

# *The Forty Plus Cycling Club*

*Year 1979*

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FORTY PLUS CYCLING CLUB; HELD ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10th 1979 at THE CASTLE PUBLIC HOUSE. COWCROSS STREET. LONDON. EC3.

Mr. Trueman opened the meeting by welcoming all those members present.

Letters of appologies for non- attendance were received from Mr. Bridson, Mr. Thurston, Mr. Edgar, and Mr. & Mrs. Groom.

The Minutes of the previous AGM held 18/3/78 were read and accepted as a correct record. Prop. Mr. Pemberton and Sec: Mr. Germain. Mr. Pemberton then asked if Signpost was still being sent on to Mrs. Hankin. Mrs Gardner replied that she had written a few days previously to Mrs. Hankin who had replied that day saying how nice it was to hear from us, and that she would still like the magazine sent as she liked to keep in touch and had sent a donation of £1. towards expenses.

Matters Arising. Mr. Trueman spoke about the suggested get-together and pointed out the difficulties that we had in trying to get something at a weekend which seemed most suitable for the majority of members, also saying that even in a weekday it could not be arranged because of the difficulty in getting staff at out of hours, and that the committee had rather reluctantly referred the matter back to the AGM.

One member then suggested a central meeting place, could this be arranged for regular meetings, Mr. Drewett suggested the Castle as a venue for Beer and sandwiches, Mr. Emburey pointed out the impracticability of this because all members lived at such different and far flung places. Another member suggested weekday evenings but this did not draw any support.

Mr. Trueman suggested the Horse-shoe in Tottenham Court Road for a dinner but at the same time said that it would be rather expensive for many of the members and that he thought that costs there, (in a central place) would be the same as for a meet and dinner in any places on the outskirts of London. After this discussion the matter was left for members to think about and to come up as Any Other Business, later on at the meeting.

THE SECRETARY'S AND TREASURERS REPORT was next read and accepted, Prop. Mr. Wooder and sec: Mr. Harper. The Final Accounts were discussed and there were no queries, and these were accepted, the prop: being Mr. Germain and Sec: Mr. Wooder.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1979

For President Mr. Rolfe Prop; Mr. Wooder and Mr. Bill Turner seconded this. There were no other nominations so Mr. Wooder was declared President for the ensuing year. Mr. Wooder then thanked the meeting for their support for him.

OTHER OFFICERS WERE ELECTED AS FOLLOWS :-

CHAIRMAN. Mr. Trueman. Prop; Mr. Wooder. Sec. Mr. Good.

SECRETARY &

TREASURER. Mrs. Gardner. Prop. Mr. Pemberton. Sec: Mr. Jefford

Leaders. Northern. Mr. Wooder <sup>offerred</sup> his services and was accepted.

Southern. Mrs. Gardner. Prop. Mr. Pemberton.  
Sec: Mr. Finnemore.

Eastern. Mr. Good said he would be willing to carry on and his offer was therefore accepted.

Tuesday. Mr. Moore. Prop. Mr. Emburey. Sec. Mr. Durrant.

Wednesday. Mrs. Gardenr. Prop. Mr. Pemberton.  
Sec. Mr. Finnemore.

Thursday St. Albans. No leader was thought necessary as all runs were impromptu.

*Election continued over -*

was arranged that Whitefield should preach in the courtyard of Blendon Hall. Three hundred people came. It was not the only occasion when there was a crowd at Blendon Hall; some Londoners came one evening to hear Whitefield preach. It was late when the hymn singing stopped. Sixty people stayed the night in the Delamottes' barn before setting out on the return walk. Fortunately all the members of the Delamotte family were at that time in sympathy with the Methodists and welcomed anyone who came to hear their visitors preach. But for all the preaching he did there, Whitefield thought of Blendon Hall as a retreat! He was particularly happy during the spring and summer of 1739. Elizabeth, the Delamotte's eldest daughter attracted him and he was considering the advantages of marrying her. Elizabeth certainly liked Whitefield and was flattered that so successful a preacher enjoyed her company. It would probably have been a good match. But Whitefield hesitated. He had undertaken a mission to Georgia and decided it would be wiser to get established there before proposing. So his proposal arrived at Blendon Hall nearly a year later. The letter contained the formal offer of a job as superintendent of an orphanage, before the proposal of marriage! It is not surprising that he was not accepted.

Meanwhile, John and Charles Wesley continued, for a time, to visit the Delamottes. Some of Charles' famous hymns were perhaps first sung in the drawing room or courtyard of the Blendon Hall of the mid-eighteenth century.

In 1763 an owner-occupier came to Blendon Hall. Lady Mary Scott, a widowed grand-daughter of the Earl of Northampton. She spent the remaining nineteen years of her life getting Blendon Hall rebuilt and the grounds improved. Hasted described the new building as "a neat mansion". Fortunately the British Museum has a picture of this "neat mansion" and a copy of it is among Bexley Archives Collection.

This house was added to and partly rebuilt by a later owner-occupier, John Smith, who employed an architect John Shaw and the landscape gardener Humphrey Repton. Some of the trees planted about the time of the Battle of Waterloo are still growing and now have a Tree Preservation Order on them.

Oswald Smith, John's nephew and eventual successor at Blendon Hall, had a daughter, Frances Dora. In 1853 Frances Dora married Lt. Claude Bowes-Lyon in St. Mary's Church, Bexley. It is not difficult to imagine the kind of reception which was held afterwards in the bride's home. The eldest son of this marriage was the father of the present Queen Mother.

In the second half of the nineteenth century the family of William Cunliffe Pickersgill owned and occupied Blendon Hall. They were regular attenders at St Mary's Church. Mr W.C. Pickersgill Senior, who died in 1868, is commemorated in the north east window of the North Aisle. His widow left the family firm to one son, John, and Blendon Hall to the other son, William Cunliffe Pickersgill Junior.

Every year, since the time of the Peasants' Revolt, the owner of the Blendon Estate had paid quit rent to whoever was Lord of the Manor of Bexley - the archbishop, the King, William Camden or Oxford University. It excused the landholder from all those services the medieval tenant had to perform for the Lord of the Manor. The quit rent due annually from Mr Pickersgill was £2.17.11d. In 1880 he paid Oxford University twenty five times that amount in a lump sum, and thereby relieved himself and all future owners of the Blendon Estate from having to pay quit rent.

Leaders. Thursday Southend. Mr. Stewart said that Mr. Challenger would take care of this group, he had been doing so since the passing of Mr. Peck last summer.

Thursday Eastern. Mr. Stewart offered to carry on as before and Mr. Wooder said that he would continue to lead the slow section.

Sussex. Mr. Bob Edgar. Prop. Mr. James of Burgess Hill  
Sec. Mr. W. Jennings.

Northern Ireland. Mrs. Gardner said that she had not at the time heard from Cyril Henry, he usually collected all the subs: and sent them with a letter confirming his willingness to carry on as the leader and she hoped that she would hear soon.

EDITOR. Mr. Russell said that he would not now be willing to do this job. No proposal was forthcoming, then Mr. Pemberton said that he understood that Mrs. Wilcox really did all the editing as he and all of us always sent our copy direct to her and he felt that she was well able to do the job as well as all the typing of stencils. Mrs. Wilcox said that she felt unable to write an editorial each month but was quite willing to carry out the duties of Sub Editor as before, it was then agreed to have Mrs. Wilcox as Editor and no Sub-Editor was really necessary.

