

SPOKESMAN

44

"THE VOICE OF CYCLE SPEEDWAY"

SIX PENCE



January-February, 1974.

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NEWS FLASH ... NEWS FLASH ... NEWS FLASH

AUSTRALIANS TO RACE HERE IN 1975 — P. 13

COLIN CAN KEEP HIS CUP . . .



by MIKE PRETTY

COLIN WHEELER CARVED FOR HIMSELF A PERMANENT NICHE IN CYCLE SPEEDWAY HISTORY WITH A MAGNIFICENT PERFORMANCE IN THE FINAL OF THE ENGLISH LEAGUE RIDERS' CHAMPIONSHIP, AT WEDNESFIELD.

The Southampton star's brilliant riding earned him maximum points for the second successive year, the title for the third year running and the fourth time since 1965. Only one other rider, Roy Baker of South London, has ever won the event more than once, but Wheeler's record outstrips anything and the English League recognised this truly great achievement by making him a permanent present of the trophy.

Colin's triumph this year was even more remarkable by virtue of the fact that he has only ridden seriously for half of the season.

Bitterly cold conditions kept down the attendance at Ashmore Park but those who did brave the wintry weather were treated to some of the best racing in the sixteen-year history of the event. With Wheeler in such unbeatable form and it was obvious right from the start that he was in top form, the main interest centred around the minor placings and what a scrap there was for these. At the finish, a run-off was needed with home man Mick Aris, Bristol's Allan Miller and Bournemouth's Derek Knight tying with sixteen-point scores.

Derek Knight seemed to have the best chance of taking the runners-up spot, despite drawing the outside grid for the run-off. He looked the fitter and stronger of the three with Miller suffering the effects of a painful hand injury which had threatened to put him out of the competition, and Aris tired from his efforts in heat 20.

But it was Miller from gate 1 who led into the bend with Aris on his shoulder. Knight, seeing a small gap coming out of the bend, attempted to go under both of them but the gap closed. Knight found himself on the floor and his challenge was no more. Aris summoned enough energy to pass an exhausted Miller to take second place, leaving Miller to take 3rd prize.

continued on facing page

PAST WINNERS

1958	Mick Jeffery	Edmonton
1959	Dave Chivers	Raynes Park
1960	Roy Baker	South London
1961	Roy Baker	South London
1962	John Cobbin	Tottenham
1963	Ray Chivers	South London
1964	Harry Glover	Leicester
1965	Colin Wheeler	Southampton
1966	Dave Butcher	Southampton
1967	Grant Warwick	Leicester
1968	Roger Ellis	Kingstanding
1969	Kelvin Wilson	South London
1970	Keith Lyons	Bristol
1971	Colin Wheeler	Southampton
1972	Colin Wheeler	Southampton

... AND WINS OUR TROPHY AGAIN ... !

by Harold Smith

COLIN WHEELER IS AGAIN CYCLE SPEEDWAY'S CHAMPION RIDER, AND WINNER OF THE "RIDER OF THE YEAR" AWARD SPONSORED BY SPOKESMAN MAGAZINE. Kev Greenhalgh's gallant effort to close the gap was not enough, and at the end of the season the Southampton star was eight points clear in one of the easiest wins in the history of the competition. Geoff Patman, joint winner in 1972, was the only other rider to reach double figures.

RULES for the 1974 "RIDER OF THE YEAR" competition will appear in the March SPOKESMAN

ENGLISH LEAGUE RIDERS C'SHIP, contd. from P2

An exclusion in heat 9 certainly cost Vic Haines a place in the run-off. Probably even second place outright. He only dropped one point apart from this though I thought he was lucky not to have collected another exclusion in heat 13, when Geoff Patman came down heavily as a result of a clash with the Thurrock man. In fact it was Patman who collected the exclusion - for causing the stoppage - and this after being pushed back into third in his previous race meant there were no prizes this year for the popular Bristol rider. It says a lot for Patman's courage that he came out for his last ride which he won despite being in considerable pain but by then it was too late.

My pre-meeting tip for the first three: Keith Gibbons dropped from the reckoning after a heat 5 fall, and his last remaining hope went when he followed Miller and his Bristol team-mate Dave Massey home in heat 18. It was this heat that also ended Bristol rider Tam Low's hopes. The Scot had ridden well and looked sure of at least a place in the frame, but he came down heavily in that heat 18, and that was that. The other rider to catch my eye was Exeter's Jim Sullivan, surprisingly who was making his first final appearance.

As I've said, the meeting produced fast exciting racing which was well-controlled by referee Trevor Goverd, and although the weather did its best to mar the proceedings I have nothing but praise for all sixteen competitors for putting on an excellent show.

But once again it was that man Wheeler's day. Certainly no-one would dispute that and upon hearing that he was to keep the trophy permanently I think I even detected a twinge of emotion from the hard man from Southampton.

Scoreboard

COLIN WHEELER (Southampton)	20
Mick Aris (Wednesfield)	16
Allan Miller (Bristol)	16
Derek Knight (Bournemouth)	16
Vic Haines (Thurrock)	15
Keith Gibbons (Wednesfield)	14
Jim Sullivan (Exeter)	13
Geoff Patman (Bristol)	13
Tam Low (Bristol)	13
Alwyn Dominey (Bournemouth)	11
Gerald Collett (Exeter)	10
Dave Massey (Bristol)	9
Ken Vine (Exmouth)	9
Phil Pilbrow (Norwich)	8
Colin Sutton (Bournemouth)	7
Mike Vine (Exmouth)	6
<u>Rider of the Year Points:</u> Colin Wheeler 3	
Mick Aris 2, Allan Miller 1.	

