



WITHINGTON WHEELERS OPEN HILL CLIMB



© Russ Forbes
WITHINGTON WHEELERS

Open Hill Climb History – Peaslows and the 1930s Grimpeurs

Withington Wheelers Open Hill Climb.

This event will be held on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22nd, 1933, over a course approximately one mile in length, on

PEASLOWS HILL, CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH,

competitors starting at one-minute intervals from 11.01 a.m.

Headquarters: The Jolly Carter Inn, Chapel-en-le-frith, where dressing accommodation is available.

The event is confined to amateur riders of single bicycles. Entries, accompanied by an entry fee of One Shilling and Sixpence, will be accepted up to 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 17th, and should be addressed to:

THE RACING SECRETARY, Withington Wheelers,
Third Floor,
18, London Road, Manchester.

Prizes (to be selected by the winners) will be awarded as follows:

Fastest time	...	value Two Guineas.
Second fastest	...	value One Guinea.
Third fastest	...	value Half-a-guinea.

Team prizes: Three silver and three bronze medals. (The fastest three members of any one Club constitute a team).

Peaslows Hill is on the road between Chapel-en-le-frith and Sparrowpit. The starting point for the Climb is immediately behind the "Jolly Carter," a quarter of a mile from Chapel-en-le-frith in the direction of Buxton and Chesterfield.

WITHINGTON WHEELERS OPEN HILL CLIMB, 1933.

ENTRY FORM.

To the Racing Secretary, Withington Wheelers, 18, London Road, Manchester.

Dear Sir,

Please accept my entry for this event. I enclose Postal Order No..... for 1/6, entry fee.

Name.....

Address to which starting-sheet is to be sent.....


Club.....

The first Open Hill Climb took place on 22nd October 1933 with 54 entries, 50 starters and 37 finishers. Entries (postal order only) were 1/6 (one shilling and sixpence), first prize Two Guineas, second One Guinea and third Half-a-Guinea (entry form aside)

Stan Livingston of the Dukinfield CC was fastest with a time of 6 minutes 43 seconds, three seconds faster than W Booth, of the now defunct Peterloo CC, who led his team to victory in the team race. The fastest Withington Wheeler was Jim Forbes in 18th place with a time of 8 minutes exactly. The full length of the hill was used in 1933 but in 1934 the traditional shorter course was used, the full length of the hill would not be used again until the Withington had the honour of organising the National Hill Climb in 1964.

In 1934 there was an entry of 66 riders and to quote from the journal "the length used was only 900 yards – an amendment which proved to be rather popular". An interesting entry was Wilf Higgins, then British Empire Sprint Champion; however he was under-gearred and finished well down the list. The winner was Bert Williams of the Clarion clocking 2mins 52secs to beat Stan Livingstone by 5¹/₅ seconds. Stan had the consolation of leading the Dukinfield CC to team award victory. Once more Jim Forbes was fastest of our men with a time of 3mins 26secs.

1935 showed a great improvement in the club's fortunes. From 75 entries Jim put up second fastest time with 2mins 44s and backed by Alan Grant (3mins 6¹/₅ secs) and Arnold Smith (3mins 15³/₅ secs) he led our team to victory. Ernie Atherton of the Yorkshire RC, a crack hill climber with an unbeaten record was winner with 2mins 41⁴/₅ secs. However Jim was only warming up for the following week when



Withington Wheelers'
(C.T.C. and R.R.C.)

Open Scratch Hill Climb

PEASLOWS HILL, CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH

Sunday, Oct. 20th, 1935

Starting **11-1 a.m.**

Official Timekeepers:
Messrs. R. MacQUEEN & J. F. PEMBERTON

PRIZES.

Fastest Climb, Value	THIRTY SHILLINGS
2nd " " "	TWENTY " "
3rd " " "	TEN " "
Fastest Team	THREE SILVER MEDALS
2nd " " "	BRONZE " "

Headquarters and Dressing Accommodation:
THE JOLLY CARTER, Chapel-en-le-Frith

Here's the report from the Withington Wheelers Journal dated November 1933.....

WITHINGTON WHEELERS' JOURNAL.

(Pres: Harry Wilson)

Vol.1. No.12. November 1933.

FIXTURES.

Nov. 5. BEESTON BROOK - Armstrong, Bank View. GAWSWORTH - Nuttall's Ivy Cottage.
12. SOUTHPORT - Tomlinson, 77 Tulketh St. UPHOLLAND - Wide Cross Cafe.
19. CHESTERFIELD - Rachell, 488 Chatsworth Road. BUXTON - Phillips, Bridge Street.
(Start 9. a.m.)
26. ALLGREAVE - "Rose and Crown". MACCLESFIELD - McCoys.

Change of Address: H. Bricknell, 1 Skelton Road, Stretford.
L. McCarrick, 23 not 26 Clarence Rd, Withington.

INTER-CLUB "25" October 8th.

(v. Irwell Castle C.C.)

<u>Withington Wheelers. (1)</u>		<u>Irwell Castle C.C. (2)</u>	
1. A. Smith	1. 9. 11.	3. F. Austerberry	1.11.18.
2. P.A. Jones.	1.10. 50.	6. F. Lenagan	1.13.18.
3. C. Haines	1.11. 18.	9. E. Richards	1.13.21.
5. H.E. Whitbread	1.13. 15.	12. H. Lloyd	1.16.47.
7. S. Burnett	1.13. 23.	13. E. Dawson	1.17. 6.
8. F. Wheeler	1.14. 7.		
Aggregate.	7.12. 4.		

Also finished:

10. J. Ware 1.16. 11.
11. F. Moehle 1.16. 13.

Non-Starters:

G. Quick, A.L. Jones.

Retired:

W. Eastwood, R. Hinds,
T. Anslow, A. Cookson.

Non-Starters:

W. Smith, E. Hough.

Open Hill-Climb, October 22nd. 1933

Our first open hill-climb, which attracted an entry of 54, was held on Peaslow Hill, Chapel-en-le-frith, under cold but otherwise satisfactory conditions.

By using the entire length of the hill the course was made into a mile, and this combined with the poor surface offered accounted for no less than 13 of the 50 starters.

Some brisk climbing was seen however, S. Parker's time of 7.23 stood for a considerable period until J.E. Carr of the Potteries knocked 20 seconds off it; then W. Booth the Peterloo man who had distinguished himself in Yorkshire the previous week-end created quite a sensation by getting inside 7 minutes by four seconds. Not until the last rider, S. Livingston had arrived however was the issue decided. He is no stranger to this course and proved his familiarity (and contempt) by clocking the fastest time of 6.43.

The first team prize was annexed by the Peterloo C.C. with an aggregate time of 21.56 as against the Manchester Wheelers' 22.24.

Leading times given by Mr. Pemberton and Mr. MacQueen were:-

1. S. Livingston, Dukinfield C.C.	6.43
2. W. Booth, Peterloo C.C.	6.46
3. J. E. Carr, Potteries C.C.	7. 3
4. W. Critchley, Manchester Wheelers.	7. 6
5. W. L. Kenyon, Peterloo C.C.	7.16
6. S. Parker, Cheshire Roads.	7.23
7. C. Hassall, Derby Ivanhoe.	7.28
8. C. C. Lamb, Manchester Wheelers.	7.30
Fastest Wheeler: J.E. Forbes 8. 0 (18 th).	

The B. A. R. Table. Full and Final details of the All-Rounder Contest will appear in the next issue of the Journal.

Mr. E. Martin the acting captain has in his possession a subscription list in connection with the Bidlake Memorial Fund. Members who desire to be included in the Club's general list and who cannot attend the next few club-runs should send their donations to Mr. Martin endorsed "Bidlake Memorial Fund".

C. HAINES.
Hon. Editor.

WITHINGTON WHEELERS OPEN HILL CLIMB - OCTR. 20th, 1935.

Result.		Mins.	Secs.
1.	A. E. Atherton	2	41 4/5
2.	J. E. Forbes	2	44
3.	T. L. Clare	2	46 4/5
4.	F. Hart	2	49 1/5
5.	J. E. Carr	2	51 4/5
6.	C. J. Murray	3	1 1/5
7.	(F. Butterworth	3	1 1/5
8.	H. Batty	3	1 1/5
9.	C. Oakley	3	2 2/5
10.	H. Price	3	5 2/5
11.	A. Grant	3	6 1/5
12.	(H. P. Cotterill	3	8 1/5
13.	V. L. Spencer	3	9
14.	C. Hassall	3	11 3/5
15.	R. T. Polkey	3	13 1/5
16.	W. Ward	3	14 1/5
17.	H. Lovett	3	15 1/5
18.	H. Worthen	3	15 3/5
19.	A. Smith	3	16 4/5
20.	F. Merideth	3	17
21.	K. Hunt	3	17 3/5
22.	J. Stewart		
23.	A. Perrin		
24.	W. Loughran		
25.	J. Royle		
26.	F. Sanderson		
27.	E. M. Batty		
28.	A. N. Hammond		
29.	(E. C. Hulme		
30.	(W. Coupe		
31.	W. Saunders		
32.	S. P. Basketter		
33.	S. Jones		
34.	F. Morris		
35.	H. Pilkington		
36.	C. M. Copeland		
37.	C. Riley		
38.	J. Gandy		
39.	C. Temperton		
40.	L. W. Checkley		
41.	C. C. Lamb		
42.	(R. R. Sharp		
43.	(T. C. Bailey		
44.	W. Turner		
45.	C. Broadbent		
46.	F. Hulley		
47.	S. Treadgold		
48.	R. Harvey		
49.	D. Richardson		
50.	H. E. Lloyd		
51.	W. Gorton		
52.	G. E. Crook		
53.	(L. Kelly		
54.	(F. Powell		
55.	D. McGibbon		
56.	E. Cartwright		
57.	F. Musowsky		

First Team: J. E. Forbes, A. G.
 Derby Ivanhoe.
 Second Team: C. Oakley, H. P.

Signed: J. J.
 R.



WITHINGTON WHEELERS.
 (C.T.C. R.R.C.)

Result of Open Hill Climb. Held on Sunday October 18th, 1936.

No.	NAME.	CLUB.	TIME.
1.	C.A. Clare.	N.M.H. & A.C.	14. 8.
2.	J.E. Forbes.	Withington Wheelers.	2. 40 1/5.
3.	E. Atherton.	Yorks R.C.	2. 41 3/5.
4.	A. Grant.	Withington Wheelers.	2. 42 2/5.
5.	J. Kershaw.	Oldham Century.	2. 45 4/5.
6.	H. Batty.	Dukinfield C. C.	2. 47.
7.	C. Oakley.	Derby Ivanhoe.	2. 48 3/5.
8.	W. A. Almond.	Warrington R.C.	2. 49.
9.	J. T. Smith.	Salford R. C.	2. 50.
10.	F. H. Worthen.	M/C Clarion C. & A.C.	2. 53.
11.	J.J. Davies.	Pottaries C.C.	2. 55 1/5.
12.	S. Lee.	Veg. C & A.C.	2. 56.
13.	C. Hassall.	Derby Ivanhoe.	2. 56 4/5.
14.	V. L. Spencer.	M.A.C.	2. 57 1/5.
15.	C. J. Murray.	M.A.C.	2. 59 4/5.
16.	A. Hunt.	M. A. C.	3. 2.
17.	H. Ogden.	Salford R. C.	3. 3. 1/5.
18.	E. Hulme.	Mossley R.C.	3. 4 3/5.
19.	D. Richardson.	M/C Clarion C & A.C.	3. 6.
20.	F. Appleby.	Craig Wheelers.	3. 6 2/5.
21.	T. Nolan.	Manchester Roads.	3. 6 3/5.
22.	A. Perrin.	Manchester Wheelers.	3. 7.
23.	C. Temperton.	Manchester Clarion C.&A.C.	3. 8.
24.	H.D. Corkhill.	M/C Clarion C & A.C.	3. 8 1/5.
25.	H. P. Cotterill.	Derby Ivanhoe.	3. 10.
26.	W. Trimbrel.	N.M.H. & A.C.	3. 11.
27.	R. R. Sharp.	M/C Clarion C & A.C.	3. 11 2/5.
28.	W. Abraham.	Manchester Roads.	3. 11 3/5.
29.	J. Cumpsty.	Victoria Wheelers.	3. 12.
30.	F. Butterworth.	Manchester Roads.	3. 12 2/5.
31.	J. Stewart.	M. A. C.	3. 13.
32.	A. Kelly.	Salford R. C.	3. 14.
33.	E. Cooper.	Pottaries C.C.	3. 16.
34.	S. P. Basketter.	N.C.U. P.M.	3. 16 2/5.
35.	F. Powell.	Craig Wheelers.	3. 18.
36.	H. E. Lloyd.	Withington Wheelers.	3. 19.
37.	S. B. Wood.	Unattached.	3. 19 2/5.
38.	J. Ford.	Manchester Roads.	3. 22.
39.	E. Jones.	Derby Ivanhoe.	3. 22 3/5.
40.	S. Latham.	Pottaries C. C.	3. 23.
41.	G. Perry.	Manchester R. C.	3. 28.
42.	F. Williams.	Warrington R. C.	3. 29 1/5.
43.	R. Sampson.	Manchester Roads.	3. 30.
44.	C. Shattock.	Withington Wheelers.	3. 34.
45.	G. Higginbottom.	Manchester Roads.	3. 35.
46.	S. Bryon.	Flixton C.C.	3. 36 2/5.
47.	R. Locke.	Southern Wheelers.	3. 37.
48.	G. Mason.	Mossley R. C.	3. 39.
49.	F. Wheeler.	Withington Wheelers.	3. 43.
50.	W. Poole.	N.M.H. & A.C.	3. 44.
51.	F. Lowe.	Warrington R. C.	3. 49.
52.	E.A.Hall.	M/C Grosvenor.	3. 55 1/5.
53.	L. Powell.	Craig Wheelers.	3. 58.
54.	R. Harvey.	Manchester Roads.	4. 1.
55.	J. E. Robinson.	N.C.U. P.M.	4. 5 1/5.
56.	E. York.	Craig Wheelers.	4. 7 1/5.
57.	S. Hall.	Manchester Grosvenor.	5. 20.

TEAM MEDALS.
 1. Withington Wheelers.
 2. Derby Ivanhoe.
 3. E. Forbes, A. Grant, H.E. Lloyd, S. 46 2/5.
 C. Oakley, G. Hassall, H.P. Cotterill 8. 57 1/5
 45. SPANDED.
 R. A. McQueen.
 T. M. Barton.
 58. FINISHED.
 Timekeepers.
 H. E. Lloyd.

The Withington Wheelers
 Finish Sheets from 1935
 and 1936.
 The photo shows shows
 Jim Forbes with the
 1935 winner Ernie Atherton
 and Tommy Clare
 who finished third.



...he went to Monsall Head and again ran second to Atherton in the Derby Ivanhoe hill climb, this time by only one second.

And then, in the Saddleworth Wheelers hill climb (see photo left) on Bearda Hill, Dane Bridge, Macclesfield came success. Jim beat Ernie Atherton by $\frac{1}{5}$ of a second and thus gained for the Withington Wheelers it's very first Open win, meanwhile shattering Atherton's hitherto unbeaten hill climbing record.

But Jim wasn't finished and over to Grimsby he went to beat the local champion by three seconds by surmounting Nettleton Hill in record time. The photo top right shows Jim with the John Bull Trophy for winning the Grimsby hill climb.



1936 gave us very nearly the same result as 1936, for Jim Forbes was again second in our event and once more led the club to team victory, Alan Grant being fourth and the third member Harry Lloyd. Jim Forbes' time of 2mins 41 $\frac{3}{5}$ secs in our 1936 hill climb stood as the fastest ride by a Withington Wheeler for over 50 years until it was beaten by Neil Byrne in 1991 in a time of 2mins 36.4secs. Atherton was only third, the winner being Benny Clare of the North Manchester Harriers, although amazingly the local press managed to get the winner wrong and reported Atherton the fastest in error (see "*The Captain's Sporting Gossip*" aside). Benny's time was 2mins 40 $\frac{1}{5}$ secs which created a new course record for the hill.

Several of our lads competed in the Bradford Victoria, Derby Ivanhoe and Saddleworth climbs, but without success and it remained for Jim to travel down to the Catford CC Hill Climb (then the unofficial national champs), on Adrian Mayson's motor bike, borrow a bike and finish ninth of 90 riders - gaining himself a

certificate. The last climb of the season was the Whaley Bridge event on Peaslows when Alan Grant was second and Jim fourth. Holmes of massed-start racing fame won this event and beat Clare's record.

JUBILEE YEAR.
Catford
Cycling Club.
Formed 1886
President:
E. J. Southcott. Esq.

RESULT OF
42nd ANNUAL HILL CLIMB
CHAMPIONSHIP of ENGLAND

HELD AT

Yorks Hill, Ide Hill, Kent,

On SUNDAY, October 25th, 1936.

Timekeeper

W. J. Pett. Esq.

FASTEST TIMES.

Fastest Time	E. W. Hussey	Finchbury Park	2m. 22 1/5s.
2nd	J. Ayden	Catford C.C.	2m. 21s.
3rd	R. W. Foreman	Barnet C.C.	2m. 40 3/5s.

TEAM RACE.

1st	Barnet C.C.	8m. 28 1/5s.
2nd	Catford C.C.	9m. 38s.
3rd	Southend County	8m. 56 4/5s.
4th	Dale Park	9m. 13 1/5s.
5th	Don Road	9m. 39 3/5s.

128 Entered. 98 Started. 54 Finished.

Road Event Manager:

Stan. Newport,
5, Dundalk Road,
Brockley, S.E.4.

CYCLING

AMONG the 75 entries received for the Withington Wheelers open hill climb, which was held on Peaslow Hill, Chapel-en-le-Frith, were the brothers

THE CAPTAIN'S SPORTING GOSSIP

Gorton and "Ginger" Murray, the well-known path riders.

Notable entrants in the road-racing section were E. Atherton, the Yorkshire Road Club champion; O. C. Lamb, the Manchester Wheelers' champion; and J. E. Carr, the Anfield "100" winner.

Caused Their Downfall

APPROXIMATELY 900 yards long, the gradient averages one in seven, and this proved the downfall of the sprinters, whose best man finished sixth.

Atherton made the fastest ascent in the record time of 2min. 41sec., but it was left to J. E. Forbes, of the promoting club, to furnish the surprise of the day by finishing second, only two seconds in arrears. Fifty-eight succeeded in reaching the timekeeper, Mr. R. MacQueen, the slowest competitor being well outside four minutes.

Attempt Abandoned

WEATHER conditions were entirely against Smith Parker, and at the last moment he wisely decided to abandon his effort on A. L. Abram's newly made tricycle record between London and Liverpool.

So ends the busiest season the Road Record Association has ever experienced in its 50 years existence.

1934

Open Hill Climb, October 21st.

The second annual hill climb proved to be quite a success, a fairly representative entry of sixty-six being received for the event. The venue was again Penslow, which seems to possess all the characteristics necessary for a climb, but the length used was only 900 yards - an amendment which appeared to be rather popular.

Better weather attended the event this year, with the result that the riders had a great following of spectators, the behaviour of whom however, was far from satisfactory - from the riders point of view that is, as from the very nature of the event no trouble is occasioned from the public.

Much interest was aroused by the entry of E.W. Higgins, the British Empire Sprint Champion, but he appeared to be under-geared and finished fairly low. S. Livingston was from the start a hot favourite but had to be content with second place to A.A. Williams of the Clarion an early starter who rode splendidly and took 2mins. 52secs. to reach the top. A.J. Carr who started no. 2 On the card, recorded a time of 2mins. 58secs. and this stood as a second place performance right up to the end of the event when Livingston arrived to chip off one second and relegate him to third place. Booth, who was second last year could only manage 3mins 6secs. but had the consolation of forming the Dukinfield trio who took first team awards with an aggregate time of 9mins. 11secs. The Derby Ivanhoe C.C. were second with and the Manchester Wheelers third.

Only three of our men rode, and of these Jim Forbes again proved to be our best climber with a time of 3mins. 26secs.

Mr. MacQueen and Mr. Pemberton were responsible for the timing of the event and gave the following results:-

1. A.A. Williams, Clarion C.C.	2 52.
2. S. Livingston, Dukinfield.	2 57.1/5.
3. A.J. Carr, Altrincham R.C.C.	2 58.
4. G. Murray, M.A.C.	2 58.1/5.
5. E. Gorton, Manchester Wheelers.	2 59.3/5.
6. W. Booth, Dukinfield.	3 6.
7. W.H. Gill, Dukinfield.	3 8.
8. C. Hassall, Derby Ivanhoe.	3 8.4/5.
9. J.E. Carr, Anfield B.C.	3 9.
10. C.C. Lamb, Manchester Wheelers.	3 10.

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1935

Open Hill Climb, Octr. 20th, 1935.

A record entry of 75 for the event, a record time for the ascent, a Withington Wheeler placed second in the finishing list, and the Club first in the team race! These were the outstanding features which went to make up our third Open Hill Climb.