AUDITOR. Mr. FINNEMORE Prop; Mrs. Gardenr. Sec. Mr. Wooder

4 MEMBERS - Proposals were for Mr. Germain. Mr. Emburey. Mr. Jennings. Mr. Rolfe. and Mr. Finnemore.

Mr. Finnemore said that he would rather be on the Committee than auditor but pointed out that he knew of no lawful impediment as to a committee member being also the Auditor, as there were no other proposals for Auditor, Mr. Durrant then suggested that the four proposals be accepted and that Mr. Finnemore (as Auditor) be co-opted to the committee and all present agreed to this.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Mr. W. Allison mentioned that there was an Estate agent in his locality who was willing to give a discount to any one whose house he sold and who was a member of the Cancer Research Association. This was referred to be printed in Signpost. Mr. Allison agreeing to contact Mrs. Wilcox in the usual way.

Mr. Jefford then queried the list of deletions of members who had not paid and the subsequent re-instatement of some of these. A General discussion then took place regarding the collecting of subs: Mr. Wooder spoke quite forcefully on this saying that according to the rules those members who had not paid by 31st March were struck off, if they paid later on, they were of course reinstated. He said that the ~~SECRETARY~~ ~~XXXXX~~ Treasurer could not be expected to keep writing to unpaid members, if they wanted to be members and were keen enough then they would or should pay up themselves., we must be consistent and stick to the rules. Mrs. Gardenr. Mr. Trueman and Mr. Rolfe also supported Mr. Wooder in his remarks Mrs. Gardner saying that she had had printed in the last issue of ~~XXXXXX~~ Signpost for each year a reminder that Subs: were due on 1st January, giving the rates and mentioning the Rule, and that some people only woke up when they realised that the magazine and runs list was not being delivered and did Mr. Jefford in fact read that reminder.

SUGGESTED SECTION IN YORKSHIRE. Mrs. Gardner said that she had contacted Mr. Slack our member in Keighley and he had sent to her the address of the local newspaper so that an advert could be placed in the hope that we could get some support, Mr. Slack was willing to help get a group going. Mr. Claxton then said that it was usual for newspaper editors to give a paragraph to clubs if they placed a paid advert and that he thought it would be worth while for us to do this.

all the owners lived there. Ferbie of Paul's Cray Hill probably only wanted the land. Rawlins lived at Blendon and so did his son but there is no evidence that the next owner, Nathaniel May, ever occupied Blendon Hall. By 1609 it was owned by Thomas Wroth Esq, and occupied by his widowed sister-in-law Anne Sherley. Thomas' son, Peter, lived there nearly all his life. Peter married in 1624 and in the following years ten children were baptised in St Mary's Church. Three of them died in infancy. The youngest, Anne, born in July 1644, was posthumous, Sir Peter having died the previous May 1644. It was the year of Cromwell's success at the Battle of Marston Moor. The Wroths, though not uncritical of the King, were nearly all Royalist. Sir Peter's eldest son, barely nineteen years old, was already fighting on what proved to be the losing side, when his mother was left with a young fatherless family to bring up on inadequate financial resources. Her neighbours at Lamorbey - the Goldwells - were staunch Parliamentarians and could afford to give £70 to their party funds. Fortunately there were no battles near Blendon though for a short time there was a Parliamentarian army encamped on the heath of Bexley. But normal life went on. Jeane Wroth, the second daughter was married at St. Mary's Church on January 31st. 1649 - the day after King Charles was beheaded at Whitehall.

During the Civil War the young John Wroth had demonstrated his royalist sympathies. After eleven years of the Commonwealth he had some reward. When the monarchy was restored in 1660, Charles II made him a baronet. There are no descriptions or pictorial records of the Blendon Hall of that time - but the Hearth Tax of 1662 states that Sir John Wroth had 13 hearths. ( There were 29 in Hall Place and 10 at Lamorbey )

Sir John Wroth died in 1671 and was succeeded by his eighteen year old son. The second Sir John Wroth died six years later leaving an infant son; yet another John, to inherit the title but not the house. This had been sold to Sir Edward Brett, a royalist who had fought in the Civil War with the first Sir John Wroth. Charles I had knighted Sir Edward Brett immediately after a Royalist victory in Cornwall. Sir Edward Brett settled at Blendon Hall in 1673. From his home he could ride to London to meet his friends- including Samuel Pepys - and to fulfil his duties as Sergeant Porter of His Majesty's Palaces. He died in 1683 and left Blendon to his sister's grandson, John Fisher, who then assumed the name of Brett. But John Fisher Brett did not immediately occupy Blendon Hall. It was let to the nineteen-year old Lady Mary Cosein Gerrard or Lady Mary Berkeley as she preferred to be called after her divorce. She was the only child of the Earl of Falmouth who was killed in action the year she was born.

In 1708 John Fisher Brett came to live in his own property and for over twenty years the estate benefited by being cared for by an owner-occupier of competent means. He left it to Jacob Sawbridge already established in a home elsewhere so again Blendon Hall was let; this time to a family- the Delamottes- a very active and hospitable family. Thomas Delamotte J.P. was a sugar importer of London. His son Charles Delamotte, was at Oxford when John and Charles Wesley were there. Both were frequently invited to stay at Blendon Hall. So, too, was their friend George Whitefield. At Blendon Hall they all met the Vicar of Bexley, Rev. Henry Piers, who welcomed them to the old rectory of Bexley. Whitefield preached several times in St. Mary's Church and conducted baptisms - but in 1739 Rev Piers was instructed not to invite him again to preach in the pulpit. The congregation was disappointed so it

ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Mr. Durrant spoke about the shortage of small cafe's and wondered if it was worth contacting the CTC with a view to their support for recommending local people to open up their homes to provide tea and snacks for cyclists, like they did many years ago. Several members spoke about the difficulty of doing this under the new rules issued by the Town and Country Planning of catering facilities. Mr. Pemberton spoke of an establishment that the Southern go to where the lady was quite willing to provide tea, and always did when we went, but that under existing laws she was not allowed to even put up a small notice saying that Teas were available. Mrs. Gardner then said that the new rules were also demanding that Toilet and washing facilities had to be provided and that there was now a limit of time in which these were to be ready, after that, (a matter a two or three years now) establishments that did not comply would not be able to provide teas, this would then even chase off the roadsides the mobile cafe's that we ~~XXXX~~ sometimes saw parked on waste spots and lay-by's. The proposal suggested by Mr. Durrant was not adopted.

The Social Get-together then came up again and it was mentioned that Mr. Wooller had a proposal from Mr. & Mrs. French, members at Halesworth in Suffolk that we had a week-end at Blaxhall Youth Hostel, but that this was not quite what was wanted. Mr. Pemberton said that at Xmas some of the sections did hold their own functions and these were well supported, and also mentioned earlier functions that were ~~supported~~ ~~MX~~ mostly supported by members friends. After some discussion Mr. Trueman Proposed and Mr. Finnemore Seconded a proposal that we leave this idea on the table for sections to arrange their own functions as at present.