'RIDER OF THE YEAR'

Final Scorers Table

COLIN WHEELER (Southampton)	23
Kevin Greenhalgh (Offerton)	15
Geoff Patman (Bristol)	10
Derek Garnett (Offerton)	7
Val Hockley (Estuary)	6
Tam Low (Bristol)	6
Mike Parkins (South Walsham)	5
George Russell (Offerton)	5
John Watling (Denton)	5
John Leamon (Spixworth)	4
Mick Aris (Wednesfield)	4
Martin Jarvis (Beckenham)	4
Derek Knight (Bournemouth)	4
John Colbert (Hawkinge)	3
Keith Gibbons (Wednesfield)	3
Bruce Ward (Leicester)	3
Roger Ellis (Wednesfield)	3
John Vallis (Headley)	3
Vic Haines (Thurrock)	2
Tony Johnson (Tolworth)	2
Rod Witham (Galley)	2
Ray Clark (Uxbridge)	1
Bill Hopkins (Hawbush)	1
Dave Hughes (Bow)	1
Allan Miller (Bristol)	1
Mike Pryke (Galley)	1
Colin Sutton (Bournemouth)	1
John Watchman (Denton)	1

National Junior Team Championship

CARRS WOOD'S TROPHY

CARRS WOOD WON THE NPL-SPONSORED 1973 JUNIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP, BEATING WOODSIDE 44-34 IN THE FINAL AT PARKWOOD TRACK, SHEFFIELD.

WOODSIDE: I.Fearnley 12, J.Redmond 9 I.Turner 7, D.Hawks worth 3, D.Bennett 2 P.Denton 1, I.Fossard 0.

CARRS WOOD: S.Brett 10, H.Jackson 10 G.Millar 9, J.Brett 7, D.Young 4, K.Mayer 3, A.Heginbottom 1.

*The NJTC is again included in the Cycle Speedway Council's national competitions programme for 1974. Entry details are now obtainable from the Competition Secretary D.Blinston, 36 Bakewell Street, Manchester.

Parkwood: CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

JOHN WATLING (Denton)	13
Derek Garnett (Offerton)	13
Kevin Greenhalgh (Offerton)	12
George Russell (Offerton)	12
Fred Rothwell (Woodside)	11
Jim Brett (Carrs Wood)	11
John Watchman (Denton)	8
Mike Cockcroft (Woodside)	8
Phil Parkin (Parkwood)	6
Denis Naylor (Stradbroke)	5
Les Frost (Parkwood)	5
Phil White (Sheffield)	4
Brian Green (Wadsley)	4
Glen Galloway (Parkwood)	3
Martin Gamble (Parkwood)	3
<u>Rider of the Year Points:</u> John Watling	3
Derek Garnett 2, Kevin Greenhalgh 1.	

Hawkinge: KENT OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

COLIN WHEELER (Southampton)	20
Vic Haines (Thurrock)	19
Bill Hopkins (Hawbush)	17
Chris Riches (Hawkinge)	15
Trevor Hallett (Hawkinge)	15
Alan Harman (Hendon)	14
Steve Bloxham (Hawbush)	13
John Colbert (Hawkinge)	12
Paul Leason (South London)	12
Ian Lawrence (South London)	12
Ken Vine (Exmouth)	11
Gerry Wallis (Hendon)	11
Pat Elflain (Hawbush)	7
Graham Hallett (Hawkinge)	7
Clive McCormick (Southampton)	7
John Tyler (Thurrock)	6
<u>Rider of the Year Points:</u> Colin Wheeler	3
Vic Haines 2, Bill Hopkins 1.	

Woodside: NORTHERN PREMIER INDIVIDUAL

GEORGE RUSSELL (Offerton)	13
Derek Garnett (Offerton)	12
Kevin Greenhalgh (Offerton)	12
John Watling (Denton)	12
Fred Rothwell (Woodside)	9
Pip Serbert (Woodside)	9
Dave Parsons (Leicester)	8
Ken Taylor (Denton)	7
John Whiting (Denton)	6
Dave Reid (Offerton)	6
Bruce Ward (Leicester)	6
John White (Offerton)	5
Geoff Widdop (Woodside)	5
Jeff Weaver (Denton)	4
Ian Fearnley (Woodside)	3
<u>Rider of the Year Points:</u> George Russell	3
Derek Garnett 2, Kevin Greenhalgh 1.	

SPEEDWELL RIDE A WINNER

AN ENGLISH FIRM HAS REVOLUTIONISED THE CONVENTIONAL CYCLE FRAME BY HARNESSING ONE OF THE NEW "SPACE AGE" METALS. Speedwell Gear Case Co. Ltd of Birmingham is now producing frames in Titanium. This new application follows seven years of intensive development.

Much lighter yet stronger than ordinary metals, Titanium has only been available commercially since the early fifties so it is still in its early stages of development. Speedwell, active for many years in the chemical plant field and highly successful specialists in reactive metal engineering, is among the pioneers of the commercial development of this new "super" metal.

Mr. Derek Matthey, Speedwell's Managing Director, says: "We are bringing something brand new into an old industry by introducing a revolutionary breakthrough in cycle frame materials and design."

"Two of the growth industries of the world are cycles and motorcycles. It is happening in America which is in the midst of a cycle and motorcycle boom, and it will happen in Britain and Europe. The Titanium frame is certain to play an exciting and vital part in this growth."

The Titanium frame has three main advantages over the conventional cycle frame.

1. All anti-corrosion benefits of stainless steel. 2. All the weight-saving of aluminium; in fact, a weight saving of 40 per cent minimum on the conventional frame but with three times the strength. 3. Durability and resilience beyond all known materials in normal use.

FEED BACK

The Titanium cycle frame is the result of what is known as "feed back." It was the exchange of information and expertise between Speedwell's various divisions that first led to thoughts of the benefits that the cycle and motorcycle could derive from "Space Age" engineering materials.

A tremendous experimental drive was quickly under way, with initial tests being made with motorcycle frames. In 1972, the Speedwell Titanium frame was taken to the New York International Cycle Show, to test public reaction.

This was so good that Speedwell knew immediately that they were riding a winner.