Saturday's torrential downpour gave place on the important day to an icily biting wind, whose only saving grace was that it blew in the same direction as the riders. This was undoubtedly the reason for such brisk riding as was seen, and it soon became evident that record must go. Clare of the North Manchester was the first man to lower the figures with a snappy ride of 2.46 4/5, followed almost immediately by Hart, Horwich C.C., with 2.49 1/5. These two rides were good enough to take precedence over all others right up to the last few minutes of the event, when, after a tremendous effort which created a minor sensation, Jim Forbes arrived with a splendid time of 2.44.

Hardly had we finished congratulating him, however, than Atherton, the Yorkshire R.C.'s crack climber appeared - the last man on the card - pedalling splendidly to cross the line in 2.41 4/5.

Backed by Alan Grant (3.6 1/5) and Smithy (3.15 3/5) Jim led our Club to victory with an aggregate of 9 mins. 6 secs., beating the Derby Ivanhoe by 16 secs.

Mr. Pemberton and Mr. MacQueen again officiated and give us the following leading times:-

1. A. E. Atherton	Yorkshire R.C.	2. 41 4/5
2. J. E. Forbes	Withington Wheelers	2. 44
3. T. L. Clare	N. M/or. C. & A.C.	2. 46 4/5
4. F. Hart	Horwich C.C.	2. 49 1/5
5. J. E. Carr	Anfield B.C.	2. 51 4/5
6. C. J. Murray	M.A.C.	3. 1 1/5
7. F. Butterworth	Manchester R.C.	3. 1 1/5
(H. Batty)	Saddlesworth Whlrs.	3. 1 1/5

The reports from the 1934, 1935 and 1936 Withington Wheelers Journals make interesting reading.....

The full length of the hill was used in 1933 but in 1934 the traditional shorter course was used, the full length of the hill would not be used again until the Withington had the honour of organising the National Hill Climb in 1964.

In 1934 Stan Livingstone was beaten into second place by AA Williams of the Clarion CC and then in 1935 AE Atherton over from Yorkshire took the honours beating our own Jim Forbes by two seconds.

In 1936 the same three riders finished first, second and third but in a different order. Unfortunately Jim was second again with first and third changing places, Ernie Atherton taking third and the win going to Tommy Clare (he is given different initials on the 1935 and 1936 finish sheets but it is the same chap!).



WITHINGTON WHEELERS JOURNAL.



VOL. III. No. 8.

NOVEMBER, 1936.

FIXTURES.

Novr. 15th	EDALE - Greenlands Farm.	CASTLETON - Peveril o'th Peak.
" 22nd	ANTROBUS	
" 29th	RAINOW - Mrs. Tinsley, The Outpost.	NORTH ROBE - Mrs. Nuttall's, Marton Lane.
Decr. 6th	SUTTON - Ryles Arms, Hollin Lane.	KUSHTON - Fox Inn.
" 13th	CAPTAIN'S RUN - Meet as usual - 10 A.M.	
" 20th	ARBOUR LOW Tea Rooms.	
" 26th	CHESTER WEEK-END.	Leader - Mr. Wheeler.
& 27th		

OPEN HILL-CLIMB, Octr. 16th.

Each year has seen a slight increase in the entry for our Open Hill-Climb. This time we just equalled last year's figures, for seventy-five riders wrote telling us of their intention to prove old Newton in the wrong. Among them were to be found last year's winner, Atherton, our old rivals, the Derby Ivanhoe, and, of course, our own expert Jim.

Conditions were not nearly so severe as last year, and with a good wind blowing up the hill some good climbing seemed to be indicated.

Oakley, of the Derby, was one of the first to get within striking distance of the course record with 2.49, followed soon after by Kershaw's even better 2.47.

Atherton, who has made a name for himself in this specialised phase of the game, was another early starter. Although he failed to touch his last year's figures, he managed to record a time good enough to place him at the head of affairs for most of the event, until B. A. Clare, of the North Manchester, brother of a former prizewinner, passed over the tape looking remarkably comfortable, to depose the Yorkshire-man and create a new course record with an excellent climb of 2.41 1/5.

Then came Jim, and as he approached the summit our eyes oscillated feverishly between the watch and his bobbing figure. Two-thirty, and here he comes ... Thirty-five, and almost there ... forty, and there goes his wheel, but not nearly two more seconds have been passed by that little finger before he touches the tape, and his time gives him a worthy second place.

Meanwhile, Alan returned a considerably improved time of 2.45 1/2 for fourth place, and these two times, along with Harry's 3.19 gave us our first team medals for the second year. The Derby Ivanhoe were as consistent as ever and again rode into second place.

Thus, by a remarkable coincidence, the names of the prizewinners (in different order) and the winning teams (in the same order) were identical with last year's result.

	Vice-President Barlow "sent them off" and Mr. MacQueen (hardly soul!) timed them in. Together they conspire to give us these details.	
1.	B. A. Clare	North Manchester H & A.C. 2.40 1/2
2.	J. E. Forbes	Withington Wheelers 2.41 3/5
3.	E. Atherton	Yorkshire R.C. 2.42 2/5
4.	A. Grant	Withington Wheelers 2.45 4/5
5.	J. Kershaw	Oldham Century 2.47
6.	H. Batty	Dukinfield 2.48
7.	C. Oakley	Derby Ivanhoe 2.49
8.	W. A. Almond	Warrington R.C. 2.50
9.	J. T. Smith	Salford R.C. 2.55
10.	F. H. Worthen	M/S. Clarion 2.55
11.	J. J. Davies	Pottaries C.C. 2.56

WITHINGTON WHEELERS.
OPEN HILL CLIMB, OCT. 17th, 1937.

Pos.	Result.	Mins.	Secs.
1.	J. Holmes	2	35 1/5
2.	A. Grant	2	42 4/5
3.	T. L. Clare	2	44 3/5
4.	F. Appleby	2	45 2/5
5.	T. Aspinall	2	45 4/5
6.	J. Fancourt	2	49 4/5
7.	H. Batty	2	52 1/5
8.	E. Atherton	2	53 3/5
9.	L. Henderson	2	54 1/5
10.	J. Kershaw	"	"
11.	J. E. Forbes	"	"
12.	E. Leese	"	"
13.	H. Price	2	55 3/5
14.	J. Cumpstay	2	55 4/5
15.	J. E. Carr	2	59 4/5
16.	F. Cowall	3	0 1/5
17.	J. T. Smith	3	1 1/5
18.	C. Handford	3	2
19.	F. Gratton	3	2 2/5
20.	S. Livingston	3	3
21.	P. J. Tildesley	3	4 4/5
22.	S. B. Wood	3	5 2/5
23.	S. Haslam	3	6 4/5
24.	A. B. Plant	3	7 1/5
25.	J. Gandy	3	8
26.	H. Ogden	3	8 4/5
27.	H. Brooks	3	10
28.	S. Schofield	3	10 2/5
29.	R. Brickles	3	11 2/5
30.	D. Finchin	3	"
31.	E. M. Batty	3	12 1/5
32.	T. Frith	3	12 2/5
33.	C. Tebbes	3	13
34.	F. Sanderson	3	14 2/5
35.	J. Sanderson	3	14 4/5
36.	K. Perrins	3	15 1/5
37.	H. Bamford	3	15 2/5
38.	K. Hunt	3	18
39.	J. Appleby	"	"
40.	W. Hall	"	"

Affil: R.T.T.C., N.E.R.A., ...

OPEN HILL - CLIMB
under R.T.T.C. Regulations.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15th, 1939.
PEASLOW HILL, CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH.

Headquarters and Dressing Accommodation -
Jolly Carter Hotel, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Note:-
No pushing-off will be allowed. Competitors
will be supported only.

PRIZES:-

Fastest ... 25/-
2nd " ... 15/-
3rd " ... 10/-
4th " ... 5/-

1st Team: 3 Silver Medals
2nd " 3 Bronze "

Timekeepers:- R. M. MacQueen & T. White.

No.	Name.	Club.	Start at
1	F. S. Healey	Withington Wheelers	11.01
2	W. Holdsworth	Yorks. R.C.	11.02
3	G. W. Fox	Dukinfield C.C.	11.03
4	J. P. Basketter	N.C.U.	11.04
5	K. Hunt	Dukinfield C.C.	11.05
6	E. C. Hulme	M/cr. Clarion	11.06
7	J. B. Smith	Withington Wheelers	11.07
8	A. Edwards	W/cr. Roads C.C.	11.08
9	H. Boothroyd	Whaley Bridge C.C.	11.09
10	J. Fancourt	Yorks R.C.	11.10
11	C. Tebbes	M/cr. Victoria	11.11
12	G. A. Poole	Dukinfield C.C.	11.12
13	N. A. Howe	Yorks R.C.	11.13
14	V. Henderson	M/cr. Roads C.C.	11.14
15	Joe Appleby	M/cr. Clarion	11.15
16	W. Seddon	M. & S. Lads Club	11.16
17	H. Gell	Phoenix C.C.	11.17
18	H. Roberts	M/cr. Clarion	11.18
19	V. Taylor	Withington Wheelers	11.19
20	A. Grant	Fallowfield C.C.	11.20
21	J. Christian	Steeleopolis C.C.	11.21
22	G. Umpleby	Yorks R.C.	11.22
23	G. Bell	Warrington R.C.	11.23
24	R. Bryan	Dukinfield C.C.	11.24
25	E. M. Batty	Yorks R.C.	11.25
26	J. Maplebeck	M. & S. Lads Club	11.26
27	W. Moffatt	Sheffield Central	11.27
28	J. Kay	Steeleopolis C.C.	11.28
29	L. Dixon	"	11.29

WITHINGTON WHEELERS.
OPEN HILL CLIMB. October 16th, 1938.

Pos.	Result.	Mins.	Secs.
1.	H. Batty	2	47
2.	A. Grant	2	47 2/5
3.	H. Brown	2	49 3/5
4.	J. E. Forbes	2	50
5.	H. Price	2	54 1/5
6.	F. H. Worthen	2	55
7.	A. Barker	2	56 1/5
8.	F. Appleby	2	57 3/5
9.	A. Fearing	2	58
10.	H. Brooks	2	58 1/5
11.	W. H. Gill	2	58 3/5
12.	J. Spencer	2	59
13.	A. Bates	3	0 2/5
14.	F. Harrison	3	1 1/5
15.	J. Cumpstay	3	3 3/5
16.	M. E. Jones	3	4 1/5
17.	C. Ellis	3	5 1/5
18.	E. M. Batty	3	6 1/5
19.	S. B. Wood	3	"
20.	J. Rimmer	3	6 2/5
21.	H. Bamford	3	7 1/5
22.	C. Tebbes	3	7 4/5
23.	W. H. Porteous	3	8
24.	H. Ogden	3	8 4/5
25.	D. W. Spearing	3	9 1/5
26.	R. G. Morris	3	10 1/5
27.	H. Jones	3	10 2/5
28.	W. Wilson	3	11
29.	A. Leach	3	11 1/5
30.	A. Davies	3	14 1/5
31.	J. Appleby	3	14 3/5
32.	P. Stanfield	3	"
33.	A. Pickup	3	15
34.	E. Perrins	3	15 3/5
35.	C. Shaw	3	15 4/5
36.	D. Roberts	3	17
37.	P. Butterworth	3	17 2/5
38.	R. Drabble	3	17 3/5
39.	Joe Appleby	3	19 1/5
40.	A. N. Hammond	3	19 3/5

Sunday, October 17th, 1940
Under R.T.T.C. Hill-Climb Regulations

Official Result

Pos.	Name	Club	Mins.	Secs.
1.	R. WOORE	Manchester Clarion	2	35 3/5
2.	P. H. WORTHEN	Manchester Clarion	2	37 1/5
3.	D. NIELD	Manchester Clarion	2	37 1/5
4.	K. Moorby	Manchester Clarion	2	40
5.	D. L. Clarke	Abbotsford Park R.C.	2	50 1/5
6.	A. T. King	Manchester Clarion	2	53 3/5
7.	R. V. Booth	Leek C.C.	2	53 3/5
8.	M. Claro	Stockport R.C.	2	55 3/5
9.	E. R. Jones	Cheshire R.C.	2	58 3/5
10.	W. J. Constable	Manchester Clarion	3	1 4/5
11.	H. Batty	Dukinfield C.C.	3	1 4/5
12.	J. E. Forbes	Withington Wh.	3	2 3/5
13.	F. Appleby	Manchester Roads C.C.	3	3 4/5
14.	S. Foster	Manchester Clarion	3	7 3/5
15.	L. Tully	Abbotsford Wh.	3	8 1/5
16.	H. Glassbrook	Leek C.C.	3	9 4/5
17.	K. R. Day	Leek C.C.	3	10 2/5
18.	R. M. Batty	Dukinfield C.C.	3	12 4/5
19.	J. R. Wood	Manchester A.C.	3	13
20.	J. Bishop	Rossendale Wh.	3	14 1/5
21.	R. Trafford	Leek C.C.	3	23
22.	J. Keillett	M/cr. Victoria Wh.	3	25
23.	H. D. Cross	Rossendale Wh.	3	25 1/5
24.	W. S. Bennett	Manchester A.C.	3	25 1/5
25.	A. Leaver	Withington Wh.	3	25 1/5
26.	A. Phillips	Thorne Paragon	3	26 2/5
27.	J. C. Shaw	Manchester Clarion	3	26 2/5
28.	H. Stevens	Withington Wh.	3	27 1/5
29.	F. J. Parker	Falcon C.C.	3	27 1/5
30.	D. Jones	Falcon C.C.	3	27 1/5
31.	R. Keely	Manchester A.C.	3	29 4/5
32.	R. Mackay	Falcon C.C.	3	30
33.	T. Howcroft	Manchester Clarion	3	37

1st Team. Manchester Clarion .. 7 56
(R. Woore, P. H. Worthen, D. Nield)
2nd Team. Leek C.C. 9 31 1/5
(R. V. Booth, K. R. Day, R. Trafford)
53 entered. 37 started. 34 finished.

Signed: Time-keeper. R. MacQueen.
Time-keeper. A. C. Wood.
Event Secretary. A. J. Pennill,
8, Cambridge Road,
Gatley, Cheshire.

1937, 1938,
1939 & 1940
Finish Sheets

The club really went to town in 1937, everybody putting in bags of collective training. As a result there was quite a scrap between the junior members to fill the third place in our team. Alan Grant was now ousting Jim but who cared as long as the club was at the top first? In our own climb Alan Grant was second to Jack Holmes whose 2mins 35¹/₅ secs broke his own course record. Holmes was supported by Jack Fancourt and Joe Aspinall for the Yorkshire RC to take first team award, while Alan Grant, Jim Forbes and Tommy Frith took the second team honours. In the Bradford Victoria event Alan was third, Jim was sixth and Ken Perrins made up a trio which took second team honours.

Alan won the Derby Ivanhoe event with Alan Bates fifth and Jim ninth, these three taking first team award. On the Saddleworth slippery slopes we again won the team race, Grant being second and well backed by Jim and Kent. Interesting point was that out of 63 starters only 9 managed to keep contact with their machines to the summit! In the final event of the year, the Eagle RC climb up Bearda, Alan Grant was second and with Alan Bates and Tom Frith the club took second team award, earning our fourth set of team medals.

In 1938 we contested, in all, eight climbs including a memorable trip to the Catford. Taking our Open first, a point most worthy of note was the full start card of 100 names. Harry Batty of the Dukinfield was fastest in 2mins 47secs, Alan Grant in second place only ²/₅ of a second slower and Jim fourth in 2mins 50secs. Alan Bates now improving steadily recorded 3mins 02²/₅ secs and these three easily took first place in the team race. In the Potteries event Alan Grant was fourth, Frank Stanfield fifth and Jim, riding all the way with a flat back tyre, was sixth. At Monsall, in the Derby Ivanhoe, Alan Bates also rode the whole distance on a flat.



1937

Open Hill Climb.

As most of you are aware, our hill climb, the fifth of the series, duly took place on the appointed date up the slopes of Peaslow. At least three records were broken, first the entry, which reached the fine total of 86, secondly the weather, which for a change was ideal, and thirdly the winning time.

Our friends of the Y.R.C. carried off the plums, J. Holmes showing a clean pair of heels, or was it some other part of his anatomy, to the rest of the field, and assisted by J. Aspinall and J. Farncourt headed the team list; although we had some cause for celebration in the fact that Allan Grant made second fastest ascent - well ridden sirel - and with the aid of Tom Frith and Jim Forbes filled the role of second team.

Called to London - to control or not to control - V. P. Barlow was absent from the foot of the hill and Arnold Smith, looking for all the world like a Kew "A" watch-holder, deputised, carrying out his job in manner born. At the top your humble servant, assisted by Mr. Editor and Harry, recorded the tickings of relentless time.

All went well. 70 of the 80 starters kept their appointments, but amongst those who failed dishonourable mention must be made of Fred, who, after officiating as supporter-in-chief to all the starters, found he was unable to support himself.

But all this was but a prelude to the celebration at the "Jolly Carter." Hundreds, or at least so it seemed, managed to squeeze inside those hospitable portals where the Y.R.C. boys commenced to make things hum. Music bath charms, someone once said, but those words would never have been spoken had the someone been there that day. Whether it was the mere exuberance of youth or milk from the brown cow I know not; perhaps Harry will be able to tell us.

R. MacQ.

1938

Open Hill-Climb.

Alan's efforts in promoting the Club's Open Hill-Climb were amply rewarded this year, for the event again received a record entry, and when we opened the start-cards we crowded with delight to see a hundred names adorning the list.

Hitherto we have invariably had clear but bitterly cold weather; this year it was much warmer, but heavy rain fell before and during most of the event, and a wind blowing down the hill made climbing a difficult task.

Jack Holmes' course record therefore seemed in no danger, and so it proved, rides inside three minutes being quite rare. One of these was by Brown of the Bury, whose 2.48 3/5 was best for some time. Then Betty of the Dukinfield, who has always finished high in our event, deposed him with a fine ride of 2.47, and this remained unbeaten right to the end, despite staunch efforts from Alan - 2/5 second too slow - and Jim, whose 2.50 earned him fourth prize.

Thus, with second and fourth places, the Club had the foundation of a good team. Treasurer Bates did the trick with 3.2 2/5, and this gave us first place in the Team race, with an aggregate of 8.39 4/5 against the Dukinfield's 8.51 4/5.

Of the 100 who entered, only 89 started, and 70 of these reached the top.

A. Smith and R. MacQueen timed.

1.	H. Betty	Dukinfield C.C.	2.47
2.	A. Grant	Withington W.	2.47 2/5
3.	H. Brown	Bury A.C.	2.48 3/5
4.	J. Forbes	Withington W.	2.50
5.	H. Frith	Peterloo C.C.	2.54 1/5
6.	F. H. Worthen	M/r. Clarion	2.55
7.	A. Barker	Warrington R.C.	2.56 1/5
8.	F. Appleby	Manchester R.C.	2.57 3/5
9.	A. Fearing	Bury A.C.	2.58

As Timekeeper Clerk at the top I found the weather if not pleasant, at least quite bearable. For the riders it was simply punishing, a hard persistent wind that made every upward effort a feat. Small wonder that times were so slow and non-finishers so numerous.

At varying times during the event the issue swayed between Alan, Betty, Postlethwaite and Worthen, but Holmes was a late starter and still had to be contended with. Once more, with his usual masterly action, he mounted this never friendly hill of ours and hurled himself over the line with the best time of the day - 3.2 3/5. Some indication of conditions may be drawn from the fact that record for the Hill - by Holmes - is 2.36. Fred Worthen upheld local honour and caused a mild surprise with 3.7 1/5 for second place, just pipping the Sheffield flyer Postlethwaite by one-fifth. Because of the high entry, the prize list (originally on the cautious side) had been extended to four "places" and Betty of the Dukinfield annexed the last individual award from Alan of ours.

Yorkshire, who had fielded nine finishers, were easy winners of the Team race, Henderson in 6th place and Mapplebeck in 8th forming a compact team, with an aggregate of 8.38 3/5. Dukinfield were second with 10.6 3/5 and we were third.

Somebody whispered later that this is the first time in 4 years that the Club has not participated in its own prize list. If my memory serves me right it is also the first time in that period that either Alan or Jim has come away empty handed. (Still there's always a next year!)

After the event, the "Jolly Carter" was besieged with the usual reavenous hordes and soon the spectators' own annual affair - the "Sing-Song" - was pouring forth in all its unrestrained vigour.

So ended another successful event and another happy day in the Club's life.

Friend Tom White and V.P. MacQueen timed the event. Here are the details:-

1.	J. Holmes	Yorkshire R.C.	3. 2	3/5
2.	F. H. Worthen	M/r. Clarion	3. 7	1/5
3.	G. Postlethwaite	Sheffield Phoenix	3. 7	2/5
4.	H. Betty	Dukinfield C.C.	3. 9	3/5
5.	A. Grant	Withington Whirs.	3.13	1/5
6.	L. Henderson	Yorks. R.C.	3.14	4/5
7.	A. Barker	Warrington R.C.	3.18	
8.	J. Mapplebeck	Yorks. R.C.	3.21	1/5
9.	F. Gratton	Apollo Wheelers	3.21	2/5
10.	W. H. Gill	Dukinfield C.C.	3.22	

J. E. Forbes 3.38 4/5, T. Frith 3.50,
J. B. Smith 4.10 4/5, A. J. Penmill 4.30,
F. S. Heeley 5.8 3/5.



WITTINGTON WHEELERS JOURNAL

Nov.-Decr. 1939.