Mr. W. Allison then suggested that it might be possible for us to organise a sponsored ride in 1979. This did not seem to get much support, Mr. Embury was against the idea as he said that there were now so many sponsored rides and walks that he thought they were a bit overdone. Mr. Rolfe suggested that perhaps it could be done by riding in groups. It was eventually left for Mr. Allison to have the idea mentioned in Signpost.

The meeting closed at 1.40pm with a vote of thanks to the committee by Mr. Bill Turner.

*Read to Committee  
Initialed as correct record  
Prop. W. Trueman  
Sec. L. Embury  
7/2/79  
Correct Record  
Nil against  
Frank Trueman  
9/2/80*

## BLENDON

Blendon was first settled in Saxon times. The earliest forms of the name - Bladinton, Bladynton, Bladigdon all derive from the old English language brought to our country by Saxon invaders after the Romans had left. Bladinton means "the farm of the people near the dark water".

In a survey of the manor made just before King John signed the Magna Carta two men of Blendon are named - Henry and Eadwin. They were among eighteen leading tenants in the Archbishop of Canterbury's manor of Bexley. A court roll of 1241 proves that Robert of Blendon was called to serve on the jury at the Canterbury Assizes. This suggests that Robert was rich enough to own a horse and that he had at least one serf who could take care of his cattle while he was away from home. In 1283 another survey of the manor states that John of Blendon was Reeve of Bexley. He was therefore responsible for organising the work of the tenants on the 250 acres of demesne land. At the appropriate season he had to see that the ploughing, sowing, hoeing, reaping and threshing were done. He had to allot the work of keeping the mills in working order, re-thatching the barns and repairing fences. He had to make sure each group of tenants carted 8 cartloads of hay and 8 cartloads of fuel to the barns of the Manor House behind St. Mary's Church. The reeveship was no sinecure but John of Blendon had his compensations for his work as reeve. He held more land than anyone else in the manor. He received a stipend of five shillings a year and had an allowance of wheat. Beside these material rewards, he was the recognised leader of the tenants and he would meet, if not the archbishop himself, at least his representative when the accounts were presented. A tax return of 1301 shows that Agnes of Blendon - probably John's widow - paid more tax than anyone else in the manor of Bexley - though not as much as Roger of Ruxley in his manor of Foots Cray.

Another John of Blendon, who died in 1325, was a lawyer - judging by the costume shown on his brass memorial. This memorial includes his wife, Maud, and is now in the new St. Michael's Church at East Wickham. It is the earliest surviving brass commemorating a civilian. John and Maud must have been wealthy and of some importance not only in Bexley but in the legal world of London. In 1377 Jordan of Blendon, possibly their grandson, sold his inheritance to a member of the Walshingham family.

At the end of the fourteenth century Blendon was occupied by Henry of Castelayn. He was a politician who held his land on cornage, or horn, tenure. According to a pay roll of the time he was Keeper of the Archbishop's Forests and earned £10 a year, free fuel and one suit with the Archbishop's badge on it. Apparently Henry of Castelayn held this position from 1381 - the year of the Peasants' Revolt - until his death in 1407. His will, still in Lambeth Palace Library, expresses his wish to be buried in St. Mary's Church, Bexley. His memorial, the horn brass, is on the north wall there. He left £2 to have a window made in the west wall of the church (the stonework of the present west window is in the decorated style of his time). Henry of Castelayn also left money for the repair of two roads, one leading from Blendon to Blackfen and the other from Blendon to Welling. He had probably suffered from the ruts and mire on his way to the royal palaces of Eltham and Greenwich.

There were frequent changes in the ownership of Blendon during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries - and not

Since my report at the AGM in March 1978 the club has continued to make steady progress and is now in a healthy position financially, it will be remembered that the Subs: were raised a while ago to help pay the increasing costs of the paper, Ink and other items that we use, and added to this is the support that many members have given personally, like sending donations when renewing their annual Subs: sending stamped and addressed envelopes, small items, but added up they all help, I learned a short while ago that Bill Moore the Tuesday Leader kindly presented Mrs. Wilcox with about 200 Stencils, enough for more than 2 years magazines, and one day a Taxi drew up at Bill Jennings house, out jumps Jack Ivory with 5 tubes of printing ink which he then exchanged for a mug of tea, we also, through the good offices of another member managed to get quite a large supply of duplicating paper at a very reasonable price, it is actions like this that make me feel that the job I do as Secretary & Treasurer is all so very well worth while.

On the membership side I find that on 31st December 1978 we had 276 fully paid up members, a small drop on the result at the same time in 1977, 28 members did not renew for 1978 but 7 of these were because of the passing of some members, they are, as far as I have been able to ascertain, Mr. Jim Ford of Brentwood, Mr. L. Couzins of Potters Bar, Mr. F. Hawes of Berkhamstead, Mr. S. Jenkinson of N.16., Mr. F. Hollis of Buckhurst Hill, Mr. A. Pfeifer of Stanmore and Mr. H. Peck from South Benfleet, <sup>& now Mr. Edwards of Langham Rd. Bagenham.</sup> but we have made 38 entirely new members during the year, as well as two married couples who had dropped out and re-joined, it would perhaps be interesting to find out the riding strength of each section, maybe I can get something on this during 1979. I understand that the Tuesday group get up to 39 out if the saddles are counted at lunch time and Bill Moore the Leader is looking forward to reaching the forty mark pretty soon. The Thursday Section is still keeping up its numbers and its interest in the many places that Victor Stewart has on his lists. The Wednesday riders are still very much in the minority, but the Southern Sunday Section is maintaining its dozen or so each ride. The Northern & Eastern Sunday sections are keeping going even if their numbers are

one of our longest standing members who joined in May 1957



a little smaller than the others. The West Sussex Section, as you will know have rides on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays and seem to be keeping up their strength, we had fears for Bob Edgar at this time last year as he was not at all well, a deputy leader was found in Vince Lowman, but Bob recovered and Vince did not have to step into the breach after all, and this section has had some new members during the year. Tom Wooder started a Slow Thursday Section and I understand that this is being supported.

Bank Holiday Tours were held at Easter, at Slimbridge Youth Hostel, this being very well attended in a record attendance of 23, the most for some time, May Day was in Kent & Surrey, Spring Bank Holiday at ~~MALDON~~ ~~SHERRINGHAM~~ Youth Hostel and August at Sherringham Hostel, all being quite successful tours.

Signpost has appeared regularly each quarter and copy is received by Mrs. Wilcox in regular doses. <sup>But we can always do with more.</sup> Mr. Jennings announced last September that he would be giving up the printing job at the end of the year and we then had to find another member to take the job on, we can I think congratulate ourselves on being able to persuade Mr. Bill Newman to take on this task and he has already had a go at the machine and produced the AGM Agenda's so it looks as if we shall be receiving our "Signpost's" for a while yet. We have a good personal delivery service going with about daily 120 - 130 being sent through the post, another saving of club funds.

