be paid for by the Association but on the day was provided free by the event organizers, in response the association was happy to sponsor 5 races providing a prize of £10 to each of the winners. As a point of interest for most of the older members of our organisation all race winners received £10 prize money donated by the numerous commercial sponsors of the event, not something I remember from my racing days !

For the VCSRA the day was a great success, 8 members attended and Dave signed up and collected fee's from 20 new members. Many Thanks to Dave Hunting.

Weekend Results

Girls U10s 1st Gemma Hill(Ipswich) – 2nd Chloe Whitehead(Leicester) – 3rd Alice Neighbour (Poole).

Girls Open 1st Livvi Horsley(Horspath) - 2nd Lauren Davies(Leicester) – 3rd Lauren Hookway (Exeter).

Boys U10s 1st Jack Chaplin(Ipswich) - 2nd Mason Parkins(Norwich) – 3rd Sean Bennett (East Newport).

Boys U16s 1st Arron Morgan(Poole) - 2nd Ashley Hill(Ipswich) – 3rd Matt Mildon(Poole) after run-off with Jack Harrold(Newport) and Aaron Smith(Poole).

Mens Open 1st Andy Angell(Hull) - 2nd Lee Aris(Wednesfield) – 3rd Phil Howells (Leicester) after run-off

This was the 60th Anniversary of the National Individual Championship and many of the past winners attended and presented to the crowd at half time organized by Ian Grange and our own Dave Hunting. The VCSRA now has 9 past National Champion amongst his membership, Lew Grepp 1951, Bryan Wood 1956, Dave Chivers 1960, Vic Hinchcliffe 1961/64, Derek Garnett 1963/65/68/72, Roger Ellis 1971, Colin Wheeler 1977/79, Les Bowden 1983 and Andre Cross 1996

Picured Right The top three at the 1978 Final held at Norwich, L to R 2nd Roger Ellis Wednesfield, Winner John Watchman Blackley and 3rd Kevin Greenhalgh

Norman Sutton
1935 - 2011

Former Stapleford Stars rider Norman passed away on Monday 15th August. Norman, younger brother of former rider Ron, who sadly passed away 3 years ago rode for most of his career for the Stapleford Stars and along with Ron formed a strong spearhead for the Stars.

When the Stars folded in the mid fifties Ron moved onto the Fyfield Falcons whilst Norman spent the rest of his racing days with Ron Bull's Gladiators of Romford. Norman's working life was spent driving heavy earth moving vehicles while his leisure time was taken up partly with playing darts for his local pub team.

Norman, 2nd from the left with the Stapleford Stars in the early 50's

The Association was represented at Norman's funeral by Pete Chubb, Malcolm Belchambers, Sid Pipe, Terry Stone, and Stan Stevens and for Cycle Speedway in general by Sid Tomlyn.

Peter Chub

Roger Louis
1943 -2011

Roger died in Broomfield Hospital Chelmsford on September 3rd after a long battle with Motor Neurone Disease, his Cycle Speedway career was brief lasting a few years around 1958/9, We both rode for the newly formed Walthamstow/East Ham Wolves that had been the brain child of Malcolm Belchambers and Pete Fraser. The team lasted just a few years but figured in the National finals twice, winning one and losing the other by I think one point.

My relationship with Roger mirrored my cousin Roy Garnhams friendship with the late Jack Wilson both long lasting.

Roger and I moved on to Motor Cycle Road racing in our late teens and Roger had many wins at this sport.

His best year being 1980 when he won the British Formula Clubs 125cc Bantam Championship after a very hard season.

The funeral on September 27th, complete with motor cycle sidecar hearse was attended by Roy and myself together with about twenty past motor cycle racers some well know in there time and a couple of successful Isle of Man TT riders.

Ray Gray

A Celebration of Speedway at Paradise Wildlife Park
Sunday 19th February 2012 from 10am

Back to its normal date, speedway in the UK's birthday and the 2012 event will NOT be sharing the venue with the 'Bikers'. Further details in the Jan/Feb Issue.

Cycle Speedway Gazette No. 6

RIDER-SECRETARY of the Ascot Lions, Gerald Simpson, 110, Ascot Gardens, Southall, Middlesex, is urgently in need of riders as he is hoping to form a Southall and District League shortly, and has set his heart on the Lions winning the championship. The Ascot Lions have just completed five challenge fixtures, and won them all.

