



50p

January / February 2012



St. Mary the Virgin, Great Bardfield

thecyclecompany



**SALES – SERVICE
REPAIRS**

**Clothing &
Accessories
Giant, Raleigh,
Diamondback,
GT, Mongoose,
Pashley, Ridgeback
Electric Cycles**

**EXPERIENCED
RELIABLE
SERVICE**

Open: Mon-Sat, Closed Wednesday

01245 283929

**New Street, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1PP
www.thecyclecompany.co.uk**

Spotlight – Magazine of the CTC Essex DA, a local member group of
CTC, the national cyclists’ organisation

President: John Steer

Volume 1/2012se19

Index

Index	3
Impressum:.....	3
Editor’s foreword.....	5
The President’s piece	6
Member Groups’ Reports	8
Essex Cyclists' Touring Club - Proposed Calendar for 2012	15
Rapier Review	15
Forthcoming Events	16
Easy Rider Meets	16
Chelmsford Member Group – Runs List	17
Havering Member Group – Runs List	18
South East Essex Member Group – Runs List	19
Colchester Member Group – Runs List	20
PBP August 2011 - Not so fast	25
DA Rough Stuff - 2011.....	26
Essex Records Office	29
New Year’s Revolutions.....	29
Those Caravan Weekends	30
Honours List 2011	32
Thinking of... ..	32
Obituary –John Greet (1934 - 2011)	33
Useful Website Links	34

Impressum:

DA Secretary: Lynda Collins, 26 Guys Farm Road, South Woodham
Ferrers, Essex, CM3 5NE, Tel: 01245 320 733,
collins.lynda@bopenworld.com

Editor: Stefan Eichenseher, 42A Whitegate Road, Southend-on-Sea,
Essex, SS1 2LQ, s.eichenseher@googlemail.com

Advertising Officer: Stefan Eichenseher, as above, Tel.: 01702 621810

Postal subscriptions: Peter Moore, 35 The Ridings, Chelmsford,
CM2 9RR, Tel: 01245 263165, petebermoore@tiscali.co.uk,

Price per annum: £5.00, inc. p&p

The Editor reserves the right to edit contributions for reasons of space, clarity or libel.

Officers of the CTC Essex DA - we are serving you ...

<u>Officer</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>(preferred) Contact</u>
President	John Steer	jonsue@blueyonder.co.uk
Secretary	Lynda Collins	collins.lynda@btopenworld.com
Chairman	Brian Taylor	☎ 01277 657867
Treasurer	Stefan Eichenseher	s.eichenseher@googlemail.com
Members' secretary	John Smith	johnwsmith4635@talktalk.net
Welfare officer	Brian Penny	b.penny522@btinternet.com
Promotions officer	Brian Penny	☎ 01268 777941
Editor	Stefan Eichenseher	s.eichenseher@googlemail.com
Advertising officer	Stefan Eichenseher	☎ 01702 621810
Webmaster	Ian Cable	webmaster@essexcycling.co.uk
CTC Councillor	Martin Cockersole	martin@cockersole.co.uk

Section Representatives (for more information see member group details)

Chelmsford	Adrian Leeds	☎ 01245 260272	Secretary
	Peter Moore		Delegate
Colchester	Alan Palmer	☎ 01206 792929	Secretary
	Pam Nelson	☎ 07812 209862	Delegate
Havering	Dave Rowlands	☎ 07948 593979	Secretary
	John Copas	johncopas06@yahoo.co.uk	Delegate
South East Group	John Steer	☎ 01702 309958	Secretary
	John Hand	☎ 07747 773209	Delegate

Other Committee members

EDARF	John Davis	jldavis_123@talktalk.net
	Peter Hubbard	(South East member group)
	Brian Taylor	☎ 01277 657867 (Delegate)

Certificate of Merit Committee

John Davis, Peter Moore, Charles Comport

Essex DA Trustees

Stefan Eichenseher, John Steer, Brian Penny

Closing date for the March / April 2012 edition is on **15 February 2012**

Editor's foreword

New Year, fresh faces and a drive to change all the old routines... Have a look at the Officers list and you will find some new names in there.

As indicated in the AGM there will be a continuation of requests to contribute to the content of the Spotlight...

I have incidentally received several encouraging and also some critical feedback upon my enquiry about what you are reading and how many people are reading the magazine you have acquired. Please keep the feedback coming.

Another snippet from the AGM involves promoting our groups and cycling with the use of DA Essex jerseys: Please follow this link www.yacf.co.uk/forum/index.php?topic=54697.0, or go to www.yacf.co.uk and under the *General Category* of "Freewheeling" search for "CTC Essex DA - Jersey Design". I've uploaded all the designs that I have received, so you might want to check them out for yourselves and comment and/or contribute.

For the first time we have a rides report from the Colchester Member Group and it seems that there is a growing number participating.

I am looking forward to your contributions as a result of this year's Olympics legacy...



Have fun cycling.

Your editor,
Stefan Eichenseher



The President's piece

Hello fellow members,

This is my first President's Piece. I would like to thank Brian Taylor, and I'm sure that you would too, for all his work during his time as the President of the Essex sections / member groups.

I hope to meet most, if not all of you during the year ahead, which started with the DA AGM, followed closely by the annual intersection meet at the White Hart Margaretting Tye.

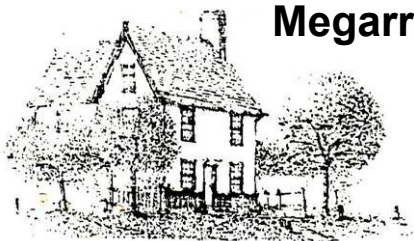
Ok, I didn't come to the meeting by bike at Margaretting Tye, but I brought the new DA secretary, as she is disabled at the moment, because of an operation (yes, she is a woman: remember Maggie?). She changed the country and some parts of the world with her ideas. Who knows what Lynda can do with the Essex DA. She may even bring it into the 21st century - remember the Tooting Rebel (Citizen Smith) on the TV (Robert Lindsay). He never got there, but I'm sure that Lynda will.