You will see from the <sup>final</sup> accounts submitted with your copy of Signpost for December that The elected Auditor did not in fact carry out the duties, this was because he had been quite ill for some time and as a matter of fact is not well yet. At the approval of the Committee Mr. <sup>Finemore has since died,</sup> Finemore, the previous Auditor, took over the job. The accounts cannot be readily compared with the previous year's because it was agreed that they should be for nine months only to make the financial year end at 30th September each year. (This at the AGM 18th March 1978) but it will be seen that we are, as previously mentioned in a sound position, again the only Liabilities are the £148.25 subscriptions paid in advance. We did purchase a good stock of Metal Pig Type Badges during the year and these can be obtained from the various runs leaders and from the Treasurer. After the existing stocks of Metal Stud, Cloth Transfers are sold shall not be purchasing

BEXLEY ANTIQUARIAN  
SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER 1977

2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION N<sup>O</sup>. 4.

Further supplies, the reason being that they are very slow to sell, the last batches having taken about 15 years to go, and the new prices did not make it worth while, coupled with the fact that the suppliers of Transfers would only take orders for 1000 or more. May I take this opportunity to thank the committee for their continued support during the year and also say that I will be quite willing to carry on the Job as Secretary and Treasurer if nominated and elected.

2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION N° 3

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT CASTLE PUB. ON  
SATURDAY 27th JANUARY 1979.

13 Members were present, including the new Printer Mr. Newman. and apologies were received from Mrs. Wilcox who was unable to attend.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 1978 were read and accepted. Prop: by Mr. Germain and sec: by Mr. Pemberton.

Matters arising. Mr. Wooder said that he had received only one reply for a suggested get-to-gether and this was from our members Mr. & Mrs. French at Halesworth, who suggested a meeting of members at Blaxhall Youth Hostel, so Mr. Trueman suggested that the matter be referred to the AGM to see what other requests were forthcoming..

Mr. Trueman said that he had not received any other replies to the suggested club tour for 1979 and it was agreed to drop the idea as we did not have sufficient support.

The question of the return of the Badge Dye from Mr. Brunwin next came up. Mr. Stewart said that he had seen Mr. Brunwin who said that the Dye was in his Sub; Contractors works at Birmingham, but that he would be collecting this when he next visited them. Mrs. Gardner said that she had also had a word with Mr. Brunwin about this at a club run when he was there, he had told her that he would be getting it from his sub:contractor, it was left that Mr. Stewart would collect when it was available.

Mrs. Gardner said that she had received a quotation regarding the supply of cloth badges from Mr. Brunwin, but after some discussion on the amount sold in previous years it was agreed to discontinue the use of this type of badge. Mrs. Gardner also had a quotation for the supply of Transfers, but that the suppliers would only take on orders for 1000, and again it was thought that this would not be useful as the sale of the previous batch of 250 had taken 15 years to sell, so it was agreed also to discontinue the use of these. The suggestion that we do not purchase Cloth Badges was Prop: by Mr. Wooder and seconded by Mr. Russell. and the discontinuance of the Transfers was prop: by Mr. Moore and Sec: by Mr. Wooder.

The question of Leaders for the next three week-end tours next came up for discussion and Mr. Germain said that he would be willing to book at the hostels for May Day at Streatley, and Spring at Salisbury, but he thought that he was not a good leader, and it was decided that actually leaders were not altogether necessary, as members could always go in small groups and then meet each evening at the Hostel, all that was really necessary was for someone to be responsible for the bookings. Mrs. Gardner said that she would be responsible for the August Bank Holiday at Truleigh Hill. This information was to be included in the next runs lists together with the costs, and latest dates for booking.

The General Secretary's Report was then read by Mrs. Gardner, who said that Subs: were coming in well, and that she had some nice letters from members who sent in donations with their subs: Enquiries were still being received responding to the advert in Cycle Touring, the advert for this would be renewed again. 16 New members had joined since the last meeting, she had not yet heard from the Northern Ireland Leader Mr. Cyril Henry, but as he usually sent in all the subs: for the folk over there she expected to hear soon. A small discussion was had by Mr. Trueman and Mr. Wooder about members who do not, for some reason or other, renew. Our late President Mrs. Lang used to chase members for subs: and some used come as late as December for that year, but this was not now done so members had to remember for themselves.

Mrs. Gardner mentioned the new members Mr. P. Slack in Keighley who seemed anxious to get a section going up there and Mr. Germain suggested that we contact him to find out if there was a local newspaper wherein we could advertise. Mrs. Gardner said she would do that.

In one of the letters received by the Secretary it was mentioned that he hoped some would be willing to make out the runs list

Accepted Prop. Mr. Wooder Sec: Mr. Germain

BEXLEY ANTIQUARIAN  
SOCIETY.

NEWSLETTER.

2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION NO. 1.

for the Southend Section, it was learned that Mr. Roy Challenger was already doing this, *the previous leader Mr. Peck having died during the year.*

Any other business. Mr. Russell, Editor, then produced a letter that he had received from Mr. C. Merrett in which he mentioned some aspect of the Accounts of the Club that he thought were bad, and after some discussion Mr. Russell was instructed to answer the letter on behalf of the committee, after reference to the financial report which had evidently been challenged by Mr. Merrett. The raising of the Subs: from 50p to £1. had been made to cover the increase in prices of supplies, we also had at the time to buy a new typewriter for use by Mrs. Wilcox, and a new duplicator, the cost of this was very reasonable as it turned out. Then it was learned from Mr. Jennings that he had not had to buy much Ink as Mr. Ivory had presented the club last February with 5 tubes, and Mrs. Gardner also said that Mr. Moore had presented Mrs. Wilcox with 200 Stencils, more than two years supply, it was things like this that helped the club along so well. It looked at first hand as if we did have a good balance in the Building Society, but this ~~was~~ would soon be rather less as supplies of paper were now needed and once again the prices had gone up, we will also soon need more Stencils and some Ink, and then magazine covers would also need to be printed. Mr. Russell agreed to point all this out to Mr. Merrett.

The Financial report was accepted. Prop: Mr. Germain and Sec. by Mr. Pemberton.

Mr. Finnemore asked that extra copies of runs lists be available for some members who sometimes found themselves in conversation with other cyclists who could possibly be persuaded to join and this was agreed. He also suggested that we try to get some of the local Cycle Shops to have a small note regarding the club displayed for us. Mrs. Gardner agreed to see Bird's at Green St., Green. Excell at Woolwich, Holdsworth at Welling and the Shop at Longfield. Another Member agreed to see O'Brien's shop

It was learned from Mr. Moore that Mr. George Hewett had ~~been~~ *an* ~~knocked off his cycle~~ and was then in Hospital at Slough, but would fortunately be returning home. Mrs. Gardner said she would write on behalf of the committee. We also learned that Mr. Ivory now had the plaster off his broken leg, and that Mrs. Engel had also had a broken arm through slipping on the ice, but that she was now on the way to recovery.

The committee was pleased to see the new Printer Mr. Newman with them, also Mr. Jennings (retiring printer) It was learned that collection of the copies of Signpost had been arranged from Mr. Newmans when they were ready, a vote of thanks to Mr. Newman for stepping into the breach was prop: Mr. Stewart and Sec: by Mr. Pemberton.

Mr. Russell then said that he would not be willing to stand as a nominee for the Editor's job at the AGM on 10th February next, this was learned with regret.

