



Nomads News

www.hitchin-nomads.net

The news letter of the Hitchin Nomads Cycling Club

Geoff Denny

Geoff Denny died doing what he loved – riding his bike, his funeral took place on the 5th April, at his wife, Brenda's suggestion the hearse was led from their home in Langford to the point where Geoff died by a group of cyclists, nine were able to take part in this final ride with him, as the riders approached the spot they formed into two lines and allowed the hearse to pass between them, some flowers were laid at the spot before the riders loaded bikes into cars and followed on to the crematorium at Stevenage.

The crematorium was filled to capacity and had people standing at the back to be there to share the grief. Brenda spoke of their love and their life together; few could not have been deeply moved by hers and their children's grief. After Brenda I had the honour to speak of Geoff, the transcript of what I said follows

"I would be honoured if Geoff thought me to be as good a friend to him as I felt he was a friend to me.

I'd known him since he joined Hitchin Nomads but he became an ever increasingly good friend and my confidant over about the last six or seven years.

While Geoff was a member of Hitchin Nomads Cycling Club his love of cycling didn't confine him to just the Nomads, he had been a member of Bedfordshire Road CC and more recently CC Ashwell at the same time as being a Nomad, he would just want to join in with any cycling activity going on.

It was hard not to take him for granted when looking for helpers for Time Trials and other cycling events as he was always so willing and keen to be a part of them, perhaps his favourite event was the Icknield 12 hour.

Gordon Hart the organiser of the 12 hour said that of the approximate one hundred and thirty helpers he needed for that event nobody was a more willing helper than Geoff. He would make himself available to do two or three jobs throughout the course of the day. His favourite job was pushing

the riders off but he'd feed and marshal, or do anything to be involved.

While I understand Geoff had been a fairly useful racer in mass start events in his younger days he had no inclination to take part in competition in recent years, though his competitiveness often came out when he disappeared off the front. I understand with the Ashwell lot he found it more difficult but wasn't put off even when just hanging on at the back.

He was one of a small group of us, who over the last few years have got into cycle camping. We've enjoyed some hilarious times with him, though at five in the morning being woken to the rustlings of Geoff packing up and the colourful language as he struggling to squeeze his Thermarest mattress into its obviously inadequately designed bag was not always so hilarious at the time.

We became the failed Tourmalet Team after an over ambitious plan to ride across the Pyrenees from Spain to see the Tour de France riders go up the Col du Tourmalet

We never got out of Spain, we didn't really get anywhere near the border, it was a disappointment for us, but Geoff wasn't the slightest bothered, he just settled in to enjoying the riding in Spain, as it was my over ambitious plan and I was the weakest rider he made me feel much better about it.

He loved our cycling trips to France, being a Vegetarian is not a concept truly understood in France and that had lead to some testing times for Geoff, the result usually being France 1 - Geoff 0!

On these trips he would hate to be the cause of a fuss, but would make a fuss of not making a fuss, usually much to our amusement.

Geoff would speak to anybody and say what he thought, he would listen with interest, question and probe; he would share his experiences and always have some amusing tale to tell, whether a nostalgic tale from his national service days or his work in engineering.

While our grief cannot compare with that of Brenda, his daughters and grandchildren, his friends have lost a willing helper, a dear companion and a loyal friend".

At April's Nomads committee meeting a proposal was agreed to carry out some fund raising and buy a trophy to be the Geoff Denny Memorial Trophy that would be presented to the person in the club who helps the most with events. Please give your support when these fund raising activities come up.

Richard Bland

Geoff Denny, fondly remembered, sorely missed. I for one, will be celebrating my memories of Geoff, by riding my bike whenever I can. Scott.

Norlond TT combine BAR

I've received a letter from the organisers of the Norlond Bar. As there is no Norlond 100 TT, they have decided to nominate another 100 TT in its place. This event is the North Middlesex and Herts 100 TT, taking place on the 9th of July. Anyone wishing to qualify for the Norlond BAR will need to ride this event.

Norlond 50 TT

I'm still looking for some more marshals for this event. It's on the 21st of May, starting at 06:00. Anyone who is available, could you please let me know. Those people who have already said yes, don't need to respond again.

Northampton District CA Events.

The Northampton DCA, of which we are a member club, has a season long TT competition. For those interested in taking part in the remainder of the seasons events, here they are.