Next came an approach from the Stuttgart Sports Club, Germany, regarding the Titanium frame being used by German cyclists in the 1972 Olympics. This led to a bronze medal being "won" by Speedwell and in the light of information gained, to further developments and refinements. Then came the Mk. IV Titanium frame - a unit which was taken to Spain and brought to the attention of the Spanish world ranking racing cyclist, Luis Ocana.

TOUR DE FRANCE, 1973

For this classic of the cycling world, Speedwell designed and built a frame exact to Luis Ocana's personal specification. This was used by Ocana for the time trial and gruelling hill climb sequences of the Tour, contributing much to Ocana's subsequent emphatic victory in this famous event.

This notable Speedwell success meant that the Titanium frame had well and truly arrived - world interest now came alive. Cycle frames in Titanium are now being exported to the USA and to the Continent.

And it's only a matter of time before the "Titalite" makes its debut in cycle speedway. Several riders are interested in trying out the new frame.

In addition to two standard models, a limited supply of frames are built to individual specifications for top-class riders.

All enquiries with regard to frame costs and supply sources should be addressed to Speedwell's sole distributors in the UK: Anglo-Continental Cycle & Accessories Ltd Hookstone Park, Harrogate, Yorkshire.

STOKE CSC wish to sell the Shelton Tigers' body colours which have a yellow tiger's head design on a black background. At £7 and in good condition, they're a bargain to a newly-formed club. Enquiries to Alan Pennington, 11 Palmerston Street, Hanley Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs., ST1 3EU.

HOW THE LEAGUES FINISHED LAST SEASON

ENGLISH CYCLE SPEEDWAY LEAGUE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts
WEDNESFIELD	18	18	0	0	1932	1234	36
Bristol	18	14	1	3	1734	1456	29
Bournemouth	18	9	0	9	1696½	1465½	18
Exeter	18	9	0	9	1559	1637	18
Norwich	18	9	0	9	1450	1721	18
Horspath	18	7	2	9	1558	1601	16
Thurrock	18	8	0	10	1514	1651	16
Southampton	18	7	0	11	1563	1623	14
Exmouth	18	4	0	14	1371	1716	8
Edmonton	18	3	1	14	1387½	1779½	7

SOUTHERN COUNTIES LEAGUE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts
BECKENHAM	20	19	0	1	2002	1542	47
Hawkinge	20	15	1	4	1898	1537	38
Hawbush	20	13	0	7	1857	1667	30
Hendon	20	11	1	8	1866	1684	28
Epping	20	12	0	8	1649½	1811½	28
Bow	20	11	1	8	1857	1670	27
South London	20	10	0	10	1764½	1783½	23
Hayes	20	5	0	15	1658½	1839½	12
Hellingly	20	5	1	14	1472½	1960½	12
Tottenham	20	4	0	16	1654	1879	8
Stapleford	20	3	0	17	1578	1907	6

MANCHESTER, STOCKPORT AND DISTRICT LEAGUE - DIVISION 1

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts
OFFERTON	16	16	0	0	930	466	32
Woodside	16	12	1	3	1014	600	25
Denton Pirates	16	11	1	4	876	517	23
Denton Stars	16	9	0	7	757	533	18
Droylsden	16	9	0	7	706	797	18
Gorton	16	5	1	10	690	924	11
Carrs Wood	16	4	1	11	747	976	9
Sheffield	16	3	0	13	480	700	6
New Mills	16	1	0	15	455	953	2

MANCHESTER, STOCKPORT AND DISTRICT LEAGUE - DIVISION 2

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts
NEW MILLS	14	11	0	3	596½	494½	22
Droylsden	14	11	0	3	479	453	22
Carrs Wood "A"	14	9	0	5	580½	499½	18
Carrs Wood "B"	14	7	0	7	536	554	14
Offerton	14	6	1	7	516	490	13
Denton	14	6	0	8	493	514	12
Gorton	14	3	0	11	442	556	6
Blackley	14	2	1	11	463	545	3

MANCHESTER & NORTHERN DOUBLE FOR THE DEVILS

by Derek Garnett

OFFERTON DEVILS RACED UNBEATEN TO WIN THE MANCHESTER, STOCKPORT AND DISTRICT LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP FOR A RECORD NINTH TIME. THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONS ALSO WON THE NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE TITLE AFTER BEING RUNNERS-UP TO BLACKLEY FOR THREE YEARS. THEIR ONLY DEFEAT WAS AT DENTON, BY 49 POINTS TO 45.

Offerton took the NPL Championship with a convincing 66-29 win at Oldbury. Devils led 15-3 after three heats and scored six more maximum 5-1s in the second half.

OLDBURY: R. Watters 6, S. Clarke 6, K. Baker 5, P. Hiron 5, J. Rudland 3, T. Bastable 3, C. Robbins 1, W. Baker 0.

OFFERTON: D. Garnett 12, J. White 11, D. Reid 10, K. Greenhalgh 10, G. Russell 10, J. Bailey 7, B. Beresford 3, J. Chapman.

The champions completed their programme with a 68-27 win over weakened Woodside, and both Dave Reid and Joe Bailey riding to maximum scores.

OFFERTON: D. Reid 15, J. Bailey 11, D. Garnett 10, J. White 9, K. Greenhalgh 8, J. Chapman 6, B. Beresford 5, G. Russell 4.

WOODSIDE: F. Rothwell 6, I. Fearnley 6, M. Tillotson 4, P. Denton 4, D. Morris 3, Dave Garnett 2, P. Serbert 1.

Denton and Droylsden met in a Division Two title decider and after a fiercely-contested struggle Denton won by 48-45 to take the championship for the 3rd successive year.

DROYLSDEN: D. Williams 13, B. Lomax 9, P. Ogden 6, A. Macklin 5, N. Brocklehurst 4, D. Seddon 4, T. Henshall 3, S. Truswell 1.

DENTON: J. Weaver 13, D. Cawley 11, G. Taylor 9, A. Taylor 6, I. Burgess 4, M. Kay 3, P. Kay 2.

