

TWE  
SPOKE

The Official Organ  
of the

Stonehouse Wheelers Cycling Club

TOURING

RACING

~ AFFILIATED TO ~

R.T.T.C., T.C.C.A., R.R.A., W.R.R.A., B.C.F.

Vol. 1. June. 1959

PRICE 3d.

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STOP PRESS

Congratulations, Pete Coleman, on riding Plymouth and back (bicycle) in 20 hours 39 minutes.

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NEW MEMBER.

We welcome to the Club, one Tom Wiger. He promises to be quite a satisfactory member in every way, and we hope he enjoys 'running' with the Club!

- \* Three cheers for Tommy Wiger,
- \* He's the John with all the Wiger!
- \*

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Vol. 1 June 1927

CLUB NEWS

EDITORIAL

It has been decided to start a Club Newsletter, giving items of interest to members, whether keen riders or just interested or retired onlookers.

This Newsletter cannot, of course, function without news. YOU must help: you must first make news, then pass it on to the Co-Editors for inclusion in the next or subsequent issues.

If there are any items - (within reason!) you would particularly like to see in 'The Spoke' we should like to hear of them. Letters to the Co-Editors would also be welcome; and criticism - (within reason!!) as well as praise, would be appreciated.

Co-Editors:

Miss J. Hampton	Miss D. Beard,
High Orchard,	95 Stratford Road,
Thrupp,	Stroud,
Stroud, Glos.	Glos.

## CLUB NEWS

### Recent Runs.

### General Section

14th June. Snowhill Manor. Led by Joyce Hampton, and with a fine, hot day the run was well supported, with sixteen members present for tea, which was at Winchcombe. We were pleased to have Dave Hopkins with us again, having just returned after serving in H.N. Forces for two years. Les Miles followed his own special run, after having picked up last year's June runs list, and was surprised to find no fellow members on arrival at Cricklade for tea!

20th June. Nine members went to Stonehenge to see Sunrise on the Stones. (See report page 3). Pete Coleman led the cyclists!!

21st June. St. Aldam's Well. Led by Tony Neale, four members left Stonehouse. After a bright morning the sky became cloudy; some of the Stonehenge bods met the General section at Cold Ashton for tea.

28th June. Malverns. Leader Pete Daniels. Tea at Castlemorton Common.

Future Runs. No Run-Leaders have, as yet, been appointed for any of the following runs; volunteers should contact any Committee Members.

5th July. Bourton-on-the-Water. 12th July. Symond's Yat.  
19th July. Cotswold Time Trial. 26th July. Bristol Zoo.  
2nd Aug. Ripple (Nr. Tewkesbury). 9th Aug. Avebury (75 mls.)  
16th Aug. Queen's Wood. 23rd Aug. Lady's Wood.

A request has been put forward for a new Club Kettle, and we hope soon to be brewing tea in style.

### Youth Hostel News.

The hostel runs this year have been poorly attended, and Rodney Mundy has resigned his Hostel Secretaryship. This has now been taken over by Dot Beard. We hope you will support the hostel run to T'yn y Cae on 11th July.

We would like to thank Rodney for his services to the Club, and wish him all the best in his chosen career; he is shortly leaving the district and taking up residence in Shropshire.

## STONEHENGE

It was a brilliant sunny evening on 20th June when we left Stonehouse at approximately 7.15 p.m., endeavouring to reach Stonehenge for the sunrise at 4.45 a.m. Those who arrived for the start were Miss A. Blandford, K. Smith, A. Potter, A. Cathcart, P. Coleman and R. Bennett.

We set out at a good pace, going through Avonng where Alec left us to return home. We then passed through Tetbury to Malmesbury and arrived at Chippenham at about 9.15 p.m., where we tucked into ham sandwiches, tea and coffee. From there we rode on to Devizes, and thence to Salisbury Plain. At the first barn we came to we found that the hay was very hot, with steam rising from it, so we decided to cycle on a further five miles to the next one.

To get to the barn we had to cross two fields of very wet grass, but needless to say we all managed it, as we were all very much in need of a rest! After taking the saddle-bags from our bikes we were just going to squeeze through the tiniest of holes in the barn, when suddenly four lights seemed to appear from the middle of the field. We all made a dash for the hay and tried to hide ourselves. We waited in absolute silence for about five minutes, when suddenly we heard a noise outside, and in walked a tall mysterious gentleman. He looked round for a few seconds, but seemed unable to make out what was there, so Peter shone his torch onto him. And who do you suppose it was? Victor Turner, with Roger Lavis! They'd turned up in Vic's car, with Maureen and Eddie.

