



# THE GODFATHER PART C5

The North Bucks Road Club Newsletter  
January 2005



## In This Issue...

A trip into the unknown

Old pictures

First race report of  
2005!

Upcoming Reliability  
Trials and Audax

Chairman's Column

## Editorial

Welcome to 2005!

Here is the second issue under my editorial. This time we have

Other news related to the Newsletter concerns the relaunch of the club website. I re-implemented this over the Christmas break. I was sent the original website files, but since I don't understand PHP programming it was less than useful. Anyway, I've got the domain name <http://www.northbucksroadclub.org.uk> so point your browsers that way! Club newsletters, starting with the December 2004 issue will be available in pdf format for download from <http://www.northbucksroadclub.org.uk/newsletters.html>. If you wish to continue receiving a hard copy, please tell Dick Selley or Russ Page - we're assuming that all members with web access will just download their copies. Hard copies will of course be printed off for those without web access (although these copies will be in dull

monochrome rather than technicolour).

I'd like to take the opportunity to invite contributions to the web pages, as well as to this newsletter. I'm trying to keep to a weekly update, though I do update the news page as soon as I'm sent material for it.

In this issue, we have contributions from several club members. I plan to include reports of the monthly club committee meeting, but I've not had the opportunity since I've not been sent anything about these.

Wayne has said that we should have up to date club clothing pricing for 2005 soon, and when this arrives, I'll put details on the club website and in the newsletters

If you want to know more about this issue's cover photo, see page 9.

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### POST-PRANDIAL RAMBLINGS - CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

It has been suggested that the Chairman should provide a column for the Clun Newsletter. I am happy to do this, but cannot guarantee one for every issue. Here is the first attempt!

I thoroughly enjoyed the (belated) 2004 Club Dinner on 7 January at Henry's Table, Furzton Lake, Anyone who left there hungry was either (a) a liar, or (b) has worms! I was also encouraged to see such a good attendance of over 40 club members and guests, and it was a pleasure to encounter so many faces not often seen.

Many thanks and much respect to Ian Stokes for making all the arrangements. The only complaint I have heard was that there was too much noise drifting up from the pub/restaurant on the ground floor. I am sure there is a solution to that we can take into consideration for next time.

And congratulations to the prize winners, most of whom were "the usual suspects", but also included some new names. Hopefully we will see more new names able to challenge for honours this season.

The new racing season will be on us all too soon, and I am hearing tales of the rigours of winter training programmes already. But it's supposed to hurt guys if it is to lead to good results! Elsewhere the club runs continue with a hardcore of regulars and sundry others joining from time to time. Hopefully numbers will increase as the weather improves. Keep an eye on Tony Farmborough's excellent e-mails for details of club runs past and future.

We have just held the first Committee meeting of 2005 and the minutes should appear elsewhere in this issue. One of the subjects discussed was the methods used to distribute the newsletter and other important information. It would be useful if you could all indicate on your membership application/renewal forms if you cannot receive e-mails or would prefer to receive your news by post. E-mail distribution is cheaper for the club but is important that ALL NBRC members receive the latest information promptly.

On membership, please do not forget the deadline for renewing your membership - 31 March 2005 at the very latest

Bryan

11 January 2005

**Don't Forget to Renew your Membership!**  
**The Membership Form is on Page 10**  
**You know it makes sense...**

## A TRIP INTO THE UNKNOWN.

It was quite a cold morning as I started back on my ride through the lanes in Buckinghamshire that morning two weeks before Christmas and it felt as though my fingers were about to freeze up on me. Then suddenly it got very dark and the drizzle which had first started as rain, then sleet and was making it much more uncomfortable. A few minutes later the heavy snow came down quite fast and within a short time the road was covered in the stuff and it was becoming quite difficult to see the road ahead. The lights on the bike were normally quite adequate under normal conditions but the snow rendered them now almost useless.

By now I was about ten miles from home but with the weather getting worse every minute it might as well have been a hundred, so without hesitation I decided to take shelter at the first opportunity no matter what it was. Suddenly I spotted what looked like a farm cottage at the end of a short lane leading off the tarmac road I was on. Suspecting it was just a mud cart track under the snow covering I decided to walk the short distance to it pushing the bike. This proved to be a wise move as it turned out to be very bumpy and slippery and certainly would have been quite dangerous to ride on.