BECKENHAM LED ALL THE WAY IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE

BECKENHAM MONARCHS LED ALL THE WAY IN THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES LEAGUE. They beat their closest challengers away from home early in the season, and never looked in danger of being defeated, writes Mick Green.

Results and Scorers

TOTTENHAM 86 (P. Donaghy 17, Cobbin 16, Wildash 13), SOUTH LONDON 91 (Leason 18, Birch 16, Major 13); HAYES 97 (Fenton 20, Lewis 19, Billers 17), STAPLEFORD 79 (Savill 15, B. Kemp 13, Day 12); HELLINGLY 89 (Hollebon 18, S. Killick 15, T. Killick 15), HAWBUSH 86 (Hopkins 16, Chubb 16, Elflain 16); HAWKINGE

continued overleaf

TIGERS' TITLE IN CREWE

by Bill Pennington

HILLSIDE TIGERS WON THE 1973 CREWE LEAGUE WITH A 100 PER CENT RECORD. Valley Pirates were second and also won the Crewe Knock-out Cup, and Crewe Racers finished third.

Graham Titley won the Crewe individual championship with a 15-point maximum, and Steve Hassall was the runner-up, with Jim Vickerman in third place.

PARKWOOD WIN IN LAST MATCH

by Martin Gamble

THE SHEFFIELD LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP WAS DECIDED IN THE FINAL FIRST DIVISION FIXTURE.

Sheffield, needing to win, were at Parkwood and the match was ridden in the customary air of rivalry which exists between the two teams; the Stars hadn't forgotten their 46-50 home defeat by Parkwood.

It was obvious from the start that neither team was prepared to take any risks. The first five heats saw four 3-3s, heat 2 being a 4-2 to the Aces, however the next three heats saw Parkwood extend their slender lead to a more comfortable twelve points and with some spirited riding from Pete Smith, Keith Knapton and Phil Parkin they went on to win by 60 points to 36.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES RESULTS contd. from P7
92 (Riches 16, Colbert 16, G.Hallett 15)
HENDON 88(Harman 18,Wallis 16,Lachazyrma
15);HELLINGLY 82(T.Killick 17,Hollebon 17
S.Killick 15),HENDON 95(Wallis 17,Thompson
17,Harman 16);HAYES 73(Lewis 14,Thomson
13,Fenton 11);HAWKINGE 105(Colbert 20, G.
Hallett 17, Riches 13);BECKENHAM 94(Came 18
Fromant 16,Leggo 14),EPPING 82(Stevens 16
Lye 14,Palfreyman 14); STAPLEFORD 79(Day
13,Savill 12,B.Kemp 12),BOW 92(Hughes 20
A.Cox 18,Lovelock 17); SOUTH LONDON 97
(Birch 19,Leason 19,Turvill 13),TOTTE N-
HAM 79(Cobbin 16,Wildash 12,Pointing 12);BO W
103(A.Cox 20,Lovelock 19,Hughes 17),STALE-
FORD 74(Savill 14,Day 13,Hudson 11);SOUTH
LONDON 81(Leason 17,I.Lawrence 16,Major 13)
BECKENHAM 90(Came 17,Fromant 16,Foy 15);
HENDON 102(Wallis 19,Courts 17,Thompson 17)
TOTTENHAM 75(Cobbin 17,Wildash 15,Pointing
11); SOUTH LONDON 97(Leason 19, Birch 19
Turvill 13),TOTTENHAM 79(Cobbin 16,Wildash
12,Pointing 12);SOUTH LONDON 108½(Leason
20,Birch 17, I.Lawrence 14), E P P I N G 70½
(Goodfellow 16,Stevens 15,Palfreyman 10);
SOUTH LONDON 108(Leason 20,Birch 19,I.Law-
rence 15),HAWKINGE 70(Riches 16,Colbert 12).

The Stars never gave up trying, especially Phil White and Ray Carlton, but with Les Frost leading the way with a maximum, Parkwood took the title and had won their first-ever trophy.

PARKWOOD: L.Frost 11,P.Smith 11,K.Knapton 10, L.Ward 9, M.Gamble 8,G.Galloway 5 P.Parkin 4, S.Stringer 2.

SHEFFIELD:R. Carlton 10,P.White 9,P.Chapman 5, J.Gallagher 4, Ralph H astings 3, D.Pryor 3, G.Freeman 2, S.Gartland 0.

Final Table

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts
PARKWOOD	8	8	0	0	519	248	16
Sheffield	8	6	0	2	460	302	12
Ecclesfield	8	4	0	4	395	370	8
Wadsley	8	1	0	7	306	457	2
Stradbroke	8	1	0	7	282	535	2

Even if they've lost their First Division title, Sheffield became Division Two champions for the second successive year, by defeating Wadsley by 48 points to 30, spearheaded by maximums from Ray Carlton and Phil White.

WADSLEY:D.Thorp 9,B.Green 7,S.Gillespie 6, M.Bamforth 4, J.Barton 2, M.Dunn 2.

SHEFFIELD: R. Carlton 14, P.White 13, Ralph Hastings 9,G.Freeman 6,S.Gartland 6.

Final Table

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts
SHEFFIELD	8	8	0	0	443	181	16
Parkwood	8	6	0	2	337	266	12
Wadsley	8	3	1	4	280	314	7
Ecclesfield	8	2	1	5	276	301	5
Stradbroke	8	0	0	8	127	491	0

STARS' PHIL WHITE SHINES IN INDIVIDUAL

PHIL WHITE WON THE SHEFFIELD INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP, HELD ON HIS OWN TRACK.

Second was last year's champion, Demi's Naylor, with John Gallagher third.

The junior final at Wadsley was won by Ray Carlton and second was Phil White who beat Glen Galloway into third place after a run-off. Fourth-placed rider was Ecclesfield's Glyn Stringer.