This might upset some, but I think it will be good for the DA and the Essex groups, as it will bring in a new perspective on cycling from a woman's view, instead of the view of **man**, as it has been for (133 years). I also brought along my wife, who doesn't cycle - who is a cycling widow when I'm out on my bike. But she won't be the only one in the country. There must be thousands of non-cycling partners. Although she isn't active in cycling, she is very supportive and makes a good job of organising the SEEMG's Xmas dinner every year - her new name is Presidents 1st Lady (Slave) ... only joking.

I hope that this winter 2011/2012 is better for riding than last winter. I cancelled a few rides then, as it was too dangerous where the country lanes and byways had not been cleared or gritted and the main roads were not much better around my neck of the woods here in Shoeburyness.

Enjoy your cycling, wherever you ride.

John Steer



Megarry's Teashop and Antiques

**plus Pine & Collectables,
Arts & Crafts**

Jericho Cottage, The Green
Blackmore, Essex, CM4 0RR
01277 821031 / 822170
megarrys@yahoo.co.uk

Enjoy improved facilities for Cyclists:

- Teashop area caters for about 20 in the warm!!!
- Large variety menu
- Extensive range of warm and cold drinks.

New!

Loyalty scheme -
£1.75 off your bill on each 5th visit!

Very reasonably priced!

- Scones, clotted cream and jam **£1.95**
- Heinz baked beans on toast **£1.45**
- Secure area to padlock your bike
- Free filter water bottle top ups.

OPEN ALL YEAR

Opening Hours: 10am – 5pm, every day, except Monday/Tuesday

Big groups ring ahead, if you are in a hurry, and we will put the urn on,
put more coffee through, and get more cakes out!

Phone in advance to confirm: **01277 821031**

www.megarrysteashop.co.uk

Hope to see you soon!!!! Judi

When using SatNav, ignore the instructions close to your destination: In the village turn down by the war memorial on the duck pond green and we're facing you!!

MEMBER ESSEX ANTIQUES DEALERS ASSOCIATION

Kings Road Cycles

36 Kings Road, Brentwood,
Essex, CM14 4DW

Wheel & cycle building service,
frame repairs and custom frame
builds undertaken by Paul Villiers

Full range of accessories and
spares available, mainly to order
Also, cyclo-cross frames,
wheel sets and tyres

Brooks, Campagnolo, TA, Rigida,
Schmidt & Son, Rohloff,
Shimano, Ambrosio, Sapim, Nitto,
Novatec, Sturmey Archer
Schwalbe tyres & tubes

Distributor for *Bicycle Quarterly*

www.shedbornbikes.com

07727 230342

Member Groups' Reports

Chelmsford Member Group

2 October 2011 - Twelve riders set off; two were new: young George, aged nine, and his dad. We kept the pace steady and enjoyed the sun and countryside. It was 29°C. Everybody was in shorts and T-shirts. The tandem was going well, as we headed to Heybridge Basin via Russell Green, Mowden and Langford.

After tea and cake, six riders went on to the "Ferry Boat Inn" at North Fambridge. As we passed the Maldon Park, hundreds of people were enjoying the October sun. There was an Open Day on Northey Island, but no time for that. At Fambridge we went down to the river, which was also busy with many small boats.

After a sandwich and a pint of Guinness, it was on to "Bunsay Downs Golf Club" for afternoon tea. Sitting outside in the sun, we enjoyed the rest of a very pleasant day. **Brian Taylor**

23 October 2011 - Seven riders set off from Chelmsford on a fine, cool autumn morning. The mellow sunshine lit up the turning leaves to

blissful effect. Aided by a following breeze, we reached Thaxted at five to eleven.

Ascending the medieval cobbles that lead to “Poppy’s Tearoom”, we met with another group of cyclists, who were evidently preparing to depart. They informed us that they had ridden from Cambridge (in kilometres) and, unaware of its strict 11am opening time, had supposed the tea-shop to be closed. Suitably reappraised, they stayed so that the premises, (after five more CTC riders had joined us), contained eighteen cyclists loudly chatting away. Whilst serving us, Poppy proudly mentioned that hers had just been voted the Number 1 Teashop in Essex - well deserved in my opinion.

The route to Debden took us past two reminders of the tension between pastoral beauty and the needs of our modern technological society. Firstly, there was the ridiculously “disguised-as-a-tree” phone mast near Cutlers Green, followed by the completely no-frills brutally utilitarian Henham Microwave mast, which we passed on the track leading to Widdington.

Coincidentally, during that week there had been a great deal of debate about pylon design, “eyesores” and so on, both in the national press and on TV. In this context, the Henham mast deserves a special mention for its sheer ugliness. A technical description might be “a 200-foot rectangular open-lattice tower, built on a square base but asymmetrical in shape so that its highest point sits over one corner.” Put more subjectively, it resembles a pile of old scaffolding, from which you might expect the finished structure to eventually emerge. In architectural terms: it’s a giant’s pile of Kerplunk sticks, designed by a demented Cubist, or something a six-year old might have built from Meccano, whilst high on Smarties.

Nine of us arrived at Debden, where one ex-pub is now a “Nepalese” restaurant and the other has gone all “gastro”. Having shelled out £4.95 for a very small portion of soup accompanied by a slice of supermarket bread (which took 40-minutes to arrive), I remain unimpressed.

Tea was taken at Blake End, as the group dispersed homewards so ending our “no-lights” rides once more, for several months to come.

Adrian Leeds

27th November 2011 - Thank goodness, the 90mph winds in Scotland didn’t afflict Essex today, but it was windy enough to make cycling hard

work unless you were heading down-wind. The sideways gusts were distinctly de-stabilising at times. Our destination for elevenses was the "Blue Egg" at Bardfield, but I didn't want to use one of the established routes. Listening to comments from behind me such as "where's he going next?" just encouraged me, as we made our way west of Broomfield, then to Rayne station, where we used the Flitchway to avoid the built-up area. The sun was now shining as we climbed the long slope up towards Great Saling and on to the "Blue Egg". Peter Tibbets and others joining us there made the numbers up to nine, of whom seven went on to an excellent lunch at "The Bell" in Castle Hedingham. A stiff headwind made the first part of the return trip quite arduous and we were glad of a tea stop at Rayne station, before heading for home in failing light. Just under 60 miles in all. **Martin Cockersole**

Colchester Member Group

November 27 - I took the plunge and led my first Colchester CTC ride on Sunday, relieving Alan Palmer of duties for once.