On approaching the cottage the sight of quite a large welcoming porch at the front door looked like a good place to shelter until the snowstorm passed on, the fact that the owner might not welcome a stranger under it just didn't even cross my mind at the time. The cold and damp of the snow just numbed my brain and I just wanted to get out of it and if I had to explain my presence there that was another thing.

Leaning my bike against the porch wall I then beat my hands together to restore the circulation in them and shake most of the snow from the rest of my body. But at the same time trying not to get too much of it in the porch area where I stood. It was then that I started to look around at the cottage curious to see if my presence there had been noticed, but there just didn't seem to be any sign of life inside at all and considering the weather there were no visible lights on in the place.

Whether it was a patch of snow or the fact that I was slightly unsteady on my feet I'm not quite sure of but as I turned back from looking at the windows of the cottage. I somehow lost my balance and fell heavily against the front door that then opened with a creak, and spilled me on the floor inside. The noise of my falling was most worrying thinking that the owners would almost certainly have heard it and would come to investigate.

As I sat on the mat trying to get my breath back I looked around at the dark and dismal hallway wondering just what sort of people lived in the place. It was at this point I noticed a most peculiar smell not the sort that is usual in farm cottages, but one that I'd never come into contact with before it was as though an animal had died recently in the place and had been left there to rot. I glanced around the hallway once more and noticed a newspaper on the table, it looked as if had just been placed there that morning and curiosity got the better of me and I walked over and glanced at it's front page.

Staring at me was the headlines. BURGLAR SHOT BY FARMER. The thought of that happening to me was frightening and getting caught in someone's house without

being invited didn't bear thinking about. Then I noticed the date of the newspaper no wonder it was covered in a film of dust, it was dated June the second over six months ago and apart from the dust looked unopened and unread. My mind was in a whirl should I just leave? Or on the other hand perhaps the owner was unwell and needed help of some sort.

It was then that I noticed the hall cupboard door just slightly ajar with a glimmer of light coming from inside it, a light that wasn't obvious from outside. I hesitated a moment then moved slowly towards the cupboard, as I moved nearer the smell got worse but curiosity is one of my failings and I just had to know just what was in that small cupboard. It was only when I drew level that it dawned on me that this small opening was also a stairway to a lower floor and that the dim light was put there for safety.

Glancing around to make sure there was still nobody around I cautiously and slowly crept down the rickety wooden stairs, by now the smell was really getting much worse and I was fearful of what was going to be in the room below. But never the less I kept moving until reaching the cob-webbed battered door at the bottom. Lifting the latch I pushed it slowly open an inch at a time it creaked and groaned, as though it hadn't been used for years. And when it had travelled as far as possible, I could see by the dim light of a small window what the room contained and it wasn't a pretty sight. There sitting slumped across a chair was the body of a middle aged man who had obviously been dead for a considerable time, and scattered around him on the floor was the contents of an empty bottle of pills.

The poor man was obviously past help and as I looked at him in horror there was a strange noise from behind the door that I'd just entered, then suddenly two huge rats scurried past me and disappeared down a hole in the floor. At this moment I decided to leave this terribly depressing scene but wondered how I could inform the authorities without incriminating myself too much. I returned to the floor above hoping to either find someone else alive in the house or a telephone to dial 999. There was unfortunately nobody else in the house and the phone didn't seem to work.

I left the cottage and started to walk slowly down the lane wheeling the now very frozen bike and then remembered that my mobile was in the saddle-bag. Leaning the bike against a tree I dialled emergency services gave them a brief description of what I'd just found a vague sort of location and said I was a tramp looking for a place to sleep the night, then rang off quickly when they started asking too many questions. I then went very slowly home still shaking with fear at what had just happened to me, the snow had eased a little by then and the sun was beginning to peep from behind the clouds.

Arriving back home the smell of dinner cheered me up no end as I entered the house, and even the comment from my wife was welcome.

"Had a nice ride dear? Pity about the snow, but it didn't last very long did it?"

As I was much too wet and cold to answer her properly I just grunted. "Not bad. didn't go far really, it's much too



cold." Then I hastily put the bike in the garage showered and got dressed for lunch.

