



The Dark Side

Doncaster Wheelers – July 2008 Edition

A NEW HERO FOR THE WHEELERS IS HERE!



Evesham Vale Road Race

The cold, wet and windy conditions did not deter the 70 starters of the Evesham Vale road race. After 10 miles, 5 riders managed to escape the grasp of the main bunch. The conditions made it very difficult to forge a lead and they were soon brought back by the bunch.

Shortly after Ian Alexander (Cheltenham and County) attacked and was joined by 3 other riders. They were then joined by a further 4 other riders. They managed to work well in the tough conditions and built a lead of 30 seconds over the chasing bunch. As the speed increased, 3 riders lost touch with the breakaway, leaving 5 riders to contest the first prime which was won by Andy Eagers (Derby Mercury).

With the break still working well, the second prime was won easily by Rob Watkinson (Doncaster wheelers). The break managed to pull its lead to 1 minute with a chasing bunch dwindling in numbers in the harsh conditions leaving the 5 breakaways to contest the finish. With Rob Watkinson (Doncaster Wheelers) the strongest in the break winning the sprint.

1. Rob Watkinson Doncaster Wheelers

2. Andy Eagers Derby Mercury
3. Ben Eedy South Pennine RT

Report Courtesy of British Cycling, Report: Julie Stockdale, Images: Sally Maier

MID SUMMER MADNESS IN AID OF 'FIREFLY'



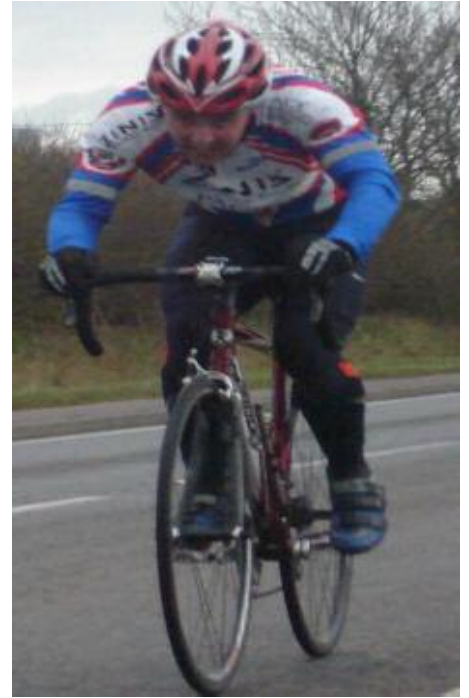
Just a couple of photos to show the support riders gave to the Firefly Cancer Foundation by raising money through a sponsored ride on midsummer's night from Doncaster to the Humber Bridge and back. Well done to all who made it and raised money for a worthy cause.

CLUB EVENTS GET UNDERWAY

Big Ian Furniss got his year off to a winning start, clocking 34.15 in the unseasonably unspringlike conditions - not a pair of shorts to be seen. Sensible or soft? First man back to the timekeeper was Adam Weaver who finished in 35.04 which was good enough for 2nd place. He held the lead for 1min 11 secs before the big man powered in. Next man home was Big Dog Daddy Garry Ward, whose 38.47 was to be the 3rd fastest, but with a stupendously generous 7mins handicap he was top man in the handicap competition sponsored by Sid Scoop. Reigning Premier Handicap League Champion Jamie Chester was the next man to finish dipping under 40mins with an excellent 39.57. Just behind Jamie, Big Dog was giving it some big licks, out of the saddle & sprinting for the line on his new shiny black bike as Sizzlers stopwatch stopped at 43.19. Keith Whittaker also managed to slip under the 40mins barrier with 39.26 & then the thousands in attendance & millions watching around the world held their breath as Dan The Man put in his final effort. Sizzler surveyed his stopwatch, every second relentlessly ticking by.

- Actual times**
- 34.15 Ian Furniss
 - 35.04 Adam Weaver
 - 38.47 Big Dog Daddy
 - 39.26 Keith Whittaker
 - 39.57 Jamie Chester
 - 43.19 Big Dog & Dan The Man

- Handicap times**
- 31.47 Big Dog Daddy
 - 32.19 Big Dog
 - 32.26 Keith Whittaker
 - 32.27 Jamie Chester
 - 34.04 Adam Weaver
 - 34.15 Ian Furniss
 - 36.19 Dan The Man



Garry Ward shows the strain!)