An unheard-of nineteen cyclists left Colchester, ploughing into a strong headwind, along the lanes of Hardy's Green and Messing - where three more joined us - and onto our elevenses stop at "The Exchange", Tiptree. All refreshed and ready for more energy-sapping wind, we headed out to Kelvedon and onto Silver End, eventually rejoining the lanes to Bradwell and across the A120 to the renowned "Stisted Tea Rooms".

It seemed like the place was evacuated to make way for us all and we each enjoyed a bite to eat and something to drink in the most pleasant of surroundings. The warmth of the hosts in the Tea Rooms is most appealing and in stark contrast to some other establishments, where cyclists are scoffed at!

From Stisted we made our way through Burtons Green and peeled off toward the Earls Colne Airfield, along Nightingale Hall Road. Lanes don't come much quieter than this, as it is closed to through-traffic by way of two concrete blocks across the road that leave just enough space for bikes to get through. Around the airfield we pedalled (just missing out on seeing a light aircraft take-off), through Great Tey and Aldham, homeward bound.

That so many attended was testament to the determination and perseverance of Alan Palmer to get regular Sunday rides off the ground in Colchester. I would like to extend my personal thanks to Alan for all he does. **Malcolm Mitchell**

Haverling Member Group

Oct 2nd - Four riders, Alex, Barrie, Gordon and Steve Hales took a coffee break at Hanningfield, then set off for lunch at "Paper Mill Lock".

Oct 9th - Alison, Gordon, Steve Ingall and Dave headed off for a hilly ride to Chipping Ongar via Coxtie Green and Dudbrook. Finding "Tilly's Tea Rooms", now closed on Sunday, we reverted to "Delimores" for 11ses. After coffee, we pressed on for lunch. Arriving at Moreton we decided to put a few more miles on the ride and we set off for Edney Common via Fyfield and Willingale.

The food in "The Green Man" was a work of art, but not really fuel for hungry cyclists. After lunch, we raided our panniers, as we were still hungry! Return was via Blackmore and Pilgrims Hatch.

Oct 16th - Five members took a very short ride to "Belhus Woods Country Park" for our AGM. **David Rowlands**

Oct 23rd - Seven cyclists, Sue Dorey from Bethnal Green, Alison, Gordon, Barrie, two Steve's and Alex started out on a perfect cycling day, beautiful bright sun, but not too warm. With the Rugby world cup kicking off this day there was little chance of our being out for a long ride. We stopped at "The Water's Edge" at Hanningfield reservoir, where the view is always a delight to behold. A brief cuppa and then a straight return to Upminster for all except Alison, Barrie and Steve H who continued to lunch at "Paper Mill Lock". **Alex Kornfeld**

Oct 30th - Alex, Barrie, Dave, Gordon, Steve I and Sue made the numbers up to six for a rollercoaster ride via South Weald and Lambourne End to Abridge for 11ses at "The Bridge Tearooms" at Abridge.

We then continued our undulations to Hobbs Cross and Toot Hill, where we paused briefly at the tourist information centre (a few leaflets pinned to the wall in a disused phone box!). Eventually we arrived at Moreton, where we dined at "The Nags Head". Service was good as usual.

Our return took us to Chipping and High Ongar, then off-road to King Street, at Blackmore. We switched to auto-pilot for the rest of the way home.

Nov 6th - Five departed Upminster bound for 11ses at Blackmore. After our caffeine fix, we set off, but only got as far as Willingale, when The Puncture Fairy struck! Gordon inflated his back tyre using a sealant aerosol and decided to head home along with Les.

This left Alex, Barrie and Dave to continue through Moreton and The Lavers to Matching Tye and lunch at "The Fox". Fully refuelled we set about our return via Bobbingworth and Toot Hill. At Navestock Dave split for home, while the remaining two headed for Upminster. **David Rowlands**

Nov 20th - While John Copas and Dave were attending the DA AGM, eight riders set off from Upminster into the thick fog. Ken and Steve I turned back at Dunnings Lane leaving six to carry on to "The Waters Edge" at Hanningfield. After a wrong turn or two, we arrived to have our coffee with an extra three or four miles clocked up.

Les then departed us, leaving Alison, Alex, Barrie, Steve H and Gordon to carry on to "The Nags Head" in Moreton for lunch reaching home with about fifty miles on the clock. **Gordon Peel**

Nov 27th - Guest riders Kate and Joshua from Newham joined Alison, Alex, Barrie, Gordon, Ken, Steve I. and Dave set off for 11ses, incident free, until about a mile from Blackmore Alison took a tumble. No harm done to rider or machine, we carried on to the tea rooms for our coffee break. Ken said his goodbyes and the rest carried on in the direction of Matching Tye. The headwind was knocking the stuffing out of us so we decided to cut the ride short at Moreton and we lunched at "The Nags Head" again! (any chance of a loyalty discount?)

Brave Barrie battled the wind to Matching Tye to get the miles in and he joined us in the pub later. With the wind now behind us we made our return via Bobbingworth, Toot Hill and Navestock. **David Rowlands**

Continued on page 15

FOR NEW AND USED BIKES, FRAMES, WHEELS

ALSO FOR THAT *PERFECT* FINISH

API RESPRAYS

THE ONLY SPRAYSHOP USED BY
SPECIALIZED

ENAMELS / PEARLESCENTS / METALLICS

ALSO FRAME REPAIRS & BRAZE-ONS

1 - 2 WEEK TURNAROUND

ALL THIS AND MORE ON THE WEBSITE:

www.apibikes.com

OR PLEASE CONTACT **ANDY PALMER**
07788 660561

Chris Regan Ltd

**Accountancy and Taxation Services
for Small businesses, Landlords,
Self Employed and Employed**

To arrange a free consultation:

T: 01245 283098

E: chris@chrisregan.co.uk

W: www.chrisregan.co.uk

CITYGATE HOUSE
R/O 197-199 BADDOW ROAD
CHELMSFORD
ESSEX CM2 7PZ

SADDLERY CAFE

For a friendly welcome, great food, helpful staff
and relaxing environment - then why not visit

The Saddlery Café Ltd

Located inside the
Ingatestone Saddlery Centre
just off Junction 15, A12 Margaretting

The varied menu offers a little something
for everyone:

Whether you want a light snack, a quick
drink or a three course lunch we are the
perfect place for the whole family

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday
9.00am to 4.30pm

Saturday
9.00am to 4.30pm

Sunday
10.00am to 3.00pm

If you intend to come with a large group,
please ring in advance.