The following week the national and local newspapers were full of the story about farm cottage of death, and what the police had discovered after a tip off by a disappearing tramp was a tragedy much worse than what I had stumbled upon. They checked the premises quite thoroughly and discovered the farmers wife and young child dead behind a recently bricked up wall in an outbuilding, together with a shotgun he'd used before taking his own life in a downstairs room. The police were still checking with all the families friends and acquaintances to help with their murder enquiry.

I did confide in my wife shortly after the incident and made her promise not to tell a soul that it was me who discovered the body, I just didn't want to get involved further in something I just wanted to forget about. Unfortunately some days later as I was wheeling my bike down the drive on the way to work a police car stopped outside and a smiling constable beckoned me over.

"Good morning sir. Can you spare a few moments?"

Not wanting the neighbour's to think that I was in trouble with the police I nodded and decided to take him to the privacy of my house.

"I think perhaps you'd better come indoors officer." He then followed me back to the house where he nervously removed his hat, we then moved to the lounge where once seated I looked cautiously at him and wondered just what he'd come for. "How can I help you officer?"

"Well sir I first need to establish the fact that you own a mobile phone with this number on it? He then pulled out from his pocket a notebook and showed me a number. It was of course mine and I just wondered how the hell he'd come by it.

My mind was in a whirl could they have possibly have traced my call at the farmhouse, that was very unlikely. So I then decided to lie just a little if they had.

I stared at my phone number on his pad and nodded. "Yes that is my number! What's the problem?" He replaced the notebook in his pocket before answering.

Well it's like this sir last week we had a message from this number alerting us to a tragedy at a farm cottage nearby, but the caller said he was a tramp can you explain this? I smiled nervously this was not my style really especially trying to fool the police they were usually much too clever for the likes of us.

"Yes that is my number alright, but unfortunately I lost that mobile or misplaced it quite some time ago. Perhaps somebody found it."

This answer seemed to do the trick because he then smiled and moved to get up and leave. "Thank you sir, you've certainly cleared up that little matter. Thank you for your time I hope I haven't delayed you too much."

At the beginning of the drive I started to wheel my bike alongside him after locking the front door, he glanced down at the front wheel then got out his notebook and glanced at it. I wondered just what he was up to.

"Excuse me sir can you stop a moment please?"

My heart was now racing faster what was wrong ? Had I

overlooked something?

He stooped down to look closer at my front tyre and checked it with his notebook which contained a blown up copy of a tyre tread that looked very similar to mine but ever so slightly blurred. He looked at me with a very stern stare, there was no smile on his face this time I was caught that was for sure.

Well that was it they kept me down at the station for about three hours one of which was waiting for my lawyer who presence saved me from a lot of trouble. The main problem was trying to explain my reason for being out on a bike in that sort of weather for so long they laughed saying that I must have been out of my mind. Well how do you explain a compulsive sport like riding a bike to someone who has never done it? You just can't. Anyway they finally let me off with a caution after a lot of grilling. As I was leaving the sergeant behind the desk called out.

"Have a nice Christmas sir."

## Reliability Rides

### The NBRC Reliability Ride

The NBRC Reliability Ride to Brill will depart from Harley Hall at 0900 on 6th March 2005. make sure you turn up promptly for our annual ride.

In addition, there are three upcoming Audax rides that the club has interest in. They are as follows:

Sunday 20th March 09.00 hrs. Great Kingshill, High Wycombe 108km.

Sunday 3rd April 10.30 hrs Stevenage 115km.

Sunday the 17th April 10.00 hrs Willington, E of Bedford 102km.

Check the Audax UK website for more details on Audax events.