As Dan crossed the line, Sizzlers right index finger snapped instinctively on the button & the LCD froze on the screen. Sizzler calmly announced the reading from the clock & there were gasps of amazement as the Scoopster announced that Dan's time was exactly the same as Big Dogs, 43.19. Dale Coan summed up the moment, " I'd have thought there was more chance of an earthquake in Doncaster & Barnsley reaching the semi-final of the FA Cup than the terrible twins recording the same time on this circuit." At Rosie's Cafe, Sizzler announced that the times could be broken down to 1/100ths of a second which only added further intrigue. Without photo finish equipment linked to the clock though, it would only be unofficial. The official result is a draw.

OPEN EVENT NEWS

In the VTTA (N Mids) 18k tt at Blyth, Blaxton's record breaking British Best All Rounder Kevin Dawson, riding for GS Strada, produced a magnificent 22m 28s effort to clinch victory by 20secs. Former North Midlands Juvenile Champion at 10 miles Alex Wallis was fastest Junior in 25.51 edging out team-mate Dave Furniss by 1sec. Current North Midlands Juvenile 10 miles Champion Adam Oliver won his category with 26.45. Former Northern 800 & 1500m athletics champion Rob Watkinson made an encouraging return to his original sport by finishing in 2nd place in the first of the Darley Moor Road Race series in Derbyshire. John Hadley finished in the main group sprinting for 3rd place.

BRITISH SCHOOLS CYCLING ASSOC YORKSHIRE REGION TT

Dan the Man finished 2nd in the under 16's with 22.38 while Big Dog clocked 24.45 for 4th place. 3 weeks to go to the GHS

In an exclusive interview, Dan the Man said "What time did Bash do on Wednesday?" In another exclusive interview, Big Dog said "How far would I have been behind Bash?"

Well Bash, now you're top of the Premier Handicap League they are all after you! I could recommend John Hadley's latest book "How to cope with the pressure of leading the Premier Handicap League." It gives an interesting insight into the man the myths etc & is available from all poor bookshops.

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS

Its that time of year again, so without further a do please pay up, you know it makes sense and its such good value as well. We still have a *great number* of members with outstanding payments for 2008 so its time to check and pay up if its you or risk having your names published! Be Warned! When paying subscriptions please send them direct to the secretary Trevor Siddons at the address shown or hand them in to Don Valley Cycles, with your name clearly marked on the envelope.

Fees for 2008 remain unchanged at the following rates:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Under 16's | FREE |
| Junior (16-18), | £5.00 |
| Seniors | £10.00 |
| O.A.P, Members Wife, 2nd | £10.00 |
| Claim Membership | |

T. Siddons
36 School Lane
Auckley
Doncaster

GET IT WHILE ITS STILL THERE!



Club Clothing



Here is a list of the Club clothing stock that is at Don Valley Cycles, while its still there at very competitive prices (to Club members only) treat yourself before the fine weather arrives...or in the case of the winter tops, before it arrives! Remember open to paid up club members only. £10 membership never seemed such good value.

| | XS | S | M | L | XL | XXL |
|------------------------------|----|---|---|---|----|-----|
| Long Sleeve Winter Top (£40) | | | | | | 1 |
| Shorts (£26) | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | | |
| Long Sleeve Top (£23) | | 2 | 6 | 1 | 6 | |
| Skin Suit Short Sleeve (£40) | | 2 | 4 | | 3 | 2 |
| Short Sleeve Tops (£20) | | | 5 | 6 | 6 | |



Womens 10' Record Smashed



Its all been put down to the food her mum cooked on a recent visit, but it certainly did the trick as Bash smashed the women's club 10' record with a superb 23:48 in the YCF 10 recently held on the V718 course near Hull. Also doing well in the event was Adam Oliver who produced a superb 21:48.

PREMIER 10' HANDICAP LEAGUE 2008

The Evening 10 series Time Trail event runs, every Wednesday at 7.00pm. Please note the earlier start time of the first and last events. The course is based at Ancient Lane, Hatfield Woodhouse, Near Doncaster, just off the A18. Enter on the line. Entry is £2 and is open to anyone to ride although entry into the Premier Handicap League is only open to Club Members.

Due to new regulations we will need warning signs (supplied) putting up for each event and marshals in place at the turn each week. If you can help at all please let Trevor Siddons know. We can't keep relying upon the same ones each year as dependable as they are. Without these requirements the events will not run!

As of 04/07/08 the current Premier Handicap Leader is Alex Perkins who has been leading the table for a while with consistent results. Graham Motram has continued his comeback with a strong second place at the moment, just waiting for summer for that final push for the title. Ever present and ex champion John Hadley (even with recently breaking his wrist) is chasing hard but must surly accept that the title has now slipped from his grasp.

