

Time Trials

12th April - St Austell Wheelers 10

Phil Young ventured further afield riding in the St Austell Wheelers 10 and finished 14th in a time of 23:23. His son Dan finished 29th in 24:09. BE

14th April – Club 10

Six 'Wheelers' reported to the timekeeper for the third round of the Evening 10 League.

Conditions were improved from last week, with only a slightly troublesome cross wind on the return leg from Amwell Roundabout to Harlow. People who raced last week seemed to be going about a minute quicker.

Barry Page scored his first win of the series with a fine performance of 24.54 followed by Doug Davis with 25.17. New Junior member Renato Davis, in only his second time trial, improved his personal best to 25.58 to take third place

Other times were:-

Steve Watson	26.09
Peter Walton	26.33
Graham Knight (making a rare appearance)	28.27

18th April - Southgate 10

Phil Young rode this event on the F20 10. The weather was quite cold with a stiff breeze on the way back. Hence, a time of 24.57.

The event was won by Chris Birch of East Street Cycles.com in a time of 22.00. BE

18th April – Elite CC 10

Merv Player was the only 'Wheeler' in the Elite CC 10 on the Leaden Roding to Dunmow course.

Conditions were much improved from a fortnight previously but the riders still faced a strong North East wind to the turn.

Merv could only manage 27.13 but that was only four seconds slower than his ride on the faster course near Newmarket a month before.

The winner of the event was Nick Green of Flitch Crono with a 22.25. MP

21st April – Club 10

The fourth club 10 took place on the E64 (A414). Strangely three riders went quicker than last week and two riders went slower. Phil Young was back and recorded the fastest time - but Barry Page

Top Pint (Nearly)



Peter Walton pauses on his trip up north to enjoy a pint at the Cat and Fiddle – the 2nd highest pub in England. (We must have faith that he really did ride his bike up to it!)

Wheelers Audaxes – 19th July



This year a 50km ride has been added to the 100, 150 and 200 km rides.

This will be a good introduction to audax events. Starting at 12 noon, it is timed to arrive at Anstey at around the same time as the 150 and 200 km rides. As it takes the same route back to Hertford there should be a number of riders travelling that way. Entry details at <http://www.herts-wheelers.org.uk/race/audax.htm>

Open Event Marshalling Duties

Volunteers required! We especially need help on the Club '30' to be held on F20/30 on Sunday 24th May. We shall need at least 8 marshals, a pusher off and time checker and some help with the signs. We also hope that some members will wish to ride the event. Please contact secretary@herts-wheelers.org.uk.

Time and Date	Event	No. Reqd.	Perf. by
09:00 28 th March	ECCA 10	1	Clive W
08:00 4 th May	ECCA Fest. 2up 25		Bruno C
07:00 24 th May	Club Open 30	10	TBD
14:00 6 th June	ECCA 10	1	TBD
18:00 27 th June	Club Open 10	10	John Clark
06:30 23 rd Aug	NMHCA 25	3	TBD

MTB Holiday - Croatia

Cathy is joining a week-long trip across the Istria peninsula in June. There are still places available at £635 plus flights. See <http://tinyurl.com/po5jcr> for details.

seems to be finding some form and was less than 30 seconds behind him. Full results:

Phil Young	23.52	
Barry Page	24.23	
Doug Davies	25.23	
Renato Davies	25.37	
Peter Walton	25.53	
Steve Watson	26.25	BE

25th April – Planet X “Old Skool”

Phil Young rode this 10 mile event in Tonbridge, Kent.

He rode on a steel frame bike (circa 1965), with no skinsuit, no aero helmet and no fancy wheels - hence a time of 27.03.

26th April – Norlond 10

Phil got his contemporary machine out on the next day and showed how technology has made a difference. He was the fastest of the 9 Wheelers in the Norlond 10 run splendidly by John Pearson. On a bright sunny morning on the F20 Dan Sadler won the event in a time of 20:55. Wheelers times:

Phil Young	22:45	
Barry Page	23:14	
Doug Davies	23:36	
Renato Davies	24:18	
Paul Fennel	24:34	
Merv Player	24:36	
Steve Watson	25:28	
Peter Walton	25:33	
Chris Walker	28:17	MP/BE

2nd May – Cambridge CC 10

Merv Player rode the Cambridge CC 10 on a revised course on the A428 near Cambridge.

It was a warm afternoon with a light breeze on the return leg. Merv managed to record a 24.59, the winner was National Champion Michael Hutchinson with a 19.22. MP

3rd May - Icknield RC 25

Peter Walton rode this event on the F1/25 in 1:10:01 - but the event was marred by the tragic death of one of the competitors. PW

4th May – ECCA 10

On Bank Holiday Monday, Merv Player was the only Wheeler riding in the Eastern Counties Festival Time Trials. He rode in the 10 Mile event on the slower course from Leaden Roding to Dunmow and Back.