### Other Reliability Rides

Here are details of two other upcoming reliability trials:

**20/02/05**, 0930 (long route) 1000 (short route) in Warwickshire and Northants. Event HQ is the Village Hall, Dunchurch, Rugby Road, A426 (open from 0830). The short route is 40 miles, long route 66 miles. Entry fee £5.00. For further details contact Martin Hackley, The Heathfield, Bilton Lane, Dunchurch, Warwickshire, CV22 6PT, Tel 01788-810212. Eemail mvh@qatechnology.co.uk

**27/02/05**, 0930 (long route) 1030 (short route) in Warwickshire and the Cotswolds (Mick Ives' training roads). Event HQ, Maxwell Cafe, Brooke Farm Nurseries, Gibbett Hill, Stoneleigh Rd, between Kenilworth and Coventry. Short route 40 miles, Long route 68 miles, entry fee £5.00. Contact Mick Ives, 78 Mill Hill, Baginton Nr Coventry, CV8 3AG, Tel 02476-304009, email bikeking@connectfree.co.uk

Make sure you arrive at the HQ at least 30 minutes prior to the start. These are not races, but all riders completing the full distance will receive a certificate recording their time. All riders take part at their own risk, a disclaimer form will be signed. Riders under 16 require parental consent.

## NBRC Prizewinners, 2004

Prizes were presented at the Club dinner held on 7th January 2005, splendidly organised by Ian Stokes.

Trophy	Recipient
New Year's Day '10'	Robert Saunders (23:30)
Pine Rudi Cup	Leigh Smith (21:23)
P & D Hill Climb Cup	Robert Saunders (2:37.4)
10 mile cup	Leigh Smith (21:23)
25 mile Sewell Cup	Leigh Smith (53:03)
50 mile cup	Robert Saunders (1:55:35)
100 mile cup	not awarded
Mike Westmoreland Div 1	Ian Marshall
Mike Westmoreland Div 2	Mark Halliday
Mike Westmoreland Div 3	Alan Lawson
W J Goodman Mem Cup	not awarded
Goodman RR Trophy	Leigh Smith
Newcomers Cup	Warren Stokes
Vets RR Trophy	not awarded
Bec CC Trophy	not awarded
Ladies Cup	not awarded
Dick Goodman Mem Trophy	not awarded
Tempat Angor Betawi Jug	Tony Parks
Freewheel Trophy	not awarded
Cinzano Trophy	Leigh Smith
Short distance BAR trophy	Robert Saunders
President's Plate	Tony Farmborough
Brush Cup	Derek Taylor
Stirrer's Award	Bryan Scarborough
Tarmac Trophy	Dave Atkinson

Once again, many thanks to Ian Stokes for organising the 2004 (2005?) club dinner and presentation. Many of us felt that holding it after Christmas was actually an improvement.

## Old Pictures

Russ Page was good enough to send me a CD of images originally compiled for the club's 50th anniversary dinner the other year. Of course, I am a relative newcomer to the club, and I find I haven't a clue as to the identity of many of the people in the photos, especially the older ones.

I would welcome information about some of the pictures - as I get it, I'll add them to the web pages.



Who are these guys fixing what looks like an Osgear?



Who's this, sitting on a milestone in France?

Above - Who are these guys, and where are they?

In addition, I have a number of group photos of 1950s cyclists. I've started putting these on the website, and I'd welcome information to add to captions for them. Bear in mind I don't mean joke captions! I do feel these are really lovely pictures.

I would also like some nice action photos of current racers in action. Of particular interest are pictures from the 2004 Gorey three day stage race. Make sure you get some good ones this year!

Robert

## Stretching the Easy Way

I would like to point out that there is an important bit of stretching that should be done daily, and the older you get the more necessary it becomes. So without inflicting too much pain in doing so try to start the day by doing it in easy stages. First turn your head to the right then to the left, with arms raised to the front and back straight. Stretch your fingers out then bend them as much as possible one at a time.

Touch your toes with legs as straight as possible and comfortable, then bend your knees and try to sit on your heels. Stretch your legs to the left then right then try a few high kicks. If you can remember try and breathe deeply as much as possible during these exercises. Stretch arms one at a time towards the ceiling as many times as you can. Then whilst waiting for the kettle to boil or the toast to pop up do small exercises like rolling the ankles and stretching the legs one at a time behind you. You will by now you will have stretched almost everything you've got and some parts you'd almost forgotten.

Everyone has an opinion of what suits them best, but you really need to keep yourself supple a bit more than the average person as cyclists. Then with a few good tips from some of the more experienced riders in the club you can't go far wrong. Good luck, health, and good thinking. And stretch your mind.

Rina Brown.

