

Doug Davis



I am very sorry to have to tell you all that, on the 11th August, whilst riding in the club's 10 mile time trial, one of our senior members, Doug Davis, was in collision with a stationary heavy goods vehicle on the A414, a few yards past the half-way turn. Doug sustained very serious injuries and was quickly taken to the nearby Princess Alexandra Hospital in Harlow. Sadly, despite the medical team's best attentions, he could not be saved and he passed away in the early hours of the following morning.

In accordance with Angelo's wishes the funeral service will be held on his father's birthday, the

25th August. The service will take place at Enfield Crematorium beginning at 11:15 am. Members are most welcome to attend. The family has asked that flowers should not be sent. Donations may be made to Doug's favourite charity - the Multiple Sclerosis Society c/o Powell Funeral Service, Nelson Court, Watton Road, Ware SG12 0AA.

The club's condolences have been passed to Mrs Davis, Angelo, Renato and their sister. Our thoughts are with them at this sad time.

John Pearson, President

Wheelers Audax

Our first 50K ride attracted a very disappointing three entries and one of those wanted to ride the 100K but had used the wrong entry form! However, despite the weather, five more arrived on the day including Jane Pike and John Pearson both riding their first Audax events. The enthusiasm of the ladies from the "Forty-Plus", riding with Bill Chastell, made the event worth organising. All completed the distance with two of the ladies buying medals as extra proof.

Of the 21 entrants for the 100K, four failed to start and seven didn't finish. Steve Whipp finished for the Wheelers but the search party hasn't yet returned from looking for Patrick Deary, Andy Crawley, Bob Bick and Lawrence Upton!

The 150K was a little more popular this year with 17 on the start sheet, although two failed to arrive. Valdis Belinis, taking part in his first Audax, completed the ride as did Graham Knight and Peter Walton. Spare a thought for Brian Wilshire who travelled from Rushden, Northamptonshire and at the last moment decided to

bring a bike with mudguards. When about to start off found he was wearing shoes with the wrong cleats!



Valdis, John and Jane set off on the final leg

Definitely not the best of weather for 210K but only three failed to finish. For a number, including Philip Creel from Carolina, it was their last event before London - Edinburgh - London. 18 completed the distance.

A total of 70 entries were received equalling the 2005 best. That the event was a success was due to

Rosemary for all the cooking, to my sister Jen for selling the refreshments all day and to John Pearson, John Clark, John Hes-sion, my son Christopher, Tim Brandon, Bob Woodham and Sarah Wren for running the controls. Finally thanks to photographer Glynis who was not able to take every rider's photo because of the weather. JC

Viewing the Tour

A good crowd of pensioners and the work-shy gathered in the club house on Wed 22nd July to view ITV4's coverage - which seemed to consist of racing and adverts in about equal measure. The bar was open and all enjoyed a free buffet. The only down-side was that this stage, to Le Grand Bornand, was Bradley Wiggins one bad day in the mountains.

Six members gathered in the Saracen's Head in Ware on 25th Jul to see the Mont Ventoux stage and witness Wiggins retain his 4th position by just 3 sec. Bruno then trumped everyone by travelling to Paris in time to see Mark Cavendish take the final stage. GK

A start with the Wheelers

Memories from down under from Chris Hill

It was 1964 and I had just left school and was off to work, and the only way to get to work was walk or by bike. Bike was the better option - my cycling career had begun. Within a few weeks, I met a member of the Herts Wheelers called Don Lyness on one of my trips back from work. He asked me if I would like to meet the other club members on a club night. The club was in Stanstead Abbots and I lived in Welwyn Garden City. So I asked Don "How do we get there?" "On the bike" was his reply. "What, that far on a bike? I don't think I can ride that far." Don did not want to lose this new member, so he got his Rover 90 car out that night for my first trip to the club room which was in an old pub in Stanstead Abbots. Well I was hooked and I wanted to become a member. All the club members welcomed me into the club that night. The only problem I had was that the next week we were to cycle to the club and return back home the same way. Would I make it? Yes I did, with help from Don, pushing me up the hills.

A few months went by and I was going on the club runs and getting more fit, so I could do the longer rides. It was then I met John Pearson on my first weekend club run to Castle Hedingham Youth Hostel. In those days I did not have much money and could not afford really to go on this weekend. I did run out of money, only to be rescued by John P. Thanks John and thanks Herts Wheelers; I have never forgotten that kind deed.