FIXTURES.

- Nov. 12. CHURCH MINSHULL - Vernon's.
SPROSTON GREEN - Gae's.
19. WILDEBOARLOUGH - Clough House
26. CHELFORD - Egerton Arms.
Decr. 3. GAWSWORTH - Nuttall's - Ivy Cottage.
10. BUTTON - Ryle's Arms.
19. SIDDINGTON - Wood's Farm.

Our Felicitations to Bill Hall, now with the R.A.F., upon his recent marriage.

Open Hill Climb.

Any apprehension we might have felt about the running of our Open Hill Climb during a period of War was rapidly dispelled when we found that 86 would-be hill-climbers had responded to the invitation. Nor was the field in any way inferior to those of former years. Betty, last year's winner, Jack Holmes and his usual strong following of Y.R.C. boys, and Postlethwaite, Mustill and Barker, Alan and Jim, all gave promise of a close, keen affair.

And then later in 1938 came the mass assault on the Catford. Ten of our lads set fourth in two big Austins – seven to ride, accompanied by Charlie Haines, Freddy Wheeler and Walt Massey who went along to hurl encouragement. Admittedly we took no premier awards, But Alan Grant was seventh with 2mins 24²/₅ secs; Jim Forbes 2mins 36¹/₅ secs (18th) and Bertie Burton 2mins 38⁴/₅ secs (24th) taking third team place. Alan Bates did 2mins 40s, Ken Perrins 2mins 51s, Maurice Laverick 3mins 06s and Tommy Frith 3mins 19s. Only the two Alans stayed with their machines in the Saddleworth and in the Eagle, Alan Bates was the best of our lads being fourth and with Alan Grant and Jim Forbes, took second team. In the Rossendale, another freak hill, we were again second team, Alan Grant also tying for second place. Noteworthy, was the Walton climb with five of the club in the first nine. Grant tied for third place, Bates fifth and Bert Burton (6th) at last achieved his aim of earning a first team medal.

Come 1939 and the black hand of war. But to the minds of our grimpeurs there sprang a larger tragedy – not one prize did we take in hill climbs. Many events were cancelled but our own promotion received a fine entry of 86. The day was hard and times were slow, our old friend Jack Holmes (Yorks RC) doing the trick with 3mins 02s. Harold Worthen of the Clarion was second with 3mins 07¹/₅ secs beating Postlethwaite of the Sheffield Phoenix by ¹/₅ second. The

Yorkshire Roads took the team award followed by the Dukinfield CC with us in third position, Alan Grant was fifth, 11 seconds behind the winner, in 3mins 13¹/₅ secs. Alan was also fifth in the Walton Paragon with 2mins 04s, our only other riders being Ken Perrins, 2mins 19s and Bert Burton 2mins 20s.

In 1940 the winner was Harold Worthen with 3mins 08⁴/₅ secs put up on a bad day and beating Postlethwaite, 3mins 12³/₅ secs and Batty 3mins 15¹/₅ secs. The Clarion beat the Duky by ten seconds in the team race. Our only two entrants in a field of 42 were Ken Perrins and Arnold Pennill who were both DNS.


CYCLING WEEKLY, October 25, 1939

IT WAS NEWS THEN

From CYCLING, October 25, 1939.
 JACK HOLMES scored a clear win in the Withington Wheelers hill-climb, taking 3 mins 23-5 secs for the 930 yds of 1-in-7 gradient of Peaslow Hill. He was nearly 5 secs better than the time returned by F. H. Worthen, who rather surprisingly filled second place a split second ahead of the Sheffield crack, G. Postlethwaite. Almost a record entry of 86 was received, including competitors from Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cheshire.

Times were comparatively slow, a feature accounted for by the strong wind that faced the riders. Harry Batty, last year's winner, came up to fill fourth place and push A. Grant out of the prize list for the first time for three years.

A large but orderly gallery attended, for the Withington climb has become one of the foremost social events of the Manchester season.



Jack Holmes had an easy victory in the Withington Wheelers hill climb of 50 years ago.

WITHINGTON WHEELERS

Result of Open Hill-Climb held October 20th, 1946

(Under R.T.T.C. Regulations)

			M.	Secs.
1.	E. Mitchell	South Lanes. R. C.	3	2.3/5
2.	J. Norton	Altrincham Ravens C. C.	3	7.1/5
3.	C. Farebrother	Altrincham Ravens C. C.	3	7.2/5
4.	D. Nield	Manchester Clarion C&AC	3	13
5.	J. Dove	Derby Ivanhoe C. C.	3	16
6.	K. Moorby	Manchester Clarion C&AC	3	16.1/5
7.	R. Sidlow	Walton C. & A. C.	3	16.3/5
8.	H. Batty	Dukinfield C. C.	3	17
9.	F. Appleby	Manchester R. C.	3	20
10.	F. D. Smith	Pyramid R. C.	3	20.2/5
11.	W. Wroe	Manchester Clarion C&AC	3	23.2/5
12.	E. M. Batty	Dukinfield C. C.	3	23.3/5
13.	F. Sanderson	Dukinfield C. C.	3	29.4/5
14.	R. S. Greaves	Brodsworth R. C. C.	3	33
15.	E. Woolley	Altrincham Ravens C. C.	3	37.1/5
16.	K. Redford	Altrincham Ravens C. C.	3	38.1/5
17.	L. Tulip	Withington Wh.	3	45.2/5
18.	A. W. Hague	Manchester Wh.	3	52.1/5
19.	G. Lem	Sheffield Don Wh.	3	53.3/5
20.	J. B. Smith	Withington Wh.	3	53.4/5
21.	H. Hopwood	Altrincham Ravens C. C.	4	0.1/5
22.	J. B. Hoy	Ace C. C.	4	0.4/5
23.	H. Gell	Abbotsford Park R. C.	4	1.1/5
24.	A. R. Rhodes	Bedfordshire R. C. C.	4	7.4/5
25.	F. E. Hill	Ace C. C.	4	9
26.	S. Harrop	Altrincham Ravens C. C.	4	10.2/5
27.	M. Kirkham	Saddleworth Wh.	4	12.1/5
28.	R. C. Sampson	Manchester R. C.	4	16.2/5
29.	J. Hughes	Ace C. C.	4	29
30.	E. Edwards	Manchester R. C.	4	29.2/5

Team:- Altrincham Ravens C. C. 9 mins. 51.4/5 secs.
 (Norton, Farebrother, Woolley)

R. MacQUEEN (Timekeeper)

Prize winners should submit their accounts promptly
 to R. MacQueen, 22 Alston Gardens, Burnage, Manchester 19.

Post War Years. The Forties and Fifties

Five years passed by with most of the lads in the services. Four of our best did not return and all four are remembered on the Withington Wheelers Memorial Trophy. With the resumption of Club life it was also decided to award a hill climb shield in honour and memory of Tommy Frith, the only hill-climber who gave his life, to the winning team of the Open promotion. In 1946 the "Tom Frith Memorial trophy" was won by the Altrincham Ravens, though Eric Mitchell of the South Lancs RC made fastest time of 42 entrants. The best placed of our riders was Lance Tulip in a time of 3mins 45²/₅ secs. Only two Withys rode that day, the other was JB Smith who recorded 3.53⁴/₅ secs.

Then 1947 and start of the Clarion avalanche. First three positions were taken by Dick Woore, Don Nield and Harold Worthen in that order. The same three Clarion riders again saved our officials a lot of trouble in finding the first team in both 1948 and 1949. The total entry for the 1947 hill climb was 50, only two of ours rode and the WW Journal states.....

"entries totalled 50, we would have liked a few more, but the social side did not suffer for the Jolly Carter overflowed with Jolly Cyclists with mine host in his glory, if it were only for the annual welcome the Hill Climb would go even with no entries. Our sincere congratulations to the Manchester Clarion.....

D Woore Manchester Clarion 2.44.²/₅

D Nield Manchester Clarion 2.48.²/₅

FH Worthen Manchester Clarion 2.49.¹/₅

Our own event resulted in a win for FS (Stan) Heeley (actual 17th) with Eric Moore second. We unreservedly withdraw all we have ever written with regard to the cycling abilities of Stan, we bow our heads in shame, we bite the dust at his feet....."

In 1948 Dick Woore finished second in the National Hill Climb Championship on Lansdowne Lane, Weston, Bath. The winner was Vic Clarke in 3.42 who won the event in 1946, 1947 and 1948. Dick Woore's time was 3.47.2 with Bernard King third 3.48.6.

The hill is 1,157 yards with an average gradient of 1 in 7.9. Steepest 1 in 5. Dick then brought his Manchester Clarion team over to Peaslows.

1948 saw our tenth hill climb promotion and the Withington Wheelers Journal records; "...Manchester Clarion filled 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th and 9th and many other places – a truly remarkable effort. Entry was not up to pre-war standard and the total of 53 was not particularly encouraging. However from a sporting and social point of view the event was its usual howling success, the club turnout was also very good even if a certain aged member did come out on the bus. The leaders;

D Woore Manchester Clarion 2.35.³/₅

FH Worthen Manchester Clarion 2.37.¹/₅

D Nield Manchester Clarion 2.43.¹/₅

The Withington riders were;

J Forbes Withington Wheelers 3.07.¹/₅

L Tulip Withington Wheelers 3.09.⁴/₅

R Leaver Withington Wheelers 3.28.²/₅

H Stevens Withington Wheelers 3.43.²/₅

1949 and Manchester Clarion recorded their third consecutive victory for the Tom Frith Shield, below is the Withington Wheelers Journal from November 1949.....

COMMITTEE NOTES

New Member: Mr. & Mrs. B. Cavanagh,
60, Bennett St., Ardwick, M/c 12.

Proposed New Members:

- (i) Mr. Albert Eccles,
29, Braemar Road Road, Fallowfield, M/c 14.
- (ii) Mr. Brian Purcell,
19, Newstead Avenue, Withington, M/c 20.

Club Dinner. Some difficulty has arisen over the original venue for the Club Dinner. However, the sub-committee are now working overtime and I understand that a new venue has been provisionally booked for January 21st. As soon as details &c. are available, tickets will be printed and distributed.

Trophies. We are pleased to announce that a new trophy has been presented to the club by Bert Jenkinson, to be awarded annually. Bert has not yet decided what the winner must do to earn the award.

Club Room. Enquiries are now afoot for a Scout Hut in Burnage, a similar endeavour having been made in Fallowfield but availability being at a prohibitive cost

Change of Address. Mr. Eric Martin, C/O PO Box 66 & Pietermaritzburg, Natal, S. Africa.

Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Laverick send their thanks for their delightful wedding present.

OPEN HILL CLIMB. Of all the events each year, the Open Hill Climb is probably closest to our hearts, being truly a "Jolly" occasion. Instead of the usual gales, this year the sun shone, and a warm breeze was appreciated by all - except the riders. THEY had to fight this as well as the gradient. First man up inside three mins. was F. H. Worthen, last year's runner-up, with 2.53. When R. Woore, first last year, took 2.57, the result was taking shape. Then D. Nield came up in 2.45, which proved the best of the day, and gave the M/c. Clarion

their third successive victory for the Tom Frith Memorial Trophy. After offering our congratulations to this team of experts, how about a team to beat them in 1950? Our hopes this year were centred around Lance, Bill and Jim. Unfortunately Lance was unable to ride owing to a cold, Bill was short of training owing to overtime, and Jim muttered something about "Annie Domino." Someone ought to tell Nan! With Lance's absence, Karl nobly tried to complete our team, but Steve and Ken found the flesh too weak and were forced to dismount.

The club were out in force, and the event bore the usual hallmark of a "W.W." promotion. All praise being due to A.J.P. for the organisation, to Mac and Arthur Wood for holding the watches, and also to Bill Hadfield for the accommodation. Interviewed after the event, Harold Worthen said that his greatest thrill was his second ascent of Peaslow - on the pillion of Adrian's power bike! As express messenger between the top and the bottom of the course, Adrian rode with great skill and determination, providing up-to-date finishing times at the start, a point greatly appreciated by the later starters.

So until we again hear the cries of UP! UP! UP! here are the leading times for inspiration:

D. Nield.	Mr. Clarion.	2 - 45 1/5
F. H. Worthen.	-	2 - 53
R. Woore.	-	2 - 57 3/5

Our own riders:

16th. J. E. Forbes.	3 - 22
20th. R. Gray.	3 - 24 4/5
32nd. K. Jordan.	3 - 36 2/5
40th. J. Kennedy.	4 - 2 4/5

1st. Team: Mr. Clarion	8 - 35 4/5
2nd. Team: Bolton	9 - 29

Entries: 63; Starters: 46; Finishers: 42.

The Club (Private) Hill Climb was incorporated in the Open event, and as the result shows, Jim scored a resounding win. - H.E.

1950 saw a disappointing entry of only 47 "grimpeurs" but Dick Woore did not enter, "being unable to find any of his previous year's form". Eric Higgins of Whitworth Wheelers had beaten Harold Worthen by 6 seconds in the National Hill Climb and we were all set for a fine trial of strength. On Peaslow Worthen got his revenge by $\frac{2}{5}$ of a second but neither could beat Den Nield who finished with 2.50 dead. Of our own riders, Roy Isherwood failed to start and it was left to Jack Kennedy to beat Brian Purcell by 15 seconds to take the fastest Withy honour.

The Journal records "Our thanks to Mac (Ron McQueen) and Arthur Wood, the old and time-honoured combination of clock watchers, who returned the following leading times;

D Nield	Manchester Clarion	2.50
FH Worthen	Manchester Clarion	2.52. $\frac{1}{5}$
E Higgins	Whitworth Wheelers	2.52. $\frac{4}{5}$
V Clark	Coventry CC	2.55. $\frac{3}{5}$
W Consterdine	Bolton Clarion	3.04. $\frac{4}{5}$ "

By 1951 Dick Woore had joined the Withington Wheelers and a total of six Withys faced the timekeepers Arthur Wood and Arnold Pennill. J Kennedy, AR Isherwood, Jim Forbes, Stan Foster, Dick Woore and Lance Tulip were our six.

The Withy Journal records;

"Of our boys, our chief hope for individual honours centered on Dick (Woore) and his 2.44. $\frac{3}{5}$, though a little disappointing to him, was good enough to place him sixth. Jim (Forbes) came up with 2.54. $\frac{3}{5}$ and was quite pleased with himself, while Roy (Isherwood) filled third place in the team with a time 2 seconds slower than Jim. Lance (Tulip) had a pulled muscle and was unable to start.

The winner was HJ Hardcastle of Abbotsford Park in 2.30 dead. This was a new record for the hill and it wouldn't be beaten for six years.

The contest for team honours was hard fought and our boys were fastest of the local clubs and achieved their ambition in besting our friendly rivals, the Manchester Clarion, only to be pushed into third place by two young clubs, Birdwell Wheelers and Wallasey Silverdale.

1952. "This was a proud and happy day for the club, for after a gap of many years we were once again able to put up on the finishing board the name 'Withington' as team winners of our own Open Hill Climb. The event has always happy associations for the club and the desire to hold the Tommy Frith Memorial Shield is one which has for some years occupied a sentimental place high in our affections

Our own interest in the individual contest was centered on Dick Woore, a past winner of the event, and when he came in with 3.25 it was good enough for second place; but following almost on his heels came Carr of the Apollo with 3.23 and later the last man on the card - last years winner Harry Hardcastle of the Abbotsford - hustled over the line with a 3.22. ³/₅ to push Dick back into fourth.

Dick's disappointment was short lived; a rapid totting up of the figures by Arnold (Pennill) and we were able to tell him that he had led Roy Isherwood (12th in 3.42.⁴/₅) and Ken Adshead (13th in 3.44.⁴/₅) to a well-earned and very welcome victory for the club."

In 1953 the Withington ran out second best to team winners Janus RC who placed riders in first and second places to take the Tommy Frith Shield.

RR Booth	Janus RC	2.45.2
R Carr	Janus RC	2.48.4
J Gozzard	Mansfield Aces	2.51.8
A Pearson	Mansfield Aces	2.54.8

Ours were as follows;

AR Isherwood Withington Wheelers 2.59.2

D Waterworth Withington Wheelers 3.00.0

"Dick Woore struck an off day and finished well outside his usual standard"

1954, an entry of 47 with 42 starters.

For the first time a handicap award was introduced, donated by Jim Forbes, it turned out to be a difficult task as eighty per cent of the riders were handicapped on their 25 times.

Roy Carr (Janus RC) was fastest in 2.35.20, Mansfield Aces took the Tom Frith team award and of our own there were three finishers;

Roy Isherwood 2.54.2; Rod Slater 3.25.2; Bryan Purcell 3.30.8

OPEN HILL CLIMB, OCTOBER 10TH:

A bright morning and a light following wind, plus the hospitality of the Jolly Carter Inn, set the scene for this year's Climb, with forty two competitors (from a total entry of forty seven ... ten more than last year) prepared to essay the 930 yards of Peaslows agony 'twixt the watches of Arthur Wood and Ron MacQueen.

All the potential fast men had been placed at the tail of the field and, though a few of the early ones managed to break three minutes, it was not until number thirty seven (friend Alan Wheeler of the Royal Oak) that the first reasonably fast time was produced. Only four were to beat his 2.46.8, and they the last quartet on the start sheet.

The climax was an excellent 2.35.2 from Roy Carr (third in 1952, second in 1953 !) which proved a full five seconds faster than the next best. Roy stated afterwards he had been erroneously informed that two of his team mates had clocked good times, and that he had tried all he knew to retain the Team Shield for the Janus Road Club. Obviously a very successful example of applied psychology !

There was, in fact, little doubt about the destination of the Tom Frith trophy, the Mansfield Aces (with three men in the first six) winning comfortably from Manchester Velo and ensuring that another new name and badge shall go on the Shield.

Of our own, Roy Isherwood - though suffering from the effects of a heavy cold - did a creditable ride for eleventh position, and we were glad to see Brian Purcell having another 'go' in competition after three years in the R.A.F.

The innovation of the event was, of course, the handicap competition for the prizes so generously donated by Jim Forbes. Circumstances necessitated that over eighty per cent of the entrants had to be assessed on "25" times only, but - in the main - the allowances worked out fairly well despite the easy conditions which naturally favoured the longmarkers. Best of those who really beat the Handicapper were J.C. Lord of Manchester Clarion (previous best 1-7-41) and J. Burgess of Manchester Velo, who dead-heated for the two awards.

The main features of the result sheet are as follows:

Pos.			Actual	Heap	Nett	Hep
						Pos
1	R. Carr	Janus Road Club	2 35.2	SCR	2 35.2	13
2	D. Wilson	Sheffield Highgate	2 40.2	6	2 34.2	11
3	P.W. Hardwick	Mansfield Aces CC	2 44.8	1	2 43.8	30
4	J. Gozzard	Mansfield Aces CC	2 45.0	3	2 42.0	26
5	K.A. Wheeler	Royal Oak Road Club	2 46.8	18	2 28.8	5
6	A. Pearson	Mansfield Aces CC	2 47.2	7	2 40.2	22
11	A.R. Isherwood	Withington Wheelers	2 54.2	11	2 43.2	29
13	J. Burgess	Manchester Velo RC	2 56.0	35	2 21.0	1
14	J.C. Lord	Manchester Clarion	2 57.0	36	2 21.0	1
36	R.E.Y. Slater	Withington Wheelers	3 25.2	44	2 41.2	24
37	B.E. Purcell	Withington Wheelers	3 30.8	48	2 42.8	28

Team: Mansfield Aces (Hardwick, Gozzard, Pearson) 8m 17.0s

47 entered: 42 started: 41 finished:
Timekeepers: R. MacQueen & A.C. Wood Handicapper: A.J. Pennill

1955....

A good entry of 77 and an afternoon event for the first time.

Eric Wilson (Rossendale RC), who would win the National Championships later in the month, nearly broke the hill record.....

OPEN HILL CLIMB, OCTOBER 9TH:

Held for the first time as an afternoon event, we were pleased to note a good entry of seventy seven, with the prospect of some keen competition for both individual and team awards. Also, once more, there was the added interest in the handicaps for which the prizes had been donated by Jim Forbes.

We were blessed with some good weather which was reflected in a good turn out, and we were glad to renew acquaintance with some members we had not seen for a long time. Though the petrol expenditure must have been colossal it is rumoured that four or five made their way out on bicycles.

Conditions for the riders were as good as could be

expected, and it was not surprising that scratch man Eric Wilson (later in the month to become National Champion) of Rossendale Road Club came very close to course record in setting up the fastest time. It is perhaps a little sad to see our old friends ousted from the prize lists, but variety is the spice of life and no doubt they will be keen to get their revenges in next year's event. And the Tom Frith Shield, with the engraving space already half used up, is now sporting quite a fine collection of club badges -- Altrincham Ravens, Manchester Clarion, Birdwell Wheelers, Withington Wheelers, Janus Road Club, Mansfield Aces, with the Rossendale still to be added.