## Website Updates

I have been trying to keep the website updated regularly. In particular this includes club run reports, which I add as I receive them (usually from Tony Farmborough). I've started adding some photos to the Photo Gallery. I'm keen to keep the site easy to use and navigate, while keeping away from fancy stuff that can confuse some web browsers. If anyone's got suggestions on how to improve it, drop me a note by email.

Actually, the processes of running both the website and the newsletter are pretty similar: a continual pressure on the membership to submit material is a major feature. Don't forget that the web pages in particular are our main publicity vehicle at the moment, and please make every effort to keep both the web page and the newsletter a continuing success.

I've had promises of material from a number of sources, so ideally we should hit the next edition of the Newsletter running.

Robert

## OBITUARY

Geoffrey Alan Tebbutt passed away at his home recently following a short illness. He was 72 years old.

His funeral on 25 January 2005 at Crownhill Crematorium was well attended by family, friends and the MK cycling fraternity. NBRC was well represented and the club sent an attractive floral tribute.

Jeff, known also as 'Teapot', was well known around the area and, although more associated with MKCC in later years, was closely linked with NBRC. He is known for his prodigious cycling feats and his acerbic manner. Jeff once rode 1000 miles in a week as a bet and frequently rode 100 or more miles a day. He was one of the real characters of the local cycling scene and will be missed.

BDS

## Club Runs

*The Sunday club runs seem to be going from strength to strength at the moment. For those of you who don't receive Tony Farmborough's regular email reports, they are usually added to the web page on Mondays. Here's an abridged version of some runs from January.*

### **Sunday 2nd Jan. Club Run Report**

Seven turned out for the first of this year's club runs. Les White, Tony Brunton, Chris Selley, Peter Forster, Russell Page, Andy Lambeth and Tony F. Les took charge of the compass for today's ramble around the lanes of North Bucks and into Northamptonshire. Original plan was for a tea stop at the cafe in Salcey Forest but this was later modified to Stoke Bruerne...some doubt as to whether the cafe in Salcey Forest would be open.

The route was a roundabout course, Bletchley, Drayton Parslow, Mursley, Little Horwood, Great Horwood, Nash, Thornborough, Leckhampstead, Paulespury, Pury End, Shutlanger then on to Stoke Bruerne for tea and buns. Return leg was via Ashton, Hartwell, Long Street, Hanslope, Haversham to return us back to Milton Keynes. 50 to 60 miles for most of us with Tony Brunton getting into the 70's by the time he got back home in Leighton Buzzard.

### **Sunday 9th January Club Run Report**

Once again, Les took charge of the club run compass and it was off for tea and buns in the cafe alongside the Bridgewater Monument which is sandwiched between Aldbury common and Pitsone common, a new venue for all of us, except Les. Eight of us, Les White, Tony Brunton, Mick Atkins, Alan Lawson, Russell Page, David Holloway, Gilbert Wheelwright and me Tony F. left the warmth (?) of Harley Hall at about ten past nine and made our way



# Racing

## Andy Hardy Memorial Race Saturday 16th April Milton Keynes Bowl

organised by Gordon Batcock

First Race: for 3,4,W cats. One hour plus 5 laps Starts at 12.15hrs

Second Race: for the Andy Hardy Memorial Trophy (includes NM&HCA Apex Trophy)

E,1,2 cats One & Quarter hours plus 5 laps Starts at 14.00hrs

Entry fee £10.00 Cheques to North Bucks R.C. Entry on the line £14.00

Closing date 8/4/05.

Organiser Gordon Batcock

58 Derwent Road

Leighton Buzzard

Beds

LU7 2QW

Tel. 01525 374035

## NBRC Club Events 2005

The schedule of North Bucks club time trials can be found in the December 2005 newsletter, and on the NBRC web pages at

<http://www.northbucksroadclub.org.uk/events2005.html>

The December newsletter can also be downloaded from our web pages in pdf format.