07704 227050

Essex Cyclists' Touring Club - Proposed Calendar for 2012

DATC Events for 2010



Complete 3 DA events out of 6 for Standard Award

Complete 4 DA events out of 6 for Premier Award

(needs to include at least one 100 miles or longer event)

Date	Event	Organiser
29 th Apr	Witham 150km or 200km	Ed Nevard
6 th May	80km	Brian Penny
24 th June	Windmill Rides	Brian Taylor
15 th July	100M / 100km	Stefan Eichenseher
5 th Aug	Colchester 40/40	Brian Penny
9 th Sept	Rough Stuff (29M)	Brian Taylor

Other events



12 th Feb	SEG's 75	Stefan Eichenseher
? July	<i>Summer Gathering</i>	<i>[proposed /suggestions required]</i>
9 th Dec	Christmas Meet	Brian Taylor

Rapier Review

I have in my possession a number of historic documents, namely copies of "Rapier Review" being the official journal of the Rapier Road Club. These date from May/June 1954 to Sept/Oct 1958 (albeit not a complete set) plus one later undated issue, probably January 1960.

Anyone who would like to have these with a view to preservation as a fascinating glimpse of cycling past can contact me at

barry.brazier@virgin.net.

Forthcoming Events



Organisers: please advise me of anything you wish to be included

Date	Event	Organiser
12th Feb	[MG] SEG 75 miles - from 8:30am at the Market Café in Woodlands Road, Wickford, Essex SS12 0AL, OS map 178, TQ745933 (The ride runs throughout OS map 167)	Stefan Eichenseher
29th Apr	Witham 150km or 200km , Starting from: Woodham Mortimer , Chelmsford	Ed Nevard 07752 305 476

If not stated, please see the Impressum (p. 4) for organisers' contacts.

See page 15 for the events needed to receive an award.

Easy Rider Meets



Date	Pub	Destination
12 th February	Ingatestone and Fryerning Community Centre	
11 th March	"The Running Mare"	Galleywood
8 th April	"Co-op"	Chelmsford

Easy Rider Lunch Meets - for details contact Pete Moore: 01245 263165

Snippet from the DA Committee Meeting

The revision of the "Intersection Competition Points System" prompted a discussion about long-lost events and a possible resurrection of the odd one thereof.

After an email round-robin, I received much response, so watch this space for more memories akin to the articles of Charles Comport. Although I hope that someone else, but me, will be writing them ☺ [Ed.]

Chelmsford Member Group – Runs List



Secretary: Adrian Leeds

4 Oaklands Crescent, Chelmsford CM2 9PR, ☎ 01245 260272

Runs Secretary: Dave Russell

7 Willows Crescent, Hatfield Peverel, ☎ 01245 381055

Rides Start: Sundays: Civic Theatre, Fairfield Road 9am for 9.15am

All day rides start **9.15am**

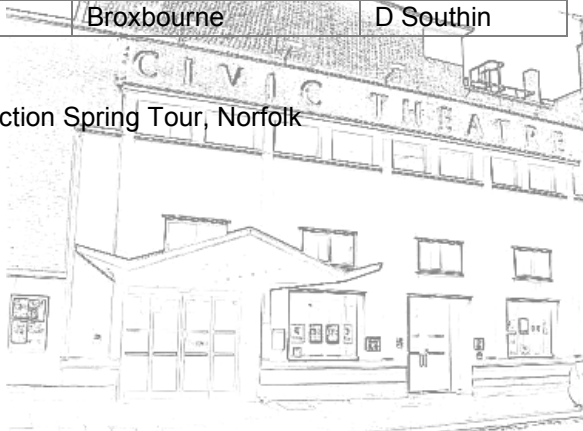
For Tuesday evening destinations

call Peter Moore ☎ 01245 263165 or Dave Russell ☎ 01245 381055

Date	11ses	Destination	Leader
08 Jan	Perrywoods	Goldhanger Chequers	J Davis
15 Jan	"The Shed" Sawbridgeworth	Blackmore	D Russell
22 Jan	Dutch Nursery	Ford Street	A Leeds
29 Jan	White Roding (Bretts)	Allens Green	D Emery
05 Feb	Thaxted (Poppys)	Henham	M Cockersole
12 Feb	[MG] SEGS 75		
Alt	Langford Mill House	Tolleshunt D'Arcy	D Russell
19 Feb	Greenstead Green	Little Green "Compasses"	A Leeds
26 Feb	Hanningfield Reservoir	Purleigh (The Bell)	J & B Taylor
04 Mar	Billericay ("Wetherspoons")	Stondon Massey	A Leeds
11 Mar	Perrywoods	Bures	M Cockersole
18 Mar	Hatfield Heath	Broxbourne	D Southin

Note:

April 2012 TBA, Chelmsford Section Spring Tour, Norfolk
Please contact Dave Russell



Havering Member Group – Runs List



Secretary: David Rowlands

43 Limbourne Avenue, Dagenham, RM8 1HU

☎ 07948 593979 or david_rowlands@hotmail.co.uk

Runs Start: Roomes (Home & Fashion) Store, Station Road, Upminster

All rides meet 08:45 for 09:00 start unless otherwise stated

Date	Destination
Jan 15 th	Newney Green
Jan 22 nd	Sheering
Jan 29 th	West Hanningfield
Feb 5 th	Coopersale
Feb 12 th	Stock
OR	[MG] SEG's 75 , see p. 34, contact Stefan Eichenseher
Feb 19 th	Informal ride*
Feb 26 th	Margaretting Tye
Mar 4 th	Bicknacre
Mar 11 th	Gilston
Mar 18 th	Hatfield Broad Oak

The leader will be decided on the morning.

* = Destination to be decided on the day



Roomes (Home & Fashion) Store, Station Road, Upminster

South East Essex Member Group – Runs List



Secretary: John Steer

☎ 01702 309958 – e-mail jonsue@blueyonder.co.uk

Runs start: from the Market Café in Woodlands Road, Wickford SS12 0AL,
Sundays at 9.15am for 9.30am, unless otherwise stated.

