



Nomads News

www.hitchin-nomads.net

The news letter of the Hitchin Nomads Cycling Club

Editorial

I am looking forward to Saturday week when we have our Awards Dinner & Dance, it is going to be a classy affair with Steve bringing his band.

If you want to come there is still space; just phone or email Keith.

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2010 then please contact Nigel as soon as possible, details below.

For this issue I have received a letter from an anonymous **recipient**. I happen to know that he is ex RAF, but is not quite old enough to have served in Lancasters. Perhaps other members might like to make their own comments on clubruns.

With the weather that we have had over the last few weeks I for one haven't been out on my bike, so it would follow that if I don't do any turbo training then when I do grab the bike I am going to find it hard going on a club run.

This isn't an appeal for 'Help the Aged' just an honest assessment of where I am at this time of year.

When I was out on my Tuesday wander with Frank we met an ex Nomad Malcolm Ford, he asked me if I had received a photo of the Nomads 1959 road race. When I said no he said he would send it to me. As always Malcolm has given us the background to the riders in the picture. I cannot imagine road racing on that circuit today. I sometimes wonder if we have lost a bit of quality to our lives when we give so much value to car travel.

Clive

Dinner & Dance Sat 6th February

So the date is set, the band and food are organised.

If you haven't been asked for menu choices and payment by me, but want to come please contact me urgently.

There is still just time to fit you in

Phone: 01767 681200

Email: rapley@bigfoot.com

Hitchin Nomads Awards Dinner

Saturday 6th February
Northhill Village Hall

Live Music
From The Strayhorns

6:30 - 11:30pm

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.

Hitchin Nomads Road Race 1959



Hi Clive

Nice to see you and Frank yesterday. Hope you didn't freeze your goolies off? Here's the photo I mentioned taken by Frank Reynolds at the end of Letchworth Gate in July 1959. The route took in Hitchin and part of Stevenage old town turning at the long gone Publix (cinema) Corner and returning via Jacks Hill (prime) to Letchworth Gate where it finished after 10 laps. Because only one team per club was allowed in a road race, smaller racing teams were formed throughout the UK and in the north Herts area the Letchworth Velo, the Excul, the Nomads and the club in the picture, the Ayfive Racing Club, fought some memorable battles. I found this photo while looking for another shot of my mate Mac who has lived in Australia for 45 years. Neil Hodgson is another who fled these shores. He has lived in New Zealand for over 30 years. I think the records show that I came a lonely 13th after cramping while Hodgson and Johnson abandoned. Bob Swain finished a lonely 12th.

All the best
Bostic

I should explain that Malcolm's nick name Bostic was given to him by his racing mates because they always said that if Malcolm got on your wheel you could never get rid of him. And I know, because I have been a victim in the past, but it was great fun because he sits there chatting away and telling jokes.

Clive

Letter

Dear Editor,

At a recent committee meeting I understand it was suggested that some guidelines entitled, "club run etiquette," be published. I believe a couple of draft copies were drawn up, but it was eventually decided not to publish as it would do little to resolve what is endemic in most sporting cycling clubs.

However I feel that if those who enjoy the conviviality of clubruns were to act individually it would result in group action with the effective isolation of selfish riders.

If one simple rule is applied it should work, i.e. if you are at or near the front, check regularly how many in your group, if less than 4 or 6, slow down.

If there is a rider who is determined to try and show how good he is by riding off the front, (we have such in the club) let him get on with it.

If individuals fall back from choice rather than necessity they will soon reform into a group riding at a mutually acceptable pace.

Club runs are getting very well attended and can be very convivial and enjoyable, so try-----
Near the front ? ---- less than 4 ?-----slow down.

Yours sincerely

Tail end Charlie

February Clubruns

7th February 09.30 start	Hare Street
14th February 09.00 start	Waresley Garden Centre
21st February 09.00 start	Esem Café Ware
28th February 09.00 start	Country Gardens Centre Melbourn via Royston Sports Centre

Bike For Sale

FORT 57cm

Time Trial/ Club Machine.

New aluminium frame, 6 speed block.

In sound useable condition.

Going Very Cheap. £40.

Contact: Clive or Frank