Stanley Blackwell, 16, Banbury Street, Battersea, S.W.11, is looking for a club. Any offers?

P. Lucas, 146, East Barnet Road, New Barnet, Herts, has a team of 14-year-olds, and is open to challenges. Mr. Lucas hopes shortly to join the junior division of the Middlesex and Herts League.

Prominent local citizens of Leamington are out to help their cycle speedway clubs obtain ground, and have just launched a campaign with this aim. The secretary of the Spa Swifts would like to hear from local lads with a view to league forming. He can be contacted at Wootton Lodge, 1, Lillington Avenue, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. Unfortunately, he forgot to sign the letter, so we cannot supply his name. The Swifts have won eight of the last nine fixtures, beating the Leamington Hotskids, Kenilworth Knights, Leamington Red Devils, Whitnash Weevils, and Avery's Eight (Rugby). Their defeat was at the hands of the Knights, and Alan Butler, their star rider, recorded three maximums in the last four matches.

Plymouth is another town that is league-building. Information can be obtained from John Pollard, 1, Collin Close, St. Budeaux, Plymouth.

From Sherwood, Nottingham, writes Mr. D. P. Kirk, of 40, Bonnington Crescent, who is busy forming a Midlands League. Mr. Kirk would like to hear from clubs and riders.

The Stonehenge Streaks' secretary, A. D. Mitchenall, of The Stores, Pulford, Road, Durrington, Wilts, complains his team is getting stale. Having won several challenge matches, they are now open to further fixtures.

Master R. Adams, 25, Reservoir Road, Whitstable, Kent, has a very strong team, and wishes to enter it in a league. At the moment his difficulty lies in obtaining a track, for his local council are not too keen on cycle speedway. Perhaps other Kent clubs would like to join forces with Whitstable and take up the cudgels. There's safety in numbers.

Appeal from Newcastle. Mr. Lawrence E. Ponton, 10, Elmcroft Road, Forest Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, wishes to form a league and control board. There are several clubs in the Newcastle area, and now is your chance to get together.

Seaton Delaval Winter League is due to start shortly, and the line-up will be Seaton Delaval Rams, Bensham Broadsiders, Team Valley Meteors and Byker Stars.

Hull's Wembley Lions visited the Sutton Trust Demons recently, and started off with a 5—1, but after some close racing finally went down by 33—51. D. Woodland scored a maximum for the Demons, while D. Wood returned 10 for the Lions.

Peckham Stars have the wanderlust, for on Saturday, November 27, they journey to Edgbaston, Birmingham, for a match with the Selwyn Aces.

Latest results to hand: Middlesex and Hertfordshire League: Mill Hill Red Devils 80, St. Albans Swifts 50. Hockett and Colletta scored 17 and Cooper 14 for the Devils, while Phillips and Herbert each returned 10 for the Swifts.

"Stratford Express" Cup: Forest Gate Tigers 41, Beckton Aces 55; Beckton Crusaders 42, Stratford Hammers 54; Romans 28, West Ham Eagles 60.

Wembley and District Winter League—Section "A": Colindale Aces 41 (D. Simana 10, R. Palmer 10, J. Pamplin 8), Acton Acorns 43 (R. Lacey 12, D. Smith 8, D. Morris 8); Kingsbury Falcons 33 (N. Blackmore 7, D. Keil 7, N. Rowley 7), Wembley Panthers 50 (B. Brown 12, D. Haines 10, L. Alford 10); Wembley Hawks 40 (R. Howard 10), Kingsbury Tigers 44 (K. Bell 10, T. Newton 7, M. Cassato 7). Section "B": Kingsbury Lion Cubs 36 (D. Mahoney 9, D. Kirby 8), Hendon Pirates 47 (P. Richardson 12, J. Howes 11); Preston Eagles 50 (S. Green 12, J. Hill 12, W. Gadsby 9), Alperton Penguins 34 (R. Clifton 8).

Seeking to become a member of a team in the Chingford, Woodford or Walthamstow areas is Master Bill Jarmain, of 43, Hatch Lane, Chingford, London, E.4.

A correspondent from the West Ham Eagles team, Master Phillip Fisher, of 267, Fieldgate Mansions, Fieldgate Street, London, E.C.1, has written in with an invitation to see their needle match with Beckton Aces on Sunday next. Apparently it is one of the big matches of the year as both of these teams are hitherto unbeaten.