KEVIN RETAINS MANCHESTER TITLE

OFFERTON'S KEVIN GREENHALGH RETAINED HIS MANCHESTER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE IN THE FINAL AT GORTON. Kevin lost once - in heat 1 - to Steve Whitehead of Denton, who was runner-up, with Derek Garnett third.

On the dry track there were plenty of falls. Whitehead had four wins but hit the dust attempting to pass Geoff Widdop in heat 14, and Garnett set off with two wins but also came down when he tried to ride round Jeff Weaver in heat 10.

Scoreboard: K.Greenhalgh 14pts., S.Whitehead 12, D.Garnett 11, D.Carter 10, J.Whiting 9, F.Finnigan 8, P.Serbert 8, F.Rothwell 7, D.Reid 6, J.Bailey 6, J.Watling 6, G.Widdop 6, G.Russell 5, K.Taylor 5, I.Fearnley 4, J.Weaver 4.

Steve Whitehead also retained the MANCHESTER JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP by scoring a faultless maximum. Ian Fearnley took the runner-up spot with 14 points and National Junior Champion Jim Brett was 3rd with 13.

At Offerton, the surprise winner of the CONSOLATION TROPHY was Droylsden's Paul Ogden with 12 points. Gorton rider Roger Farrell with 11 snatched second place from Woodside's Fred Rothwell by half-a-point.

Denton's John Watchman won the STOCKPORT TROPHY at Offerton for the second time, after a run-off with Dave Reid. Third was John Watling who has now been placed five times in seven years, each time with 12pts.

Scoreboard: J.Watchman 13points, D.Reid 13, J.Watling 12, K.Greenhalgh 11, D.Garnett 11, F.Rothwell 11, J.Bailey 8, J.Whiting 8, Dave Garnett 7, A.Macklin 5, S.Mills 5, D.Naylor 5, D.Morris 4, P.Dent 3, G.Russell 2.

Ridden at Woodside, the IVY HOUSE TROPHY was won by Derek Garnett. Manchester riders filled the first four positions.

Scoreboard: D.Garnett 14points, J.Watling 12, K.Greenhalgh 11, G.Russell 11, K.Taylor 10, Dave Garnett 10, F.Rothwell 9, D.Naylor 9, F.Rushworth 6, M.Tillotson 6, P.Serbert 5, N.Brocklehurst 4, D.Carter 4, I.Fearnley 3, J.Brett 3, C.Ormondroyd 2.

The KEN EYRE HANDICAP TROPHY held at Gorton was won by Woodside's Fred Rothwell after a three rider run-off against Steve Mills of Gorton and Derek Garnett who all returned eleven point scores.

WATTERS WINS IN BIRMINGHAM

by Brian Buck

RON WATTERS IS THE NEW BIRMINGHAM SENIOR CHAMPION. The former Wembley and Hackney rider who now lives at Smethwick and races for Oldbury Lions defeated his team-mate Steve Clarke in a deciding race after both had scored 14 points. Watters came from the back in the run-off to become the first Lions man to win the Birmingham Championship since Gerald Sedgley's success back in 1959. And in the final at Perry Hall first-year Kingstanding rider Paul Timms deservedly took third place with 12 points.

Scoreboard: R.Watters 14points, S.Clarke 14, P.Timms 12, J.McLaughlin 11, P.Hirons 10, P.Baker 10, T.Bastable 8, J.Drummond 7, P.Higgs 6, M.Hipkiss 6, T.Astley 4, G.Aston 4, M.Kelly 4, C.Robbins 3, D.Heathcock 3, C.Nash 3, G.Hickman 0.

Steve Clarke relinquished his two-year hold on the under-17s' ALAN HUNT CUP when he could manage no better than fourth place at the Sedgley final. Home rider Peter Baker and Kingstanding's Dave Crutchley

tied for first place with 13 points each and Baker won the decider. And Paul Timms again with twelve points, was third.

Scoreboard: P.Baker 12points, D.Crutchley 12, P.Timms 11, S.Clarke 11, M.Kelly 9, C.Nash 8, K.Rubery 8, W.Baker 7, A.Rose 7, N.Lines 6, P.Hemming 6, J.Drummond 6, J.Homer 5, G.Aston 4, T.Wills 4, K.Davies 2, M.Penn 0.

At Perry Hall, the final of the Birmingham under-15s' Championship for the BRADY CUP continued overleaf.

MARSHAM FIRST AGAIN IN EAST ANGLIA

DIVISION 1: MARSHAM 57 (P. Baxter 13, P. Medler 12), BRANDON 51 (Rich Godbold 12); GALLEY 66 (Rix 14, Pryke 12, Whitham 12), WITNESHAM 41 (M. Sparrow 11); SPIXWORTH 34 (Kirk 11), GALLEY 72 (Witham 15, Pryke 14, Rix 12); MARSHAM 59 (P. Baxter 13), WITNESHAM 49 (Overall 11).

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts
MARSHAM	16	16	0	0	974	746	32
Galley	16	11	0	5	919½	796½	22
Brandon	16	8	0	8	877	837	16
Witnesham	16	4	0	12	802	918	8
Spixworth	16	1	0	15	721½	996½	2

DIVISION 2: TRIMLEY 57 (Rob Smith 14, A. Algar 12), CLAYDON 51 (D. Morgan 12, Turner 10); DEBENHAM 50 (Woods 11), CLAYDON 58 (D. Morgan 14, Stannard 13); TRIMLEY 73 (Goodchild 12), HETHERSETT 35; SOUTH WALSHAM 38 (Parkins 15, Williams 11), WOODBRIDGE 70 (Frost 11½); DEBENHAM 42, TRIMLEY 66 (A. Algar 15, Rob Smith 15, Giles 11); HETHERSETT 67½ (Bulcock 13½ Arfield 12), SOUTH WALSHAM 40½ (Parkins 14, Williams 10); HETHERSETT beat DEBENHAM on default; CLAYDON 53 (D. Morgan 13, Sutton 12), WOODBRIDGE 55 (Jay 15, French 10); WOODBRIDGE 63 (Turley 14, Bolton 12, Jay 12), TRIMLEY 45 (Rob Smith 14).