Well, after that bit of excitement we all had something to eat and tried to get some sleep. Silence reigned for about half an hour, then it started. Snoring.... you've never heard anything like it! It shook the barn, and started everyone laughing. I believe it was Peter, but I wouldn't be quite sure!! I think everyone, after a while, managed to get some sleep, even though it was only about ten minutes.

At half past four we all tidied ourselves up a bit, and cycled down to the 'Stones.' There were many people there; some in evening clothes, some in night clothes, and the remainder in shorts or jeans. The sunrise, to me, was a flop, maybe because I had seen it three times before.

Before going on to breakfast, which was booked for 7.30 a.m., we had something to drink at one of the stalls on the Plain, and we stopped about seven miles from Devizes, where Vic, Roger Eddie and Maureen had brewed us some tea and coffee on the primus.

Cont.

We reached Devizes at about seven o'clock, and tried to make ourselves look a little more respectable. We all ate hearty breakfasts of eggs, bacon, tomatoes, fried bread, followed by toast and marmalade, and bread and butter, with tea or coffee. We started from Devizes at about half past nine - all except Roderick, who managed to wangle a lift with Vic in his car, much to my annoyance, as I could have done with a lift!

Just outside Marshfield Ken Smith and I decided to go on to meet the General Section for tea at Cold Ashton. I don't know, and never will, where I got that extra energy from, but there it was, I had it! Peter and Adrian went home and arrived at about midday, after which Adrian went to play Cricket, and Peter cycled back to tea at Cold Ashton.

I think I can honestly say that we all enjoyed ourselves immensely.

\* \* \* \* \* A. Blandford.

BELLERISMS.

Greetings fellow Tides; sorry fellow Serfs. I have had many, many requests regarding articles for this brand new venture, and I would like to say I'm going to ignore them all and write some just the same.

In this column I will give you all the gen on any new Bell invention. Many of you will, no doubt, recall the Aluminium Treacle Bender, the Sanforized Wart Polisher, the Diphthong Resister, together with many others.

Now I bring you Bell's Super Shaving Cream. This revolutionary shaving cream removes the chief difficulty of your shaving...your face. No brush, no lather, no rub in - just blood.

Fellow cyclists! At the tea place, do you wonder which feet are yours under the table? You do? Then wear Bell's monogrammed socks, and tell at a glance.

And in conclusion, for the one hundred dollar prize, if seven days makes one week, how many days makes one strong?

!!!!!! J. Bell.  
\* \* \* \* \*

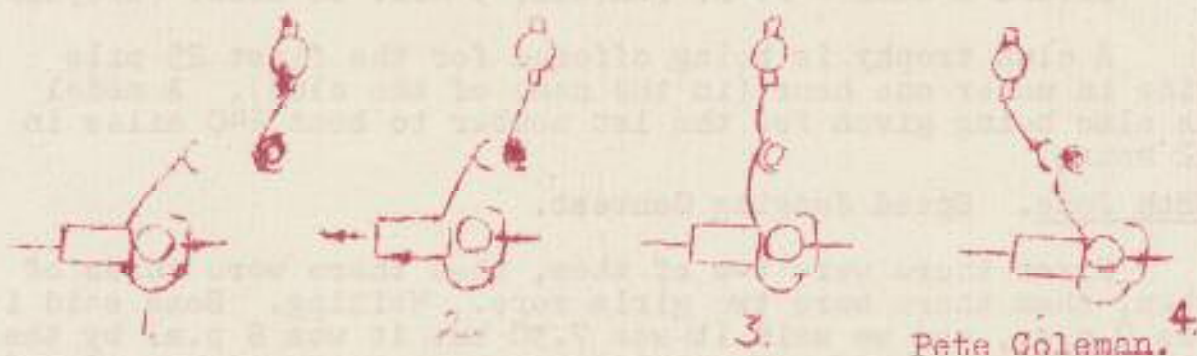
### THE ART OF FEEDING

Not the ordinary "sit down and smile nicely at the waitress" type of feeding, but the sort that involves handing up a bottle of water or a sponge to a cyclist who does not want to stop and have a chat because he is trying to win a race.