The date of the next meeting was arranged for 7th April 1979.

and the meeting closed at 2pm.

*agreed correct record  
nil against  
Frank Newman  
7/4/79*

General Secretary's report for committee meeting on 27th January 1979.

I have to report that all seems well, Subs: are coming in regularly, and we are in a very healthy position fanancially as you will see from the report circulated among you.

I have had some nice letter from members, who send in their subs: many also send donations, stamps or addressed envelopes, this is very good of them, enquiries are still mentioning Cycle Touring so as agreed at the last meeting I will be renewing the Advert in that magazine when the time comes along, we still have one issue to go.

I am still trying to get the Badge Dye from Doug. Brunwin, it appears that he has not got it in his workshop as it goes out to a sub-contractor, shall I write to him again or ask Victor to make an extra effort to get it back. If I knew where it was I would willingly go over with permission from Brunwin and collect it myself.

So far <sup>16</sup>~~10~~ New Members have been joined since the last meeting, but two of these, Mr. & Mrs. Crocker are old members who have re-joined.

I have not yet heard from our Northern Ireland Group, Cyril Henry usually send in their Subs: all together, but one new chap from over there has joined



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7th APRIL 1979.

11 Members were present. During the meeting Mr. Newman telephoned to say that he had been on his way and had suffered some trouble with his cycle and was unable to come any further. Mr. Jennings was not present but it was assumed that owing to the postal difficulties he had not received the notice and agenda.

~~The~~ Minutes of the previous meeting held on 27th January were read, it being agreed to amend the item regarding the accident suffered by Mr. G. Hewitt from "Knocked off his cycle" to "Had an accident while cycling" and after this it was proposed by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Germain that they be accepted as a true record, all agreed.

Matters arising. The question of the Badge Die came up and Mr. Stewart said that he had now received this from Mr. Brunwin, he agreed to contact Mr. Pemberton with a view to having the Die collected and transferred to the keeping of the Secretary, at 16 Red House Lane, Bexleyheath. All agreed that this should be done.

Mrs. Gardner said that she had inserted a note in the covers of the next magazine for all those people who had not then renewed their subscriptions, there being 59, 26 had paid since the notes were inserted.

Mr. Wooder then answered the telephone call from Mr. Newman, and told us that He, (Mr. Newman) after some trouble with the wrong paper being delivered and returned, was in the process of printing the magazine and runs lists and these would be ready just after the ~~weekend~~ weekend.

Mrs. Gardner said that she had been in touch with the member Mr. Slack in Keighley and had started to insert an advert in his local Newspaper, the Telegraph and Argus, with a view to trying to get a section going up there, so far 4 adverts had appeared and two had yet to be printed, she was awaiting results, but mentioned that there were several strong CTC sections in the area and she wondered now what response we would get.

The Letter received from Mr. Merrett was then asked about, Mr. Russell who had attended the meeting to pass on club items to Mrs. Wilcox said that he had replied some time ago and received another letter which he had passed on to the secretary. Mrs. Gardner said that Mr. Pemberton was in the process of working out some details as to "Where the money goes" and he would be including this in his quarterly efforts to the magazine. Everyone agreed that this would be a good idea, Mr. Trueman suggested that if Mr. Merrett was not anxious to attend the AGM and have his feelings mentioned then we had perhaps better leave the matter there after the item was put in the next magazine.

Mrs. Gardner mentioned that she had so far managed to get some club adverts put in cycle shops, Excell at Woolwich, Holdsworth at Welling. Ken Birds at Green St. Green. Bob Finnemore had got a runs lists in the Cycle shop at Longfiend and Mrs. Gardner said that she would follow this one up when the last dates came along. Mr. Stewart said that he had 1 in Rory O'Briens Shop, and one in another shop (I could not remember the name) and Mr. Moore took away two notices in the hope that he could get them up somewhere.

Of the injured members it was learned that Mr. Ivory was now well and cycling again. Mrs. Engel was not too good, Mr. Engel wrote to say that it would be 3 to 6 months before the use was completely restored to Mrs. Engel's arm. Mr. Moore reported that Mr. Hewitt was cycling now but that he thought it was a bit too soon.

letter is on a separate brick approximately one foot square. This sign, which was formerly on one of the factory walls has only required a general scrub and brush up to make it ready for display.

The other sign is from "Selfes' Jewellers Watchmakers Optical Instruments & Silversmiths" made about 1901 and which was acquired when the double fronted shop was demolished a few years ago to make way for the new Erith Shopping Centre. The sign was made by etching and decoratively cutting into the glass the letters and fancy scrollwork, laying in gold leaf, applying a thick coat of dark green paint as background and whilst still wet applying a felt backing. In course of time the glass became broken in a few places and the back became subject to the ravages of the weather. On removal of the sign by the Borough it was seen that this had caused the paint and gold leaf to become fragmentary so that now there was still some on the glass and a lot of paint and some gold leaf attached to the backing felt. Restoration has been going on by first consolidating the loose gold leaf, then removing any paint that is on the felt backing and repainting the glass where necessary, finally rejoining the two with glue. Restoration time has been lengthy due to trying to avoid painting the glass where there will be gold leaf which is on the backing felt, and due to the felt stretching in some places and constricting in others. One ten foot length has been completed and now awaits mounting onto a wooden frame and support which will then be affixed across the top of some of the display cases in Erith Museum.

#### OTHER ITEMS

Hot air engine ( finished ), two ton Gas Engine used for street lighting at Lewisham ( nearly finished ), toy car operated by a steam engine ( finished ), Victorian knitting machine ( how did they invent these things ? ) An Edwardian dress - on display at Erith ( but we are having " slipped bustle " trouble at the moment ). A Merritt typewriter - it probably failed because you couldn't see what you had typed until you had finished the line and wound the paper up. Bellows operated vacuum cleaner-cumcarpet sweeper. An Octant, circa 1800, which is a navigational instrument probably used on one of our ships exploring and trading the oceans of our far-flung empire. An iron and brass pair of butcher's scales three feet high surmounted by a large figure of a bull. Cart horse harness and trappings.

J.E.PACKER.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### SOME NOTES ON ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, NORTH CRAY

The present church is a mid-19th C. replacement of an older church; the nave being rebuilt between 1850 and 1852, the tower and spire in 1856 and the chancel extended 1871-72. The building suffered some damage in World War II and was of course repaired, the stained glass in the east window being finally renewed in 1952.

Never considered by antiquaries to be of much interest (late 18th.C. writers describe it as being 'small' 'mean' or 'dilapidated' ) it is now nevertheless, a neat little church set in delightful surroundings. A short architectural description is published in John Newman's West Kent and the Weald and there is an official guidebook to the

The Financial Report from the Treasurer was next read and accepted, proposed by Mr. Germain and seconded by Mr. Good.

Mrs. Gardner said that the cost of the CTC Advert had gone up, about 25%, but as time was getting short she had paid for this to appear again for another year, beginning with the June issue of Cycle-Touring. The Committee accepted her action, it being again mentioned that most of her enquiries for information about the club referred to Cycle-Touring.

Correspondence to the Secretary was read, and 12 new members were elected. Proposed by Mr. Wooder and ~~xxxxxx~~ seconded by Mr. Germain.