Best regards from Chris in the outback of Queensland. CH

Mudguardian

There will be more thoughts from Oz in the Mudguardian at the Christmas Lunch. If YOU have any early reminiscences of rides with Chris or of your own early days

with the club please let JP, have them before December. JP

Some Links

John Clark has provided a couple of interesting links the first

(<http://www.leevalleypark.org.uk/en/content/cms/olympics/velopark/velopark.aspx>)

features the plans for the Olympic Velo Park (artist's impression below). The road circuit shown is even more impressionistic than the velodrome as it is part of the alleged legacy rather than the Olympics proper!



The second

<http://www.rideacrossbritain.com/Default.aspx>.

features an interesting ride for next year. No doubt, having brought this ride to our attention, John will feel obliged to enter!

Club Runs

Sun 12th July (AC)

Andy C, John F, Tim & Angela D, Patrick D, Jane P, Valdis B, Graham K, Bruno C, Bob B, Alex P

11 riders started out at 9.30 sharp from Ware for Andy C's "Le Tour de Club Run Starts" via Wareside, Much Hadham, Sawbridgeworth (where Bruno and Bob turned for home as they were only out for a short ride), The Matchings (where Alex turned for home), Hatfield Broad Oak and Hatfield Heath where Graham headed straight back instead of dining. Good job really as Andy stole all his dinner money.

The return journey was via Spellbrook, Much Hadham, where Tim and Angela turned for home, then

up to Standon where the remaining five decided to have an extra tea stop. The last leg took us to Puckeridge then across to Dane End and back up Whitehill and then on to Barwick Ford where Patrick decided to join the elite club of Herts Wheelers tadpoles and went for a swim, (They say all good things come in three's) then on to Wareside and Ware. (52 miles) AC

Wed 22nd Jul – Evening Ride

Five riders rode the early evening ride. Cathy's luck was consistent as she punctured again. This time the offending flint was removed from her tyre. However on the way home from the finish, Peter punctured. PW

Sunday 26th July

Tim & Angela D, Andy C, Valdis B, Cathy P, Steve Wh, Alex P, John F plus Andy's friend Lawrence from Hertford.

Out from Much Hadham through Green Tye, Spellbrook, Hatfield Forest, Great Canfield, High Roding, Onslow Green, Felsted, Bannister Green to The Booking Hall at Rayne. This is a cyclist-friendly tea room at the renovated railway station on the former Braintree to Bishops Stortford line. Return leg was via Great Saling, Stebbing, Great Dunmow, Bacon End, Great Canfield, Taverners Green, Hatfield Forest, Spellbrook and back to Much Hadham. (55 miles). JF

Sun 2nd Aug – Off road

Cathy P, Patrick D, John F.

A trio set out from Ware via Poles Lane, Thundridge, Cold Xmas ford, Barwick Ford, Latchford, Bartrams Wood where, following recent heavy rain, we encountered a half mile stretch of thick and very sticky mud. After much de-clogging and bike carrying we eventually continued on into Much Hadham, followed by Perry Green, Bucklers Hall Farm, Mathams Wood, Jobbers Wood (short stop for refreshments), Bury Green, Westland Green, Bromley, Stan-

don Lordship, Latchford, Plashes Wood, High Cross, Youngsbury, Cold Xmas and back to Ware. (29 miles). JF

Sun 2nd Aug - Invitation ride

Andy C, William C, Brian and Kyle E, John F, Alex P, Barry P, John P, Sarah W, Graham K + 5 guests

No fewer than 15 riders met at Broadmeads on a sunny afternoon. Andy had persuaded a touring pal - Gary - and two less-experienced cyclists - Ann and Jo - to join us on heavy-tyred machines. Two other young guys had also arrived making it 5 newcomers. The other 9 were all Herts Wheelers, that is if you include 4 year old Kyle pedalling away on his trailer behind dad, Brian. Given the large number of riders and disparate abilities John P took a slower group of 6 via a more direct route than originally planned and John F led the rest, including Brian and Kyle, to meet up at tea.

JP's group included the welcome return of Bill Chastell, who had found some time away from his CTC duties. They rode out through the back streets via Wulfrath Way to Wodsons and Thundridge then through High Cross and Colliers End to Dowsetts Lane for some splendid views (if you ignored the new A10 and the pop concert circus tents down in the Rib valley. At Standon village hall they met up with the others who had travelled via Much Hadham and Wellpond Green. All now read the apology notice declaring the tea venue permanently closed due to "circumstances", so it was off to Braughing tea room.