As usual, Arthur Wood and Mac officiated with the watches and reported the following leading times:-

Pos			Actual	Hcp	Nett	Hcp Pos
1	E. Wilson	Rossendale RC	2 31.6	Scr	2 31.6	21
2	W. Bradley	Southport RCC	2 33.0	19 2	14.0	1
3	P.J. Graham	West Pennine RC	2 34.6	10 2	24.6	4
4	D. Wilson	Sheffield Highgate	2 37.6	9 2	24.6	12
5	J. Gozzard	Mansfield Aces CC	2 39.0	13 2	26.0	6
6	R. Carr	Janus Road Club	2 40.4	5 2	35.4	27
45	K. Richardson	Manchester A & CC	3 11.2	50 2	21.2	1
57	A. Godfrey	Withington Whs	3 33.8	26 3	07.8	56

Teams:	1	Rossendale RC (Wilson, Simcock, Kershaw)	8 05.2
	2	West Pennine RC (Graham, Holland, Martin)	8 05.6
	3	Mansfield Aces (Gozzard, Pearson, Hardwick)	8 14.8

77 entered: 64 started: 59 finished:
Timekeepers: R. MacQueen & A.C. Wood Handicapper: A.J. Pennill

1956 Team winners are Sheffield Highgate and last year's winner Eric Wilson is pipped by Bill Bradley who clocked the exact same time as Eric in 1955 – 2.31.6

OPEN HILL CLIMB, OCTOBER 7TH:

Three - two - one - GO ! and Ken Adshead set the ball rolling in this year's event which carried a most attractive prize list ... due mainly to generous offers from Harry Wilson and two fairly anonymous Vice-Presidents.

First man of a very encouraging entry of sixty nine, Ken's 3-30 didn't tell us much as we didn't know how fit he was, but the next man up - Jack Woodward of the Clarion - showed with his 2-56 that there was a fairly steady 'draught' in the riders' favour. This was confirmed when No. 9 - J.Keith of Middleton - arrived with a 2-43; and Messrs Forbes and Bates held a hurried consultation ! Another steady ride of 2-48 by J.H.Tattersall of Rossendale was good enough to give him the First Handicap award.

The next highlight followed some nine minutes later when J.K.Taylor of West Pennine hove into view complete with 'barrow'. As one was in the 'gallery' was heard to remark - "No matter how slow you go on one of those, you can't fall off !" Then Eras Betty - a little bit more shiny on top, maybe - but still as game as ever; his conquests of Peaslows well into double figures now. A good effort of 2-53 from Dennis Beckett of the Clarion broke up a run of outside-three-minutes rides; it was very gratifying to see so many Clarion entries and quite reminiscent of the post-war years when they were undisputed 'masters' in the anti-gravity world.

Charlie Clarke of Westwood scrambled over the line in 2-48, to be followed in a more sedate manner by 'new boy' John

Charlie Clarke of Westwood scrambled over the line in 2-48, to be followed in a more sedate manner by 'new boy' John Entwistle of Burnley --- sedate, maybe, but swift too, and his 2-33 was the first beating of J.Keith's ride fifty minutes before and netted him Third Fastest and Second Handicap prizes.

Then came the rest of the 'fast men' --- 2-35 from Granville Olive, University C.C; 2-41 from a twice previous winner Roger Booth, Jenus; 2-36 from Dennis Wilson, Sheffield

Highgate; and so down to Bill Bradley's 2-31.6 which was exactly the same as last year's winning time. And then came National Champion Eric Wilson and, as he approached the last 'hump' before the finish, it seemed that he would just manage it but the little extra was not there and a new name was added to the list of winners.

When all was checked and sorted out we found that the Rossendale emerged as comparatively easy Team winners from Sheffield Highgate, with Clarion third and West Pennine (who 'lost' one of their mainstays somewhere between Arthur Wood and Mac) fourth.

1957 ... and the record goes.

Sunday October 6th, a fresh following wind up the hill and the WW Journal records...

"And then the master! No fighting finish, no grandstand effort – in fact, no apparent effort at all! Just a smooth, rock-like approach to the line, the hallmark of a perfectly judged effort from a boy who had the ability and confidence to ride the hill his own way, putting in the effort where it really counted and showing the temperament that has since brought him the National title. Bill Bradley did not start but I rather think that Bill himself would have grave doubts as to his ability to better this performance.

So hats off to Eric Wilson for a brilliant ride of 2.23.8 as he dismounts not unduly distressed, but to be congratulated by Harry Hardcastle whose hill record he had slashed by six seconds, and by Roger Booth who had been toppled into second place by a record margin of thirteen seconds."

1958 and Pete Graham records the first of his wins...

OPEN HILL CLIMB: These must surely have been the worst conditions for the past twelve years but, of course, I am open to correction on this point. There must have been harder days, much harder, but not the cold and wet with which the twenty four starters had to contend on Sunday, October 5th., 1958. The finishing sheet compliments them on starting - they should also be applauded for turning out at all, for once having reached the start they would surely ride to make the journey out and home again worth while !

First man up was J.Haddock of Warrington Roads, whose 3-17, though not very revealing, was sufficient to tell the few hardy spectators at the finish that the wind was favourable and that under-three-minutes rides would be the order of the day rather than the exception. The first of these came from the third man up, K.Bracegirdle of Stretford Wheelers, and his 2-53.2 was good enough to earn second-handicap prize.

Another two three-minutes-plus rides and then a spell of three riders in twelve minutes to confirm the foul conditions and allow Mac to partake of the cup that cheers. The monotony was broken by the spectacle of Ray Jones of Notts Olympic breathing up the back of J.W.Simpson to earn himself first-handicap award with a creditable 2-46, the ultimate seventh fastest of the day. Notts Olympic's next two men clocked 2-51 and 2-57 and clinched the second fastest team placing behind the Rossendale Road Club.

A sterling 2.46 by Brian Adshead of Stretford Wheelers

(one of last years's handicap winners) though not quite good enough to put him amongst the handicap awards again was, nevertheless, the fastest time to date and destined to be beaten only four times. The first of the 'big guns', Barry Clegg of Rossendale, could not quite manage it and expressed disappointment at his 2-46.4, and it was Don Wilson who toppled the Stretford Wheeler from his position at the head of affairs, the Sheffield Highgate man's time being 2-42.2. As I helped him off his bike I remarked that his ride was four seconds faster than the previous best and might very well "do it", to which he replied - "Not with Graham and Wilson still to come".

He had apparently forgotten his minute man, and Roger Booth stormed over the line with a 2-38.6 and a 'come back' victory after two previous wins (in 1952 and 1955) seemed a distinct possibility. However, we did not have long for conjecture as Pip Graham fought his way over the line just one fifth of a second faster and now the issue changed once more. Was this a winning effort or had the maestro something up his sleeve ? Could he do it and become the first to record a treble in our event ? It certainly seemed so as he came into view and approached the final stretch. At the 'bank' some fifty yards from the line he was running neck-and-neck with Booth and Graham, and we watched those all important seconds ticking by on Mac's watch. Thirty four, thirty five, thirty six --- will he do it ? Thirty seven - no, he can't. Thirty eight and he's over the line in 2-39 as we breath again and acclaim Peter Graham as the winner.

Hats off to both these boys who, less than two hours previously, had finished in the same positions in the B.L.R.C. Championship on Men Nick and were destined to finish first and second in the R.T.T.C. National Championship three weeks later.

And if, as you were returning home, you had some doubts as to whether it was worth turning out on such a terrible day, we hope you soon dispelled them. For, after all, twenty four lads thought it was worth it and gave of their best, despite the conditions. So, who are we to argue ?

R.W.

1959 and Pete Gaham's second win.....

OPEN HILL CLIMB, OCTOBER 18TH, 1959.

I think it is to our credit that we have continued through the years with this promotion, so that it is now as much a part of the local (indeed, national) programme as any other event in the calendar.

On the starting sheet of 1954 there appears the name of H. Batty of the Dukinfield, and he and his brother must go the honour for the most consecutive appearances, their names still appear as recently as 1956. Now we find the wheel has turned full cycle -- on this year's card we find the name of J.J. Batty, Dukinfield C.C. Yes, Harry's son following faithfully in dad's wheeltracks and probably using the same 22-tooth sprocket.

We have become used to seeing the familiar faces at this popular event, and this year's gathering was no exception. Just like old times to see Herbert and May out, Ken and Flo who also went to the trouble of putting in an appearance, our old friend Arthur Wood and other friends old and new.

The weather didn't quite hold out and the last few riders had to contend with a heavy downpour. They had, however, ample compensation in that the very last three cleared the board -- at least they provided 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, fastest. The third man, Rhodes of Huddersfield, actually went on to win the National Championship on the Winnats the following week.

We were all just a bit sorry to see our old friend Eric Wilson "screwed" into second place, particularly as this is the third consecutive year he has "Retired" from hill-climbing!

Our hosts at the Jolly Carter 'did for us' very well, and altogether it was a great get-together. Results:-

1.	P.J. Graham	West Pennine	2m 25.6s
2.	E. Wilson	Rossendale	2m 27.4s
3.	G. Rhodes	Huddersfield	2m 28.6s
4.	J.F. Brennan	Ribble Valley	2m 35.6s
5.	R.B. Adishead	Stretford Wms	2m 39.8s
-	N.A. Bird	M/or University	2m 39.8s
H/cp. 1.	N.A. Bird	M/or University	2m 0' 3s
2.	N. Treaton	Rossendale RC	2m 19.0s
3.	A. Barber	Warrington RC	2m 19.8s
Team 1.		Rossendale Road Club	7m 50.2s
2.		West Pennine RC	7m 57.6s

The 1960s and the National Hill Climb comes to Peaslows

1961

Open Hill Climb, October 15th. 1961:

The afternoon was dry but cool, with quite a strong wind blowing up the hill --- in fact, ideal conditions. The event was won by Peter Graham of West Pennine Road Club, and, while this probably was to be expected, the Timekeeper's announcement of his winning time (a fantastic 2m 16s, which shattered the old hill record) could only be described as **astounding**! This performance also paved the way for another success by the West Pennine team, who also set up a new record.

Len Grayson (a newcomer to our promotion) was second, and hardy-annual Eric Wilson filled third position.

The three entrants from the Withington met with varying degrees of success. Peter Jordan, off as number one, expressed a wish to better three minutes and seemed satisfied with his time of 2m 59.6s on a 63" gear. Dave Shutt was very unfortunate, as he unbalanced at the start while trying (he says!) to avoid a conveniently positioned worm (sabotage?). This brought him down, but he was hauled upright and determinedly set off without, however, first righting his bars and stem which had been twisted through about forty five degrees; a step to rectify this was necessary on the bend on the steep part of the hill, and although he later continued to the top his time was not officially recorded. Richard Langman had a cold the previous week and had difficulty in breathing during the climb (and who doesn't? Ed.). He recorded 2m 50s on a 59" gear and spent the following week in bed recovering.

Of the seventy seven whose names appeared on the start sheet, sixty seven started and sixty five (of whom forty beat three minutes) finished.

1962 saw three Withington riders in our own Open. The event was won in a time of 2mins 23.8 secs by Pete Graham of the West Pennine RC who also ran out team winners. Richard Langman was fastest of ours in 2.48.2, P Jordan recorded 3.15.2 and DRW Shutt 3.21.4. You'll notice that the timings had at last become decimal and therefore tenths were used instead of fifths.

1963 The record goes again. Pete Graham again with a stunning 2mins 12.2 secs, a new course record and beating Granville Sydney into second place in 2mins 19.6secs. Richard Langman improved by nearly half a second and moved up one place from 17th to 16th in 2.47.8. The other Withington riders were John Rayner 3mins 4.2secs and Alan Snelson 3mins 13.2secs.

Pete Graham had by now recorded six consecutive wins in our event.

OPEN HILL CLIMB 1963.

Once again the Club was blessed with a fine day for it's Open Hill Climb, although the wind was so strong it was even suggested that riders should start from the top of the hill and try to get down against the wind.

The "Jolly Carter" was as usual bursting at the seams with cyclists, and a nifty bit of elbow work was needed to make any headway. Most of the active members of the Club were present, squashed round the sides of one of the rooms. The look of abject misery and resignation on two faces indicated that their owners would soon be suffering, gasping to the cries of "Up-up-up". The build-up of tension before a hill-climb is terrific, far worse than actually riding.

Soon it was time to see some action and at 2.31 p.m. timekeeper Arthur Wood sent off John Rayner of the Wifhy. His was a good time (3m.4.2s.) - 25secs. improvement on the Club event two weeks earlier. No.4, R. Martin, of the Derwent Valley Wks. Really set the pace with 2m.25secs, in the morning he had beaten Peter Graham in the Upper-Downthorpe event on the Minnatts.

The other two Withington lads, Alan Snelson and Richard Langman recorded 3m.13.2 secs. and 2m.47.8secs, giving an aggregate good enough to get the 5th. team placing. Names and times steadily appeared on the result board which was attended as usual by Jim Forbes and Adrian Mayson. Then it was Peter Graham's turn and he did not disappoint; the wind was still blowing strongly up the hill and his time of 2m.12.2secs, was a Course and Event record, beating the second man by 7secs.

The "Coupe" of the day was by Huddersfield Star Wks. Granville Sydney, second fastest and second handicapped, his brother Graham Sydney 1st Handicap and with Jack Lightfoot, the team award of the Tom Frith Shield.

Afterwards an E.G.M. was held in the "Jolly Carter" to discuss whether the Club would be prepared to promote the National Championship Climb next year.

1964 National Hill Climb Championships on Peaslows

Our 27th Open Hill Climb in 1964 was also the 21st National Hill Climb. The club rallied round to put on an excellent promotion. The HQ was of course the Jolly Carter in Chapel-en-le-Frith, car parking was a problem and various sites were considered. Sam Longson, Haulage Contractors in the town were approached but the garage workshops and parking ground were in use at weekends. They were very helpful and suggested other sites which the club eventually used. The field at the top of the hill adjacent to the finish was used for spectators. Notes with the start sheet stated "charabancs should use the car park in Chapel-en-le-Frith".

HUSH! KEEP IT DARK!

NO start sheet was available for the National Championship hill-climb until the last minute, when thanks to hard work by national officials, an advance copy was supplied to CYCLING.

This was because event secretary, A. J. Pennill, fully supported by his District Council chairman, Ron MacQueen, Withington Wheelers, felt that CYCLING's readers should not know who is to ride the championship.

"We're not fully in agreement with this prior publicity for time trials," MacQueen told CYCLING. "As far as I am concerned we would run this event at five in the morning if it were possible."

The R.T.T.C. had supplied stamped addressed envelopes to the promoters for complete details to be sent to the national Press and broadcasting stations.

"I'm not bothered about that," said MacQueen, "the hill will be crowded enough as it is without publishing the details in advance. Pennill's responsible for running the event and in this case I agree with him. Everyone of any note, with the exception of Les West is riding the event. That's all I'm prepared to say."

Assistant national secretary of the R.T.T.C., Mavis Davis, made alternative arrangements for CYCLING.

"This is a national championship run for everybody," she said, "and since the prior publicity rule was lifted by national council, everybody is entitled to know who is riding."

Pennill's letter to CYCLING said:

"Programmes will be available on the hill, and so we are not releasing full details of the starting order."

There was some controversy before the event when event secretary Arnold Pennill and RTTC District Council Chairman Ron McQueen refused to publicise who was to ride the event.

In Cycling Weekly the week before the event there was a "Hush! Keep it Dark!" piece which explained that no start sheet would be available until the last minute. "...we would run this event at five in the morning if it were possible" said Ron.

The course

Peaslow Hill, Blackbrook Lane, near Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire, has an average gradient of 1-in-8, steepest 1-in-5, and is 1,670 yards long, but it is this sort of hill which railway clerk Sydney prefers.

The first man will leave the starter's hands at 10.31 a.m.

Unseeded at N^o 108 Eric Wilson of the Rossendale was fastest in 4mins 49.6secs. Eric won the national title in 1955, 1957, 1960 and now 1964.

“Puff Puff Wilson Again” shouts Cycling Weekly referring to his inevitable post-race cigar.

B.B.A.R. and OLYMPIC FINAL TABLES

Cycling

ONE SHILLING EVERY WEDNESDAY



Crofty 31-year-old Eric Wilson, Rossendale Road Club, took his fourth Road Time Trials Council hill-climb title in Derbyshire on Sunday, pushing defending champion Granville Sydney, Huddersfield Star Wheelers, into third place with un-and-coming Ernie Lightfoot, Merlie Road Club, second — story pages 6 and 7.



The photo aside shows Charlie Haines and Jim Forbes with the finishing board on the bed of an articulated lorry supplied by club member Jack Stant.

In December of 1964 the Withington Wheelers Club Journal included reports by Jim Forbes and Arnold Pennill and a fascinating "special feature" written by National Champion Eric Wilson especially for the Journal. He goes to the trouble of thanking the Withington for all their efforts ... "Thanks Withington Wheelers for the hill, and the opportunity you gave me". What a gentleman!

4

National Hill-Climb Championship
1964

Our promotion of the Hill-Climb Championship at Chapel-en-le Frith on Sunday, 25th October, was a day for us to remember and be proud of.

Certainly, for myself it was the most gratifying occasion in the club's history, and when, at the top of the hill, shortly after the finish when the last of the four or five hundred cars had gone, and the last piece of litter collected by the working parties, it was the moment to give the "Withington" a metaphorical well-earned slap on the back for a job done - and well done.

Let us have no illusions - ours was a first-class promotion. Weeks and weeks of work and effort by our 'back-room' boys - and how fortunate we are in having amongst us, a small army of these enthusiastic, inexhaustible, and co-operative stalwarts - had gone into planning and freeseeing every possible snag and it would be difficult to detail everything that contributed to the event's success, for fear of overlooking some such effort.

All this, together with the help of friendly farmers, and a local firm of note, who each loaned us a field for car-parks, our friends Malcolm Condliffe and his wife - mine hosts at the "Jolly Carter", and the complete co-operation of the local Constabulary had the event swinging like a piece of well-oiled machinery from the word "go". An omission was later brought to our notice - that we did not call out the local St. John's Ambulance Brigade. They were mildly indignant, and for our part we would have been delighted to have included them. Fortunately (and for this we are thankful) their services were not required - so that had to be that.

There had been various misgivings expressed about the suitability of Peaslow Hill for such an event, but from a competitors angle it proved to have all the requirements, and certainly sorted the 'tigers' from the rest.

As though to set a seal on a wonderful day for us, our old friend from Rossendale, Eric Wilson, dragged himself from his sixth official retirement to record his fourth National Championship in nine years by winning the event 4 secs from a newcomer to Northern hill-climbs - Eric Lightfoot of the Merlin Road Club. The 'hot' favourite Granville Sydney had to be content with third place a further 2 secs in arrears, but he had the satisfaction of leading

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the Huddersfield Star Wheelers to victory in the team section, to win the Championship shield and our own.

And so the name of Tommy Frith now graces a National Championship. When he rode up Peaslows on his 2-speed fixed before the war neither he nor anyone else could have foreseen by what means his name would be closely linked with that particular event.

We enjoyed a wonderful turn-out of members, the problem was, to list who wasn't there. Everybody, (girls and ladies included), gave their very best and the net result was as I have recorded - a promotion to be proud of.

J.E.F.

THE HILL CLIMB - FACTS & FIGURES From the Event Secretary.

The total number of entries was 152, the final 120 selections included 33 from addresses in Yorkshire, 29 from Lancashire, 9 each from Nottinghamshire and Warwickshire, 8 from Cheshire, 5 from Leicestershire, 4 from Surrey, and others from as far afield as Kent and Westmorland. 18 clubs were represented by full teams.

The riders were started by the Event Secretary, A.J. Pennill. A new watch, to Championship specification, failed to meet the estimated delivery date and we are indebted to Mr. M. de Moulpiet, of Midlands D.C., who made available the use of his Heuer split-second watch.

The Club President, R. MacQueen, timed the riders at the top being assisted by Mr. A.C. Wood as Recorder and Assistant-Time-Keeper. The two main watches showed a run-out of 0.4 second between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. This discrepancy (3 seconds in 24 hours) is well within specification; any calculated correction to the finishing times would not have affected the result.

The cost of the event proper is likely to be about £14 - £15 which takes account of all expenses including realistic timekeeping fees. The sale of extra start cards reduces the started deficit to round about £6 - £7, which is the normal cost of our annual event.

A.J.P.

and here's Eric's piece.....

6

THE VIEW FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL
by National Champion - Eric Wilson

Peaslows hill, Sunday the 25th October, 1964. My number was called and I made my way to the starting line confident that I was going to win. Rather a bold, if not big headed statement to make. But nobody wins a championship title thinking otherwise, yet, only two weeks before I didn't think I would even have a smelt at the title. I was a has been, washed out old man considering joining the ranks of Messrs. MacQueen, Pennill, Tulip on the admin. side of the sport. How did I rise out of the depths of senile decay, to the blissful vigour of youth you may ask. Bear with me and I hope to tell you how this change came about.