It was learned with regret that our member Mr. A. Layzell had died while on a trip to Yorkshire to attend a Tricycle Association Meet. Not a lot was known about his passing but when more information was forthcoming either from Mrs. James or Mrs. Tuffnell a short item would be inserted in our magazine "Signpost". Mrs. Gardner agreed to get in touch with these two people.

It was a small matter of concern to hear that there were still 33 members who had not renewed their membership for 1979, but as notes had been inserted into their magazines it was agreed to leave this and see what response was forthcoming. Mrs. Gardner mentioned that the Brutons at Hertford were two of those at fault and this was going to make it difficult to arrange the re-union this year as it was usually at their home. Mr. Wooder said that he would contact Mr. & Mrs. Bruton by telephone to see if they were renewing and get some date fixed up for the re-union, he would then telephone Mrs. Wilcox so that it could be announced in the June issue of Signpost. Another suggestion for a re-union was put forward by Mr. Moore that The Wendy House in Hertford would probably do this for us if given the proper request and time and that if Mr. Wooder was unsuccessful he would see what could be done.

The Minutes of the AGM held on 10th February 1979 were then read and accepted, proposed by Mr. Germain and seconded by Mr. Emburey. Mention was made of the item regarding Cancer Research and the Estate Agent at Writtle, but it was agreed that this was not an item for inclusion in Signpost.

The suggestion by members Mr. & Mrs. French at Halesworth that a get-together at Blaxhall Youth Hostel be arranged, was discussed and it was decided that it was not really suitable for this as it was rather a long way away but that it would possibly be a good centre for a future Bank Holiday Tourlet and we should keep this in mind.

Mrs. Gardner next brought up two items that Mr. Pemberton had asked to be discussed, The first being that "Would it be possible for Mr. Wooder to arrange for a deputy leader on the runs that he was unable to lead". When it was learned that Mr. Wooder and Mr. Good had already an arrangement about this, no more was needed. The second item was about the numbers attending lunch time meets at some of the pubs, Mr. Pemberton mentioned that on one occasion some folk had to be outside during rather bad weather, there being insufficient room inside, but Mr. Stewart and Mr. Wooder said that they do not both use the same places for lunch at the same time. Neither of these leaders felt that they overcrowded the pubs. Mr. Moore then spoke about the difficulty of numbers in traffic, they seemed to get so many out some days that the party had to split up into smaller groups for safety's sake, everyone agreed.

Mr. Moore then went on to say that Mr. James of Rickmansworth was considering starting a short Sunday ride for those members in the 75-85 age group. We do have members in this category and they wanted to ride but some of the ordinary runs were a bit too far, everyone agreed that this would be a good idea to encourage our older members to do what they were capable of.

London Record Office for help.

I feel that my investigations which have been spread over eight years due to a little spare time will take some time yet. I enjoy every "find" slowly. I have found records of twelve great-great-grandparents, mainly in Sussex.

One plea I make is to make sure that all photographs likely to be of use to genealogists are named and dated. My searches have found me several "lost relations" and many friends, two of whom are members of the Bexley Antiquarian Society. I hope in my retirement to make a presentable and pictorial record of my findings for the younger members of our family so that they will not have the start I had of

" No entries in the Family Bible "

JOAN HOLMAN.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### WHO ARE THE BARMIE PEOPLE IN BEXLEY ?

Well, they are a group of people who are members of the Bexley Association for Refurbishing Museum Items and Equipment ( Subscription - hard work ). They are engaged for a couple of hours or so every Wednesday night at the Museum at Erith in conserving and restoring objects in the Borough's collection. The scope of the work very much reflects the varied nature of the collection. Among the items finished or in course of restoration are :-

#### CHROMOTROPE

These are lantern slides with mechanical devices used to simulate movement and trick effects. Many of the members no doubt remember their demonstration at the 1975 A.G.M. of the Antiquarian Society. In the course of time many of them become damaged or get dirt lodged into the works and they seize up, necessitating their dismantling and cleaning, such as those which depict rabbits appearing from conjuror's hats, people kicking footballs etc. which are operated by one piece of glass being slid across another. Slides that depict a windmill where the sweeps turn or give kaleidoscopic effects may consist of the moving part of the picture painted on a glass inset into a brass ring which has teeth cut into it, movement being caused by a side winding handle which has a cog-wheel on its end. On one of this type of slide some teeth, which are less than one eighth of an inch high, had become broken off and one of our BARMIE engineers skilfully cut new teeth and pinned them into the brass ring. Circular movement may also be occasioned by the brass ring being grooved and in which a tensioned cord runs into a figure of eight movement around a wooden wheel which is inset adjacent and into the main body of the slide. When cords are replaced one has to be careful to ensure that the joining knot is small enough not to jam the works.

#### SIGNS

There are two signs in course of restoration and display at the moment, both from Erith. " Fraser & Chalmers. Mining & Milling Ltd." consists of firebrick, tile-glazed, purple letters on a mustard background. Each

Mr. Wooder then said that he had received a runs list from Mr. Jefford at Luton who was endeavouring to get the Luton Section going again, this was welcomed by all those present.

Mr. Germain asked about the insertion of items for entry into Signpost on time for members to book up, The Slide Show at Ugley, The Cambridge CTC Slide Show and the Re-union being the three most pressing at the moment. It was agreed to try to arrange the Ugley Show for 10th November, Mr. Good would see Mr. Clisby about this but thought the date would be OK. The Cambridge Show was usually in the middle of October and Mrs. Gardner agreed to telephone Mrs. Wilcox as soon as the CTC Magazine came, then the entry would be in the June issue of Signpost, the Ugley Show could be in June and September, the Re-Union was suggested for sometime in September, Mr. Wooder was dealing with this and would arrange for the entry to be in the June issue if it was possible. These dates would give members more time, we had slipped up a bit in the entry of the May Day and Spring Bank Holiday Tourlets and they had not been in the magazine at all, Mrs. Gardner said that in spite of this she had eleven booked for Stratford at Easter, this was advertised in time, Mr. Germain had managed to get 9 booked up for May Day at Streatley, but so far had only two for Salisbury at Spring Bank Holiday.

The date of the next meeting was agreed to be 18th August, a bit later as the Secretary would not be available in early July.

The meeting closed at 2pm. with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

*Agreed correct record  
nil against*

*Frank R. Germain*

*18/8/79*

Parish registers may be in print. Most may be studied in County Record Offices, some in Reference Libraries and some are still kept by the incumbent of the parish. Some have been lost. I was lucky in finding all the Ardingly registers pre- 1812 copied by the Sussex Record Society and I was so able to trace my Holman ancestors back to 1561. The S.R.S. volumes can be read in the Westminster Reference Library, London. The Diocesan registrar has copies of all records.

Wills from 1857 can be seen in Somerset House. A search for the will entry is free. There is a small charge for reading a copy of the will (25p. recently) and a copy to purchase is priced per page. I have found much genealogical information in a few weeks - names of children, addresses, occupations.

The national collection of all newspapers is to be found in the British Newspaper Library, Colindale, London. I read the account of the funerals of two of my great-grandfathers in copies of the Mid Sussex Times in a printer's archives in Haywards Heath.

