



# Nomads News

BOXING DAY PICTURE SPECIAL

[www.hitchin-nomads.net](http://www.hitchin-nomads.net)

The news letter of the Hitchin Nomads Cycling Club

## Editorial

With weather conditions not favourable for riding our bikes, there had to be a concern as to whether the Boxing Day 10 would be ridden. As it turned out with an inspection of the course it was decided that only the Southill leg was unsafe. So with a fine day promised we had 35 starters sign on to ride the shortened course.

As always Ann Bland laid superb fare with back up from Sue, Jessica and Jools Hemming.

The highlights for me were seeing all the Wilson family out, who all rode the course. Nick dressed in 50s style with a 50s style bike, very smart in my view. Pete Hanlon recording a time of 25:05, I have noted his time and need to keep an eye on him this coming season, (sorry Pete no pictures of you, the camera ran out of battery), and then there was Michael and Charlie having fun on a mountain bike tandem, that is what the Boxing Day 10 is all about. My thanks to Steve Levet for taking the photos with my camera.

Next big social occasion is the prize giving Dinner and Dance with a live band on the 6<sup>th</sup> February. Please contact Keith Rapley for your tickets.

So here we go 2010 is just around the corner and once more do we cock our leg over our winter hack and start to put the miles in, licking our lips at the challenge of the New Year.

It always gives a bit of fizz to the season when you set yourself a target. As usual my head is ahead of my training, I met an Icknield guy the other day and fell to chatting about the interclub series and I said to him that I would forecast a 27 minute 10 for myself in the interclub 10 in April. Fat Chance.

**Just to remind you that your subs are due this month to renew your membership.**

**Ann and I wish all members a Very Happy and Successful New Year.**

Clive

## Boxing Day 10 Result

### Hitchin Nomads

	Time	Handicap Time
Neil Fraser	22:32	21:56
James Gomm	24:15	24:15
Nick Senechal	24:41	22:51
Peter Hanlon	25:05	25:05
Ben Wilson	25:38	25:38
Nigel Wilson & Hannah Wilson *	32:37	31:25
Janice Wilson	33:53	33:17
Matt Wilson	35:52	35:52
Michael Levet & Charlie Bexfield **	36:13	36:13



**\* Nigel Wilson towing his daughter Hannah on a trailer bike.**

## Veteran Cycle Club

Ray Miller	27:58	19:16
Martin Weeks	28:12	22:24
Patrick Trench	28:55	23:52
Frank Turner	31:24	23:18
John Callen	33:21	31:53
Norman Richardson	34:27	23:41
Robin Humphries	44:54	33:18

Timekeepers: Richard Bland & David Ledgerton



Pushing Off This Gentleman  
Can anybody tell me who he is?



**\*\* Michael Levet and Charlie Bexfield were riding a mountain bike tandem in the Boxing Day spirit.**

### **Handicaps**

The handicaps are worked out on the age of the rider (40+) plus the age of the bike provided it was manufactured before 1950. The winner of the VCC is 56 years old and he was riding a bike built in 1910.

### **Catering Managers Report**

Hello All,

Just to let you know that donations for the Boxing Day 10 were £185.57. So minus the event levy and the cost of hiring of the hall, means we should be able to donate well over £100 to The Garden House Hospice.

Thank you all for your help and donations of food today. As always we had a brilliant day. Hope you all got home safely and enjoy the rest of the holiday.

Happy New Year. Ann and Richard

### **Frank's Boxing Day Report**

Boxing day approximate \*

The final social / competitive event of the season has once again proven a resounding success. In fact despite the cold and icy conditions some astounding times were recorded, sub 25 mins for Nick Senechal, James Gomm and Neil J, and 25.05 for Peter Hanlon.

The hall at Old Warden was bursting at the seams with members and friends from half a dozen local clubs all making the most of the food and wine and enjoying the atmosphere. HNCC members were unfortunately in the minority on the start list.



**This is what Boxing Day is all about 'Family' Dad Nigel, Mum Janice Children Matt, Hannah and Ben,**

But what we lacked in quantity we made up for in quality with a good selection of junior riders and family riders ( Michael Levet & Charlie Bexfield on tandem, Ben Wilson [in shorts!], and Nigel Wilson towing a Rann trailer with his daughter Hannah) Judging by their time, she must have done her fair share of pedalling.

The Alan Porter oil lamp was awarded to Ben Wilson as he did not shiver or exhibit any 'goose Pimples.'

Catering and Timekeeping to the usual high standard, and organisation pretty good as Keith Rapley was involved.

He is also heavily involved in organising the prize giving dinner in February which looks likely to be a memorable event to start 2010.

\*approximately 8 ice free miles.

Happy new year to one and all Frank.



**A speedy summer trio; the captain giving advice for the new season**



**James (left) Ready for the new season  
I like the bike Nick, (right) especially the  
wheels**

### Subscriptions

**Your subs for 2010 are due in January**

**£15 per Member £20 for Families**

**Please send your remittance to the Treasurer:  
Nigel Tooke**

**Payments can also be made direct to the HSBC  
bank account**

**Sort code 40 –28-14 A/C no 20615021**

**If you are paying by this method the payee  
should contact or e-mail the treasurer to  
confirm that they've made payment this way.**

### Dinner & Dance Sat 6<sup>th</sup> February

To start off 2010 in style it has been decided to hold a Dinner & Dance. In previous years this was the evening event where the annual awards were presented, rather than the Sunday lunch format, of more recent years.

An evening of superb entertainment and culinary excellence is planned, along with presenting those hard earned awards to those who deserve them.

Tickets are likely to be in demand, and as this format hasn't been run for a while I would be grateful, if those of you who might want to attend, could contact me with an indication of the number of tickets they might require. This would help greatly in finalising the plans for the exact format of the evening.

The location will most likely be Northhill Village Hall. A choice of main meal and desserts will be included, along with a live band "The Strayhorns". Please visit their website here:

<http://strayhorns.co.uk/> as there is a sample of their act to listen to.

The cost is likely to be around £22.50 per head, with a concession for children.

The eagle-eyed amongst you may well spot one of our newer members, Steve Makowski on the website, and it is entirely through his generosity that his band will be performing for us. It really does look like being a fantastic nights entertainment.

**To guarantee tickets (but without obligation) please contact me, by phone or email, or in person.**

Keith Rapley

Tel: 01767 681200

email [keith@ipspack.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:keith@ipspack.fsnet.co.uk)

### **January Clubruns**

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	<b>Royston Sports Centre</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Forest Centre Stewartby</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Willington Danish Camp</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Welwyn Sports Centre</b>
<b>31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>Woburn</b>

### **Guest Editors**

#### **Progress so far**

I now have eight volunteers who will cover ten months; all I need now is two more volunteers to complete the year. The only months I haven't got covered are Mid-July and Mid-November.

My thanks to the eight volunteers who are going to cover ten months as Guest Editors of the Nomads News.

Your first Guest Editor will be Jamie Tomlin who will cover the next issue of the News.

Clive

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to John Webb who has been nominated by the '**Letchworth Garden City Society**' to serve as a Governor on the board of **Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation**.

His portfolio will be;

**Preservation of the Environment.**

John is Michael Webb's dad, John is more of a tourist than a racing man.