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts
WOODBRIDGE	10	10	0	0	666½	410½	20
Trimley	10	8	0	2	638	441	16
Claydon	10	5	1	4	547½	532½	11
Hethersett	10	3	1	6	494½	567½	7
Debenham	10	3	0	7	445	614	6
South Walsham	10	0	0	10	426½	652½	0

DIVISION 3: WITNESHAM "B" 37 (T. Emsden 15), GRUNDISBURGH 71 (Harvey 15); WOODBRIDGE "B" 65 (Bolton 15, Norton 14), CLAYDON "B" 42; CLAYDON "B" 53 (Cook 11), BRANDON "B" 53 (M. Squires 12, P. Squires 11, Rob Godbold 11); CLAYDON "B" 44 (Feaviour 12), GRUNDISBURGH 64 (Ray Smith 13, Rob Smith 12); WOODBRIDGE "B" 81 (Norton 15, Falconer 14), TRIMLEY "B" 26; WITNESHAM "B" 54 (Finch 13), CLAYDON "B" 54 (Turner 14); WOODBRIDGE "B" 60 (Falconer 15); BRANDON "B" 48 (M. Squires 12); BRANDON "B" 45 (Rob Godbold 13), GRUNDISBURGH 63 (Hart 13);

BIRMINGHAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, contd. from P. 9 produced some interesting racing and an entertaining meeting even though favourite Carl Nash from Kingstanding was not extended and won the trophy with a 15-point maximum. Kingstanding's Glyn Palmer took second place with 14 points and Oldbury's Paul Whitehouse with 13 points was third.

BIRMINGHAM LEAGUE "TOP TEN" RACE AVERAGES

1. PAUL TIMMS (Perry Hall) 2.71
2. Jim Drummond (Oldbury) 2.52
3. Peter Dalley (Oldbury) 2.50
4. Carl Nash (Kingstanding) 2.25
5. Dave Hobson (Kingstanding) ... 2.19
6. Graham Glover (Sedgley) 2.00
7. Peter Baker (Sedgley) 1.98
8. Graham Smith (Sedgley) 1.97
9. Dave Morgan (Pedmore) 1.96
10. Geoff Hickman (Sedgley) 1.91

GRUNDISBURGH 67 (Rob Smith 15, Hart 15), WITNESHAM "B" 41; GRUNDISBURGH 70 (Hart 13), CLAYDON "B" 38 (Crawford 11); GRUNDISBURGH 73 (Harvey 15, Rob Smith 13); WOODBRIDGE "B" 35; WITNESHAM "B" 58 (Illott 13, Finch 10); WOODBRIDGE "B" 50 (Waters 10); WOODBRIDGE "B" 55 (Falconer 14), WITNESHAM "B" 53 (Love 12); WITNESHAM "B" 51½ (Finch 11, Farnish 9, P. Emsden 9), TRIMLEY "B" 56½ (Goodchild 15, Revell 12, Hilton 9); TRIMLEY "B" 54 (Goodchild 15, D. Smith 13, J. Algar 9), WITNESHAM "B" 54 (Davey 10); GRUNDISBURGH 67 (Hart 13 Jessup 11), BRANDON "B" 40 (M. Squires 11); TRIMLEY "B" 46, GRUNDISBURGH 62 (Hunting 14 Hart 14, Harvey 12, Potter 10); WITNESHAM "B" 41 (Illott 12), BRANDON "B" 66 (Rob Godbold 14½, P. Squires 14, M. Squires 13½, Byrne 10); WOODBRIDGE "B" 42 (Waters 13, Bolton 11); GRUNDISBURGH 66 (Hart 13); BRANDON "B" 67 (P. Squires 15, Mayhew 14, M. Squires 13), CLAYDON "B" 41 (G. Morgan 11); CLAYDON "B" 58 (Grimwood 12), TRIMLEY "B" 50 (Hilton 13).

JOHN LEAMON IS CHAMPION

JOHN LEAMON OF SPIXWORTH IS THE NEW CHAMPION OF EAST ANGLIA. After losing to Mike Parkins in his first ride, he was given a second chance when the ex-World Champion was beaten by Trimley's Rob Smith in heat 20, and he led from the gate in the run-off.

Scoreboard

JOHN LEAMON (Spixworth)	14
Mike Parkins (South Walsham)	14
Mike Pryke (Galley)	12
Billy Whitehouse (Marsham)	11
Rob Smith (Trimley)	9
Dave Whitham (Galley)	8
Willy Kirk (Spixworth)	7
Timmy Emsden (Witnesham)	7
Ian Jay (Woodbridge)	6
Mick Sparrow (Witnesham)	6
Alan Marshall (Brandon)	6
Richie Godbold (Brandon)	6
Alan Algar (Trimley)	5
Tony Whitehouse (Marsham)	4
Peter Pease (South Walsham)	3
Eddie Webster (Debenham)	1
<u>Rider of the Year Points:</u> John Leamon 3	
Mike Parkins 2, Mike Pryke 1.	