Local Societies can be very helpful, particularly Family History Societies. I am a member of the Sussex Family History Society who last year published a Southern Counties Register which details the family interests of members & four Family History Societies of Hampshire, Kent, Surrey and Sussex. Membership of such a society can reduce research costs and combined resources and pooling of information can save much time. Many members transcribe old documents and all of us try to deposit our pedigrees complete and incomplete in the good library which they have.

I will try to list some of the interests which have resulted from my researches :

1. Collection of books about Sussex, the main county of my ancestors.
2. Visits to every church mentioned in my tree and making a collection of post cards or photographs of these churches and of any houses and places in which my forbears lived.
3. Membership of the East Grinstead Society, the Sussex Family History Society and a magazine subscriber to Ardingly church. One parishioner, a member of the staff of Ardingly College, has been writing a history of the village in this magazine.
4. Finding a few gravestones and cleaning them.
5. Correspondence with fellow genealogists. I am currently sharing information with a retired industrial chemist in Suffolk who is writing a thesis on " The distribution of the Longley family. "

An exciting adventure recently happened whilst I was looking at a font in a church in Kent and was asked to get the police to help a battered wife get out of the church where she was hiding from a husband who was not far away outside and had no knowledge of her whereabouts and had only the day before been discharged from prison for assaulting her. I was able to get help.

My most recent discovery of ancestors having lived in Otford in 1772 has started an elderly inhabitant whose name in the parish magazine came to my notice, making very useful enquiries and has brought her much pleasure.

There are at least one hundred repositories in London, including documents about churches, banks, borough archives, railways, schools etc. Consult the Greater

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 18th AUGUST 1979.

10 Members were present when the meeting commenced at 12.30 pm.  
Messrs. Good (Away on holiday) Wooder (Also away) Newman & Jefford  
were absent.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted as correct  
Proposed by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Rolfe.

Matters arising. The date for the Re-union was discussed and it was  
learned from Mrs. Gardner that the Members, Mr. & Mrs Bruton, who had  
offered to hold the re-union at their home, had, since the last meeting,  
renewed their membership with the club and this was welcomed by all.  
The cost of the re-union would be 50p Mr. Pemberton was taking bookings.  
It was learned that Mrs. Engle was now riding again but that she  
would need another operation to her wrist at some later date. The  
death, in the snow, of our late member Mr. Alf Layzell was mentioned,  
and Mr. Trueman said that to stop and shelter in an out of the way  
place like he had done, in such bad weather was fatal and that no one  
should be tempted to do that.

The proposed "Older age group" ride for Sundays, thought about by Mr.  
James had not come to fruition, in fact Mr. Moore said that The James'  
did not now even ride with his section although many of his runs were  
quite near to their home and it was agreed to let the proposal drop.

The date for the club slide show at the Victoria Club Hut at Ugley  
which Mr. Good had hoped would be 10th November had to be altered as the  
Hut was not available that day and the new date was arranged for 20th  
October, the new date was to be inserted in the September issue of  
Signpost and members wishing to attend were to be asked to contact  
Mr. Good. Last years show was discussed and it was agreed that it  
was a success owing to the earlier time for the evening meal and the  
sharing out of time for all those wishing to shew slides and this  
arrangement would be carried out for this years show,

The date for the Cambridge Cyclists Week-end and slide show at  
Cambridge Hostel was found to be for Saturday 27th October, this date  
was also to be inserted in the next Signpost and suggestions that  
those wishing to attend should obtain their tickets privately and  
to book at the hostel themselves owing to the short time now available  
for anyone to do this enbloc.

Mrs. Gardner mentioned the proposed groups in Yorkshire and Northern  
Ireland, she said that she would now wait until the autumn before  
she again wrote to Mr. Slack in Yorkshire and Mr. White in Ireland to  
find out what success they had in trying to get groups going, she  
again expressed doubts for the Yorkshire group because of the strong  
CTC sections in that area. She had not heard from any members in  
Ireland except Mr. Cyril Henry who had renewed for this year and doubted  
now whether any of the other 5 members were going to renew.

7 New members were elected, Proposed by Mr. Finnemore and Seconded  
by Mr. Stewart.

Mrs. Gardner then read out a letter she had written to British Rail  
about the difficulties that cyclists were having with taking cycles on  
the trains, the letter being triggered off by an item in Cycle Touring,  
a reply from British Rail was also read by her, and she was congratulated  
on the letter she had written to BR.

Mrs. Gardner then read out a letter she had received from our member  
Mr. E. Mascall regarding the item in Signpost about the cost of producing  
our magazine and runs lists, wherein he suggested that he would perhaps  
be able to obtain supplies at a smaller cost than we at present paid.  
Mrs. Gardner was instructed to write to the Company mentioned by Mr.  
Mascall and ask for samples of paper and prices so that we could then  
compare with our present suppliers rates. She said that she would do  
this.

The Secretary then read part of a letter she had received from Mrs.  
Wilcox regarding the balance of the club items that were held by our

See next page

late members Mr. Stan. Russell. after some discussion it was agreed that Mrs. Gardner should write to Mrs. Russell and arrange for some one to call and collect these items which would then be transferred to Mrs. Wilcox for safe custody. Mr. Embury said that he would be willing to do this and Mr. Moore said that he could perhaps also help. Mrs. Gardner said that she would contact Mr. Embury when she had received a reply from Mrs. Russell

The Treasurer's report was then read and accepted without query, proposed by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Embury.

#### Any Other Business.

The date for the AGM in early 1980 was discussed and agreed to be for SATURDAY 9th FEBRUARY at 12 NOON at the Castle Public House, and this date and a notice asking for any motions for the Agenda was to be inserted in the September issue of Signpost, it was suggested that the latest date for receiving motions should be 7th JANUARY 1980.

It was also agreed that the September issue should have a request made that members be asked to let the Secretary know of any preferences that they would have for the venue of the Easter Bank Holiday Tour. That the December issue should have notice asking for suggestions for May Day and Spring Bank Holiday Tours and that the March issue should carry a request for suggestions for the August Tour. The December Signpost could also have a further reminder of the date of the AGM and the date for motions for the Agenda

Mr. Moore then brought up the question of the type and quantity of food offered at some of the Youth Hostels that we visited, Stratford in particular he thought was very poor, especially at Bank Holiday periods and suggested that perhaps we should not have the Bank Holiday Tours at Hostels when the Wardens were so busy, but it was pointed out that quite a number of our members were still working and could only attend these tours at the recognised Holiday dates, it was then said by another member that it might perhaps be a better idea to go to smaller hostels, off the main tourist routes, some of these were very good indeed and this was generally agreed by all those present

The date of the next meeting was agreed at 3rd NOVEMBER 12 noon. and the meeting closed at 2 pm.

→ The proposed revival of the Western and Luton Section was asked about, but as the leader Mr. Jefford had not come along to the meeting no news was forthcoming, no one had heard about them and it was thought that his efforts were a bit too optimistic, and it was doubted if they were riding, if they had been he would surely have come along to the meeting,

*Correct record taken.  
Frank R. Lunn  
3/11/79*



COMMITTEE MEETING ON 18th AUGUST 1979.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Ed Gardner

R. E. Minn

Frank R. Rouman

W. C. Stewart

Bob Rolp

Jimmy

Bill German

Wilcosc

---

John C. Muey

A. J. Moore

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 1979.