Conditions were much cooler than had been the case on the Saturday with a cross wind and some drizzle. His time was 27.08 but this was his fastest time on this course this year. MP

5th May – Club 10

This took place on a windy evening. Showing growing form Barry Page was the fastest finisher, beating the fast Phil Young for the first time in a long time! Full results:

Barry Page	25.01	
Phil Young	25.07	
Doug Davies	26.26	
Renato Davies	26.51	
Peter Walton	27.09	BE

9th May - Bossard Wheelers 10

Merv Player rode this event which took place near Leighton Buzzard. Despite windy conditions he recorded 25.55. **With this time he managed to win the First Vet. on Standard Prize.**

Fastest time recorded was by Tony Gibb, Plowman Craven with a 20.41. MP

9th May - Shaftesbury CC 10

Steve Watson and Phil Young rode this Saturday afternoon event on the E2. On a very windy day Steve recorded 25.07 for 36th place in the slow event. Phil recorded 23.37 in the fast event which was won by Michael Hutchinson with 18.59. SW

9th May - Dukinfield CC 50

In windy and (sometimes) wet conditions Peter completed this Cheshire course (on the J4/16) in 2:24:48.

10th May - Norlond TT Combine 30

This event took place on the slower of the two F1 courses on the A1, from Tempsford to Baldock.

Despite his efforts of the previous day Merv Player recorded a 1.18.50 to gain second Vet. on Standard, 21 seconds behind Roger Queen of the Icknield RC.

Fastest time was by Barry Charlton of Lyme RC with a 1.2.24. MP

10th May – Mid Shropshire Wheelers CC 50

In good conditions Peter Walton completed this Shropshire course (on the D50/3R) in what he describes as a “poor 2:33:36”.PW

Club 10 League

The points standing in the Scratch section of the 10 Mile Evening League after three events were as follows:-

Steve Watson	21
Phil Young	20
Barry Page	19
Doug Davis	18
Renato Davis	15
Sam Wall	8
Andy Crawley	7
Peter Walton	6
Graham Knight	5

Road Racing

New member Gary Brown completed his first race in Hertfordshire Wheelers colours on Wednesday 6th May. The race was a Regional C+ circuit race run at the Lotus Cars test track just south of Norwich. This was race 1 of ten in the Lotus League. It was a scratch race with 1st down to 4th cats (Gary is a 4th cat). The race was a number of circuits around the track - roughly 25 miles in total. A group of about 6 1st cats got away from the main bunch. Gary rode well (his average speed was 25.8 mph) comfortably staying with the main bunch but got brought down in a six-bike pile up on the last lap. This resulted in

one rider suffering a broken collar bone and one a broken wrist. Gary thinks he has probably cracked a rib. His bike was not too badly damaged, although he will need some new handlebars and could be out of action for a month! GB

Club Runs

Sunday 19th April

Andy C, Bob B, Graham K, Peter W, Patrick E, Barry B, Alex P, Kathy, Jane P and Giani A.

Good weather and an excellent turnout for the run to Hitchin from Hertford. The route took in Bramfield, Woolmer Green, and Codicote to Shaw's Corner for a quick poem lesson with Patrick and a chance meeting with Paul Fennell out on a training ride. Paul did not stay too long and left as the ride headed through Gustard Wood, (where we were met by John Pearson), Peters Green, Preston and Charlton. At this point Alex departed on a mission to find a new tea venue somewhere else. The remainder proceeded to Hitchin.

The café stop the Four Leaf Clover was a new venue as Hiz Diner is now a tattoo parlour. We were looked after well and there was plenty of space inside. There were some metal hooped posts outside to lock the bikes to as well; so a very cycle friendly venue.

The return journey was via Gosmore, Preston, St. Pauls Walden, Codicote, Knebworth Tewin and back to Hertford.

About 50 miles in total for the ride.
AC

Sunday 26th April

Jane P, Cathy P, Steve B, Tim D, Angela D, Peter W, John F

Six Wheelers set off from Much Hadham through Little Hadham, Furneux Pelham, Berden, Rickling, Ugley and Henham to Parrishs Cafe, Thaxted. There they were joined a little later by Peter W who had ridden out after his time trial. The return route was via Tilty, Broxted, Molehill Green, Takeley,