## Team MK Club Events 2005

Date	Time	Course	Distance
25-Apr-05	1900	Hanslope Circuit	10 miles
02-May-05	1900	Stony - Whaddon Circuit	10 miles
09-May-05	1900	Stony - Nash - Stony	10.5 miles
16-May-05	1900	Hanslope Circuit	10 miles
23-May-05	1900	Stony - Whaddon Circuit	10 miles
30-May-05	1900	Stony - Nash - Stony	10.5 miles
06-Jun-05	1900	Hanslope Circuit	10 miles
13-Jun-05	1900	Stony - Whaddon Circuit	10 miles
20-Jun-05	1900	Stony - Nash - Stony	10.5 miles
27-Jun-05	1900	Hanslope Circuit	10 miles
04-Jul-05	1900	Stony - Whaddon Circuit	10 miles
11-Jul-05	1900	Stony - Nash - Stony	10.5 miles
18-Jul-05	1900	Hanslope Circuit	10 miles
25-Jul-05	1900	Stony - Whaddon Circuit	10 miles
01-Aug-05	1900	Stony - Nash - Stony	10.5 miles
08-Aug-05	1900	Hanslope Circuit	10 miles
15-Aug-05	1900	Stony Whaddon Circuit	10 miles
22-Aug-05	1900	Stony Nash Stony	10.5 miles

Any queries can be made to  
[richardhharrison@btinternet.com](mailto:richardhharrison@btinternet.com) or  
[mark.simmons@mail.com](mailto:mark.simmons@mail.com)

## 1/01/05 New Year's Day '10'.

Report from timekeeper extraordinaire, Tony Farmborough

Rewarding is the only way to describe the efforts made by all, to make a success of this year's "New Years Day 10".

Six competitors lined up to give best on the A5D course in rather grey and, fresh conditions. A chilling head on wind to battle with on the way out challenged the courage of our club mates but, once at the turn, it was the wonders of a wind assisted return leg to take advantage of. A test of both strength and stamina. Well done all you.

The result was as follows:-

Name	Time
1 Robert Saunders	23.30 110" fixed Frankenbike!
2 Tony Parks	24.35 Spiffy new speed weaponry!
3 Simon Moss	26.59 Training bike!
4 Warren Stokes	27.13 No tribars, first ride on the A5, and a splendid ride! First Juvenile!
5 Dave Garrard	30.21 Another classic bike!
6 Russell Page	31.37 65" fixed!

Thanks to the officials:

Travelling Marshals - Dick Selley and Peter Forster. Pusher off - Bryan Scarborough (Bryan, many thanks for sharing the contents of your hip flask!)

Club Photographer:- Ian Stokes (... if only they would go a little slower! ..) - one of Ian's pictures is below!

Just keeping an eye on things:- Fred Drought

Club Mascot - "Ben"

Ben's chauffeur - Ron Day

Time Keeper - Tony Farmborough



Too fast for the camera!

through Simpson, Fenny Stratford and Water Eaton.

Here we made a brief encounter with our racing team, Wayne, Phil and Simon, only to grind to a halt with the first puncture of the day. Quickly repaired we are soon on our way again. Turning left at the Drayton Parslow cross roads we get on with the climb up towards Stewkley. First casualty of the day...Alan gets dropped and, although Tony B and I turned back to see where Alan had got to, that was the last we saw of him! Now Alan did tell us that he intended to make his way back home early...so, perhaps we were right not to worry too much.

Tony B. and I made contact again with the rest of our gang in Wing, ( Mick A. and David H. decided to carry on and that's the last we see of them too!). On our way again, across the Mentmore cross roads and on and up into Mentmore then bang, Gilbert broke his chain. Les offered to make a repair ( amazing what Les has got in that saddle bag of his! ) but Gilbert declined Les's offer and decided to summon help from home, sending the rest of us on our way.

We passed through Cheddington, Pitstone right at Church End then left at Folly Farm and on to Aldbury. We speed through the village and started on the climb of "Tom's Hill".. ( just a thought...who was Tom?).. each of us within ourselves now, not wanting to fail, not wanting to give in, just wanting to get over the top, then recover on that long flat section of road before re-grouping at the tee junction. It's here that we made a welcome contact with Dick Selley who arrived a little late at Harley Hall and took a shorter route to meet us for tea. A left turn takes us on towards Ringshall. Another left turn and a short ride up a rough road that took us to our tea stop. Hurray!!

Big mugs of tea and large slices of various cakes are consumed. Once again on our way. Left out onto the main road then left again onto Beacon Road. Down Ivinghoe Beacon, right at the bottom to group up again at the top of the hill that goes down through Ivinghoe Aston, the traditional venue for the "Freewheel Competition." The event was held and, I pleased to include the result here.