A rider can quite easily be demoralised by missing a drink that he has been eagerly anticipating for several miles, and such mishaps are usually the result of the faulty technique of the feeding marshal. The following notes and bird's-eye view sketches are intended to describe a system which, with a little practice, can give satisfactory results every time.

- (a) Do not have the bottle more than one third full.
- (b) Hold the bottle lightly at the neck in the right hand, with fingers pointing forward. The arm should be outstretched and pointing towards the rear. (fig. 1)
- (c) Start running so that you are going as nearly as possible at the same speed as the rider when he passes you.
- (d) If he is going faster than you, swing your right arm forwards as he takes the bottle (figs. 2, 3 & 4).

The rider should take the bottle in his left hand with the arm fairly straight and pointing forward and outwards (figs. 1 & 2), and let the arm swing back as he takes the bottle (figs. 3 & 4). Do not ride too close to the marshal, as many people do not enjoy bikes flashing past within a few inches of them!



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### SOME RACING RESULTS

7th June. T.C.C.A. '100'. John Vigar beat the Club record with a time of 4 hrs. 48 minutes, 3 seconds, and Pete Daniels recorded a time of 5 hrs. 6 mins. 42 secs. However, Pete Daniels beat this record in the Swindon '100', when he returned a time

of 4 hrs. 38 mins. 3 secs., and John Millman also beat John V's record in this event.

Johnny Howells was placed seventh in the Welsh National Junior Championships '25', returning a time of 1 hr. 3 mins. 57secs

11th June. 25 Mile Club Time Trial. This is the first evening '25' the Club has held. First three placings were:  
S. P. Daniels, 1 hr. 2 mins. 36 secs. J. Vigar 1.4.4.,  
J. Howells 1.4.33.

14th June. Frome & District '25'. Times recorded were:  
S. P. Daniels 1.3.34., J. Howells 1.4.47., M. Cooke 1.4.47.,  
J. Millman 1.5.13., J. Vigar 1.5.30., P.H. Daniels 1.7.15.,  
D. Moore 1.8.27., (2nd. Handicap) A. Potter 1.10.22.

25th June Golden Triangle Ladies' & Men's Event. Times recorded were: Men's - (first three) J. Howells 1.18.40., S. P. Daniels 1.19.10., M. Cooke 1.21.41. Ladies - no record had previously been established. The record is now held by Anne Blandford, who made a time of 1.47.19, and Joyce Hampton made a time of 1.51.41. Two ladies did not start.

Place to Place records. The following club records have been set up.

Plymouth & back - P. Coleman 21 hrs. 19 mins. (Tricycle)  
Oxford & back - S. P. Daniels, 5 hrs. 52 mins. (Tricycle)  
Oxford & back - S. P. Daniels, 4 hrs. 54 mins. (Bicycle)  
Oxford & back - P. H. Daniels, 5 hrs. 18 mins. (Bicycle)

A club trophy is being offered for the first 25 mile ride in under one hour (in the name of the club). A medal is also being given for the 1st member to beat 240 miles in 12 hours.

18th June. Speed Judging Contest.

First there were two of them, then there were three of them, then there were two girls more. Waiting. Some said it was 7 p.m., and we said it was 7.30 but it was 8 p.m. by the time we started off. We cycled to the start, and hummed and hatched (?) as to whom should go first. Finally we agreed that Joyce should be first, I would follow, then Johnny Howells, and Pete Coleman, all at minute intervals.

We followed the road to Eastington, towards Frocester, where Johnny overtook me, tearing past on the steepest bit - (must have been racing or something), and I later caught up



Joyce, and we had a nice little natter on our way back! Pete then came haring past us, and then we were just pottering back together. Joyce won the contest; she was 30 seconds before her estimated time.

Johnny was the only one to go round the course twice (we should all have done so really) but we others (fagged out, of course!) stood and waited for him, eating the Time-Keeper's and the Spectators' (all two of them) chips purchased from a neighbouring fish 'n chip shop! When the only energetic one amongst us had returned, we all rode back to the Centre for more refreshment.

Derek Goad was Timekeeper. Supporters A. Blandford and K. Smith.

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### B.C.T.C. Heats.

It was a sunny, though somewhat windy morning when the competitors flocked to Coaley on 31st May for the B.C.T.C. heats. It was pleasing to note that the club had six members marshalling as well as ten members riding in the competition. Victor made a bright start, without a route card, but it was only 11.30 p.m., and he woke up in time to jot down the route from another club member!