Sat 20th May- 10 miles-N1/10 £6.00 14:00 Start
John Batchelor, (St. Ives CC), 4 Scotts Close,
Hilton, Huntingdon, PE28 9PQ
01480 830463

Sun 11th June-22 miles-F15/22 £6.00 08:00 St.
Terry Bush, (BRCC), 59 Ridge Road, Kempston,
Wooton, MK43 9BS
01234 857131

Sat 1st July-10 miles-NC14 £6.00 14:00 St.
Rob Langley (Rockingham Forest Wheelers),
13 Riley Close, Market Harborough, LE16 9FF
01858 431386

Sat 15th July-15 miles-N1/15 £6.00 14:00 St.
Richard Newcombe (Fenland Clarion CC),
67 Hall Lane, Werrington, Peterborough, PE4
6RA
01733 706498

Sat 5th Aug-25 miles-N1/25C £6.00 14:00 St.
Richard Daniells (BRCC), 6 Matson Close,
Rothwell, NN14 6AY
01536 418075

Sat 19th Aug-8.8 miles-NC12 £6.00 14:00 St.
Graham Bickle (Rockingham Forest Wheelers),
3 Burditt Close, Rothwell NN14 6LD
01536 711872

Sun 3rd Sept-12 Hour-F1/12 £13.50 06:00 St.
Gordon Hart (Icknield RC), 19 Riverside Road,
Luton, LU3 2LY
01582 593893

Sun 10th Sept-20 miles-NC16 £6.00 10:00 St.
Wayne Holton (Welland Valley CC),
5 Northleigh Grove, Market Harborough, LE16
9QU
07736 844473

I also have the Association handbook, if anyone would like more info on the competition.

Scott.

Cycling Trips Abroad

If Anybody is looking to plan some cycling abroad, here is an interesting website that may give you some ideas.

www.practicebicycle.com

Open Events

Could anybody who has ridden in an open event, and not yet submitted the results to me, please do so asap. These results are needed for handicaps to be worked out. No results, no handicap, and they can't be applied retroactively.

Scott

Race Results

Spring Hilly-12/03/06-1Z/16

Mike Webb	43:52
Andy Saunders	46:43
Paul King	48:01
Steve Robinson	48:01

Timekeeper- Tony Furby, Pusher-off Nick Senechal

2-up 25 mile TT- 02/04/06

Scott Edwards/ Neil Fraser	01:06:39
Paul King/ Steve Robinson	01:08:20
Nick Senechal/ Julian Siedlecki	01:13:40
Clive Collins/ Jamie Tomlin	01:16:40

James Cornell (solo) 01:11:58

Timekeeper/Pusher-off David Ledgerton

Briercliffe 10 04/04/06

Neil Fraser	27:36
Andy Herbert	27:36
Andy Saunders	27:41
David Ledgerton	28:23
Toby Blyth (course PB)	30:44
David Summerell	31:02
Keith Rapley	35:21

Timekeeper Frank Turner and Pusher-off Scott Edwards.

Briercliffe 10 11/04/06

Neil Fraser	26:59
Toby Blyth (course PB)	30:20

Non-Nomads
Andre Dyason (Team Sanjan Design)
26:41

Timekeeper David Ledgerton, and Pusher-off Clive Collins.

Briercliffe 10 18/04/06

Mike Webb	25:55
Andy Herbert	26:30
Neil Fraser	26:56
David Ledgerton	27:14
David Wentworth	28:45
David Summerell	29:29

Timekeeper Frank Turner, and Pusher-off Clive Collins.

Briercliffe 10 25/04/06

Tony Anderson	25:02
Andy Saunders	25:55
Neil Fraser	26:09
Scott Edwards	27:07
David Wentworth	28:14
David Summerell	28:28
Julian Siedlecki	29:36
Non-Nomads	
Sam Hayes (BRCC)	26:27
Rob Hemming (Team Economic Energy)	27:34
Lyndon Lewis	29:33

Timekeeper Richard Bland, and Pusher-off Frank Turner.

MS Trust Charity Bike Ride



Sunday 11th June
Letchworth Garden City
Greenway

Start: 10.30am Standalone Farm

Finish: Manor Wood, Willian

Approx: 10 miles

Single Riders: £5 entry

Family Riders: £15 entry per family (2 adults up to 4 children)

Come and join in the fun on our charity bike ride

- Route map
- Free prize draw
- Refreshments
- Certificates & Medals
- Personalised sponsorship forms
- T-shirts available
- Keep fit and healthy
- Go green - leave the car behind
- Raise valuable funds for people with MS

To book your place call 01462 476707

or email fundraising@mstrust.org.uk

The MS Trust is a national charity working with and for the 85,000 people with MS in the UK, providing information, funding research, and training health professionals. Most people with MS experience the first symptoms in their mid-20s, making it the biggest cause of neurological disability in young adults. Thank you for your support!

Multiple Sclerosis Trust, Spirella Building, Letchworth Garden City, Herts, SG6 4ET

Registered Charity No: 1088353