Two weeks prior to the Championship, with only a few training miles in, I rode our own 'Open', up the side of Pendle, beating Gordon Brooks by 2 secs and my old rival Pete Graham by 6 secs. Graham had ridden against Sydney, the reigning Champion, the previous day on another 4 minute climb and had finished 5 secs down, and comparisons seemed to indicate that my form was equal to Sydney's. I realized though that it was impossible to access with certainty my form on two rides done by Graham. But, nevertheless, I began to look into the hill and rivals with a great deal of interest.

The hill-Peaslows. 'I must make to measure for me. Just the right length-around 5 minutes climbing time I reckoned. No long stretches of 1 in 4 - these I hate and lose seconds to the top riders. The hill was mine - IF I could get to top fitness in 13 days. Now what about the men I had to beat. Sydney - the Champ - I felt he was not winning by anything like the margins he should have been against, in some cases second class opposition. Graham - out, likes the steep-all-the-way climbs. Foster - losing interest. Patten - climb too long for him (nearly proved wrong here). Lightfoot and Brooks -? feared these two young riders most but hoped the hill would suit me better than them.

13 days is not a long time. 13 days to get fit enough to win a Championship is a hell of a short time. Free exercises for 15 minutes morning and night would do me a power of good. On the bike I had to train for a 5 minute burst. A 5 miles warm up and then 5 minutes of pulse pedalling. Then a rest at just below 'evens' for 15 minutes before having another 5 mins.pulse pedalling. This every day for around 30 miles or so and I began to feel fitter than

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I ever felt before. The 5 minute bursts became easier and easier, I began to grow more and more confident of my chances so much so that I began to worry about spectators stepping in my path, the chain breaking, hub stripping and lots of other things over which I had no control. Thinking like this is always a good sign - knowing that you have done everything in your power to succeed, you begin to trust to Mother Luck to help you pull all the stops out without any misfortunes coming your way.

So to the climb. In retrospect I remember feeling rather pleased at making a good start and getting into a nice rhythm within a few yards. A spectator did get in my way but was pulled into the side just in time. I was disappointed in my finish I eased over the last ten yards for no apparent reason and had my winning margin been smaller this could have easily lost me the title.

Next year I shall be watching for a change. I felt confident about winning this year, and feel equally sure that I will not pull it off ever again. It may be a selfish attitude to take, but I always wanted to retire on top and unbeaten. Thanks Withington Wheelers for the hill, and the opportunity you gave to me.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP HILL CLIMB
Results in brief

1. E. Wilson	Rossendale R.C.	4m.49.6 secs.
2. E. Lightfoot	Merlin Road Club.	4m.53.2 secs.
3. G. Sydney snr.	Huddersfield Star Wms.	4m.55.2 secs.
4. D.A. Patten	San Fairy Ann C.C.	4m.55.8 secs.
5. G. Brooks	Skipton C.C.	4m.57.2 secs.
6. R. Foster	Birdwell Wheelers.	5m.02.2 secs.
7. R.B. Adshead	Stretford Wheelers.	5m.05.8 secs.
8. M. Ives	Coventry C.C.	5m.09.0 secs.
9. K.B. Lycett	Featherstone R.C.	5m.14.8 secs.
10. G. Sydney jnr.	Huddersfield Star Wms.	5m.16.0 secs.
Team Champions:		
HUDDERSFIELD STAR WMS.	Granville Sydney	4m.55.2 secs.
	Graham Sydney	5m.16.0 secs.
	A.W. Hinchliffe	5m.20.6 secs.
		15m.31.8 secs.

1965 saw a small entry for the Open Hill Climb. It was pleasing to see our old friend Granville Sydney take the first prize and then go on and win the National Championship. No details of 1966 and 1967 in the WW journals.

1968.....

Open Hill Climb.

After a wet and windy week the sun came out of hiding and the event was run off in florious sunshine with a good breeze to help the riders up the hill. Although only 30 riders entered there was a good crowd of on-lookers to shout encouragement to the competitors. The spectators were joined by two policemen in a patrol car who watched benevolently near the finish, afterwards moving off with a polite "thank-you" on their loud-hailer.

The favourable wind brought some fast times and although the Sydney brothers stormed up in characteristic style they failed to beat Midlander Gordon Clements who clocked the near-record time of 2 minutes 14.4 seconds. Traditionally the Huddersfield Star took the team prize, by a substantial margin over the Manchester Wheelers Team.

Two Withington Wheelers joined battle with the hill, Richard Langman took 11th position with a personal best time of 2 minutes 43.6 secs., breaking Jim Forbes' thirty-two year-old record as the fastest Withington Wheeler on Peaslows and the Racing Sec. also turned in a personal best in his first ride on Peaslows for 14 years.

Oops! There's a mistake in the report of the 1968 hill climb above and no it's not the Florious sunshine! In the last paragraph it states that Richard Langman's time of 2 minutes 43.6 seconds had beaten Jim Forbes' record set in 1936. In actual fact, Jim Forbes' time in 1936 was 2 minutes 41³/₅ seconds. Jim's time did indeed stand as the fastest ride by a Withington Wheeler for 55 years until it was beaten by Neil Byrne in 1991 in a time of 2 minutes 36.4 seconds.

The 1970s

1974 saw Jack Kershaw (Oldham Century) win the Open Hill Climb. Jack had good pedigree and had finished second to Granville Sydney in the 1973 National Hill Climb.

Granville Sydney had dominated the Withington Wheelers Open Hill Climb in the early seventies and by 1975 his club, the

OPEN HILLCLIMB 13th October 1974

Peaslow took on a pleasant autumn atmosphere to the onlookers at the Open Hillclimb, but to the riders it remained steepest 1 in 5, average 1 in 7, 930 yards of effort. From a field of 41 riders, 31 faced Arnold at the bottom of the hill. The event proceeded orderly for the first twenty minutes until an interval was provided by the local farmer who decided to move a field of cows down the hill and into Chapel. The event was held up for a couple of minutes by this and additional sport was added for the riders by way of an obstacle race around the fresh deposits.

Many of the riders in the event had ridden an hillclimb earlier in the day, which may explain the lack of form that some suffered. Last man off was Jack Kershaw, recently returned from road racing on the continent and he sped up the hill in 2 20.4 to give him victory by a comfortable margin of 13.8 seconds, not far behind Pete Graham's course record of 2 12.2. The team result hinged on Birdwell's and Oldham's third counters and it was Oldham with Jack Kershaw, Dave Aston and Laurie Green who took the honours.

A most welcome cup of tea revived riders at the top of the hill where Mac was doing his usual timekeeping job. After the event the club en masse was entertained at Jim Forbes' hideaway at Disley. What was promised as a sandwich turned out to be a lovely buffet and I'm sure all that were present would agree that Jim rounded the day off very well.

Huddersfield Star, had by now won the Tommy Frith Team Shield on nine occasions.

1975

CYCLING, October 18, 1975

Armitage — rose to Peaslow challenge

THERE can surely be only one thing more agonizing than a hotly-contested hill-climb, and that is a hill-climb against a strong wind. However, the Withington Wheelers' 38th edition of their scratch open on the 930 yards of Derbyshire's Peaslows Hill took place in glorious sunshine so perhaps the 31 entries did not feel so bad about the adverse conditions.

But then, a few minutes before the first man arrived at the summit, a herd of cows en route for pastures new disgraced themselves a few yards before timekeeper Ron MacQueen's nice clean finishing area, and suddenly every rider must have been wishing he had mudguards.

In spite of the additional hazards, Gareth Armitage, Oldham Century, zoomed up smelling roses in an unbeatable 2-36.8, almost nine seconds better than Stuart Sidebottom, Sheffield Sports CC.

The Withington event was the climax of a hard hill-climbers' weekend, most of the top men having already competed in one, two and even three events. Third man Graham Sydney, Huddersfield Star, and fourth man Kevin Sayles, East Bradford CC, had been fighting out the West Pennine climb on Rake only a couple of hours before, and both confessed to still feeling it in their legs. But it is all good for a hard national championship build-up, or as Sydney put it, "One hill-climb only would seem an awful waste of a weekend."


With a good win in his legs in the morning and having beaten Sayles, now Sydney had to be content with third place to the compact six-stone Armitage, a slightly-built but power-packed rider of 22 years. He had been second to 1967 national champion Paul Wildsmith recently and was fifth in each of the two stages the previous day in the Granville Sydney Memorial event in good company: not bad for a lad in his first serious racing and hill-climb season, although he did ride a hill-climb once before when he was 16.

Oldham Century, no doubt inspired by Jack Kershaw's win last year in 2-20.4, though he was not on the card now, fielded a team so strong as to break the stranglehold of the Huddersfield Star, who had won the team prize no less than nine times.

Most of the top men, certainly the first three, settled for 59.7 inches against the stiff wind; thus the times had to be slower and not to be compared with former national champion Pete Graham's wind-assisted hill record in 1963 of 2-12.2.

Graham was riding the event again, this time in his first year as a veteran. He had won on six consecutive occasions and this time he rode fluently and flawlessly in a dead straight line, as if stuck in a trampoline, to clock 2-54.6, good enough for sixth place.

It was a good event for taking a close look at some possible championship contenders. Armitage will certainly give a good account of himself on Nick O'Pendle; Kevin Sayles will go better on the longer hill; Sydney will be there also after a suitable recovery from his intensive hill climb "crash-course", and look out for 22-year-old Vin Smith, West Pennine RC, out of competition these past two years and now in the thick of top-class hill-climbing. He has a good man to advise him in clubmate Pete Graham. And that was a fine effort by Stuart Sidebottom, sixth the previous weekend on Winnats, who looks to be coming into form right on time.



WINNER of the Withington event, Gareth Armitage

Gareth Armitage, Oldham Cent	2-36.8
S. Sidebottom, Sheffield Spts	2-45.6
G. Sydney, Huddersfield Star	2-46.8
K. Sayles, E Bradford CC	2-50.2
V. Smith, W Pennine RC	2-51.4
P. Graham, W Pennine RC	2-54.6
L. Green, Oldham Century	2-56.0
N. Rogers, S Elmhall's CC	2-57.2
R. Pickup, W Pennine RC	2-58.0
J. Ross, Nova CC	3-00.4
J. Lancaster, Huddersfield Star	3-12.4
A. Hiley, Huddersfield Star	3-2.8
Team—Oldham Century (Armitage+Green, P. Buckley 3-6.2) 8-39.6	

BERNARD THOMPSON

“A few minutes before the first man arrived at the summit, a herd of cows en route for pastures new disgraced themselves a few yards before timekeeper Ron MacQueen's nice clean finishing area and suddenly every rider must have been wishing he had mudguards. In spite of the additional hazards Gareth Armitage, Oldham Century, zoomed up smelling roses in an unbeatable 2-36.8”. So records Cycling Weekly dated 18th October 1975 (see aside).

Granville Sydney could only manage 2-46.8 and was beaten into third place by Gareth Armitage of the Oldham Century.

Pete Graham who won the event on six consecutive occasions was returning as a Vet but could only manage sixth place.

1977. Gareth Armitage wins again but it's the Huddersfield Star who take the team award again. The WW Journal reports that the temporary closing of Rushop Edge and Mam Tor led to problems with traffic on Peaslows. The Mam Tor section of the road was eventually abandoned in 1979 following further landslips.

OPEN HILL CLIMB - 1977.

Sunday 16th October promised well as we made our way towards Chapel-en-le-Frith in brilliant sunshine, and along with an entry of 32 riders due to Rod's usual efficiency and enthusiastic endeavour, another successful promotion was imminent. However, even Rod's efforts could not control the weather and as we approached the "Jolly Carter", the sunshine gave way to a damp mist, with the prevailing wind blowing down the hill.

First man up was J.D. Lindley whose time of 2m 57s (putting him in the winning team) was a sure sign that no records were to be broken. Then followed a slight lapse as numbers 2,3 and 4 failed to start and the arrival of M.S. Sharpe of the Buxton C.C. in 2m 52s again confirmed the rather difficult conditions as his time was destined to place him in 4th fastest position on the day.

A grandstand finish was staged by N.S. Benn of the Cheshire Roads and the hill record holder Peter Graham, whose comments on being asked if it was hard, were rather breathless but most definite, "It's always b-----y hard." Peter's ride of 2m 53.4s though far outside his 1963 hill record of 2m 12.2s was a wonderful effort, particularly as hill climbing is one branch of the sport where "comebacks" are extremely difficult and well nigh impossible to achieve.

Dave Aston of the Manchester Wheelers arrived just outside the 3min mark and had to be shovelled to the side of the road to be revived with a cup of tea from our ever present and attentive lay members. Dave's ride coupled with fine efforts from Brian Pownall and Ian Donaghy was sufficient to give the Wheelers the second team position behind our friendly invaders from the Huddersfield Star.

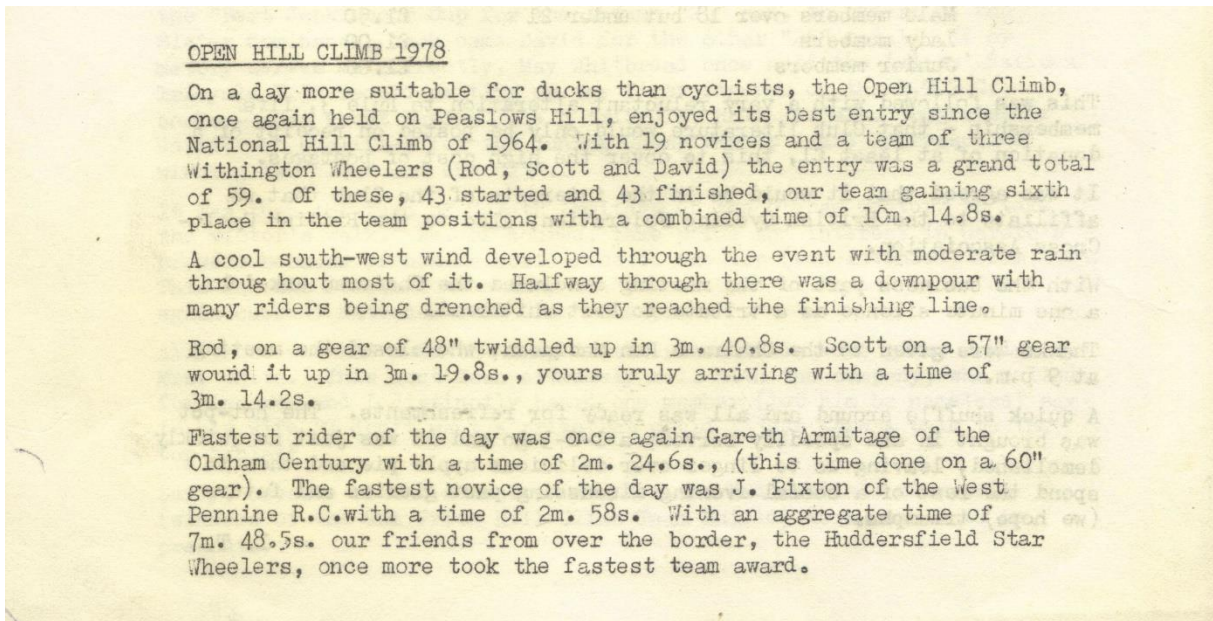
All eyes then awaited the arrival of Gareth Armitage, the last man off and, as anticipated, he came up cleanly and steadily in a time of 2m 35.6s to win by a margin of some 8 secs. from Peter Grimes the leading rider of the Huddersfield Star Wheelers winning team, and place his own team, Oldham Century, into 3rd position.

And so, yet another Open Hill Climb was successfully completed, despite a considerable amount of traffic up and down the hill due possibly to the temporary closing of Rushop Edge and Mam Tor, and the reactions of some of the more exasperated "four wheelers", one of whom forced Mike Kelleher of the Cheshire Roads off the road and into a wall and thus qualifying him for the "Unluckiest Rider" award and a free entry for 1978! We only had one complaint from one of our helpers, Eric Moore said that he did think one or two riders might have tried to turn left at his junction and make his journey really necessary!

1978

Rod Slater had by now taken over the organisation of the event from Arnold Pennill who had been the event organiser since before the Second World War.

“Very wet with wind blowing up the hill” records the finish sheet for our 1978 Open Hill Climb. GC Armitage (Oldham Century) took the honours in 2mins 24.6 secs. Our own David Slater recorded 3mins 14.2secs with Scott Newbery 5 seconds behind in 3.19.8secs and event secretary, Rod Slater, riding in his own event, recorded 3mins 40.8 secs.



The following year, **1979**, was “warm and sunny” says Rod on the finish sheet. David Slater improved to 2mins 57.4 secs but Scott recorded virtually the same time as last year, 3mins 19.0 secs. Our third counter this year was R Byrne in 4mins 00.6secs.

“We all missed Nellie and Harry’s tea-wagon but willing hands (and there’s no shortage of these in the Withington) provided cups of tea for all. I overheard a whisper that a mysterious flavour pervaded the beverage, perhaps this was because one of the containers used for carrying the water was in fact a five-gallon sherry vessel. I’ll bring a whiskey one next time!” so wrote Jim Forbes in the hill climb report in the Withington Wheelers Journal.

Winner was Gareth Armitage now with Manchester Wheelers in 2mins 15.8secs.

Second; B Lowe Manchester Wheelers 2.28.6

Third; Phil Grimes Huddersfield Star 2.39.0

Manchester Wheelers took the team award.

The 1980s and the Record goes.

1980 and 1981 were the Malcolm Elliott years. In 1980, on a “cool and sunny day with little or no wind”, riding for the Rutland CC, he beat Gareth Armitage into second place recording 2mins 16.8secs. Armitage finished second in 2.22.2 and Phil Grimes was again third with 2.31.0. The Withington riders were;

David Slater	3.00.2
Scott Newbery	3.02.0
Robbie Byrne	4.10.8

DETAILED FIGURES OF THE WITTINGTON WHEELERS 1978 HILL CLIMB.

1978

Pos.		Time
1.	G. C. Armitage	
2.	A. Hiley	
3.	P. Grimes	
4.	H. Harvey	
5.	S. A. C. Bonnington	
6.	D. C. Fry	
7.	G. Lancashire	
8.	I. Perry	
9.	N. S. Sharpe	
10.	I. Harvey	
11.	P. J. Graham	
12.	C. Raw	
13.	J. D. Lindley	
14.	T. J. Mullaney	
15.	R. T. Downing	
16.	G. Higton	
17.	A. Crooks	
18.	H. Bloor	
19.	G. Hill	
20.	D. Marsh	
21.	J. P. Dixon	
22.	J. Shepherd	
23.	P. Kennedy	
24.	D. P. Lewis	
25.	G. M. Mandy	
26.	G. Palfreyman	
27.	A. Bird	
28.	E. A. Mallon	
29.	N. Threlfall	
30.	N. P. Kelly	
31.	P. Rayner	
32.	D. A. Slater	
33.	G. T. Palfreyman	
34.	R. D. Booth	
35.	S. J. Newbery	
36.	G. R. Gibson	
37.	S. Asquith	
38.	P. Wilson	
39.	N. E. Mann	
40.	R. E. Y. Slater	
41.	M. Lees	
42.	A. B. Keenan	
43.		

Did not start: Nos. 4, 6, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19 (apology), 22, 23, 35, 38, 43, 47.
 Started: 59
 Finished: 43

Pos.	Time	Pos.	Time
1.	2m 30.4s	21.	3m 14.2s
2.	2m 35.2s	22.	3m 19.8s
3.	2m 40.2s	23.	3m 40.8s
4.	2m 42.0s	24.	3m 42.0s
5.	2m 47.2s	25.	3m 42.8s
6.	2m 53.6s	26.	3m 44.8s

DETAILED FIGURES OF THE WITTINGTON WHEELERS 1979 HILL CLIMB.

1979

Pos.		Time
1.	G. Armitage	
2.	H. Lee	
3.	P. Grimes	
4.	J. Hiley	
5.	P. C. Fry	
6.	N. S. Sharpe	
7.	A. Blagden	
8.	A. Gough	
9.	J. D. Lindley	
10.	J. Filton	
11.	I. Harvey	
12.	D. Marsh	
13.	J. Shepherd	
14.	J. Hill	
15.	P. A. Lee	
16.	S. A. C. Bonnington	
17.	C. Raw	
18.	A. Hiley	
19.	A. Slater	
20.	L. Schofield	
21.	E. Brooman	
22.	N. P. Kelly	
23.	D. A. Slater	
24.	G. R. Gibson	
25.	A. Harris	
26.	D. Palfreyman	
27.	S. D. Beckett	
28.	G. T. Palfreyman	
29.	M. Butterfield	
30.	B. C. Samouelle	
31.	R. P. Cooper	
32.	J. Marsh	
33.	J. M. Jackson	
34.	P. Shaw	
35.	I. Ross	
36.	D. E. Pearson	
37.	D. B. Clayton	
38.	D. C. Gilling	
39.	C. G. Perry	
40.	G. J. Newbery	
41.	P. J. R. Day	
42.	M. A. Shaw	
43.	M. C. A. Clark	
44.	S. P. Harper	
45.	D. West	
46.	E. Helling	
47.	M. S. Tholst	
48.	G. J. Kelly	
49.	R. Byrne	
50.	A. B. Stuart	
51.	C. B. Kitson	
52.	N. A. Hall	

* Includes 6 minutes late start.
 Did not start: 15, 17, 28, 34, 42 (apology), 48 (apology), 58, 56.
 Started: 60
 Finished: 52

Pos.	Time	Pos.	Time
1.	2m 28.6s	21.	3m 40.4s
2.	2m 30.0s	22.	3m 41.6s
3.	2m 45.6s	23.	3m 41.8s

WITTINGTON WHEELERS

Under RTTC Regulations

GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR HILL CLIMB

Result of the 44th Open Hill Climb held on Sunday 11th October 1981

Course: J9/1 - Peaslow Hill, Blackbrook Lane, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire.
 930 yards, 1 in 7 average, 1 in 5 steepest.