The route went from Coaley, passed 'The George' at Frocester, on to Leonard Stanley. Here the questions began. 'Which is the biggest lake in England? What colour are black cats on the Barts map? This was followed by a blind man crossing the road. Going to Kings Stanley by turning right instead of left, a tricky piece of navigation followed by turning left and then right as on the route card and not going right and then left as on the sign post.

A climb up Selsley was followed by recognising various types of architecture, and being able to name them. A descent along an observed track to Woodchester, was followed by an ascent of Culver Hill - easy on a 34" gear. Two quick questions followed: which is the highest road pass in Wales? Which is the biggest lake in Wales? But soon we were at the 'Ragged Cot', enjoying our sandwiches with plenty to drink.

A two hour rest made even Lewis a bit restless, and he shot off down the road with his tail lamp on, after the bike check. (Please note: marshals had approx. 20 mins. lunch time!!!!)

A sharp eye was kept on shutting gates, but the Ford at Cherington has been filled in. An observed hill climb was followed by watches being sealed, and trying to get to the next check point in the time you estimated.

Alec was marshalling at Kingscote, asking if you knew where you can light up an hour after sunset, in the British Isles. The route continued towards Uley, and after some questions on birds and butterflies, the 34" gear proved very useful to the members who missed the right turn and went down the wrong hill into Uley, and decided to go back up again! On the correct hill an emergency stop was operated by A. B. Smith, but it proved easier than usual and we were soon back at Uley, where a photo quiz and tea ended an excellent competition.

Club members were well up in the results of the competition, and our congratulations go to John Vigar, who won the heat by 5 points from his nearest rival, Lewis Morris of Gloucester. John scored a total of 113 points, and other club placings were as follows: 5th Bill Bell, 103½ pts. 6th Joyce Hampton 99½ pts., 7th Victor Turner 99 pts., 8th Pete Coleman 98 pts., 10th Peter Daniels 96½ pts., 14th Tony Neale 95 pts., 21st R. Bennett 88pts 22nd R. Davis 86½ pts. 28th Andrew Hampton 81 pts. Total entrants 41.

Best of luck in the finals in Kent on 5th July, John!

Pete Daniels.

\* \* \* \* \*

### FURTHER BELLERISMS.

#### The Alecosaurus.

This amiable survivor of the Cathcarians era is much in evidence on the foothills and plains of the Cotswold hills. It associates with quite a large herd, and because of its great age acts as leader, or gurgofutrial.

Until recent years it was thought that the Alecosaurus was none other than the mysterious Yeti or Abominable Slowman - sorry Snowman, but experts on viewing the footprints remarked "No, I'm afraid we haven't found him yeti."

Its home is high up in the Sladiski Mountains, where local inhabitants can often see it prowling late at night when it returns after meetings with its brothers (and sisters).

Its call is guttural, and although difficult to distinguish sounds like 'shurupathebacktherewillyou'.

European travel presents no barrier and this year when it

- hibernates in Norway the inhabitants of a certain port are likely to get more than they bergen'd for.

\* \* \* \* \*

Look out for further reports on such subjects as Snurgo fishing, cat mending, and all that.

J. Bell.

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#### Odds and Ends

#### STROUD SHOW.

A cycle competition will take place at Stroud Show this year, on 18th July, 1959. Members are particularly asked to take part, as it will be publicity for the club. Entries free!! Good prizes. Further details obtainable from S. P. Daniels.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on Tuesday, 7th July, at 95 Stratford Road.

#### GENERAL MEETING.

The next General meeting will be held on Thursday, 9th July at Stonehouse Community Centre at 7.30 p.m. Please attend if you can.

#### COTSWOLD TIME TRIAL

The Annual Cotswold Time Trial will take place on Sunday, 19th July, starting from Stonehouse. Riders and marshals are required and should apply to John Millman. Tea will be at the Centre. For plan of the course, see page 10 of this issue.

#### SMALL ADS.

It is hoped to run a "Small Ads" column, giving FOR SALE and WANTED, for the benefit of members who want to obtain or release themselves of the various velocipedial equipment generally cluttering up different corners of Stroud & District. Ads. should be handed to the Co-Editors not later than one week before the next issue of 'The Spoke' is due.

#### NEXT ISSUE

Any items for inclusion in the next issue of the newsletter should be handed to the Co-Editors not later than 26th July.

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THE COTSWOLD FARM TRAIL