EAST ANGLIAN LEAGUE DIVISION 3 FINAL TABLE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts
GRUNDISBURGH ..	10	10	0	0	668	410	20
Woodbridge "B" ..	10	6	1	3	567	511	13
Brandon "B" ..	10	5	1	4	553	521	11
Claydon "B" ..	10	3	2	5	491	586	8
Witnesham "B" ..	10	1	2	7	478½	599½	4
Trimley "B" ..	10	1	2	7	473½	603½	4

NORFOLK MID-WEEK LEAGUE

SOUTH WALSHAM 52 (Pease 14, Parkins 14)
 HETHERSETT 56 (Perkins 14, Bulcock 11); HETHERSETT 36, NORWICH 72 (Pilkrow 14, P.Boxall 14, R.Boxall 13); NORWICH 60½ (Hurrell 15 Hannant 12), HETHERSETT 47½ (Brown 10); NORWICH beat SOUTH WALSHAM on default.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts
NORWICH	6	6	0	0	424½	205½	12
Spixworth	6	4	0	2	339	308	8
Hethersett ...	6	1	0	5	271½	376½	2
South Walsham .	6	1	0	5	242	387	2

SPORT SURVIVES IN SCOTLAND

AFTER CYCLE SPEEDWAY COLLAPSED MID-SEASON IN GLASGOW, IT SEEMED THAT THE SPORT WAS FINISHED IN SCOTLAND, writes John Speirs.

However, the break hasn't done any harm as a hastily-arranged AGM on February 17 proved that there is sufficient interest to start up the league again with four or five teams. Concern for the sport's survival in Scotland has created a new atmosphere in which everyone here now realises the need for their fullest co-operation.

All experienced riders will be pooled in an effort to balance out team strengths as far as possible, and avoid having any team as powerful as Kingsway Knights have been during the past two seasons. Though standards undoubtedly will be much lower, this of course is of secondary importance.

TORQUAY TRACK DECISION SOON?

by Gordon Ward

TORQUAY'S WATCOMBE GULLS CYCLE SPEEDWAY CLUB ARE ANXIOUSLY AWAITING THE OUTCOME OF THEIR APPLICATION FOR A NEW TRACK-SITE.

It has already been passed by the Recreation Committee, but needs approval by the full Council which meets early March.

Since losing their previous ground, the Gulls have been sharing the Shaldon track.

NEW OXFORD LEAGUE

by John Vallis

A new Oxford League is being formed as a result of renewed interest sparked off by the success last season of the Headley and Horspath Clubs. Six teams comprising mainly first-year riders are expected to enter.

HIGH-FLYING HAWKS TOP HOME COUNTIES TABLE

by Ron Johnson*

AFTER ONLY TWO SEASONS IN THE HOME COUNTIES OXFORD'S HEADLEY HAWKS ARE LEAGUE CHAMPIONS.

Final table:-

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Pts
HEADLEY	16	13	1	2	962½	756½	34
Estuary	16	13	0	3	991	722	32
Basildon	16	5	0	11	841	879	13
Tolworth	16	5	0	11	738	975	13
Uxbridge	16	4	0	12	763½	952½	11

Headley also won the Home Counties Four a-sides, were finalists in the Knock-out Cup, and Ian Blunt won the Home Counties' junior individual championship.

The Oxford Club were the pacemakers for practically the whole season despite losing the services for several weeks of John Vallis through illness and Kim Waddup who sustained a broken collarbone. And they kept up the pressure right to the end of the season with fine away wins at Estuary and Uxbridge to clinch the title.

HOME COUNTIES LEAGUE. HEADLEY 63(J.Vallis 14,D.Vallis 12,Waddup 9),ESTUARY 45(Hockley 12,Wright 9);ESTUARY 60(Hockley 14,Nevard 13,Hemsley 9),TOLWORTH 48(Herbert 12,Johnson 10); TOLWORTH 29 (Kirk 12),ESTUARY 78 (Nevard 14,Hockley 12,Wright 12,Symonds 11 Currey 10);ESTUARY 72(Nevard 15,Hockley 15 Wright 11),UXBRIDGE 35(Stone 10); ESTUARY 53(Hockley 14,Wright 9,Hemsley 8),HEADLEY 54 (D.Vallis 13, J.Vallis 10, Waddup 9).
HOME COUNTIES 4-A-SIDE SHIELD. HEADLEY 48 (Waddup 15,Hall 12,D.Vallis 12,Hodgkins 9), TOLWORTH 22(Brimson 11,Kitching 5,Mather 5, Robinson 1),ESTUARY 20(Hemsley 6,Wright 6 Nevard 4,Vining 4), BASILDON 12(P.Johnson 4, Strutt 3, Hodgson 3, Joiner 2).

Altogether it was a satisfying and rewarding season for the young Headley riders. Although the Home Counties had only a small league, opposing teams contained many very experienced riders who made the Hawks earn every point. With their average age only 17½, a bright future is predictable. They must surely make their presence felt in National competitions in the next few years.

COUNTIES TABLE

*THE NAME'S THE SAME ... but not to be confused with the Cycle Speedway Council's Public Relations Officer, our reporter Ron Johnson is the newly-appointed Press Officer of the Headley Club. From 1947-52 he rode for Watlington Wagtails in the Oxfordshire League, returning to the sport in 1970 as Headley team manager. After two years he relinquished the managership to concentrate on refereeing until his new appointment. He is also chairman of the new Oxford League.

EARLSDON WERE MIDLAND WINNERS

COVENTRY CHAMPIONS, EARLSDON HAMMERS WERE WINNERS OF THE NEW MIDLAND LEAGUE, WITH STOKE POTTERS OCCUPYING THE SECOND SPOT.

Results & Scorers

WEDNESFIELD 95(Rowe 16,Stallard 15,Baugh 14),WHITLEY 81(Bainbridge 16, Trevatt 14 Averns 14);WEDNESFIELD 104(McCormack 19, M.Pedley 17,Stallard 17,Hodges 16,Bate m an 16), KINGSTANDING 73(Nash 13,Hobson 13); STOKE 94(Moss 19,Pennington 16),EARLSDON 78(Hemming 17);STOKE 91(Moss 19,Foster 17 Pennington 16), WHITLEY 83 (Jackson 15); WEDNESFIELD beat BRANDON on default;WEDNESFIELD 109(Guest 19,Bateman 18,M.Pedley 16,Aris 15,ELLIS 13), STOKE 68(Moss 13); STOKE 108 (Moss 20,Hassall 17,Pratt 16), KINGSTANDING 66(Underhill 15);EARLSDON v WEDNESFIELD void;KINGSTANDING 70(Nash 14 McLaughlin 14),WEDNESFIELD 101(McCormack 19,Hodges 17,Rathbone 17,Stallard 15,Trethouen 14);EARLSDON 96(Turner 19,Hemming 15,Taylor 15),STOKE 71(Moss 16);STOKE 92 (McCue 19,Moss 17,Foster 16),WEDNESFIELD 84 (Stallard 16); WHITLEY v STOKE void; KINGSTANDING 65 (Nash 15), STOKE 106(Moss 20, Foster 20, McCue 15).