Timekeepers: R. MacQueen
 A. J. Pennill

Event Secretary: R. E. Y. Slater, 54 Framingham Road, Sale. 061-962 1477

Pos.	Time	Pos.	Time
First Fastest:	Malcolm Elliott	Rutland CC	2mins 8.4 secs.
Second "	C. A. Gough	Liverpool Century	2 " 20.6 "
Third "	G.C. Armitage	Manchester Wh	2 " 22.0 "
Fourth "	S.A.C. Bonnington	Manchester Wh	2 " 25.2 "
Fifth "	S.M.H. Haynes	Manchester Wh	2 " 32.2 "

Fastest Novice: S.M.H. Haynes Manchester Wh 2mins 32.2secs

Prizes: All the above will receive engraved commemorative shields (total prize value £12.00).

Pos.	Time	Pos.	Time
Fastest Team:	Manchester Wh	G.C. Armitage	2mins 22.0secs
		S.A.C. Bonnington	2 " 25.2 "
		S.M.H. Haynes	2 " 32.2 "

Pos.	Time	Pos.	Time
First Fastest:	Malcolm Elliott	Rutland CC	2mins 8.4 secs.
Second "	C. A. Gough	Liverpool Century	2 " 20.6 "
Third "	G.C. Armitage	Manchester Wh	2 " 22.0 "
Fourth "	S.A.C. Bonnington	Manchester Wh	2 " 25.2 "
Fifth "	S.M.H. Haynes	Manchester Wh	2 " 32.2 "

Fastest Novice: S.M.H. Haynes Manchester Wh 2mins 32.2secs

Prizes: All the above will receive engraved commemorative shields (total prize value £12.00).

Pos.	Time	Pos.	Time
Fastest Team:	Manchester Wh	G.C. Armitage	2mins 22.0secs
		S.A.C. Bonnington	2 " 25.2 "
		S.M.H. Haynes	2 " 32.2 "

PRIZE: The "Tom Frith Shield" for one year.

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS to Malcolm Elliott for his convincing beating of the previous course record of 2mins 17.2secs which has been held by Peter Graham since 1963.

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Cold but fine (just) with a strong breeze blowing up the Hill.

OUR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY DINNER is being held on Saturday 28th November 1981. Tickets price £7.50 can be obtained from the Event Secretary. We shall be delighted to welcome old and new friends on this special occasion.

For full results please see overview.

WITTINGTON WHEELERS

1980

Result of the 43rd Open Scratch Hill Climb

Under R.T.T.C. Regulations

Held on Sunday 17th October 1980

Pos.	Time	Pos.	Time
1.	2m 16.8s	21.	3m 16.8s
2.	2m 22.2s	22.	3m 22.2s
3.	2m 22.2s	23.	3m 22.2s
4.	2m 42.0s	24.	3m 42.0s
5.	2m 42.0s	25.	3m 42.0s
6.	2m 46.2s	26.	3m 46.2s

Fastest Novice: This prize was not awarded as the three Novice entrants had lost their status by the time of the event, the prize values have been improved and extended in lieu.

Course: J.60. Peaslow Hill, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire.
 930 yards, 1-in-7 average, 1-in-5 steepest.

Conditions: Cool and sunny with little or no wind.

Many thanks: to all riders for supporting our event and to the officials and helpers for their much-valued assistance.

Timekeepers: R. MacQueen and A. J. Pennill.

Prizewinners: Please send receipts to

Club Treasurer: J. E. Forbes, 67 Lynton Drive, Worsley, Manchester.

Event Secretary: R. E. Y. Slater, 54 Framingham Road, Sale, Cheshire. Tel: 061-962 1477

Course Record: P. J. Graham, West Pennine RC - 2min 12.2secs - 1963.

Next Open Event: Novices & 2nd Class "25" (1 - 04 - 00 limit in last 3 years)

5th April 1981 - Novices & 2nd Class "25" (1 - 04 - 00 limit in last 3 years)

The above events are being held as part of our Golden Jubilee Year celebrations. All previous prizewinners in our Novices events are cordially invited to ride as guests of the Club. Further publicity will be given to this event nearer the time but please bring this event to the notice of any clubmates who may be qualified to ride.



The Elliott win was a shock for the Withington contingent. The Journal records “Because of Gareth Armitage’s meteoric rise to fame in 1975...starting with our Open 25 as a pure Novice, followed by his win in our hill climb and subsequent National Hill Climb win in the same season, we almost feel we have a share in him.

His lead up to this year’s championship had been far from reassuring and a short time before our first man was despatched we learned that newcomer to the game Malcolm Elliott, British Olympic Pursuit rider in Moscow, had already defeated him the previous day and again a few hours earlier on Monsal Head, shattering the record set by World Road Race Champion Tommy Simpson.

So, anticipation was at its maximum with Elliott only on a modest number (20) and we, still thinking his wins to be ‘flukes’, and Gareth, last man off, surely about to put matters right!” As we now know Malcolm went on to win the National Championship beating Jeff Williams by one fifth of a second and Gareth a further two seconds slower.

The Journal then turns to our own riders....

“Two o’clock and for Scott Newbery the adrenalin is starting to course. Away he went and three minutes and two seconds had elapsed as he crossed the finishing line. Next of ours was Robbie Byrne whose leisurely ride occupied four minutes and ten seconds. Perhaps the most disappointed rider was our own David Slater who, having clocked 2.57 last year felt justifiably confident of bettering that time but his 3.00.2 left him mystified and it wasn’t until much later that he found his cones had tightened up on his rear wheel so that it wouldn’t spin round”

1981 was the Withington’s Golden Jubilee Year and with a “strong breeze blowing up the hill” Malcolm Elliott lowered the current event record of 2mins 8.4secs beating the old record set by Peter Graham, 2.12.2 in 1963. Malcolm’s record still stands to this day.

The photos below show the finishing board and Ron McQueen congratulating Malcolm Elliott.



And, as shown below, the club Journal records.....

"last up roared last year's winner, Malcolm Elliott, to shatter Pip Graham's 1963 record by 3.8 seconds, his 2.08.4 being good enough to win the event by 12.2 seconds".....

Open Hill Climb on Peaslows Hill - Golden Jubilee Year 1981.

October 11th dawned cold but fine and breezy. On reaching the hills the breeze turned out to be a fair old gale blowing up the hill, setting the scene for some fast times. So nobody was surprised when early starter Steven Haynes of the Manchester Wheelers, a novice (!) arrived with 2.32.02 to his credit, which was good enough to give him third place in the winning team and to win him the Novices' prize. Up they came, consistently fast, a total of 35 being inside 3 minutes. David was the Club's fastest with 2.59.02, Scott managing 3.14.04 - we think they both prefer "100's" or "12's". Soon the really fast boys were arriving, Gareth Armitage's 2.22.00 being bettered by C. Gough of the Liverpool Century with 2.20.06. Last, up roared last year's winner, Malcolm Elliott, to shatter Pip Graham's 1963 record by 3.8 seconds, his 2.08.4 being good enough to win the event by 12.2 seconds.

We had all settled down to wonder at this fantastic time and to speculate on what he could do when he is really fit, when the sky turned black and inside seconds the heavens opened to drop a deluge, spoiling our hopes of a good old natter. In approximately 40 Hill Climbs I've never seen the top vacate itself so quickly. It is good to record that from an entry of 55 there were only 7 non-starters and that nobody was outside 4 minutes, which must be for the first time ever - they did not keep Mac waiting long at the top after Arnold had sent them on their way.

Prizewinners:

First Fastest:	Malcolm Elliott	Rutland CC	2.08.4
Second Fastest:	C. A. Gough	Liverpool Century	2.20.06
Third Fastest:	G. C. Armitage	Manchester Wh	2.22.00
Fourth Fastest:	S. A.C. Bonnington	Manchester Wh	2.25.02
Fifth Fastest:	S. H. M. Haynes	Manchester Wh	2.32.02
Fastest Novice:	S. H. M. Haynes	Manchester Wh	2.32.02
Fastest Team:	Manchester Wh	G. C. Armitage	2.22.00
		S.A.C. Bonnington	2.25.02
		S.H.M. Haynes	2.32.02
			7.19.04

K.A.P.

1982 and there was a new winner as Malcolm Elliott had of course turned professional.

Open Hill-climb - Sunday 10th October, 1982.

A disappointing entry of only thirty-six for our 45th climb. That however did not detract from its popularity as Stan Livingston the 1932 winner realised after some difficulty in parking and having to walk nearly a mile and a half to reach the top. "More like Oulton Park on Gold Cup day" observed Stan seeming to be in more distress than he was after riding up in 1932.

We were favoured with a mild and pleasant day, little or no wind and a temperature round about 60° F. Sadly no Withington Wheeler as number one, and it was A.J.Norton of the Stockport Cl. who blazed the trail unsensationally in 3m.06secs. We waited expectantly for M/cr.Wheeler's new protege -No.6 - Mark Jones, a novice at the time of entry but since then having won two Open climbs. His 2-35 put him into a short-lived lead as, within two more minutes up came his club-mate R.Holden in 2-32.

Open Hill Climb conti.

With the Manchester Wheelers almost holding a private contest, their Junior star, Bill Mansfield No.23 was the next to lower the time to 2-24 and it didn't need a pocket calculator to predict the destination of the Team Shield. No.26 J.Byrne of the Leigh Premier upset a possible 'clean sweep' with 2-29 scattering the 'Wheelers' placings without so much as "Sorry about that". No.28 was the first to be recorded as a non-starter, and after a short lull the bobbing figure of Chris Walker of the Dinnington R.C. crossed the line with a storming 2-18.6 to push all the 'provisional' prizewinners' down one place. With 2nd, 4th and 7th places Manchester Wheelers took the Tom Frith Shield with a combined time of 7mins.32secs.

1.	C. Walker.	Dinnington R.C.	2-18.6
2.	W. P. Mansfield.	M/cr. Wheelers.	2-24.2
3.	J. Byrne.	Leigh Premier.	2-29.4
4.	R. Holden.	M/cr. Wheelers.	2-32.8
5.	M. Blagden.	Sharrow C.C.	2-33.6
6.	I. Perry.	Middleton C.C.	2-33.8
7.	M. Jones.	M/cr. Wheelers.	2-35.0
	Last man A.R.Creacall, Hyde Olympics C.C. took the Novice Award with		3-22.2

J. E. F.

In 1983, Manchester Wheelers one and two and the team award with Darryl Webster fastest.

There was a time when two climbs on one Sunday was of some note, and as far back as the mid-Thirties our "Open" was one that featured in such activity. For many years the other promoting Club was the Derby Ivanhoe, whose event would take place on Monsal Head. Our two clubs convened the time of start so that the competitors could comfortably ride over from one to the other. There was even time for a spot of carousing at the "Jolly Carter" in which old Bill Hadfield, the landlord, revelled.

Now, with events run on Saturdays, riders can cover numerous promotions (the motor-car being the key to it all); sometimes being able to ride four climbs in one weekend. Indeed, by the time the Championship comes round they can have ridden 12 or 15 events. It is to their credit that they don't become jaded, and, on this score, Darryl Webster was severely "pushed" when, having won on Monsal during the morning of our "Open", he scraped home to win ours by less than one second.

We had a moderate entry of 34, of which 27 answered Maurice's call at the start in slight drizzle and a following light wind.

As the last five on the card performed their contortions to reach the line, it all seemed a foregone conclusion. And so it proved: the Manchester Wheelers taking all the spoils, except third and fourth plaques — and the timekeeper's stool! They didn't even miss a "Wheelers" training jersey left at the start — perhaps to leave their "mark" as it hasn't yet been claimed!

Evergreen Stan Livingston was present and there for all to see — the winner of exactly fifty years ago (the only time the full length of Peaslows Hill was used!) in company with the current victor.

Leading times, returned by Bill Oldbury, were as follows on the next page :-

1.	D.J. Webster	Manchester Wheelers	2-18.00
2.	R. Holden	Manchester Wheelers	2-18.90
3.	J.A. Byrne	Leigh Premier R.C.	2-24.00
4.	C.A. Gough	Thanet R.C.	2-24.60
Team Award :			Manchester Wheelers 7-09.40
Fastest Novice :			J. Jones, M/cr. Whlrs. 3-04.10
			J. E. F.

In 1984 CG Gibson (Buxton CC) took the honours but it was the Manchester Wheelers who took the team award once again.

OPEN HILL CLIMB - SUNDAY, 14TH OCTOBER 1984 - Fifty two entrants faced the timekeeper on an unusually mild day for our event. First to get inside three minutes was D. Ash, Stockport Clarion, with 2.56, only to be demoted by clubmate D. Genders, the eventual Novice section winner with 2.44.4. D. Manlove, Buxton C.C. came up in 2.29 with a chance of being in the prize list, his time remaining fastest till, once again, a clubmate, G. Gibson, ousted him by one and a half seconds with 2.28.4, which was destined to foil the Manchester Wheelers of complete supremacy. Young Will Mansfield, who lives in Mayfield and rides to school in Buxton daily, showed the natives of that town how to do it ... clipping 8 seconds off Gibson's time, his 2.20.7 only being bettered by clubmate Robert Holden. For the sixth successive year Manchester Wheelers took the team award. Thanet R.C. packed well to push Buxton into third place despite the latter having two riders in the first four (tie), quite astonishing ... AND the Withi. Wheelers finished a complete team - last but nevertheless very meritorious! Keep it up, you lads!

1985

Open Hill Climb - 13th October, 1985

Peaslows Hill has seldom provided so warm and sunny a venue as it did on this occasion, adding the finishing touch to Roy Rosborough's workmanlike promotion. Fears that the new by-pass around Chapel-en-le-Frith might upset the course proved to be groundless and the event passed off to the cheers of an extra-large crowd of clubfolk.

The modest, but by no means small, entry of 32 were started on their way by Maurice and timed in at the finish by Bill Oldbury. There were few surprises in the results, again the Manchester Wheelers took the team award with Darryl Webster leading the field. Of the Club only Richard Stern competed but he was rewarded by a "personal" and went home much encouraged.

Result of the 48th Open Hill Climb held on Sunday, 13th October, 1985
Course: J9/1 - Peaslow Hill, Blackbrook Lane, Chapel-en-le-Prith, Derbyshire.
930 yards, 1 in 7 average, 1 in 5 steepest.
Timekeepers: W. Oldbury & M. Laverick.
Event Sec: R. A. Rosborough, 12 Rathon Rd., Withington, M20 9QH
Prizes:
First Fastest: D. J. Webster Manchester Wheelers 2 mins 23.1 secs.
Second " G. Walker Paragon Racing Team 2 mins 25.0 secs.
Third " A. M. Webster Manchester Wheelers 2 mins 27.8 secs.
Fourth " W. P. Mansfield Manchester Wheelers 2 mins 31.2 secs.
Fastest Novice: G. Spaight Chesterfield Cougars 3 mins 03.1 secs.
Fastest Team: All the above will receive engraved commemorative shields (Total prize value £15.00)
Prize: Manchester Wheelers D. J. Webster 2 mins 23.1 secs.
W. P. Mansfield 2 mins 27.8 secs.
W. P. Mansfield 7 mins 22.1 secs.
Weather Conditions: Warm and sunny. Calm.
1 D. J. Webster Manchester Wheelers 2:23.1
2 G. Walker Paragon Racing Team 2:25.0
3 A. M. Webster Manchester Wheelers 2:27.8
4 W. P. Mansfield Manchester Wheelers 2:31.2
5 J. M. Kettle Hyde Olympic 2:32.4
6 A. Gascoyne Moorfields Wheelers 2:35.0
7 G. A. Pitchforth Stockport Clarion 2:36.5
8 A. J. Morton Chesterfield Cougars 2:44.9
9 D. Manlove Manchester Wheelers 2:47.1
10 S. Moore Stockport Clarion 2:49.8
11 M. Hallybush Sheffield Phoenix 2:50.1
12 P. Morley Manchester Wheelers 2:51.2
13 J. Jones Manchester Wheelers 2:51.2
14 G. Cummins Seamounts C.C. 2:52.3
15 M. Robinson Manchester Wheelers 2:53.1
16 J. Spaight Buxton C.C. 2:54.6
17 J. Townsland Chesterfield Cougars 2:57.7
18 P. Stephenson Moorfields Wheelers 3:02.1
19 S. Pearce Manchester Wheelers 3:02.1
20 A. J. Turner Janus A.C. 3:03.1
21 D. Searns Stockport Clarion 3:09.6
22 R. S. Gossage Abbotsford Park A.C. 3:10.0
23 R. A. Stern Manchester Wheelers 3:16.3
24 D. J. Webster Manchester Wheelers 3:16.3
25 G. Walker Paragon Racing Team 3:16.4
26 W. P. Mansfield Manchester Wheelers 3:19.3
27 J. M. Kettle Hyde Olympic 3:19.3
28 A. Gascoyne Moorfields Wheelers 3:29.8
29 G. A. Pitchforth Stockport Clarion 3:46.5
30 A. J. Morton Chesterfield Cougars 3:46.6

WITHINGTON WHEELERS
President J. E. Forbes
Result of the 50th Open Hill Climb held on Sunday, 11th October, 1987
Course: J9/1 - Peaslow Hill, Blackbrook Lane, Chapel-en-le-Prith, Derbyshire.
850 Yards - emergency course
Timekeepers: C.M. Laverick & W. Oldbury. Judge: S. Livingston (Dukinfield C.C., Sale, Cheshire, M33 3RJ. Tel: 061-962 1477)
Event Sec: R.E.Y. Slater, 54 Framingham Rd., Sale, Cheshire, M33 3RJ. Tel: 061-962 1477
Prizewinners:
First Fastest: S.R. Hulme Tunstall Wheelers 2 mins 10.2 secs
Second " G.R. Gibson Buxton C.C. 2 mins 12.6 secs
Third " G. Wood Macclesfield Wh. 2 mins 16.6 secs
Fourth " D. Cooper Mansfield R.C. 2 mins 23.9 secs
Fastest Novice: D. Cooper Manning R.C. 2 mins 23.9 secs
Fastest Team: All the above will receive engraved commemorative shields (Total prize value £15.00).
Prizes: S.R. Hulme 2 mins 10.2 secs
G.R. Gibson 2 mins 12.6 secs
G. Wood 2 mins 16.6 secs
D. Cooper 2 mins 23.9 secs
Manning R.C. 2 mins 23.9 secs
All the above will receive engraved commemorative shields (Total prize value £15.00).
Fastest Team: S.R. Hulme 2 mins 10.2 secs
G.R. Gibson 2 mins 12.6 secs
G. Wood 2 mins 16.6 secs
D. Cooper 2 mins 23.9 secs
Manning R.C. 2 mins 23.9 secs
The "Tom Frith Shield" for one year. 2 mins 33.8 secs
Fastest Withington Wheeler: G. Armshaw To hold the Member's Shield presented by E. Higgins To hold the Member's Shield presented by E. Higgins Commemorative Golden Jubilee Certificates.
Certificates:
Weather Conditions: Sunny and warm with little wind.
1. S.R. Hulme Tunstall Wheelers 2:10.2
2. G.R. Gibson Buxton C.C. 2:12.6
3. G. Wood Macclesfield Whs. 2:16.6
4. D. Cooper Mansfield R.C. 2:23.9
5. I. Harvey Manning R.C. 2:23.9
6. M.M. Edwards Weaver Valley C.C. 2:27.0
7. P.C. Leigh Mansfield R.C. 2:30.3
8. C. Roy Marple Whs. 2:30.4
9. M.D. Hall Chesterfield Spire RC 2:30.9
10. D. Calvert Team Sportif Tameside 2:31.6
11. R.J. Wilkinson Leek C.C. 2:32.2
12. A. Sharrack Manchester Whs. 2:32.7
13. I.D. Pearson Manchester Whs. 2:33.8
14. A.J. Turner Withington Whs. 2:34.0
15. G. Armshaw Buxton C.C. 2:37.4
16. M.C. Robinson Seamounts C.C. 2:37.9
17. M. Frost Buxton C.C. 2:38.4
18. K.R. Higginbotham Dukinfield C.C. 2:38.7
19. L.J. Cook Mansfield R.C. 2:38.8
20. M. Thomas Dukinfield C.C. 2:39.1
21. S. Watson Manchester Whs. 2:39.5
22. P. Connor Kindersport CRT 2:42.9
23. K.J. Brewin Seamounts C.C. 2:43.3
24. P. Scott Dukinfield Whs. 2:44.5
25. I. Wilkins Dukinfield C.C. 2:45.2
26. A.G. Thorpe Seamounts C.C. 2:46.4
27. P. Morley Withington Whs. 2:47.6
28. J.P. Lowe Withington Whs. 2:47.8
29. R.J. Forbes A.B.C. Centreville 2:50.5
30. I.S. Chestham Dukinfield C.C. 3:01.3
31. N.J. Walker Manchester Whs. 3:06.1
32. C. Young Chesterfield Spire CC 3:09.6
33. A.C. Lawton Manchester Whs. 3:14.4
34. E.B. Harrison Kindersport CRT 3:20.1
35. I. Williams Kindersport CRT 3:20.7
36. A. Sargent Withington Whs. 3:20.7
37. R.A. Stern Manchester Whs. 5:28.1
38. A. Crooks Manchester Whs. 5:28.1
DNS: Riders 3, 5, 6, 12, 22, 45 (apology)
DNF: 44 (stripped cog) P.T.O.