EDITORS NOTES

The Cycle Speedway Gazette on the opposite page was sent to me by Les Gustafson. It is from the Speedway Gazette, dated November 13th 1948. The Speedway Gazette used to regularly feature cycle speedway, as did other speedway magazines at the time.

I was very pleased to receive it, as it shows me scoring nine points for the Preston Eagles. My main memories of the 1948 season, was following half a lap behind the likes of Buster Brown and Dud Smith. It could be that I was getting the hang of it by the end of the year! The Preston Eagles were really the Kenton Hawks, I changed the name after making a track on a disused tennis court near Preston Road station. We only had one or two matches there, before being evicted after complaints from local residents. We moved to the Northwick Park track, after it had been vacated by the Sudbury Court Flyers, and as this was by South Kenton Station we later reverted to Kenton Hawks. The track was in a bunker on a disused golf course, it had banked straights giving us a great home advantage. I would think that the match against the Penguins must have been ridden there. Johnny Hill I remember well, but I have no idea who S. Green was.

When the Hawks vacated the track, moving to the Kingsbury Circle track to combine with the Lions, the track was taken over by the Rising Sun Rangers, who had lost their track by the Rising Sun Pub.

I rode one match, (or rather one race) for the Rangers. As I wrote once before, I was led to believe that cycle was finished in the area. Being at a loose end one Sunday, I decided to get my track bike out of the shed and cycle over to Northwick Park, to have a few laps, for old times sake. I was surprised to find that a match was in progress. I asked if they needed a rider, the manager took my name and address, but as I heard nothing for several weeks, forgot all about it. Then one Sunday, just as I was about to have lunch, there was a knock at the door. In the front garden were seven "Rangers" they said they had a match away to Greenford Aces and were a rider short, would I like to ride. Lunch forgotten, I got by bike out of the shed dusted it down and set of for Greenford. Of course it was pouring with rain, it must have been near Christmas, as the team were singing "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer " at the top of their voices all the way to Greenford. It was a mud track, partly under water. It was like trying to ride on ice, after my one race, sliding all over the place the match was abandoned. So we set off home, soaking wet, still singing, but with less enthusiasm. I never heard from them again, until the following year when I rode against them for the Roxeth Rockets.

I have mentioned the Newcastle website before (www.newcastlecyclespeedway.co.uk) it has since been updated, and now contains many photos and articles from the Army Cycle Speedway at Catterick. It is well worth a look.

In Colin's Secretaries Notes, he includes an extract of a letter from John Strong complaining that most of the content of the magazine is about the 1950s. Another frequent complaint is that there are only articles about the South East area. While this is true, we can not include articles about the 1970s if nobody writes them.

As long ago as April 2004 Steve Myhill wrote an article taking me to task for writing that the Hayes track had not been used since the 1950s. He included memories of riding at the Hayes track in the 1970s. He then finished by asking if any other members would care to write about their memories of that era.

We did not receive one single contribution.

I did receive some copies of the 1972"Home Counties Mirror" from 1972 from Bill Punter, and have used some articles from them and will probably do so again when I am looking for something to fill a space.

If Mr Strong or any of his friends would like to contribute any articles I will be more than happy to include them in the magazine.

Going back to cycle speedway articles in speedway magazines Pete Saunders has sent me some pages from Speedway World, which I shall use in future issues. (but not the one where Preston Eagle lose 56-28 to the Kingsbury Rangers.

Thank you to every one who has sent in contributions.

PLEASE NOTE NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

billgadsby@btinternet.co.uk or billgadsby@hotmail.com

CLASSIFIED RESULTS

DORSET

SWINDON EAGLES "A"37:Garlick 9, Hancock 8, Thomas, Morse 5, Morse, Thomas2
TATNAM TUDORS 53:Holms 13, Hardy 9, Phillips 8, Cherret 7, Tarr, Orchard 4, Barry Cherret 5, Wale 3.

TATNAM TIGERS 59 - SWINDON EAGLES 37; TATNAM TUDORS 53 - SWINDON 43.

TATNAM TIGERS 47:Tarr 12, Nicholson 11, Nippard 7, Carter, Barnes,Cox 4
SOUTHERN NOMADS 49:Cable, Archer 9.