Event Details

| Course | Distance | Time | Day | Date |
|------------------|----------|--------|-----------|---------|
| Hatfield-Blaxton | 10miles | 7.00pm | Wednesday | 2/7/08 |
| Hatfield-Blaxton | 10miles | 7.00pm | Wednesday | 9/7/08 |
| Hatfield-Blaxton | 10miles | 7.00pm | Wednesday | 16/7/08 |
| Hatfield-Blaxton | 10miles | 7.00pm | Wednesday | 23/7/08 |
| Hatfield-Blaxton | 10miles | 7.00pm | Wednesday | 30/7/08 |
| Hatfield-Blaxton | 10miles | 7.00pm | Wednesday | 6/8/08 |
| Hatfield-Blaxton | 10miles | 7.00pm | Wednesday | 13/8/08 |
| Hatfield-Blaxton | 10miles | 6.30pm | Wednesday | 20/8/08 |



FRITES, BEER AND BIKE RACING

From our roving European Correspondent Jack Ibbotson

A little update from my trip to Belgium. I'm living in Leuven and loving it (see what I did there with the L's). Its a Uni city close by to Brussels, the place that dictates to you what your banana's and tomatoes look like. Its Flemish speaking (Dutch) but is really close to the French speaking south. The beers good, that s a simple fact, the chocolate is also which is surprising because my unsophisticated pallet has now become accustomed to them.

I've been biking a fair bit riding out with uni guys has been good, I think some of them are in a semi pro team so its been tough, although non of them have been out till 4 and then gone out training so I get the best alcoholic cyclist prize!

The race on Saturday was 138km and b'jaysus it was hard, pan flat circuit, windy, 22 (tweentwintig) laps around a rundown suburban town of Brussels Vilvoorde which also had a fun fair and concert going on! got there with 40mins to sign on organise licence etc (things never change). Set off and it was fast but I felt ok, dodged a couple of near misses by other riders with curbs etc in a bunch of about 190 riders, and was at the half way point feeling like Belgian racing wasn't so tough...then it got faster, and then faster again, not on the tailwind section as we had all been spinning the 12 sprocket up until that point, but on the crosswind section! needless to say I was too far towards the back and weedy and when a rider let a gap open I couldn't do anything to rejoin, so did 10 laps of 22, just under 70km.



Pretty embarrassing so I went back to the train station and home! I still had my race kit on and the train guard started talking to me, asking where I was from etc and let me sit in first class! Sunday came pretty quickly, spending the night in a bar playing cards probably wasn't good prep but I was in bed before 12 and only had two recovery leffe's. this one was shorter at 113km but I had to ride the 20km there Leuven to Kerkom. A good warm up and I had plenty of time to get sorted etc. on the way to signing in I rode along with a guy who was still in normal clothing and trainers, he almost dropped me on the way up to the inscribing signing in! this was a bit of a blow to my confidence but in the end it turned out that he won the race! I managed to get round the 9 laps aok and even managed an attack on the climb! by the end i was spent and didn't risk sprinting, three of my uni buddies went to watch and I ended up having to push one of the girls a fair bit on the way back! (she's pretty so it didn't matter) anyway this week I have a race in the same area as Boutersem, Beauchevain, in the Wallon region, the roads here are really grippy and also its surprisingly lumpy so will have to see how I get on with it.

RACING NEWS ON THE HOME FRONT

In the first Doncaster Wheelers Wednesday evening time trial of 2008, Gordon Corrie produced the fastest time of 21mins 3secs. This gave him the verdict by 7secs from Dale Coan on a course shortened to 8 miles due to roadworks. Other Wheelers riders & times were John Hadley 21.51, Andy Williams 22.12, Graham Mottram 23.23, Bash Tufekci 23.48, Wayne Engledow 24.12, Alex Perkin 24.19 & Bradley Burleigh 27.43. Fastest rider on handicap was Bash, who took advantage of her 7mins allowance to clock 16.48.

Former Northern 800m & 1500m athletics champion Rob Watkinson has made a successful transition back to his original sport. In the Evesham Valley Road Race over 70km, he was a convincing winner in the sprint finish from a group of 5 which had dominated the race. Watkinson confirmed his early season form by finishing 4th in the Bridlington CC Road Race over 72km the following week. Team mate Ian Furniss, who was 4th in the National 12 hours Championship in 2005, showed his versatility with a comfortable victory in the Seacroft Wheelers Road Race over 62km.

OPEN 25' NEWS

The weather gods have not smiled on us this year as what may have been Trevors last open event promotion was cancelled as riders rolled to the start line due to torrential rain making the course unsafe to ride. A sad end to the day, but many thanks go to all who helped in whatever way to organise or even enter the event.

The Final Word.....

'Nothing ever happens in the Wheelers!'