1985 1987
1986
1988 1989
Under RVC Regs
Result of the 51st Open Hill Climb held on Sunday, 10th October, 1988
Course: J9/1 - Peaslow Hill, Blackbrook Lane, Chapel-en-le-Prith, Derbyshire.
930 yards, 1 in 7 average, 1 in 5 steepest.
Timekeepers: C.M. Laverick & A.J. Millington.
Event Sec: R.E.Y. Slater, 54 Framingham Rd., Sale, Cheshire, M33 3RJ.
Prizes:
First Fastest: S.R. Hulme Stoke AC 2 mins 17.1s
Second " W. Bellier Congleton CC 2 mins 20.0s
Third " N. Bishop Oldham Century RC 2 mins 20.0s
Fourth " J. Kirchin Team Sportif 2 mins 23.8s
Fastest Novice: D.P. Phillipson Dukinfield CC 2 mins 35.8s
Fastest Team: All the above will receive engraved commemorative shields (Total prize value £15.00).
Prizes: S.R. Hulme 2 mins 17.1s
W. Bellier 2 mins 20.0s
N. Bishop 2 mins 20.0s
J. Kirchin 2 mins 23.8s
D.P. Phillipson 2 mins 35.8s
All the above will receive engraved commemorative shields (Total prize value £15.00).
Prize: Stoke AC 2 mins 17.1s
Congleton CC 2 mins 20.0s
Oldham Century RC 2 mins 20.0s
Team Sportif 2 mins 23.8s
Dukinfield CC 2 mins 35.8s
Weather Conditions: Cool and misty with fresh wind blowing down the hill.
1. S.R. Hulme Stoke AC 2:17.1
2. W. Bellier Congleton CC 2:20.0
3. N. Bishop Oldham Century RC 2:20.0
4. J. Kirchin Team Sportif 2:23.8
5. P. Stiles Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
6. R.W. Lyner Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
7. M. Foster Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
8. S.M. Bellier Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
9. M.D. Hall Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
10. A. Roy Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
11. D. Calvert Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
12. D. Calvert Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
13. D. Calvert Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
14. M. Smith Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
15. M. Thomas Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
16. K.R. Higginbotham Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
17. P. Leigh Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
18. P.J. Dentith Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
19. A.D. Huggs Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
20. R. T. Bowditch Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
21. S.J. Whittington Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
22. S.J. Whittington Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
23. S.J. Whittington Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
24. S.J. Whittington Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
25. S.J. Whittington Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
26. S.J. Whittington Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
27. S.J. Whittington Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
28. S.J. Whittington Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
29. S.J. Whittington Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8
30. S.J. Whittington Manchester Wheelers 2:23.8

Result of the 52nd Open Hill Climb held on Sunday 15th October, 1989
Course: J9/1 (modified - second half of hill) - Peaslow Hill, Blackbrook Lane, Chapel-en-le-Prith, Derbyshire. 850 yards approx., 1 in 7 average.
Timekeepers: C.M. Laverick & P. Heaton
Event Sec: R.E.Y. Slater, 54 Framingham Rd., Sale, Cheshire M33 3RJ. Tel: 061-962 1477
Prizes:
First Fastest: S. R. Hulme Stoke AC 2m 17.1s
Second " M. J. Harrison Congleton CC 2m 20.0s
Third " S. C. Green Oldham Century RC 2m 20.0s
Fourth " M. D. Hall Team Sportif 2m 23.8s
Fastest Novice: D.M. Midgeley Dukinfield CC 2m 35.8s
Fastest Team: All the above will receive engraved commemorative shields (Total prize value £15.00).
Prizes: Manchester Wheelers P. Leigh 2m 30.8s
A.J. Turner 2m 32.9s
D.M. Jinks 2m 36.5s
The "Tom Frith Shield" for one year. 7 40.2
Weather Conditions: Cool and dry with fresh wind blowing up the hill.
1 S R Hulme Stoke AC 2m 17.1s
2 M J Harrison Congleton CC 2m 20.0s
3 S C Green Oldham Century RC 2m 20.0s
4 M D Hall Team Sportif 2m 23.8s
5 P Leigh Manchester Wheelers 2m 23.8s
6 A J Turner Manchester Wheelers 2m 23.8s
7 D Midgeley Dukinfield CC 2m 23.8s
8 D Calvert Chesterfield Spire 2m 23.8s
9 S M Kelly Beeston RC 2m 23.8s
10 D M Jinks Manchester Wheelers 2m 23.8s
11 S T Pearson Manchester Wheelers 2m 23.8s
12 A A Krakiewicz Withington Wheelers 2m 23.8s
13 S K Buttenworth Ashfield RC 2m 23.8s
14 P J Dentith Manchester Wheelers 2m 23.8s
15 M A Flynn Stockport Clarion 2m 23.8s
16 N J Lowe Oldham Century 2m 23.8s
17 J Evans Withington Wheelers 2m 23.8s
18 S L Butcher Manchester Wheelers 2m 23.8s
19 D Phillips South Bucks RC 2m 23.8s
20 J Meadows Withington Wheelers 2m 23.8s
21 D M Rodden Withington Wheelers 2m 23.8s
22 S S Nichol Manchester Wheelers 2m 23.8s
23 P M Jaffrey Oldham Century 2m 23.8s
24 R J Forbes Weaver Valley 2m 23.8s
25 B Coupe Withington Wheelers 2m 23.8s
26 R A Stern Horwich CC 2m 23.8s
27 R A Stern Withington Wheelers 2m 23.8s

1986 and a new event organiser with Rod Slater taking over from Roy Rosborough. There was a new generation of young Withington Wheelers coming through and Greg Armshaw, John Lowe, Ric Stern and Mike Ruddy all enjoyed their first encounter with Peaslows. The best time by a Withy was Greg Armshaw's 2-47.8.

Open Hill-Climb Sunday, 19th October, 1986. Be it horse-racing, athletics, or any other competitive event, and to use the bookmaker's vernacular there is no such thing as a racing certainty. So it was proved when the Manchester Wheelers, fielding 20% of the total entry of thirty-seven, and with their National Champion at the head of affairs AND ... the 'Wheelers', team winners in the last six 'runnings' of our event, mounted (no pun intended) their assault on 'Peaslows' in our 49th they surely must have considered themselves 'past the post'!

In the event they were defeated by a club only having the minimum three riders! If it was of any consolation to them or if they needed to find an excuse, well The Buxton C.C. DO live on the doorstep of 'Peaslows' and no doubt they are very familiar with its location.

It took me back to the immediate post-war days of the Manchester Clarion when they won the individual and team prize four years in succession (1947/48/49/50), Worthen, Wield and of course our own Dick Moore), resulting in a committee member seriously proposing that the hill-climb be abandoned forthwith in that it was, (quote) "an annual Clarion benefit day!". Fortunately, that proposition found no seconder as we know, and the Buxton C.C. have provided the answer for us in case any well-meaning member might be thinking on similar lines.

The event - weather-wise - one of the worst. After a night of torrential rain we were lucky to complete the climb in a brief rain-free couple of hours. The fairly strong west wind partially assisting the riders. Not unusual to find the later finishers providing the result this time, the last three off supplying first, second and third in reverse order of start.

Our lads performed well ... all four finishing, giving us a team placing. The ride of Greg Armshaw really first class ... winning the Novice award, the day after his sixteenth birthday ... well done Greg. He finished tenth overall.

Our lads performed well ... all four finishing, giving us a team placing. The ride of Greg Armshaw really first class ... winning the Novice award, the day after his sixteenth birthday ... well done Greg. He finished tenth overall.

The individual riders represented 19 clubs, and here is the result:-

1st.	D.J.Webster M/cr. W'lrs.	2. 14.	3. 14.
2nd.	S.R.Hulme Tunstall W'lrs.	2. 19.	5. 14.
3rd.	G.R.Gibson Buxton C.C.	2. 20.	7. 14.
4th.	K. Jones. Wroxham R.C.	2. 21.	7. 14.
Team:- Buxton C.C. G.R.Gibson (35)			
	D.Manlove (21)	2. 29.	1. 14.
	M.Robinson (11)	2. 39.	5. 14.
		2. 29.	3. 14.

Fastest Novice: G. Armshaw Withington Wheelers 2.47.8.

We were all delighted to see Robert and Karen MacQueen up from Leamington. Good to see Tony Baxter and daughter Katy, now resident in Tideswell. Katy was soon in the swing of things as 'runner' from timekeeper to board marker. Thanks to all who helped and to Rod for a first class promotion.

P.S. An apology from Dick Moore who set out on his bike (Dick loves this route!) Punctured near Furness Vale. Found he had put the wrong small bag behind his saddle. What did it contain? ... brush and comb and toothpaste. Not quite the right gear to mend a puncture!

1987

1987 was the 50th running of the Open Hill Climb. Steve Hulme of Tunstall Wheelers recorded the first of a number of wins. The new generation of Withys were joined by Leon Wilkins and Russ Forbes. Problems on the course in the 1987 event resulted in the top half of Peaslows being used with the length reduced to 850 yards. Again it was Greg Armshaw fastest of the Withys with a time of 2-33.8.

GOLDEN JUBILEE OPEN HILL-CLIMB, OCTOBER 11th 1987.

We approached the last few days before the 50th Hill-Climb with much concern. The reason for our apprehension ... the laying of a main sewer up 300 yards of the course on Peaslows. With vague estimates from the Local Council Offices as to the date of completion we deemed it prudent to take a last minute view of the situation on the Saturday afternoon prior to the day of the event.

Arriving at the hill the concern, obviously, was the condition of the lane, but during a casual chat with a 'local' we received the shattering information that a pony-club cross-country promotion was to take place on the morrow ... the competitor's entrance a temporary gap in a wall half way up the course!!

We obtained the address of the event organiser and heard from him that the trials had been held on the same day for quite some years, it seemed incredible that we had not previously clashed. However, he promised to do all in his power to avoid confusion, but as their timetable was from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. we feared the worst. So, on the Sunday morning Rod and I were already on the scene by 12 noon, by which time the lane was filled with young riders off-loading ponies from the horse-boxes ... the concentration being along the second half of the normal course used by us.

Competitors in our event had been warned to expect course modification and not wishing to disappoint them (how could you be disappointed being told you are NOT riding in a Hill-Climb!:) we decided to use the upper half of the hill ... slightly shorter, and certainly not as steep overall.

With Daryl Webster still suffering from the knee injury which had prevented him competing in the climbs leading up to the Championship it looked as though Steve Hulme (Tunstall Wlrs) would be the favourite (he had already taken over as 'Cock o' the North' winning something like eight out of eight as had Daryl in recent years).

So, the favourite prevailed, winning by 2½ seconds from Graham Gibson who, for the second year running led the Buxton C.C. to victory in the team section. After a week of daily downpours the day turned out to be perfect (WEATHERWISE). We suffered consternation, dismay, apprehension, butterflies, qualms ... the lot, (couldn't have been worse being a competitor) but thankfully we emerged I would say "Successful". With roadworks, horse-trials, and vehicles ignoring the ROAD CLOSED signs we could not have been blamed had we abandoned.

Sincere thanks to all who helped in any way.

THE RESULT:

1.	S.R.Hulme	Tunstall Wlrs.	2.10.2.
2.	G.R.Gibson	Buxton C.C.	2.12.6
3.	G.Wood	Macclesfield Wlrs.	2.16.6
4.	I. Harvey	Dinnington R.C.	2.23.9
5.	D.Cooper	Mansfield R.C.	2.23.9
6.	M.W.Edwards	Weaver Valley C.C.	2.24.3
7.	P.C.Leigh	Manchester Wlrs.	2.27.0
8.	C. Roy.	Mansfield R.C.	2.27.5

'OURS'

(15th)	C. Armshaw	2.33.8	E.Higgins Shield
(25th)	Leon Wilkins	2.43.3	Missed Novice Prize
(28th)	J.Lowe	2.26.4	
(29th)	R.Forbes	2.47.6	by 0.4 s.
(37th)	R. Stern	3.20.7	

Fastest Novice: P. Scutt, Seamons C.C. 2.42.9

Team (Tom Frith Shield) Buxton C.C. J.E.F.

1988

OPEN HILL-CLIMB, OCTOBER 16th - 44 entries were received for our 51st Hill-Climb on Peaslow's Hill, Chapel-en-le-Frith. With the Manchester Wheelers not being strongly represented, nor the Tom Frith Team Shield holders (Buxton C.C.), it would have been a bold man who would have dared to forecast a result.

Despite inclement weather in the days leading up to the Sunday (and the ensuing days after) we were blessed with a pleasant day, although with quite a breeze blowing down the hill it seemed there would be no records broken. So it turned out. Compared with recent years the times were exceptionally slow, last year's Winner Steve Hulme, Stoke AC, winning again in the (pre-war) time of 2m.43.6. Second was W. Belcher, Rossendale RC, with 2m.45.4 and third was Nigel Bishop, ABC Centreville, who had been strongly tipped as the winner but had the compensation of leading that club to victory in the team prize.

Our own David Phillipson took the Novice award with a good ride for the day of 3m.33s and the fastest of ours (taking the shield presented by Eric Higgins) was Simon Pearson with 2m.15.8.

Team Prize :-	ABC Centreville	N.A. Bishop	2.47.0
		P. Stiles	2.50.4
		S.J. Whittington	3.13.0

			8.50.4

Herewith the first six and also ours :-

1.	S.R. Hulme	Stoke AC	2m.43.6
2.	W. Belcher	Rossendale RC	2m.45.4
3.	N.A. Bishop	ABC Centreville	2m.47.0
4.	J. Kirchin	Mansfield RC	2m.48.0
5.	P. Stiles	ABC Centreville	2m.50.4
6.	R.W. Lymer	Leek CC	2m.50.8
23.	S.T. Pearson	Withington Wheelers	3m.15.8
29.	D.P. Phillipson	"	3m.33.0
32.	R.A. Stern	"	3m.54.0

Thanks to Rod for a first-class promotion, as usual, and to Timekeepers Maurice and Tony Millington, the pushers-off, the ladies with tea and to Harold Nelson who made the tea "possible" by the loan of a dozen or so Thermos flasks.

In **1989** the top half of the hill was again used and the Withington riders were Simon Pearson, John Lowe, David Phillipson, Rik Meadows, Russ Forbes and Ric Stern.

OPEN HILL, CLIMB - 15th October 1989

Tension was already in the air when Charles phoned from deepest Derbyshire at 11 a.m. on the morning of the event to tell me that the dreaded cross-country horse riders had again appeared to clutter Peaslow's Hill with their horse boxes. The tension immediately went into overdrive and this did not lessen when I was able to confirm a couple of hours later that "our" section of the hill was well and truly blocked with vehicles in spite of Jim having approached the organiser of the horse event to try and avoid a clash. Fortunately, as on the only previous occasion in over 50 years that this has happened, we were able to re-jig the course on the spot and use the second half of the hill. We could well have had to cancel the event but as it happened all went well, there were no incidents and no one complained (perhaps the kindly following wind helped!) so it was with considerable relief that another Hill Climb safely entered the record books. There was a surprising high number of riders who did not start, on what was quite a pleasant day, and the event was again won by Steve Hulme of the Stoke A.C. Excellent support from the Club resulted in third team position for the Withington and the day was rounded off in a very pleasant manner with a get together afterwards at the Jolly Carter to greet Stan Heeley on one of his infrequent visits from Canada. Looking very fit Stan kept the party going while the Landlord laid on a good variety of food and drink to counter the effects of the chill wind on the hill.

As this is the last Open event I will be promoting for the Club, for the time being at least, I would like to thank all those who have supported me over the years, timekeeping, marshalling, feeding etc. It is not always a lot of fun standing on a wet and windy corner for an hour or two, or more, while riders flash by but without support "in the field" our sport could not exist. I am sure the same support will be given to John as he takes up the reins, good luck John and thanks to one and all.

The full result sheet is enclosed with this Journal but the results which count are shown below.

1.	S.R. Hulme	Stoke A.C.	2m 17.1s
11.	S.T. Pearson	Withington Wh	2 40.9
17.	J.P. Lowe	"	2 45.8
20.	D. Phillipson	"	2 52.9
21.	R.J. Meadows	"	2 53.3
25.	R.J. Forbes	"	3 00.4
27.	R.A. Stern	"	3 20.6
3rd Team - Withington Wheelers - Messrs. Pearson, Lowe and Phillipson			
aggregate time			8m 19.6s

R.E.Y.S.

1990s

Oldham Century and the Green brothers dominated the 1990s although the Marple Wheelers took a couple of team awards in the early part of the decade..

In 1990 however it was Mark Hall, another of the Oldham century hill climbers who took the first of his two wins in a time of 2-31.02.

In **1991** there was new event organiser with John Lowe taking over from Rod Slater. There was a disappointing entry of only 24, "the most poorly supported of our Open Hill Climbs", the sponsored climb on the Rake taking away the entries. Mark Hall again won the event but the Buxton CC took the team honours. The most notable time of the day for the assembled Withington Wheelers was Neil Byrne's 2-36.4 which beat Jim Forbes' 55 year old record as the fastest Withington Wheeler in our event.

Open Hill Climb - 13th October 1991

The weather, which can make such a difference to the event was kind, with a fair breeze blowing up the hill. Fortunately the cross-country horse event which has caused problems in the past was not in evidence so that the event passed off smoothly to the relief of promoter John Lowe, the pity being that only 24 riders entered, making this one of the most poorly supported of our open hill climbs. It would appear that the Lancashire RC event, with an extraordinary prize list, timed for 12 noon on The Rake spoilt the chances for a good field both for ourselves and our friends in the Manchester Wheelers whose morning event received even less support than ours.

With few "stars" to draw the interest of the spectators it was left to newcomer Neil Byrne, as far as the Club was concerned, to provide the main interest by beating Jim's 55 year old record as fastest Withington Wheeler on Peaslows. To some extent comparisons of times from year to year are meaningless as so much depends on the weather but it was a very good ride nevertheless and we look forward to even greater efforts, Neil!

Winning rider was Mark Hall of the Marple Wheelers, while the Buxton CC took the team award. Finishing places and times for Club riders were as follows:-

6	N Byrne	2.36.4mins	18	D Phillipson	3.23.9mins	
13	P D Pearce	2.53.2mins	19	R A Stern	3.24.7mins	Ed.
16	R J Forbes	3.04.2mins				

In 1936 Jim Forbes had set the record for the fastest time by a Withington Wheeler. In 1991 this time was beaten by Neil Byrne, here's Jim's thoughts on his 55 year old record having been broken. Neil Byrne's record still stands as the fastest Withy Wheeler on Peaslows.

I must congratulate Neil Byrne who bettered my long-standing Open Hill-climb CLUB record of 2.41 3/5 mins. By modern times somewhat slow, but, of course 55 years ago conditions were totally different, for instance no road surface and a stream running down one side of Peaslows Lane which really demanded maximum concentration. On the occasion of the ride in question I was beaten into second place by just one second by Benny Clare a top class sprinter, with Ernie Atherton (Yorkshire Roads Club) my great rival, and unbeaten in the North until on one magic week-end I got the verdict in the Saddleworth Climb... third. It perhaps should be pointed out that Dick Woore had recorded 2.35 3/5 mins when he won our climb in 1948 but then, of course in the name of the all-conquering Manchester Clarion. I trust this will clear up the question frequently raised "How could that portly cove have ever held a Club record"- I might add it was a record of which I was very proud.

In 1992 it was Steve Green of Oldham Century who took the honours.