Leading in the final ... then Powell is in a pile-up

McDONALD TAKES AUSSIE TITLE

from MICK HARLEY

ONE HUNDRED RIDERS INCLUDING ELEVEN FROM PERTH IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA, WHO CAME 1,700 MILES BY BUS, AND ENGLISH IMMIGRANTS EDDIE FORDHAM AND RICHARD POWELL, TOOK PART IN THE 1973-4 AUSTRALIAN CYCLE SPEEDWAY CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD AT FINDON, S.A., ON JANUARY 20.

The weather was not in our favour as it was a hot and humid 90°F. Eddie Fordham, who had driven himself 1,000 miles from Sydney, NSW, to compete in the championship didn't mind the hot weather but poor Richard suffered. The programme of Open, Junior and Midget title events went on for a non-stop mammoth 5½-hours.

Final placings in the Open final were all filled by Findon riders: 1st. Graham McDonald, 2nd. Greg Richards, 3rd. John Stanton, and 4th. Brian Morris.

BUT IT WAS THE FORMER THURROCK BOY, RICHARD POWELL, WHO DESPITE FAILING TO GET A SEMI-FINAL PLACING ALMOST BECAME THE NEW AUSTRALIAN CHAMPION AT HIS FIRST ATTEMPT.

Let me explain ... in our championships riders have to come 1st, 2nd or 3rd in elimination heats to qualify for the preliminary final. From this stage they go into the semi-final and then on to the final.

But there are repechage heats following the elimination heats, and after the preliminary final and semi-final to give the riders a second chance. There are eight riders in each race, including the final.

Eddie Fordham started out on his English bike but found he was pushing like hell and getting nowhere so he borrowed one of our bikes. Then he rode great and it wasn't until the semi-final repechage that he was eliminated.

Richard Powell rode borrowed bikes all day. He didn't get a placing in the semi-final heat and his last chance to get into the final was to finish 1st or 2nd in the semi-final repechage. In the repechage he came second, beating Eddie Fordham by about six inches.

In the semi-final Richard drew barrier 4 and the race had to be restarted seven times due to Richard cutting off the inside riders. In the process he wrote off four of his borrowed bikes, and that's a record of "wipe outs" of machines at a race-start.

Richard was chatted by the Chief Steward three times for "dangerous" riding. I gather racing is much more robust in the UK. Anyway as it's hard to change a racing style quite a bit of leniency was shown to both Richard and Eddie.

In the final Richard drew barrier 4 again and he bounced into an early lead with the 1,000 crowd going wild cheering him on... then on the second lap he went down on the corner and Findon rider Graham McDonald took the lead, and the title.

As Richard went down he was hit by the other seven bikes as the riders were all bunched up, and it's a wonder he managed to walk off the track. If he had not been wearing a crash helmet, he could have ended up in hospital. Helmets are compulsory in cycle speedway in Australia.

Richard was obviously very disappointed at being so close to becoming Australian champion. He went back to Sydney bearing quite a few scars and vowing that he would be back for the South Australian title at the end of this year, and the 1975 Aussie Championships in January next year.

Eddie Fordham also thinks our racing is great. He'll also be back for next year's championship and he is thinking seriously about coming to South Australia to race a full season at Findon.

AUSSIES HERE 'N 1975

THE AUSTRALIANS ARE PLANNING TO VISIT THE UK IN 1975 FOR INTERNATIONALS AND MATCHES AGAINST CLUB SIDES. They are due to arrive in London on April 30 and will stay three months - full details in the next SPOKESMAN

DEREK DECIDES TO CALL IT A DAY

GARNETT IN ACTION

Derek leads Colin Wheeler and Brian Gilliland (Horspath) in a heat of the 1971 E.P.Litt Trophy at Oxford, which he went on to win ...



OVER 100 CYCLE SPEEDWAY RIDERS AND OFFICIALS, PAST AND PRESENT, GATHERED AT CHAPEL HOUSE HOTEL, DENTON, TO PAY TRIBUTE TO A MAN WHO HAS GIVEN OVER TWENTY-ONE YEARS TO THE SPORT AS A RIDER, TEAM MANAGER, AND LEAGUE OFFICIAL.

The man is Derek Garnett, who has retired from racing at 36 years of age. He was presented with an automatic tea-maker on behalf of Manchester, Stockport and District Cycle Speedway Association by the chairman, Jimmy Cobain. On behalf of the Offerton Club, Derek was presented with a watch by his former Offerton and England team partner, Tony Hardy.

The presentation was kept a secret from Derek. It was just like being on "This is Your Life" he said, with wife June who was "in" on the secret making up all sorts of stories to get him to the hotel where all his friends were waiting.

Derek was without doubt very moved by the proceedings, and when he had got over the shock, and tried to thank everyone, for once he was almost at a loss for words.

Derek first became nationally famous when in his second National final at Fleet he took third place and apart from his two years National Service he has appeared in every final since 1955, winning the title

four times, and being placed second twice and third three times.

On the international scene, he first rode for England in 1956 and has captained the England team for the past ten years.

Derek's determined riding has brought him over 200 trophies in individual and team events all over the country, and under his rider-management, the team he formed and has managed since 1952, Offerton Devils, became the country's most successful side.

Although retiring from racing Derek will still manage the Offerton Club and will also continue in office as vice-chairman of the Manchester, Stockport and District League

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