All Members were present, letters of apology were received from Mr. Wooder and Mr. Jefford, and a verbal message from Mrs. Wilcox who was unwell. When Mr. Good came in he was received with a certain amount of applause. He had been in hospital since the last meeting. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th August were read and accepted, proposed by Mr. Jennings and Seconded by Mr. Germain.

Matters Arising. The Luton Section came up for discussion and the Secretary then read the letter from Mr. Jefford in which he said that all the runs advertised had been made with three to nine members out each time. This was regarded as a good sign by all present. Mr. Trueman mentioned the Slide Show at Ugley and those present who had been at the show agreed that it was a success. There were 28 who sat down to supper and 35 who attended the slide show afterwards. The Cambridge Cyclists Weekend and slide show next came up and it was said that there were 740+ members at that event. Mrs. Gardner said that she had written to the members in Yorkshire and Northern Ireland who had, during the previous spring and summer been trying to get sections going, but the replies she had received from Mr. Slack & Mr. White were not at all encouraging. Both of the members concerned had said that they would keep on trying. Mr. Emburey said that as a result of the letter that Mrs. Gardner had sent to Mrs. Russell, he had been able to collect ~~from~~ the ~~the~~ remaining affects of the club that the late Stan Russell had in his care, and these were now with Mrs. Wilcox as had been previously arranged.

The Secretary next read out some of the many letters she had received during the three months, enquiring about the club, most of them had mentioned reading our advert in Cycle Touring and one had mentioned our advert in the Excell Cycle Shop in Woolwich. A letter from Mrs. Ansell, Widow of our late member Mr. Walter was read also, and Mrs. Gardner mentioned that members often wrote to say how much they enjoy their rides with the various sections.

15 New Members were then accepted. Proposed by Mr. Stewart and Seconded by Mr. Good. Mrs. Gardner was asked just how many members we now had and those present were delighted that it was now 320..

The Chairman next read out the Treasurers Financial Report, that had been passed round for all to read. It was agreed that the club was in a very good financial position. Mrs. Gardner said that although the balance seemed quite a lot for such a small club it should be remembered that at some time we would need a new duplicator and it was as well to save for items like this. The price of new duplicators was discussed, the range being from £400 to about £600 for the type that we would use. The cost of a Copier was also discussed in relation to the cost of a duplicator, but it was agreed that for our purposes the duplicator was the best thing. Copiers were evidently very expensive. Mr. Newman mentioned that our duplicator was after all only used about 4 or five times each year and did not therefore get very bad or hard use.

The Bank Holiday Tours for 1980 next came up for discussion and after some amusement regarding the layout of several of the Youth Hostels, the value of keeping away from the Busy Town Hostels and the suggestion received from some members it was agreed to have the Easter Tour in East Anglia. The Friday & Saturday nights being at Brandon and Sunday night at Castle Hedingham.

May Day Bank Holiday was agreed to be held at Arundel on the Saturday and Holmbury St. Mary on the Sunday, with a meeting on the Sunday with Bob Edgars Sussex Section for elevenses ~~on the Sunday~~. Spring Bank Holiday was agreed for the Saturday & Sunday nights at Cranbourne. This could be a train assisted holiday

A suggestion for the August Bank Holiday by Mr. Trueman for Wilderhope and a visit to the Ironbridge Museum was referred to the next meeting and this would be put to the members in the March Issue of Signpost to see if any other suggestions were forthcoming.

The Secretary next gave a report on her efforts at finding another supplier of paper for the magazines and runs lists. She had received price lists from Millway Stationery at Stansted in Essex and after some discussion as to the relative merits of papers, machines and various inks it was agreed that she ordered 10 reams of quarto

but was very much better. I hope we pleased to hear that as well as recovering his stolen Bicycle, he has had all the other equipment.

Duplicating Paper and 2 tubes of Ink from them and all present agreed that if Mr. Newman after use, found these items to be alright Mrs. Gardner was to re-order immediately a larger quantity before prices went up again.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

The Annual Reunion was next ~~mentioned~~ <sup>mentioned by</sup> Mrs. Gardner <sup>who</sup> said that at this years meeting Mr. & Mrs. Bruton had spoken to her to see if a definite annual date could be arranged, they thought that the last Sunday in June would be OK for them, it did not clash with any of their other events. The Committee agreed to this and Mrs. Gardner said that she would contact the Brutons to let them know, the date for 1980 would therefore be 29th June.

Mrs. Gardner then mentioned and read a letter she had received from Mrs. Wilcox who was not present because of illness. Mrs. Wilcox said that she would at some time have to drop some of the work, she was now over 70 and it was agreed by all that she would not be expected to carry on for ever. To help her out at the moment Mr. Jennings offered to do some stencils, in particular those for the Final Accounts, and the Agenda for the AGM and Mrs. Gardner said she would let Mr. Jennings have the necessary details.

Mr. Trueman then mentioned that he had a note from Mr. Wooder asking the committee to consider whether they would be arranging anything for the 30th year of the club which would be in 1981. Mrs. Gardner said that Mr. Wooder had also mentioned this to her. An event to celebrate the 30 years, especially as we somehow missed the 25th was agreed to by all and some suggestions as to just what or where were spoken about. A Dinner, a Social, in or near London. Central London was more or less generally agreed to as this would be most useful for all members to attend. Finally it was agreed to put the matter to the AGM to see what members thought about the idea. of a Dinner or Lunch somewhere in London.

Mr. Jennings then mentioned that our member Eric Mason was in hospital after having a heart attack but was now making some progress. Mr. Emburey said that he would be visiting Mr. Ralph Gordon who was also in hospital after having an accident and suffering several broken bones. The good wishes of all the committee were sent to these two members.

It was also learned that our members Mrs. Dorothy Crocker had recently died and Mrs. Gardner said that she would write to Mr. Crocker to send sympathy from us all

After rumours that Mr. Stewart was retiring from the leadership of the Thursday section he mentioned that he would carry on, but that although he would be providing a runs list members would have to realise that if the weather was bad and he was not feeling too good he would not be out. He had made arrangements with Mr. Rolfe that he would telephone him if this came about and the section would then "Lead themselves" Mr. Moore also said that he would not be willing to carry on as leader of the Tuesday section after the next AGM. Mrs. Gardner asked him if he would be prepared to provide a runs list so that at least members would have definite venues and could ride out and meet for a run. Mr. Moore said that would be OK with him. His main reason for his decision was that at eleven years he still found himself only about 6 miles from home and he wanted to get farther afield

There being no other business the meeting closed at 2pm.  
the next meeting being arranged for 2nd February 1980.

*Barred Board  
nil against  
Frank R. Trueman*

FORTY PLUS CYCLING CLUB.

3rd NOVEMBER 1979.

COMMITTEE MEETING MEMBERS PRESENT.

Frank J. Johnson

Bob Sardon

Mr. C. E. Evey

W. S. Moore

A. E. Minin

W. Newman

Bob Wolfe

Mr. Stewart

W. Jennings

F. Ford

W. S. Egan