

Nomads Bulletin



Hitchin Nomads CC's latest result, announcements and members stories they care to share

Albert Dawson

It is with great sadness that we have learnt of the death of Albert, our oldest member at the age of ninety-six, who until not many years ago was still riding his bike out to meet up with the club run at the pub stop.

His funeral will take place at Stevenage Crematorium on Tuesday 17th August at 1:15pm

Results

The beautiful warm summer evening of Tuesday 10th August was not enough to tempt a big field of Nomad riders for the Briercliffe 10, in fact an equal number of Nomads turned up to officiate as to ride! With all those people wanting to officiate they managed to miss one rider who was late getting back, thankfully saving some considerable embarrassment by going off course! A case of too many cooks spoiling the broth. Not really, it is better having too many cooks than all going hungry if no one will roll up their sleeves!

David Ledgerton	25.13
Andy Saunders	26.01
Dave Wentworth	27.54
Peter Timmins	Off Course

Guest Riders	
Steve Cotton	24.04
Les Newton	25.33
Rob Hemming	26.01

Officiating were Richard Bland - Timekeeping, Tony Furby - Pushing Off, Frank Turner and Geoff Denny who Number Spotted.

Hitchin Nomads CC Middle Marker 25

This event organised by David Ledgerton today had five of our members riding.

Tony Anderson	1.03.04
Nick Senechal	1.03.06
Julian Siedlecki	1.04.43
Scott Edwards	1.06.31
Mark Collins	1.08.33

The winning rider was Mark Anstey with a time of 59.21

Inter-Club Liaison

Scott Edwards has taken on the role of liaison between the other two clubs that we compete with in inter-club competitions, don't forget to tell him you want to ride in the 15 mile event organised by Beds Road on the 11th September, remember you still need to pay him the £1 if you enter even if you don't turn up.

Evening 25 Competition Winners

Congratulations to Julian Siedlecki for being this year's Dave Gudgin Trophy winner and to everyone else who completed the required number of events to have been in the running.

	Time 1	Time2	Time 3	Average
J Siedlecki	0.58.13	0.59.14	1.00.16	0.59.14
S Edwards	0.59.25	1.00.31	1.00.50	1.00.15
D Wentworth	0.59.57	1.00.17	1.02.10	1.00.48
D Ledgerton	1.00.58	1.00.58	1.01.25	1.01.06
R Bryan	0.57.00	1.02.52	1.03.58	1.01.16
M Webb	1.02.02	1.02.11	1.03.14	1.02.29
D Summerell	1.02.30	1.02.56	1.03.26	1.02.57

In the scratch competition for the Southill Cup congratulations go to Mike Webb for his winning performances.

	Time 1	Time2	Time 3	Average
M Webb	1.02.51	1.03.00	1.04.03	1.03.18
D Ledgerton	1.04.49	1.04.49	1.05.15	1.04.57
J Siedlecki	1.07.010	1.07.25	1.07.49	1.07.28
S Edwards	1.09.08	1.09.57	1.10.13	1.09.46
D Wentworth	1.09.33	1.09.53	1.11.46	1.10.24
D Summerell	1.11.59	1.12.25	1.12.55	1.12.26
R Bryan	1.12.16	1.15.07	1.19.14	1.15.32

The "12"

Once again the "Local Classic", the Icknield 12 hour time trial has come around and yet again we have the privilege of being a part of it, as well as anticipating seeing a Hitchin Nomads team competing for our own 12 Hour Champion Trophy and our 12 Hour Novice Trophy we will be able to help by passing up feeds to all of the riders.

We have been asked to feed on the road between Wendy and Guilden Morden from 14.40 to 16.30 on Sunday 5th September.

I have participated in this event either as a competitor or as a helper probably every year for the last seventeen years and loved being a part of it but something has come up which will probably prevent me being there this year, so please let me know that you will be there to represent Hitchin Nomads.

Memories of Albert

It is with great sadness that we write this tribute to our eldest member, Albert Dawson, who died on Monday 9 August at the grand age of 96 years.

Many of you will have your own memories of Albert.

We tapped the grapevine, and we believe Albert joined the Nomads in 1960. At this time Albert was cycling to work each day and needed bike parts, he met Irene Stacey at Sudbury's Cycles in Eastcheap in Letchworth, who introduced him to the Nomads. Back then the Sunday club runs started outside Sudbury's Cycles; a lot of these runs were all day affairs with elevenses, lunch and tea, the club run could be anything up to 120 miles. (and members could cycle anything up to 120 miles).

Ann's memories

I remember the year I was riding the 10s, and I think it was my best ever ride, and Albert – 35 years my senior – rode a faster time than me! At 74 he could beat evens. I also remember one Boxing Day when Clive arrived by bike at our son Mark's home, somewhat the worse for drink, and it turned out that he and Albert had shared a bottle of whisky in the Golden Lion.

Albert had great love of gardening, particularly his dahlias and runner beans. His garden was always immaculate.

He also had a mischievous sense of humour that stayed with him till the end.

He was a great family man who was always up to date with what his grandchildren and great grandchildren were doing, and took a great pride in all their achievements. Like Albert both his son and grandson were all members of the Hitchin Nomads CC.

Clive's memories

When I joined the Hitchin Nomads CC in 1982 there was a touring group within the club who supported the club run every week. The core group was Paul and Barbara Stanbridge, Terry

May, Geoff Perry, Bill Owens and Albert Dawson. The club runs were the same as they are today where we would ride to a destination for a cuppa and a bun and then ride home via a pub. When we were within a couple of miles of the pub there would be a call go out that the pub was open and this was a signal for Albert to sprint for the pub. At this time Albert was 74 years old and you had to work hard to hang onto his wheel. If you were racing on the A1 it was not unusual to see Albert at the side of the road offering his support, and if you asked him what he was doing there he would say, "Just come out to see the boys". When we arrived at the pub and were sat down with our pints he would regale us with stories of his racing before the war and how they used to ride out to a B & B, usually a pub and would get up in the morning and ride the event, then return to the B & B for breakfast. One story that he used to tell was of his ride in a 12 hour where they used to stop at midday for lunch and his club mates would check his bike while he had his lunch and he would get on and finish the ride, and what we mustn't forget is that he rode 18 miles out to the event and 18 miles home. He told me his best 12-hour distance was 224 miles, a distance that I have yet to reach, and this was on pre-war roads with a fixed gear.

As Ann has said he had a mischievous sense of humour. We would be chatting in the pub and perhaps a newspaper story would come up where a company was in trouble and always his first thought was, what about the shareholders? I feel sure he only did this to create a debate, normally fairly heated but always cooled by the beer! Then you would look over at him and there would be a twinkle in his eye, and he would pull money from his pocket and order a round, and make mine a whisky mac he would say, which was his favourite tippie.

Albert has left us with a lot of happy memories; he was unique and cannot be replaced.

Ann and Clive Collins