Trophy Winner for 2005 is Dick Selley. 2nd, Les White. Equal 3rd, Tony Brunton and Russell Page.

Chief Judge. Tony F.

We now sped for home via Horton, Ledburn, Lower Ascott, Wing, Burcott, Soulbury, Hollingdon, where Dick punctured twice and put in a rather unconvincing attempt at adding the tarmac trophy to his growing list of honours for 2005. No Dick, landing on softly, softly grass verges is just not on. I do however take into account that fine display of acrobatics along the edge of the road that preceded your embrace with "terra firma" Amazing stuff. Glad your alright mate.

### ***Sunday 16th January Club Run Report***

Ten riders crowded into Harley Hall: Chris Selley, Dick Selley, Les White, Peter Forster, Ian Stokes, Gordon Batcock, Russell Page, Mick Atkins, a lady triathlete called Toni? and Tony F.

Warm weather and a south westerly wind helped make the decision to make for Waddesden garden centre but, before leaving, there was a presentation to be made to Mick (league division two Silver medal), the full ceremony with all due pomp and reverence as befits such an occasion being

observed. In thirty seconds flat we're on our way! Simpson, Fenny Stratford and out of Bletchley, straight on at the Drayton Parslow cross roads to pass through the villiage. Still all together...just! Right turn towards Mursley, only to be faced with the awesome sight of Wayne, Simon, Phil and Gary, our road race team, heading straight towards us. Now they did look fit! We exchanged various noises with them and carried on our way to pass through Swanbourne, Winslow, East Claydon, Claydon Botoloph. It's at this point that Chris and Russ chose to take a longer route via Calvert, Edgcott, Quainton and on to rejoin us at Waddesden for tea and buns. The return was much the same as the outward leg, except with the advantage of the wind assistance back home. A round trip of fifty or so miles for most of us. Great.

### ***Sunday 23rd January Club Run Report***

There's just know way of knowing is there... temperature hovering on the zero and *thirteen* turned out for today's club run. Les White, Russell Page, Chris Selley, Tony Brunton, Andy Lambeth ( birthday boy ), Alan Lawson, Mick Atkins, Peter Lickorish( Team MK ), Gilbert Wheelwright, Ian Stokes, Toni ?( the lady triathlete), Dave? ( new boy ) and me Tony F. with the promise of tea and apple pie at that most popular of tea stops, Alan's mums home in Ampthill.

Our outward route took us through, though not up, Bow Brickhill onto Woburn Sands, ( I just managed a wave as we passed the home of Dick and Jean Lyon) to turning right into the lanes that takes us through Husborne Crawley into Ridgmont. Turn right and on we go through Eversholt, Tingrith, up the climb (Phew!) into Toddington. We are now on that downhill roll that takes us over the M1 Jnc 12, not really wanting to touch our brakes in the frosty conditions we find the traffic lights are showing green which allows us a speedy ride along the A5120 into Westoning. Turning right then first left, we head into Flitwick to cross the A507 and on to Russell Drive, Ampthill. What a feast! Hot mince pies, various cakes, apple pie and hot tea and a smile await us. "Mum" many thanks.Return ride a bit varied, with smaller groups of riders breaking up and heading back for home in different directions. I would guess that most of us got in almost 50 miles with some getting quite a bit more. More of the same next week. We look forward to seeing you all again.



## About the Cover Photo

Yes that is Dick Selley sitting in one of Clive Sinclair's C5's. I would have thought that was about 1985. If I remember correctly there were half a dozen or more of the C5's provided to try out. Racing being arranged between anyone who would volunteer to have a go and drive them. Tony Parks was another NBRC rider who gave it a go. The weekend event was held around the city centre and, was described as a "Festival of Human Power". and promoted by Zapple. "Zapple" was an apple juice based soft drink. ( Wonder what happened to them! )

I particularly remember a large number of those super fast recumbent's, one being the famous "Bean" or was it "Flying Bean" racing against each other around a course laid around the then unused car parking areas of the city centre, ideal for such an event.