MIDDLESEX

BUSHEY KANGAROOS 49:Shapley 12, Saunders 9, B.Gillett 8.
SOUTHERN NOMADS 47:D.Cattle 11, K.Archer 9.

BUSHEY KANGAROOS 53:W.Bracey, P.Saunders 11, B.Shapley 9.
WEMBLEY HAWKS 43:B.Smith 10, P.O'Grady, F.Bouttell 9.

BUSHEY KANGAROOS 62:B.Shapley 15, W.Bracey 10, B.Gillett 9.
HAWBUSH HAMMERS 34:J.Koehler 6, J.Newhams, A.Warren 5.

BECKENHAM MONARCHS 35:N.Goodrum 10, G.Chapman 6, L.Spaulding 5.
BUSHEY KANGAROOS 61: B.Shapley 15, W.Bracey 10, P.Saunders 9.

BUSHEY KANGAROOS 65:W.Bracey 10, P.Saunders 10, B.Gillett,C.Wise 9.
ESTUARY EAGLES 31:A.Hockley 10, R.French 6, P.Chilton 5.

BUSHEY KAN.48 - EAST HAM STARS 45

This was a thriller - from the Stars Ted Walkers passing of leader Shapley in heat one, to Pete Saunders winning the match ride in heat 16. There were 8 or 9 exclusions - but NO BAD riding - just real cup-tie "Thou shalt not pass" stuff. I think the Kangaroos had most of the bad luck, but the race when Stars'Vic Duffy and partner sort of threw away a 5-1 was very bad luck. Also East Ham looked for a cert 5-1 in the nominated until Pete Saunders, who had chased hard after partner Shapley had fallen, really went kind of mad in an inspired way on the very last bend.

Scorers
KANGAROOS:Shapley 10, Wallis, P.Saunders, B.Gillett 9, B.Saunders 5, B.Rome 4, T.Wildman, Hales 1
STARS:Walker, Halloran 11, Barrett and Barrett 6, Kiley 4, Koehler, Duffy 3, Green 1.

"Warren".

From CYCLE SPEEDWAY GAZETTE.

Two contributions from Pete Saunders.

The one above from April 1960, shows Bushey on a run of good results.

The report on the left, from July 1960.

Pete says that this was his most memorable match.

PICTURES FROM TONY MARSH

Frank Duffy, Ron Veal and Derek Sheridon help fix Tony Marsh's bike, at the start of a 1953 league match at Warwick Lions

Start of Heat 3, Quarter Finals of the 1966 Nationals at the Southampton Vikings track.
L. to R.
J. Smith (Brandon) D. Dean (Uxbridge) J. Jennings (Vikings) T. Marsh (Hackney)

Same meeting:-
John Hareny (Brandon) leads with Tony Marsh on the outside
Pete Saunders (Bushey)at the rear

'SECRETS of my SUCCESS' by LEW GREPP (REIGNING NATIONAL CHAMPION)

'I Won the English Championship on a broken machine!'

THE introduction of cycle speedway as an organised sport was, to me at any rate, the fulfilment of an old dream. Never outstanding at football or cricket, I spent most of my hours whilst still at school, trying to find a sport at which I could be a success, or at least at which I could reach a fair standard of performance.

Even before my schooldays, I used to terrorise the neighbourhood by racing up and down the road on my old bike, never realising that one day this form of recreation would earn me the title of English Champion!

I was fifteen before I really took an active interest in organised cycle speedway racing. With two of my school pals, Wilf Green and Doug Taylor, both of whom are still members of my team, the Cheadle Hulme Rangers, we built a small track to race on. The score chart for these early races can still be seen—carved on the side of a wooden hut near the track! It was not long before several others became interested, and it seemed in no time at all we had enough followers to form two teams. Our original track was now too small, but we laid claim to all the old bricks we could find and marked out a new one on a neighbouring field.

But we stayed there for a short time only. Until such time, in fact, that the owner realised just what was going on. After weeks of patient hunting, we finally found the perfect site, which we still use today.

In March, 1948, I took part in my first Individual Championship. The match was to be held at Salford, Manchester, and although not originally down to ride, I was asked to take part because one of the original competitors had been taken ill. I readily accepted, for I was most pleased to have the chance of competing against fifteen of the best riders from my part of the country.

