

# The Wheeler 2005/6 Autumn/Winter No 8

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We are doing well for letters, I thought these were worth your seeing

What have The KING AND QUEEN OF AUDAX Rosemary Almond & Jim Churton been up to lately?

"We thought we would give you our latest news for the next newsletter so that readers know that we are still keeping the **Wheeler's** flag flying. On the **Audax** front Jim completed the **London - Edinburgh-London** ride, a distance of **1417km**, in **4-½ days** including **3** good nights' sleep. The event is run every 4 years - midway between **Paris-Brest-Paris** - and this year had a large contingent of **international** entries. I helped at a control in **Hovingham** and at times thought it might have been easier to ride it but it was interesting to see the other side.

We have also completed the **Fleches-de-France**. This is a series of **20** rides all based on **Paris** and going out to the extremities of France like the spokes of a wheel to **Galais, Lille, Charville-Mezier, Strasbourg, Montbeliard, Bellegarde, Briancon, Nice, Marsailles, Perpignan, Bagneres-de-Luchon, Hendaye, Bordeaux, La Rochelle, Nantes, Brest, Mont St. Michel, Cherbourg and Le Havre**. It has taken us **5** years to finish and each has been ridden at an average distance of **120+** miles a day. I believe that I am the **first Englishwoman** to complete them and Jim is the **second Englishman**. We have to go to a dinner in **Paris** to collect our trophy.

We have almost given up time trialling. Jim has not tested for two years and this year I have only ridden **4** local events - a **25m** in **1.05.27**, a **50m** in **2.25.27**, a club **10m** in **25.47** and a **VTTA 10m** in **27.34**. It keeps things ticking over.

That is all for now. Hope to see you soon.

Best wishes **ROSE AND JIM"**

## Praise from Pete and Sonia Cole

"Sonia and I have been organising **Hilly Time Trials** for many years now and we both enjoyed this seasons **club events** very much indeed and would like to express our thanks to all riders who took part in them. Even the **Thunder Storm** which blighted the last event on **28th June** could not dampen their spirits. Many recorded **better times** on that night.

One rider who deserves a mention above all others is young **John Cooper**. This praise is not intended as a slur on the other riders but it is worth noting that **John** is **only 13** and in each of the **three rides** that he did (**illness prevented a fourth ride**) he improved his time by at least **2 minutes**. Surely this is a talent that is worth nurturing and encouraging.

One final note of thanks. To **Tim Arkell** and his gang for their **enthusiasm**. With members such as this, the clubs future is in good hands. We have already indicated to Tim our willingness to **carry on** with these events next year, when hopefully we will have even more riders taking part.

Pete."

## FUTURE EVENTS

### CLUB OPEN CYCLO CROSS RACE.

**ALDERSLEY STADIUM** Sunday 11 December Organised by **Dave Cunningham** who will need all the help he can get. Both Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

### YOUTH AND ROAD RACE EVENTS.

We have had some excellent results in the **Thursday Road Race League**.

1<sup>st</sup> Lady **Angela Pike**

1<sup>st</sup> Overall **Eddie Corbett**

1<sup>st</sup> Junior **Stuart Jones**

2<sup>nd</sup> Junior **Alister Carr**

2<sup>nd</sup> Veteran **Robin Kite**

Our road race secretary **Ian Potts** is an example to us all. He has also taken on the job of youth events secretary. **Ian** is organising the

**Two Counties R.R.** on the **23<sup>rd</sup> April 2006**.

And the **Severn Vally R.R.** on **23<sup>rd</sup> July**.

### CIRCUIT RACES

Although the **West Park** is an ideal circuit, after careful consideration it has been decided that it is not really suitable for youth races, due to the public and dogs walking all over the place..

However **Ian** is in the process of arranging for a trial period a **new venue** for all class circuit races at **Shrewsbury**, where a purpose built track for road bikes has been included in their new leisure complex. Events will be on Saturdays, on **May 20<sup>th</sup>, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, June 24<sup>th</sup> and Sept 16<sup>th</sup>**.

### TIME TRIALS

**Tim Arkell** assisted by his brother **John** has done a first class job keeping the time trial programme going in conjunction with **Walsall Roads C.C.**

**44** Wheelers have ridden in at least one time trial this year. This is good, considering that the **Thursday night road race league** is on the same nights.

A **new points system** has been introduced (devised by **Malcolm Wilson**) to encourage more participation in time trials and seems to be very successful.

### COACHES

**Angela Pike, Dave Singleton** and **Andreas Greiner** are now **qualified coaches**. **Dave** will be concentrating mainly on **track and roads racing** **Angela** on introducing the younger elements to cycling.

### ANNUAL TROPHY AWARDS

Clubman of the year	<b>Robin Kyte</b>
Club Member .. ..	<b>Dave Cunningham</b>
Trier of the year	<b>John Arkell</b>
Marshall .. ..	<b>Gordon Jones</b>
Veteran .. ..	<b>Rob Burns</b>
Downhill Champion	<b>Oliver Kyte</b>

THAT'S ABOUT ALL I CAN SQUEEZE INTO THIS NEWS LETTER. SORRY IF I HAVE MISSED ANYBODY OR ANYTHING OF IMPORTANCE **RON/ED**