Club Nights are the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month
8.00pm @ St Laurence & All Saints Church Hall,
Eastwoodbury Lane, Eastwood, SS2 6RH

Date	Eleveneses	Destination for Lunch
January 2012		
1 st	Informal Ride 10am start	Mill Green (Viper)
8 th	Rochford (Beehive Cafe)	Paglesham Punch Bowl)
15 th	Mundon (Roundbush)	Heybridge Basin (The Old Ship)
22 nd	Billericay (Barleylands Farm)	Newney Green (The Duck)
29 th	Springfield (Wyevale Garden Centre)	Woodham Mortimer (Hurdlemakers Arms)
February 2012		
5 th	Battlesbridge (Meadow Croft Garden Centre)	West Hanningfield (Three Compasses)
12 th	[MG] SEG 75 miles event, see p34	Contact: S. Eichenseher
	or Margaretting (Saddlery Café)	Chelmsford*
19 th	Maldon (Crystal Cafe)	Great Totham (The Compasses)
26 th	Chelmsford (Secret Garden Tearoom)	Littley Green (The Compasses)
March 2012		
4 th	Bunsay Down (Golf Club)	Cold Norton (The Norton)
11 th	Brentwood (King George Playing Field)	Ramsden Heath (Nags Head)

Note: The leader will be decided on the morning. If no official runs leader is available, then riders can choose their own lunch destination after eleveneses.

* When **DA** or **MG** events take place, the local ride will include a booked Eleveneses venue, but not a specific pub for Lunch. This will enable members to make their own choice of venue.

A member's website with other cycling information about the group with GPX and TrackLogs (TCX) files is available on: www.velocipede.org.uk.

Colchester Member Group – Runs List

Secretary: Alan Palmer

☎ 01206 792929, mob 07939 395067 or

alanpalmer@phonecoop.coop



The Bricklayer's Arms,

Cycle Champions

Bikes, helmets, etc. can be provided free of charge. All rides start from the container by skate ramps at Colchester Leisure World *except where indicated*.

Alan Palmer's Monday - Weekly at **10am** from Colchester Leisure World. 30-40 miles out to the countryside with lunch stop.

Monday - Weekly at **12.15pm**: Short ride for those 50+ with a coffee stop

Tuesday - 1st and 3rd of the month at **7pm**: Evening ride to a village pub, typically around 15 miles

2nd of the month at **12pm**: Short taster Riverside ride

The Garrison ride - every **Tuesday** at **10am** - starts from the Musket Club - Homefield, Fallowfield Rd. A gentle paced family ride in association with the Garrison NHS Health Trainer Service. Bikes, child seats, and trailers are available for free hire.

Wednesday - Weekly at **11am**: Back to Health ride in association with LEAP (Life Enhancing Activity Programme). Local ride to one of several cafes around town; neither far nor fast, this is the best-attended ride.

2nd and 4th of the month at **9.30am**: Cycling Sisters (women only) ride around the countryside, something like 20 miles; faster and further than the others. They start from Highwood's Tesco

Thursday - 4th Thursday of the month at **12pm**: Short Lunchtime ride

NEWTS (North Essex Wednesday Tipplers) - Thursday - Weekly at **7.15pm** from Colchester Tenpin. Distance somewhere between 15 and 20 miles, to get to a village pub for **9pm**. This is by Pete Finch who runs it under the Suffolk DA umbrella. (The name has stuck despite the change of day...)

Saturday - 1st and 3rd of the month at **11am**: A gentle Family ride usually to a nearby village pub.

South East Essex Member Group

23rd October 2011 – Flat as a pancake - Nineteen riders assembled at Wickford and then split into two groups. One headed out via Battlesbridge and the other via Rettendon heading for the “Roundbush Café”. The first group arrived at 11am and were soon tucking into toast, scrambled & fried eggs and teacakes (although Karen H was disappointed that John S had the last one). There was no sign of the other group and we eventually received a text to say that Martin P had 3 punctures. The remaining group eventually arrived at 11.35am, but without him & Brian P, who had stayed to help him fix yet another puncture. By the time they arrived he had succumbed to 5 punctures – that must be a SEG all time record.

Twelve riders went onto “The Sportsman” at Nounsley and we were joined by Martin & Brian later. Thankfully, he had no further punctures.

30th October 2011 – Trick or treat - Nineteen riders left in two groups heading in different directions to the café in “King George’s Playing Fields” at Brentwood. The riders in one group definitely felt a chill, when they came across a spooky mansion resplendent with ghostly cobwebs draped among the trees and ghoulish pumpkins. Brian Eves joined us at Brentwood and eleven riders went onto “The Duck” at Newney Green.

John S brought his wife by car and we were all seated together in the restaurant for lunch, where we were entertained by a magician with his sleight of hand tricks. Luckily, no one volunteered to be sawn in half, although I did think that John S would have been a willing victim!

6th November 2011 – Ssshh, it’s a secret - As a number of SEG members live in Shoeburyness, the first of the month ride was to the “Beehive” café in Rochford. And this meant we could all have an extra hour or two in bed. Ian M, John S and Mike S arrived at the café about 10.30am and found Julie P, Alan S, Colin B, Dennis F, Chris S and Bob K already there. Robin Carlyle, his son and brother arrived, followed by Brian P and Peter H. While we were waiting for the remaining riders, Colin B explained to Ian M the meaning of various hand signals, particularly one and two fingered salutes. As the remaining riders were coming via the seafront, John S said he would wait for them. We set off on a circular ride out to Canewdon and Stambridge, before returning to Rochford and then onto Great Wakering. Altogether, thirteen went onto

the “Red Lion”, except Brian P who went to the “Shepherd & Dog” – he prefers real ale.

Six called in at a new café in Shoeburyness for afternoon tea, it was called “Charlotte’s Secret Tearoom” and we were soon tucking into strawberry gateaux, chocolate squares and flapjacks all washed down with tea or coffee and best of all, it was free. As it’s a secret, I couldn’t possible tell you the location.

20th November 2011 – Cast your vote - There was no official ride today, due to the DA AGM but Peter H, Paul H, Dave H and Gill (a new rider from Stock) did meet at Wickford for a short ride. Peter H later joined John S, Ian M, Lynda & Jon C, Ian C, Charlotte V, Mike S, Brian P & Stefan E at the AGM.