Boy, was I nervous at first! But when it was over, I found I had tied for first place with Brian Moston, of Stockport, someone against whom I was to ride hundreds of times in the future. Brian and I agreed to race for the title, and I had to be content with finishing second.

Towards the end of 1948 the first Manchester Individual Riders' Championship was held. Brian was again the winner, whilst I finished third!

In the 1949 racing season our team put up a grand show. The Rangers won the League, and at one stage their performances were shown as: P. 19, W. 19, Pts. 46. I was lucky enough to notch 148 points out of a possible 156 at that time. I was riding as well as could be expected, and I felt certain that this was my year for the Individual title; but as the records have it I finished fourth—worse than ever before!

The year 1950 saw the team as a whole complete another grand season. We won the Manchester Knock-out Trophy as well as beating a representative Stoke team. With the team doing so well, I put everything I had into the Individual Championship that year, and no one was more surprised than myself when, after a thrilling run-off with Jack Pennington, skipper of the Chorlton Aces, I was being hailed as the new Champion. And so, after four long years, my Individual "hoodoo" had been defeated.

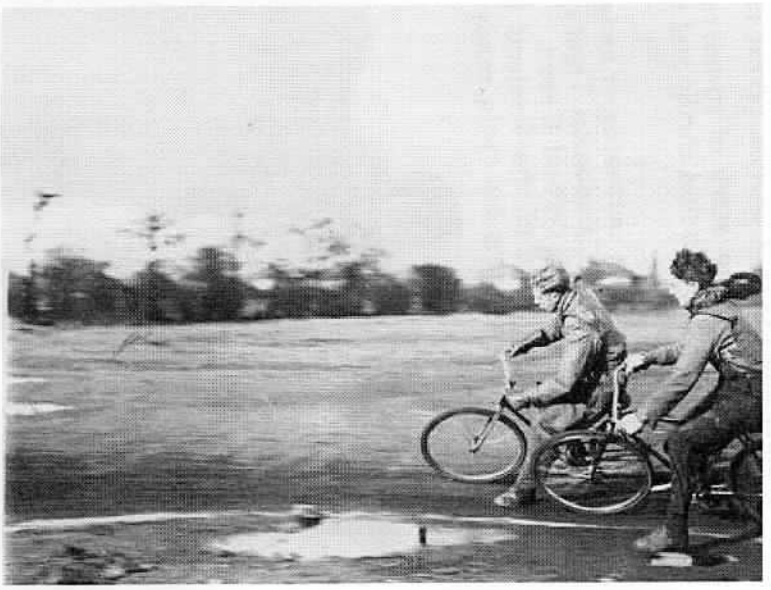
Although I didn't realise it, 1951 was to be my best ever season. Having seen the efforts of various people to build special frames, I decided to have a go myself, and with the aid of my manager, Mr. Little, I set about the job. First we built a prototype and from this model checked all errors and took all the measurements that were necessary to complete a good job. The frame took much longer to build than I had expected, and I had to compete in the Cheshire Final of the Mars Championship on a bike loaned by my friend and old rival, Brian Moston. Brian also allowed me to use his workshop to assemble the machine I was going to ride in the Championship Final.

I've always said that one of the essentials for a good rider is a well-kept machine, and even then one can't be too careful. At Hayes, Middlesex, in the Grand Parade through the streets prior to the actual Mars Final I sheared a cotter-pin in half, and when I came to replace it, I found that the bottom bracket spindle had cracked. Having no spare with me, I had to take a chance, and rode in the final with a broken machine! Fortunately for me it held, and I was able to realise an ambition of becoming an English Champion.