Club Run Schedule						
Date	Time	Start	Destination	Dist.	Pace	Lead
May						
17th	9:30	Much H.	Wimpole Hall	60m	Med	T&AD
24th	9:30	Much H.	Blue Egg, Gt Bardfield	60m	Med	T&AD
31st	9.30	Puck.	Farrowby Farm, Hinxworth	50m	Med	JF
June						
7th	9:30	Ware.	3 - 4 hours Off Road, take own food	35m	Med	JF
	14.30	Ware	Tea Shop Ride to Westmill	25m	Easy	JP
<i>Leaders: Bruno Cartwright (BC), Andy Crawley (AC), Tim & Angela Dobson (TD, AD), John Farnham (JF), Paul Fennell (PF), Barry Page (BP), John Pearson (JP), Alex Powell (AP), Peter Walton (PW), Sarah Wren (SW).</i>						
<i>Start Locations:</i> Much Hadham: bus shelter north end of High Street Puckeridge: outside White Hart pub in High Street Ware: Broadmeads car park near level crossing Hertford: Hartham Common, recycling point Sawbridgeworth: Bell Street car park Harmer Green: Top of New Road at junction with Harmer Green Lane						

Hatfield Forest and Green Tye then back to Much Hadham.

48 miles.

JF

Sunday 10th May

Tim and Angela D, Andy C, Steve Wh, Kathy P, Bob B, Bruno C, Patrick E .

In perfect riding weather the group rode out through Fanhams, Barwick, Braughing, Stocking and Brent Pelhams then Langley to a new venue at Clavering Lakes. Although this was very busy we managed to get a table outside on the terrace in the sun. Steve Whip headed for home at Clavering and the remainder rode back through Rickling, Manuden, Hazel End, Little Hadham and Much Hadham where Bruno ploughed on and all others stopped for a beer at the Crown before the remaining four headed for Ware. A&TD

Princes Risborough Sportive

Andy C and Graham K rode this event, which is part of a series of sportive rides in the south of England. The route was 77 miles of hilly Chilterns. Fabulous scenery, (one seriously fast descent), bluebells, cowslips (probably), kites,

buzzards and bunnies on a gorgeous, sunny day. The only down-side was poor Andy who was still suffering from a cold and, at times, sounded as if he was auditioning for a death scene in a particularly lurid Victorian melodrama.

Both managed bronze awards (just). GK

Club Run Points

Points up to end April (halfway through club run points year) as follows:

Andy C	44
John F	38
Peter W	36
Bob B	31
Alex P	30
Graham K	26
Barry P	22
Cathy P	20
Jane P	16
Patrick D	14
John P	10
Angela D, Steve B	8
Tim D, Steve Wh	6
Sarah W	5
Paul F, Steve Watson	4
Bill C, Bruno C, John Clark	2
Danny Mason	1

ECCA Festival

Well, we had a go. Merv completed in the 10 mile time-trial (see above), three members completed audaxes and two teams competed in the map-reading competition. We failed to make an impact in the team competition though – maybe next year.

Map-reading Competition

The idea here is to solve clues that pin-point places on an OS map, ride to them, then bring back information to prove you have done so. Geoff Green and John Cannon demonstrated their experience and scored 21 out of 21 for the clues. Frustratingly they were beaten into fifth place as a result of a tie-breaker. Sonia and Graham Knight were some way behind (13th out of 17) but took consolation from the fact that they were novices – a consolation slightly dented by the revelation that so were the winners! However, definitely a fun event and one worth returning to.



Sonia and Graham attempt the brain-work prior to the leg-work

Audaxes

Steve Wh did the 100k audax and Peter W and Graham K did the 200k. Andy C started the 200k but was still suffering badly from the aftermath of his cold and wisely cut short his ride. The weather was rather cool with the sun rarely appearing and the occasional shower. Nice, gentle Essex countryside, however.

Leisure Wear

Don't forget that Wheelers' leisure-wear is available:



Classic polo, light royal blue £14.50
Sweatshirt, dark royal blue £18.50
Fleece jacket, royal blue £21.50

All with HW Logo in yellow. Your name, if required, in light blue £3. Contact John Cannon.

Wheelers' Website

The new format is now online – have a look at <http://www.herts-wheelers.org.uk/>

We really need a constant stream of photos for the website (and for *Mudflap*). Without them the

website will soon begin to look stale. Photos from phones are fine. Please try to record your cycling activities, club events and so on. Send to mudflap@herts-wheelers.org.uk.

Name the village

No takers for last month's PDSA plaque counselling the slackening of the bearing rein. This is in Welwyn at the bottom of the climb up towards Digswell Hill. As I am sure I don't need to tell you, a bearing rein is a piece of horse tack which is used to prevent the horse from lowering its head beyond a fixed point. Presumably this prevents the horse from staring fixedly at the ground in front when going up-hill – which is what I guess you must all do or you would have seen the sign!

This month's is a bit off the beaten track and getting there involves some steep hills.



New Members

Welcome to new members Sam Wall and Gary Brown.

Club Contacts

President: John Pearson

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Clubroom:

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