The return ride for everyone was supposed to be through Puckeridge, Barwick Ford and Wareside. However the group became fragmented in time and space so that JP returned alone after one of the largest invitation rides he had ever arranged! JP

Wed 5th Aug - Evening ride

Nine riders started but only seven lasted further than 100 yards as

Club Run Schedule						
Date	Time	Start	Destination	Dist.	Pace	Lead
August						
19 th	19:00	Ware	<i>Around the Lanes</i>	25m	Med	JF
23 rd	9:30	Much H.	<i>Yacht Club Cafe, Hanningfield</i>	60m	Med	A&TD
30 th	9.30	Much H.	<i>Garden Tea Room, Writtle</i>	50m	Med	AC
September						
6 th	9:30	Sawb.	<i>(Off-road), The Booking Hall, Rayne</i>	45m	Med	JF
	14.30	Ware	<i>Tea Shop Ride to Braughing</i>	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> <i>Much Hadham: bus shelter north end of High Street</i> <i>Ware: Broadmeads car park near level crossing</i> <i>Sawbridgeworth: Bell Street car park</i>						

the chain on Graham and Sonia's tandem could not take the strain. The remainder had an enjoyable and event-free journey around the lanes curtailed only by the early arrival of darkness. PW

Sun 9th Aug AP

Alex P, John F, Andy C, Peter W, Jane P, Cathy P, Graham K, Bruno C, Patrick D

9 riders started from Puckeridge. The 30 mile outward route took in Braughing, Stocking Pelham, Berden and Arkesden. National cycle route 11 was picked up at this point taking us to the hilly but rewarding chalkdown land that runs to the west of the M11 (John F peeled after the first climb to go off for an assignation - or at least that's what we thought he said through heavy breathing). Ickleton was the furthest point out before we headed back through Elmdon (performance enhancing substances were shared at this point), Heydon, Great Chrishall and along the Hertfordshire highlands escarpment to the Silver Ball near Reed. 1 hour of high fat feasting later we headed back through Therfield, Sandon, Buntingford, Hare Street and by Braughing to Puckeridge. (49 miles). AP

Sunday 16th August - pm ride

Valdis B, Steve B, Brian E, Graham & Sonia K, Barry P, Jane P, John P

Seven folks showed up at St Margarets, including Graham and Sonia on their handsome "twicer" and Brian sporting a rear disc wheel and an "escape visa" from his youngster's campsite for a very warm (but I hope interesting) and devious ride in to nearest Essex. The first few miles may have been off-putting, since they were through Roydon and across Harlow, but most were surprised to find that you can actually get across this often-criticised "new" town without seeing too much traffic. We used the cycle route that passes the Princess Alexandra hospital and Sainsbury's and Harlow Park to reach the Old Town. Then we dived in to the twisting lanes which avoided the strong blustery south and west breeze through Churchgate Street, Threshers Bush, Matching Tye, Collins Cross and Sheering to the village tea rooms at Hatfield Heath where Barry joined us. The return ride was more into the wind, but just as twisty, and took in Sawbridgeworth, Allens Green, Widford and Hunsdon. (30 miles) JP

Club Run Points

Points up to end July.

Andy C	68
John F	56
Peter W	48
Bob B	43
Graham K	41
Alex P	40
Cathy P	36
Barry P	34
Jane P, Patrick D	30
Angela D	20
Tim D	18
John P, Steve B	16
Bruno C	15
Steve Wh, Valdis B	14
Sarah W	7
Bill C, Paul F,	
Steve Wa, John Cl	4
Steve M	2
Danny M	1

Racing

12th July - Southend Wheelers 50

Barry Page rode this. There were three laps, each including a hard climb. He finished in 2:16:32. BE

8th July - Whitewebbs 10

Phil Young and Renato Davis rode. Phil finished in 22:20 and Renato 12 seconds off the junior 10 record in a rapid 22:14! BE

18th July - Victoria CC 2-up

Paul and Steve rode this. Barry and Brian were meant to be riding but they feared a thrashing from Paul and Steve so Brian said he had a sore throat and they did not start. On a very windy morning Paul and Steve finished 5th in 26:05. BE

19th July - Middx & Herts 100

Two club members, Barry and Merv, were on the start sheet. At 5am on the A1 it was, once again windy - not too strong to start with but freshening later. After 50 miles and recording 2:28:30 Merv decided he was not going to improve his time in the East District 100 and climbed off along

with nearly 15 other riders. 18 riders decided not to start, including Barry who must have seen the weather forecast! MP

22nd July - London & Home Counties VTTA 10

The conditions were still difficult with a strong gusty cross wind on the Leighton Buzzard course. Merv managed to take the 2nd Vet on Standard award with a 25:48, missing the 1st VOS by one second. MP