27th November 2011 – Ssshh, it’s another secret - Fourteen riders met at Wickford and split into two groups to head for the “Secret Garden Tearoom” in Chelmsford. Peter W led six riders via Stock, Margaretting and Writtle, while Ian M led eight riders via Galleyend, Deadman’s Lane, Chelmer Park and Moulsham. The tearoom had 14 places set for us in a separate room with freshly brewed coffee and tea on the table when we arrived. Peter H was impressed with the good value.

Eight went onto “The Brewer’s Arms” at Bicknacre via Sandon and Danbury. We were joined in the pub by Lynda C and Ian C (car-assisted, as Ian was dropping treasurer’s records off and Lynda is immobile at present). Afternoon tea was taken at the “Haybarn Café” in Battlesbridge and another good day was had by all.

11th December 2011 – DA Xmas meet - Peter H led 8 of us out of Wickford on an attractive ride through Downham, Stock and West Hanningfield to Great Baddow and the café at Bringy Pine. We were joined by Dave B and the runs secretary took the opportunity to discuss with members the proposed rides for the next six months. In future, where a [DA] or [MG] event occurs the local ride will include a lunch destination, but a specific pub will not be booked.

Continued on page 25

From the : (<http://www.quote garden.com/bicycling.html>)

The bicycle is the most civilized conveyance known to man. Other forms of transport grow daily more nightmarish. Only the bicycle remains pure in heart. – (Iris Murdoch, *The Red and the Green*)



CYCLECELLAR.CO.UK
mountain - park - street - road

- Mountain, Hybrid and Road bikes
- Specialist BMX department – **Completes | Parts | Accessories**
- **Cytech accredited** repair centre
- Cycle servicing from £30.00
- Bike Club - reserve a bike with a 20% deposit
- **Authorised Dealer:**

Felt Bicycles, Ghost Bikes, GT Bikes, Mongoose, WeThePeople, FitBikeCo, United, Blank



Cyclescheme

Tax free bikes
for work

📍: 3a Tadworth Parade, Elm Park, Essex, RM12 5BA

☎: 01708 451406

🌐: www.cyclecellar.co.uk

Long Barn Tea Room Hopleys, Much Hadham

After a long cycle ride treat yourself to refreshments in our Long Barn. We offer both hot and cold drinks with absolutely delicious home-made cakes. At weekends cream teas are also available. In addition to seating in the Long Barn, we have an outside area with views to our plantsman's garden.

Opening Hours:

9am - 5pm Monday to Saturday, 2pm - 5pm Sundays, closed Tuesdays.

Hopleys Plants, High Street, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire, SG10 6BU

Tel: 01279 842509

Web site: www.hopleys.co.uk

Your Number One Cycle Shop



37 New North Road,

Hainault, Ilford,

Essex IG6 2UE

Tel: 020 8500 1792

see our website: www.ciclosuno.com

All goods at competitive mail order prices

Equipment available for all your cycling needs:

Road Racing ★ Time Trailing ★ Track

Touring ★ Triathlon

**NEW/USED FRAMES AND
COMPLETE BIKES ALWAYS IN STOCK**

Authorised dealers for

Colnago ★ Enigma ★ Fondriest ★ Issac

Kinesis ★ Kuota ★ Litespeed ★ Merlin

Merida ★ Orbea ★ Pinarello ★ Viner

· - - - - -

ANNUAL TRAINING CAMPS

February, March, April and September

· - - - - -

Seven went onto the "White Hart" at Margareting Tye and we arrived just before it started to rain at 12 noon. Soon we were settled in the conservatory with our drinks and warm soup. A steady stream of members from the Havering & Chelmsford sections arrived, and before long all were tucking into soup, chips and roast meals. Peter said it was lovely soup for the 19th time and also told us about his knitted swimming trunks after admiring a knitted jumper that was 50 years old. John (Mr. President) & Sue Steer arrived by car with Lynda C at 1pm.

Seven went onto Battlesbridge, although only 5 went into the "Haybarn Café", before setting off for home after a merry Christmas meet.
Manchurian

PBP August 2011 - Not so fast

by Brian Taylor

As I set off to the station for the train to Newhaven, it started to rain, but only a short shower. On the ferry to Dieppe I met 12 other AUK cyclists doing the same journey. From Dieppe to Paris a group of 8 rode together with one over-night stop at Vernon in the Formula One hotel.

I stayed in the "Pavillion Blue Hotel" on Friday night. Saturday was bike check day and all was well. Then on Sunday evening, all seven thousand cyclists left for Brest. The route was marked with arrows at all the junctions. There were 6 controls on the way out and the same controls on the way back. All the controls had food and sleeping facilities.

I did not plan any strategy, but just to ride at my normal pace and take the rough with the smooth. When I needed sleep, I had 2 hours at one control and 2 hours at another and 1 hour in a bus shelter. I had some food from supermarkets, as the queue at the controls was too long and time would be lost.

I was riding 300km with a crazy French man on a recumbent, who was fast at a downhill and slow uphill, and at that point I was not taking the event too seriously and wasted some time. But it was more enjoyable. When I arrived at the last control, I had 4 hours to do 74km to finish in time. So I had to leave the crazy French man and get a wriggle on changing up a gear. I finished in 89 hours and 6 minutes, which gave me 54 minutes to spare. I enjoyed this ride the most of my 5 PBP-events. The weather was also good and no problems with the bicycle. It

was such a wonderful atmosphere in a large and well organised event, for which the French are very good.

I slept all the rest of the afternoon, so that I was all right and ready for the smaller group to ride back to Dieppe. We were relaxed, having coffee and lunch stops, while enjoying the French countryside. We stopped in a "Campanile Hotel" near Rouen and more frequent bread-and-coffee-stops to Dieppe. I enjoyed that 200mile ride, because it was a good warm up and wind down from PBP. After the ferry crossing to Newhaven, it was the train back to Billericay.

DA Rough Stuff - 2011

by Brian Taylor

It was a dry and bright Sunday morning, when I met Steve Gregson at the start in Mill Green at 10am.

At 10:20, Steve and I set off to see how many of the 13 riders we could catch up. The Essex Pony trekkers were out in force on the first 4 miles of our route, but all was well at our reasonable pace through the woods, over the fields and along the bridle paths. There had been rain a couple of days before, so the going was a bit soft in places. We soon caught up the first 4 riders, as they had punctured in the woods, and then some more. Three quarters of the way round 5 must have gone off route somewhere, but they all checked in with Steve Bearpark at Highwood.