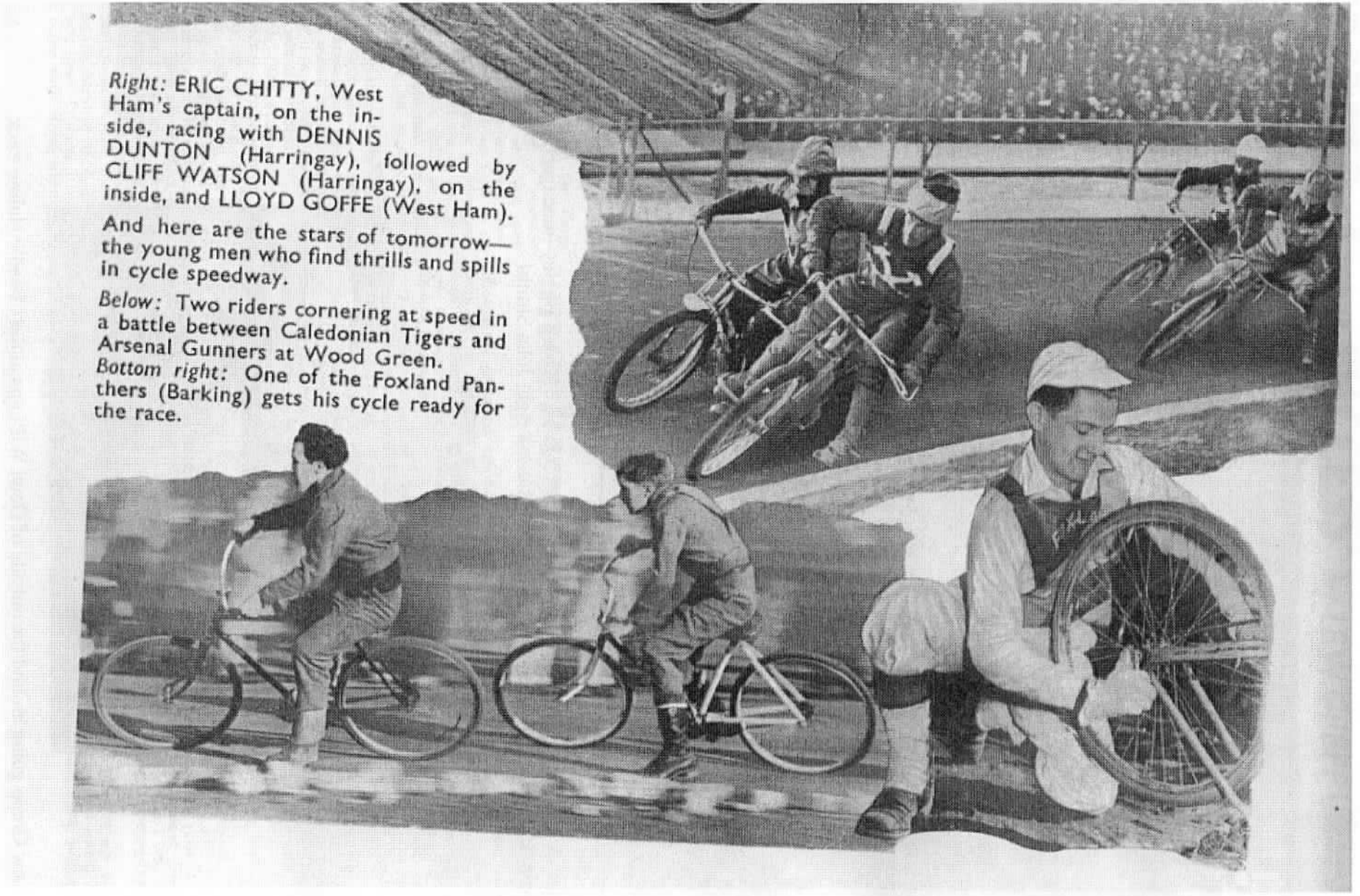
NEXT MONTH I'll give my views on the ideal machine and track, also some odd things that have happened to me in the past.

From Amateur Cycle Speedway March 1952

Cheadle Hulme Rangers 1949
l/r Derek Maynard, Bill Green, Lew Grepp Capt. On bike) Geoff Bagley (manager), Jack Elliot, Unknown & Dud Taylor. Kneeling left Ken Hutchinson right John Smith.



Lew Grepp going around the outside of Dewi Williams at the Cheadle Hulme track.



Right: ERIC CHITTY, West Ham's captain, on the inside, racing with DENNIS DUNTON (Harringay), followed by CLIFF WATSON (Harringay), on the inside, and LLOYD GOFFE (West Ham).

And here are the stars of tomorrow—the young men who find thrills and spills in cycle speedway.

Below: Two riders cornering at speed in a battle between Caledonian Tigers and Arsenal Gunners at Wood Green.
Bottom right: One of the Foxland Panthers (Barking) gets his cycle ready for the race.