23rd July - Novice Sprint

Having learned to ride his bike without stabilisers 4 year old Kyle Evans challenged Dad, Brian, to a race. Although needing a photo finish Kyle took his first victory. Brian was not available for comment and is rumoured to be considering a complaint to the commissaries against Kyle for irregular sprinting. BE

25th July - Camb. U CC 25

The field was almost full for this event near Newmarket. In good weather with a light west wind Merv managed to record a 1:2:14 which exactly equalled his best this year recorded two months ago on the same course. MP

26th July - Verulam CC 25

Merv rode this on the A1 near Biggleswade. Conditions were cooler with a rising south wind against the riders on the return leg of the course. Merv could only manage 1:5:07 but this was enough to win the Second Vet on Standard award. MP

26th July - Southern Counties CU 100

Pete Walton rode this on the G100/59 (based around A24). His official time was 4:59:54, which included a delay at traffic lights of over 30secs. (His own-recorded time was 4:59:20. The course was twice around a northerly circuit then twice around a southerly one, separated by the A272. Pete was going great and relatively quickly

on the northern circuit; 25 miles in 1:10 and 50 in 2:21. He then turned south and found the head-wind (the main topic of conversation back at HQ) - oh dear! The winner recorded 4:06:07. PW

29th July - Hemel Hemp. 10

Merv rode this on a course near Leighton Buzzard. It was a warm afternoon with a breeze from the south west. He recorded 25:46 for 1st Vet on Standard award. MP

30th July - Hitchin Nomads Middlemarkers 25

Merv rode this on a cool morning with only a light cross wind. He could only manage a 1:4:49 despite being the fastest rider on the start sheet. However it was sufficient to gain the first Vet on Standard prize by some margin. MP

30th July - London Triathlon

Chris Walker successfully completed the London Triathlon. Swim (1.5km) 41:14, Cycle (40km) 1:11, Run (10km) 51:49, total official time 2:54 (this includes transition times). He PB'd in all section times and made a 16 minute total improvement on last year. BE

4th August - 12th Club 10

Wheelers

Barry Page	23:44
Renato Davies	23:46
Doug Davies	24:06
Steve Watson	24:19
Peter Walton	24:28
Chris Walker	27:03

Private Time Trials Solo

Luke Clark	20:08
Ross Clark	20:34
Stuart Tarry	21:03
Kevin Gill	21:31
Steve Clark	21:55
R Smith	22:03
G Lewis	23:08
Michael Hennessy	23:52
Colin Hodges	24:53
Bill Caton	26:43

Private Time Trials Tandem

Graham Painter & Chris Regan	21:40
------------------------------	-------

BE

8th August - Eastern Counties 10

Two 'Wheelers' rode on the A11 near Six Mile Bottom; Steve Watson and Merv Player. On a warm and calm afternoon, Steve produced his best ride ever, a 22:50! Merv also put in a great performance with a 23:44 his best since 2003. BE

9th August - Finsbury Park 25

Merv was again on the A1 near Sandy, riding the Finsbury Park 25. Not quite so warm but, for a change on this course, hardly any wind. Despite his efforts on Saturday, he managed to do a 1:3:38 but did not come anywhere in the VOS competition with two Trikes and Roger Queen beating him. It was still his best time out of the three ridden over the last three weeks. BE

Scratch League

Points at 24th July

Phil Young	97
Barry Page	94
Doug Davis	75
Renato Davis	74
Peter Walton	44
Steve Watson	33
Graham Knight	19
Sam Wall	8

Name the village

Last month's photo was of Standon. This was easy for Colin Skipp who not only identified the village but also the location of the photographer. He did have a slight advantage in that he was born and brought up in Standon back in the 1940s!

This month's village has a very distinctive pub sign. Compare the photo with the one on the right which was taken in the 1930s.



I think the location is different but not too far away. (I suspect the hunt participants are the same). Can anyone say where it was?



GK

Club Contacts

President: John Pearson

Treasurer: John Clark

treasurer@herts-wheelers.org.uk

General Secretary: Steve Watson

secretary@herts-wheelers.org.uk

website: www.herts-wheelers.org.uk

Racing Secretary: Pat Player

racing@herts-wheelers.org.uk

Membership Secretary:

membership@herts-wheelers.org.uk

Clubruns Organiser: John Farnham

clubruns@herts-wheelers.org.uk

Mudflap Editor: Graham Knight

mudflap@herts-wheelers.org.uk
Tel. 01992 626619

Clubroom:

Every Thursday from 8pm,
St Margaretsbury Sports & Social
Club, Stanstead Abbots, Herts.

Email: secretary@herts-wheelers.org.uk