It was a nice morning out in the countryside. We spotted some deer and a lot of wild life. Then at lunch time, we had a well earned pint and some food at "The Viper" pub. ☾



HERONGATE CYCLES

THE OLD BARN

Cricketers lane

Herongate

Essex CM13 3PZ

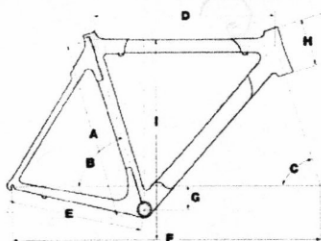
01277 811018

www.herongatecycles.com



Fuji Track
Now Only!

£274.99



Now Incorporating
Heron Cyclesport
We are in the barn
Opposite the Green Man Pub
(Off the A128)

BH BIKES
SCOTT
LOOK
ARGON 18
KOGA MIYATA
FUJI
FORT
TIFOSI
AMBROSIO
IDEAL
DAWES
CLAUD BUTLER

NALINI
CAMPAGNOLO
SHIMANO
CATEYE
CONTINENTAL
SCHWALBE
TACX
SIDI
POLARIS

New clothing section
Now Open!

Repairs
Servicing
Frame Mods.
Re-Enamelling
Wheel Building
Discounts for
Club Members
CTC Members
Sustrans Supporters



Special Offer!

Koga Miyata
GlobeTraveller



ONLY
£1275

www.koga.com

Basildon Timber

***FOR ALL YOUR DECKING &
TIMBER NEEDS***

VISIT OUR PREMISES AT:

HONYWOOD HOUSE, HONYWOOD ROAD
BASILDON, ESSEX, SS14 3DT

TEL: 01268 531444 FAX: 01268 531554

www.basildontimber.com

OPEN:

MON-FRI 7.30am - 5.00pm SAT 8.00am - 1.00pm

The Prince of Wales

Green Tye

Nr Much Hadham

01279 842517

www.thepow.co.uk

Hot and cold food available every
lunchtime and most evenings

Cyclists are always welcome

Essex Records Office


by Brian Penny

The Minutes of the Essex District Association during the period 1927 to 2000 are now located safely at the Public Records Office in Chelmsford. This is a relief for me personally, as I now recover the space that two large boxes were occupying on my bedroom floor. Equally, the minutes are now enjoying air-conditioned comfort.

Although Minutes of Meetings are not an exciting subject, they do catalogue the history of Essex CTC since the first meeting on 3rd December 1927. In those days the Minutes were recorded in a very impressively bound book with each entry carefully written in somebody's best handwriting. The Minutes Secretary of the time certainly deserved an award for diligence. In recent years with the introduction of computers, minutes are written up and circulated by e-mail. It's just not the same but it is so much easier.

Archivist Katharine Schofield told me that the Records Office does not have much material about cycling clubs in Essex and would welcome receiving more. I suspect there's plenty out there. Indeed the reception area of ERO has on the wall a magnificent black and white photo of a club of women cyclists wearing formal clothing about to ride on their sit up and beg bicycles. Apparently, that picture was taken by Fred Spalding, a well-known photographer of the time.

Although the Minutes have been deposited in the ERO, we will still be able to retrieve them, if necessary using our unique reference number.

If anybody does have other material to deposit in the ERO, then do let me know. 

Archive Service Manager, Katherine Schofield, receives the Minutes Book including the first hand written entry of 3rd December 1927



New Year's Revolutions

by Steve Gregson

It could be a personal challenge to take one's local 1:50000 Ordnance Survey map and ride all the Public Rights of Way Bridleways and Byways. As well as a way to be familiar with them, it could also lead to articles in the magazine Journal and be a help to anyone asking for assistance. 🚲

Those Caravan Weekends

by Charles Comport

Shakespeare wrote 'Old men forget' but although I cannot deny the passing years I remember that these weekends began in 1982, so 2012 is the 30th anniversary of these popular events. It all began when Swanage Caravan Park put an advert in the CTC magazine offering cheap weekend breaks off-season, starting in September. I thought this to be an ideal opportunity to explore somewhere away from our usual haunts and organised through the DA Committee an inter-section party. There were members from Brentwood, Chelmsford and South East sections - Havering were very weak at the time - who travelled down on Friday afternoon at various times in cars and train. I recall waiting at the camp entrance until a late hour to guide the later arrivals to their vans. The next day we visited Corfe Castle and rode up and down the steep Purbeck hills to Lulworth Cove. On Sunday, we visited Bovington Tank Museum, Cerne Abbas, to see the lusty 'Giant' and Tolpuddle of 'Martyrs' fame. The idea caught on and in 1983 we went to a camp near Mablethorpe in Lincolnshire where we toiled over the Wolds (who said Lincoln was flat?) to Caister returning along the Viking way and Walesby, where we visited the Church with its 'Travellers Window' depicting two cyclists. On Sunday, we visited Louth.

I was not involved in 1984 where, abandoning the coast, the DA party went up the Thames Valley, a trip organised by Ken and Peggy Thorndike. But returned in 1985 when the DA, now including Havering, went to Pakefield Holiday Park, near Lowestoft, and explored the Norfolk Broads. Norfolk proved to be a popular choice and we returned in 1986 to Overstrand during which we visited Wells-next-the-Sea and Holkham Hall, and in 1987 to Hunstanton. 1988 saw a complete change to Romney Sands Holiday village in Kent, which was notable for the howling gale we battled against to Rye and Winchelsea on Saturday followed on Sunday by a more peaceful ride on the Kent & Sussex Steam Railway. Some of us, who stayed to Monday, also had the Hythe, Dymchurch & Romney miniature railway, with our cycles crammed into the small carriages. A New Forest weekend came in 1989

based at Ringwood, visiting Bucklers Hard for lunch on Saturday followed the next day by a tour through Cranborne Chase to Shaftesbury, where a number of members rode up and down Gold Hill, featured in the 'Hovis' adverts.