Someone got us, could have been Dick S. the job of escorting/guiding a whole army of recumbent's, some streamlined around the perimeter of the then new city of Milton Keynes. Can't remember the exact route but, I do recall passing through New Bradwell and Wolverton. Blooming liability! No end of them got blown over or crashed. Promised myself, never again!

One final memory of that weekend, one I shall never forget, was when Dick Hooper asked if I could help one of these recumbent owners repair a "small" mechanical problem. On examination I discovered that it involved welding together a couple of broken joints, two of the many struts that went together to form the frame had fatigued and fractured the result being that the rear of the recumbent had become unstable. No problem, I would be able to do that for him and, get him on his way. I should tell you that this lad was German, with little command of English and me with no command of German! He had ridden over from Dusseldorf and now needed to make the journey back home. We arranged to meet at my place of work, where I would be able to make the necessary repairs. I got to my factory before he arrived and, prepared the necessary kit. Recumbent rider arrives. You can only imagine the surprise I got as he unpacked his machine, rucksack, tool roll, sleeping bag, water bottles, maps, little boy, pump.... LITTLE BOY!! Yes there, in a sort of hammock, slung in between the rear pair of wheels is this little lad of about six years of age. Poor sod I thought that's been his home for the past weekend!

I quickly rewelded the broken joints and helped repack the machine, kit boy and all, and wished him a safe journey home and watched in disbelief as he rode off into the dusk, red rear lights glowing.

That little boy will be about twenty six years old now. I bet he drives a car!

**Tony Farnborough**

## For Sale

Tacx ergometer/turbo Cycleforce basic - £25

Contact Mr 10% himself, Dick Selley

on Milton Keynes 373241

For information on this turbo, see

[http://www.bon thronebikes.com/product\\_details.asp?id=3465](http://www.bon thronebikes.com/product_details.asp?id=3465)

## A5 Rangers Cycle Jumble

The A5 Rangers CC are holding their annual cycle jumble sale at the A5 Rangers CC club hut on Sunday

February 13th, from 10AM until 2PM. Seems a good venue for that club run, tea & refreshments available.

## Tandem

One of the guys at the OU Estates Department asked if I knew anyone who wanted a tandem, as a friend was wanting to get rid of one - I said I'd ask the club.

I've no idea what this machine is, or what it's condition is, but if anyone's interested, drop me an email and I'll try and find out more.

Robert

## Early Season NRBC events

Don't forget to turn up for these early season club events.

Sat 26/3/05 0900 F5v/10 Astwood

Sat 2/4/05 0900 F5a/10 A5(D)

Wed 6/4/05 1900 F5u/10 Stony Stratford  
(League round 1)

**NORTH BUCKS ROAD CLUB**  
Membership Application/Renewal 2005

Membership Subscriptions (including second claim applications) for the calendar year 2005 are as follows:

	1st Claim	2nd Claim
Seniors:	£22.00	£16.00
Juniors (under 18 on 1st Jan 2004)	£ 3.00	£ 3.00
Juveniles (under 16 on 1st Jan 2004)	£ 3.00	£ 3.00
65 years and over:	£16.00	£16.00
Family	£29.00	N/A

All members wishing to renew their Subscriptions are advised that payment should be made no later than 28th February 2005. Failure to meet this requirement could seriously affect your ability to enter events under the club name.

All Payments should be addressed to the Membership Secretary : Phil Sinnett  
33 Radcliffe St.  
Wolverton  
Milton Keynes  
MK12 5DJ

Cheques to be made payable to:  
'NORTH BUCKS ROAD CLUB'

Tel: 01908 317455  
Mob: 07970 591945

Part A should be completed for membership renewals.

Parts A & B should be completed for new applications for membership.

Please give a current email address if possible

PART A:

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss)    1st claim                  2nd claim

Date Of Birth

Category                  Senoir/Junior/Juvenile/65 plus/Family

Address    E-mail

Telephone    Post Code

Date

PART B:

I wish to apply for membership of the North Bucks Road Club (appropriate fee enclosed).

I understand that my application is subject to the approval of the committee, and that should I be successful in my application I agree to the following:

- 1 To abide by the rules and regulations of the North Bucks Road Club.
- 2 To provide assistance at Club events at the discession of the organiser of that event.

Signature

Proposer (Club Member)

Seconded (Club Member)