A new decade saw the DA at Skegness where our slumbers were interrupted by a fracas in the small hours to which the police were called - nothing to do with us! It was back to Norfolk in 1991 at the Cromer Country Club revisiting the Broads. A return to Kent in 1992 saw us staying at Kingsdown nr Deal in odd, triangular shaped, wooden Chalets and in 1993, we went to St. Leonards, near Hastings visiting Battle. 1994 saw a return to Hunstanton, which I missed through ill health. By now impetus was waning a bit, but in 1996 weekend enthusiast George Welch took over and organised a weekend at Kessingland and in 1998 he arranged a weekend at Scratby, attended by most sections, where we visited the Norfolk coast and Broads again. But that proved to be the Caravan Weekend's swan song, although by now we were staying in chalets. Also the weekends were beginning to cost more.



They were very pleasant occasions, which brought the DA together and provided a spirit of unity, which perhaps needs encouraging today. 🚲

Honours List 2011



Inter-Section Trophy

Colchester	72 points
Havering	118 points
Chelmsford	247 points
South East	299 points

George Welch Trophy

(highest placed Essex rider in DATC, see CTC website)

- John Rootkin
[plus replica to keep]

Measor Trophy

(best Spotlight Member Group report)

- Adrian Leeds
Report on 6th February
(March/April issue)

Special Awards

- *None this year*

Spotlight Trophy

(best article)

- Dave Russell
"Chelmsford Group 2011
Spring Tour" 1st May
(July/August issue)

The person to select the best Spotlight article and the best Member Group report is chosen by the editor and was for the previous year: Dot Sharp.

(Taken over by John Davis)

The person to select the best contributions in the year 2011/2012 will be John Davies.

Thinking of...

... well-known people who enriched the life of our cycling community:

Congratulations again to the doyen of Essex CTC *Roy Davidson*, who achieved the great age of 102 on November 9th last. Roy is in a nursing home in Loughton and we send our best wishes to him.

After some 83 years awheel *Charles Comport* has reluctantly given up cycling due to a broken femur, he cannot risk another fall.

Obituary –John Greet (1934 - 2011)

by Charles Comport

Essex CTC, Essex DA Reunion Fellowship and the Easyriders Group in particular have lost a good supporter with the death of John, aged 77, on December 1st from a thrombosis. He joined the Romford Section in 1950/51 and became a regular rider, entering DA events including the Silver Jubilee Boundary Weekend in 1952. He also joined the DAs racing off-shoot, the Viking Road Club, but he was never a racing man. In the section, he met Joyce (Burt) and they married in the late 1950s. They continued riding until the arrival of daughter Josie and then Phillip brought their cycling activities to a temporary halt and domesticity took over.



After the formation of EDARF in the mid-1960s, the Greets joined it and supported their activities, rides and functions. When free from family ties they commenced cycling once more riding out together. Later they were nominal members of the Brentwood Section and John was a marshal at Margaretting during the life of the 'Brentwood 75'. When the Windmill Rides began, the Greets took over the check at Chishill Windmill, the longest stint of all. John was an EDARF official for many years and also served on the DA Committee and he was still on the Certificate of Merit sub-committee until the end.

Despite a few health problems for John some years ago, the Greets continued to support the Easyriders, coming out by car. John was a friendly and affable colleague and the hearts of those who knew him were heavy at the news.

Our deepest sympathies go to Joyce, Josie & Phillip. 🚲

From the 🌟: (<http://kba.tripod.com/quotes.htm>)

The bicycle is just as good company as most husbands and, when it gets old and shabby, a woman can dispose of it and get a new one without shocking the entire community.

--- Ann Strong, *Minneapolis Tribune*, 1895

Useful Website Links

CTC Essex DA	www.essexcycling.co.uk
Cyclists' Touring Club	www.ctc.co.uk
Chris' site: route planning resources	www.velocipede.org.uk
Yet Another Cycling Forum	http://yacf.co.uk/forum/index.php
Nutty cyclist's insane world	http://www.nuttycyclist.co.uk/

Our Advertisers' websites

(a to z)

API Resprays (Cycle Shop)	www.apibikes.com
Basildon Timber (Decking & Timber)	www.basildontimber.com
Chris Regan Ltd (Accountant)	www.chrisregan.co.uk
Ciclos Uno (Cycle Shop)	www.ciclosuno.com
Cycle Cellar (Cycle Shop)	www.cyclecellar.co.uk
French Pedals (Cycle Touring Holidays)	www.frenchpedals.co.uk
Herongate Cycles (Cycle Shop)	www.herongatecycles.com
Hopleys Garden Long Barn (Café)	www.hopleys.co.uk
Kings Road Cycles (Cycle Shop)	www.shedbornbikes.com
Megarry's Antiques and Teashop (Café)	www.megarrysteashop.co.uk
Richardson Cycles (Cycle Shop)	www.richardsonscycles.co.uk
The Cycle & Toy Centre (Cycle Shop)	www.thecyclecompany.co.uk
The Prince of Wales (Pub)	www.thepow.co.uk



The SEG's 75 75 Mile Reliability Ride



Sunday 20th February 2011

Start at Market Café,
Wickford, Essex SS12 0AL

Contact: Stefan Eichenseher, 01702 612810,
s.eichenseher@googlemail.com

Find the entry form on www.essexcycling.co.uk

RICHARDSONS CYCLES

Sales - Service - Repairs
From Family - Commuter - Enthusiast
Clothing & Shoes

TREK

Authorised Dealer

SHIMANO

Service Centre

BROMPTON



SWO FISHER

ORBEA

Open 9am - 6pm Monday - Saturday

ridgeback



www.richardsonscycle.co.uk

01702 713847

**99 - 101 Elm Road,
Leigh-on-Sea, Essex**





JAMES BROWNING AND DAUGHTER
716-718 LONDON ROAD
LEIGH-ON-SEA, SS9 3NL

Established 1940

ORBEA CYCLES

CLOTHING

NORTHWAVE
MASSI + ENDURA
NALINI
DE-FEET + RON HILL

DEUTER BAGS

NORTHWAVE
SHOES

**Lazer + LAS + LIMAR +
HELMETS**

VITTORIA * SELLE ITALIA
ZEFAL * MICHELLIN * CONTINENTAL *
SHIMANO * NIMROD * LOOK

REPAIRS

MON TUES THURS FRI SAT

9:30 AM - 5:30 PM

10% DISCOUNT TO CTC MEMBERS

Tel: 07913 798731