Open Hill-Climb - Sunday October 11th

Thirty-one entries were received for this year's Open Hill-climb, a slight improvement on last year (24) but still, nevertheless causing some anxiety as to its future. Winner of the last two climbs (Malc Hall) was denied a third victory when Steve Green (Oldham Century) repeated his morning win in the Manchester Wlrs event pushing Malc Hall into third place and beating him by ten seconds. Result as follows:-

1	S E Green	Oldham Cent.	2.31.1
2	J Hyde	Macclesfield Wlrs	2.32.7
3	M D Hall	Marple Wlrs	2.41.0
4	M J Andrew	Clevelys RC	2.47.2

Team:- Marple Wlr M D Hall)
 M Freeman) 8.49.9
 A Fosbrook)

Fastest Withington Wlr N Byrne (10th) 2.54.0

Timekeepers:- G M Laverick and G Perry

Steve Green and Brian Green shared the honours nearly every year through the 1990s - from 1992 through to 1998 it was either S Green or B Green in first and second place leading their club to a team victory.

1996 and event organiser John Lowe hands over the event reins to David Phillipson.

WITHINGTON WHEELERS			
55th OPEN SCRATCH HILL CLIMB RESULTS			
1 S C Green	Oldham Century	2 min 31.1 Sec	
2 J Hyde	Macclesfield Wheelers	2 min 32.7	
3 M D Hall	Marple Wheelers	2 min 41.0	
4 M J Andrew	Cleleys R.C.	2 min 47.3	
5 M A Flynn	Oldham Century	2 min 52.3	
6 C J Dale	Tunstall Wheelers	2 min 52.9	
7 P Leigh	Manchester Wheelers	2 min 53.1	
8 M R Freeman	Marple Wheelers	2 min 53.1	
9 P J Dentith	Stockport Clarion	2 min 53.6	
10 N Byrne	Withington Wheelers	2 min 54.0	
11 S H Hayward	Kinder Racing Team	3 min 00.0	
12 R Meadows	Withington Wheelers	3 min 03.8	
13 P D Healy	Buxton C.C.	3 min 06.2	
14 P J Apps	South Manchester R.C.	3 min 10.0	
15 P D Pearce	Withing Wheelers	3 min 11.6	
16 A Postbrook	Marple Wheelers	3 min 15.8	
17 J A McGarva	Manchester Wheelers	3 min 16.0	
18 E P Fitzgibbon	Kinder Racing Team	3 min 16.3	
19 R M Berry	Buxton C.C.	3 min 19.6	
20 R A Pitt	Marple Wheelers	3 min 24.7	
21 A Magee	Stockport Clarion	3 min 24.8	
22 D Duckworth	Nova C.C.	3 min 25.2	
23 F Handley	Kinder Racing Team	3 min 29.0	
24 I M Fleming	Middleton C.C.	3 min 40.0	
25 R A Stern	Withington Wheelers	3 min 44.2	
26 P C Edmondson	Lune R.C.C	3 min 46.8	
TEAM PRIZE :- Marple Wheelers M D Hall 2 min 41.0			
M R Freeman 2 min 53.1			
A Fobrook 3 min 15.8			
8 min 49.9			
Fastest Junior :- C J Dale Tunstall Wheelers 2 min 52.9			
Fastest Novice :- J Hyde Macclesfield Wheelers 2 min 32.7			
Congratulation's to all the prize winners and Many Thanks to th helped to make this event possible.			

1993, 1995 & 1996 Finish Sheets

WITHINGTON WHEELERS

PRESIDENT : J E FORBES

57th OPEN SCRATCH HILL CLIMB

Sunday, October 8th 1992

Under R.T.T.C. Regulations

Prize winners:

First : S Green	Oldham Century Road Club	2 min 27.5	£15.00
Second : B Green	Oldham Century Road Club	2 min 30.1	£10.00
Third : M Flynn	Oldham Century Road Club	2 min 42.5	£ 5.00

Fastest Team to hold for one year "The Tom Frith Shield"

Oldham Century Road Club	8 min 39.1	£3.00 each
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Congratulations to the prize winners and thank you to all the riders for supporting the event.

Many thanks to Maurice and Tony (the timekeepers), to all the marshalls and Russ & Jim for the results board.

1 S Green	Oldham Century Road Club	2 min 27.5
2 B Green	Oldham Century Road Club	2 min 42.5
3 M Flynn	Oldham Century Road Club	2 min 42.5
4 N Byrne	Withington Wheelers	2 min 45.3
5 I Ashman	Rossendale R.C.	2 min 49.4
6 S Foster	North Notts Olympic R.C.	2 min 52.1
7 S Baxter	T.S. Tameside C.R.C.	2 min 53.0
8 S Wilkinson	T.S. Tameside C.R.C.	2 min 57.3
9 J Clarke	Oldham Century Road Club	2 min 58.3
10 R Meadows	Withington Wheelers	3 min 01.9
11 R Gibson	Warrington R.C.	3 min 05.3
12 R Birkin	Ashfield R.C.	3 min 07.8
13 A Fisher	Oldham Century Road Club	3 min 13.5
14 I Fleming	T.S. Tameside C.R.C.	3 min 16.5
15 D Rowbottom	Oldham Century Road Club	3 min 16.7
16 A Magee	Stockport Clarion	3 min 20.5
17 D Hewitt	Stockport Clarion	3 min 30.8
18 M Hallard	Janus R.C.	4 min 27.5
19 S Clarke	Oldham Century Road Club	4 min 28.6

Organised by J Lowe, 10 Glenside Drive, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, CW4 7JA.
Tel: 01477-535448

WITHINGTON WHEELERS OPEN HILL CLIMB RL

Saturday, October 6th 1996

UNDER R.T.T.C. REGULATIONS

COURSE : J 9/1 Peaslows Hill Blackbrook Lane Chapel-en-le-Frith Derbyshire
930 yds 1in7 average 1in5 steepest

PRIZE WINNERS	1st	B. GREEN	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-25.5"	£15
	2nd	S. GREEN	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-30.0"	£10
	3rd	J. HENDERSON	OXFORD UNIVERSITY C.C.	2'-31.0"	£5

FASTEST TEAM OLDHAM CENTURY R.C. £3 EACH AND TOM FRITH TROPHY FOR 1 YEAR
B. GREEN S. GREEN M. FLYNN 7'-35.8"

FASTEST AGGREGATE TIME WITH MANCHESTER WHEELERS HILL CLIMB

1st	S. GREEN	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	6'-10.9"	£25
2nd	B. GREEN	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	6'-12.0"	£10
3rd	W. MOORE	LEO R.C. SHORTER SPECIALIZED	6'-23.4"	£5

1	B. Green	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-25.5"
2	S. Green	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-30.0"
3	J. Henderson	OXFORD UNIVERSITY CC	2'-31.0"
4	W. Moore	LEO R.C. SHORTER SPECIALIZED	2'-34.1"
5	M. Flynn	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-40.3"
6	S. Foster	CHESTERFIELD COUREURS-ALEXA	2'-42.4"
7	M. Chester	V.C. LA MOTTA-TAURUS CYCLES	2'-43.1"
8	J. Jepson	A.B.C. CENTREVILLE	2'-43.2"
9	R. Palmer	STRETFORD WHEELERS	2'-47.2"
10	S. Baxter	MANCHESTER WHEELERS	2'-49.3"
11	N. Byrne	WITHINGTON WHEELERS	2'-51.8"
12	J. Lindsey	HUDDERSFIELD STAR WHEELERS	2'-54.2"
13	M. Turnbull	V.C. LA MOTTA-TAURUS CYCLES	2'-56.3"
14	R. Mellor	LEEK C.C.	2'-56.8"
15	A. Fisher	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	3'-05.2"
16	J. Clarke	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	3'-06.3"
17	R. Birkin	ASHFIELD R.C.	3'-11.9"
18	R. Meadows	WITHINGTON WHEELERS	3'-12.3"
19	R. Gibson	WARRINGTON R.C.	3'-16.1"
20	I. Fleming	MIDDLETON C.C.	3'-17.7"
21	G. Kerekes	MANCHESTER WHEELERS	3'-25.7"
22	J. Shepherd	CYCLESPORT INTERNATIONAL	3'-28.0"
23	N. Goulbourn	A.B.C. CENTREVILLE	3'-29.5"

DID NOT START 16, 17, 23 (APOLOGY) 26, 27 (APOLOGY) 28.

Congratulations to all prizewinners and thank-you to all riders for supporting the event.
Thank-you to all helpers and officials.

Special thanks to Harold Nelson B.E.M. for providing refreshments, and to John Lowe and R. Forbes for advice given to me on promoting my first open event.

Event secretary- David Phillipson 149 Buckingham Rd Chorlton Manchester M21 0RG.

1997 "another benefit day for the Oldham Century"...

59th Open Hill Climb. Sunday October 5th

Once again we were favoured with gorgeous weather a perfect summer's day. It turned out to be another benefit day for the Oldham Century, Brian Green winning 'ours' and the Manchester Wlrs. event on Standing Stones earlier in the day.

and 1998 was of course our 60th promotion of the Open Hill Climb on Peaslows....

60

1931-1998

60

WITHINGTON WHEELERS

60th Open Hill Climb

Peaslows Hill

FOUNDED 1931

The 60th Withington Wheelers Open Hill Climb

on Peaslows Hill at Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Sunday 4 October 1998

In celebration of this occasion your club

has been selected as one of SIXTY prominent clubs

who are being invited to enter one male rider and one female

rider free of charge. Please find enclosed one free entry for each, we

would be grateful if you could pass these on to an appropriate member.

This is not an "Invitation Only" event, entries will be accepted from other riders.

Please send £3.50 to:

Dave Phillipson

149 Buckingham Road

Chorlton, Manchester M21 1RG

In addition to an extended prize list there is also a joint prize

offered to the rider doing the best aggregate time in our event and the

Manchester Wheelers event on the Standing Stones climb later the same day.

We are also offering a prize of £100 to any rider beating the

existing course record which is 2minutes 8 seconds.

60

1931-1998

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60th WITHINGTON WHEELERS OPEN HILL CLIMB RESULT

Sunday, October 4th 1998

UNDER R.T.T.C. REGULATIONS

COURSE : J 9/1

PRIZE WINNERS	1st	B. GREEN	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-32.6"	£20
	2nd	J. HENDERSON	OXFORD UNIVERSITY C.C.	2'-34.3"	£15
	3rd	S. GREEN	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-45.8"	£10
	4th	M. FLYNN	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-49.3"	£7.50
	5th	W. DUTSON	TEAM SPIRIT	2'-54.3"	£5

FASTEST TEAM OLDHAM CENTURY R.C. £3 EACH AND TOM FRITH TROPHY FOR 1 YEAR
B. GREEN S. GREEN M. FLYNN

FASTEST LADY - L. BURNS OXFORD UNIVERSITY C.C. 3'-45.9 £5

FASTEST VETERAN - M. BRADBURY SEACROFT WHEELERS 5'-05.4" £5

FASTEST AGGREGATE TIME WITH MANCHESTER WHEELERS HILL CLIMB

1st	B. GREEN	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	6'-14.4"	£10
2nd	S. GREEN	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	6'-41.7"	£5

1	B. Green	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-32.6"
2	J. Henderson	OXFORD UNIVERSITY CC	2'-34.3"
3	S. Green	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-45.8"
4	M. Flynn	OLDHAM CENTURY R.C.	2'-49.3"
5	W. Dutton	TEAM SPIRIT	2'-54.3"
6	S. Foster	CHESTERFIELD COUREURS	2'-54.6"
7	S. Baxter	TEAM VELOCITY	2'-55.4"
8	S. Keeton	RUTLAND C.C.	2'-56.7"
9	R. Lister	VC LINCOLN-IMPSPORT	2'-56.9"
10	G. Williams	HOLYHEAD C.C.	2'-57.0"
11	J. Jepson	A.B.C. CENTREVILLE	3'-00.8"
12	P. Kinch	GLOBAL RACING-AVON VALLEY	3'-05.3"
13	M. Payne	SEACROFT WHEELERS	3'-07.4"
14	N. Byrne	WITHINGTON WHEELERS	3'-09.2"
15	R. Meadows	WITHINGTON WHEELERS	3'-17.7"
16	M. Orley	HALESOWEN C.C.	3'-18.2"
17	C. Lea	BUXTON C.C.	3'-21.1"
18	H. Taylor	LIVERPOOL MERCURY	3'-28.8"
19	C. Aimson	JANUS R.C. LUSSO	3'-32.6"
20	L. Burns	OXFORD UNIVERSITY C.C.	3'-45.9"
21	M. Bradbury	SEACROFT WHEELERS	5'-05.4"

DID NOT START 2, 3(APOLOGY) 8(APOLOGY) 11, 18, 20 (APOLOGY) 25, 26, 28, 30.

Congratulations to all prizewinners and thank-you to all riders for supporting the event.

Thank-you to all helpers and officials:-

time keepers - C. M. Laverick & A. J. Millington

officials - M. Harrison, J. Lowe, R. E. Y. Slater, A. Baxter, R. Rosborough.

Thank-you to Harold Nelson B.E.M. for providing refreshments.

Event secretary- David Phillipson 149 Buckingham Rd Chorlton Manchester M21 0RG.

For a number of year in the 1990s, in conjunction with Manchester Wheelers, we gave a joint prize for the fastest rider on Peaslows and on Standing Stones where the Manchester Wheelers held their hill climb earlier on the same day.

The Green brothers domination nearly lasted right through the decade.....

....but in **1999** it was Jim Henderson who finally broke their stranglehold on the event.

61st Open Hill Climb; 3rd October 1999.

The Open Hill Climb seems to be getting earlier every year, in agreement with Manchester Wheelers we have made every effort to avoid clashing with the heavily sponsored climb on The Rake. You would imagine we might be blessed with clement weather by bringing our climb forward by a fortnight, but on the contrary, although everything went according to plan it appears that Dave forgot to mention the date change to the Weather Bureau, heavy rain preceeded the climb and although it stopped for a brief spell during the event, it was a cold and horrible day. Needless to say, the weather that had been ordered for the usual dates later in October arrived on the next two Sundays. Next year the Open Hill Climb moves back to the 8th October.

It did however make a nice change to see someone other than the Green family walk away with the prizes and although Oldham Century won the team prize, the fastest rider was Jim Henderson in 2minutes 20.3 seconds.

2000 The Withington Wheelers Journal reports on a bit of a hitch in this year's Open Hill Climb.....

"The Open Hill Climb encountered a bit of a hiccup when Maurice (Laverick)'s watch had a funny turn. The first eight riders were given times and everything was running smoothly until number 9 approached the finish line. At this point Maurice was appalled to find his watch had stopped. The remaining riders were not given a time and it was too late to get a message to the bottom of the hill to stop the event. A brief discussion ensued with club officials and most of the competitors agreed to ride again. In the re-run event the winner was National Champion Jim Henderson who viewed the second ride as extra training for his championship defence the next week. The riders all took the mishap in the best possible spirit and they will be given a free entry to our hill climb in 2001. Don't worry Maurice, the riders all took it really well and no is blaming you. It could have been worse. It could have been a 12 Hour!"

In 2000 Jim Forbes passed away and in 2001 the family presented the Jim Forbes Trophy, to be awarded and held by the winner of the Open Hill Climb each year.

2001 The Jim Forbes Memorial Hill Climb, Peaslows. 7th October 2001.

"An increased entry of 35 riders bodes well for the future of the Open Hill Climb. The resurgence in interest is down mainly to the Eagle of the Peaks Award organised (and funded out of his own pocket) by Mike Carr.

The only problem this year was the weather. While organiser David Phillipson was absent working in France Russ Forbes had taken over the 'rains' for one year. The event went off smoothly despite a gusty wind down the hill making conditions tough for the riders. The winner was Rick Clough (ABC Centreville) in 2-42.21. It did stay dry for most of the event but by the time the last rider, Steve Hulme (Manchester Wheelers), edged across the line there were a few spots of rain falling and the sky was turning ominously dark. Just before we commenced with the presentation the heavens opened and Russ (Forbes) and Mark (Harrison) presented the award winners with their soggy prize cheques in a full blown cloudburst. And finally, congratulations to Howard Newhall on his excellent performance in his first hill climb in Withy colours."

It was good to see most of the Withy stalwarts out on the hill including Rod & Esme Slater, Lance & Edna Tulip, Gordon & Margaret Perry (honorary Withy Wheelers), Russ & Jan Forbes, Eric & Nell Moore, Mark Harrison and Scott Newbery. Many thanks to Ann O Nymous who made a generous donation of £60 to cover the total prize list!

2005 after a gap of five years Jim Henderson returns to win the event for the third time but the most notable name on the start sheet was the team winners – Withington Wheelers taking the team honours and the Tom Frith Trophy. Well done you Withys! (Finish Sheet below).

In **2006** Chris Edmondson (Blackburn CTC) took the honours.....

Withington Wheelers Jim Forbes Memorial Hill-Climb Peaslows Hill, Course J9/1 Sunday 2nd October 2005				Withington Wheelers Jim Forbes Memorial Hill-Climb Peaslows Hill, Course J9/1 Sunday 8th October 2006			
Promoted for and on behalf of Cycling TimeTrials under their rules and regulations				Promoted for and on behalf of Cycling TimeTrials under their rules and regulations			
Awards				Awards			
1st	Jim Henderson	Southport CC	£25 & Jim Forbes Memorial Trophy	1st	Chris Edmondson	Blackburn CTC	£25 & Jim Forbes Memorial Trophy
2nd	Sam Clark	Buxton CC	£15	2nd	Thomas Clark	Buxton CC	£15
3rd	Chris Edmondson	Blackburn CTC	£10	3rd	Matt Postlethwaite	ABC Centreville	£10
4th	Paul Smith	Seamons CC	£5	4th	Ian Kenworthy	Oldham Century	£5
Fastest Team	Withington Wh	Howard Newhall, Rik Meadows, David Slater, to hold the Tom Frith Shield.		Fastest U18	Hugh Carthy	ScienceinSport.com	
Result				Fastest Team	Buxton CC	Thomas Clark, Sam Clark, Richard Towse, to hold the Tom Frith Shield.	
1st	Jim Henderson	Southport CC	2 min. 29.7s	Result			
2nd	Sam Clark	Buxton CC	2 min. 35.2s	1st	Chris Edmondson	Blackburn & Dist. CTC	2 min 48.3s
3rd	Chris Edmondson	Blackburn CTC	2 min. 51.4s	2nd	Thomas Clark	Buxton CC	2 min 49.8s
4th	Paul Smith	Seamons CC	2 min. 54.5s	3rd	Matt Postlethwaite	ABC Centreville	2 min 58.7s
5th	Paul Lawson	Weaver Valley CC	2 min. 56.4s	4th	Ian Kenworthy	Oldham Century	2 min 59.9s
6th	Chris Lea	Buxton CC	2 min. 58.0s	5th	Richard Birkin	Ashfield RC	3 min 11.7s
7th	Daniel Gee	Ashfield RC	2 min. 58.2s	6th	Paul Brierley	Huddersfield RC	3 min 13.7s
8th	Christopher Dale	Lyme RC	3 min. 04.7s	7th	Graeme McCulloch	Stretford Wheelers	3 min 23.0s
9th	Paul Brierley	Huddersfield RC	3 min. 08.8s	8th	Rik Meadows	Withington Wheelers	3 min 23.6s
10th	Howard Newhall	Withington Wh	3 min. 15.0s	9th	Simon Foster	North Notts Olympic	3 min 24.3s
11th	Rik Meadows	Withington Wh	3 min. 21.9s	10th	Sean Carthy	ScienceinSport.com	3 min 32.5s
12th	Graeme McCulloch	Stretford Wh	3 min. 30.1s	11th	Sam Clark	Buxton CC	3 min 33.6s
13th	David Slater	Withington Wh	3 min. 50.9s	12th	Richard Towse	Buxton CC	3 min 40.3s
14th	Paul Ekgren	Withington Wh	4 min. 00.8s	13th	Hugh Carthy	ScienceinSport.com	3 min 52.3s
DNS apol.	Sian Granger	Seamons CC		Fastest U18	Hugh Carthy (aged 12)		
I am indebted to the following people for the contribution they made to the running of the event: Russ and Jan Forbes, Eric Moore, Rod Slater, Haydn Stevens, Dave Phillipson, Amanda Cowell.				Fastest Team	Buxton CC		
Tony Millington and Gordon Perry, Timekeepers.				DNS Apol: Daniel Gee AshfieldRC, James Drummond Merlin Development Squad.			
On behalf of Withington Wheelers, I would like to extend my special thanks to the club member who very generously paid for the entire cost of the prizes out of his own pocket. The donor wishes to remain anonymous, but the gift remains a very thoughtful gesture that is immensely appreciated.				DNS: Leo Koch Withington Wheelers, Graham Trevena Macclesfield Wh, Andrew Pyatt Janus RC, Caroline Hull Lancs RC, Robert Dawson Sheffield Phoenix.			
Event Secretary: Mark Harrison 34 Holwood Drive, Manchester M16 8WS. Tel: 0161-861-9296				I am indebted to the following people for the contribution they made to the running of the event: Russ Forbes, Colin Pritchard, Eric Moore, Zhang Su, Tony Millington and Gordon Perry, Timekeepers.			
				On behalf of Withington Wheelers, I would like to extend my special thanks to the club member who donated £100 towards the running of the event. The donor wishes to remain anonymous, but the gift remains a very thoughtful gesture that is immensely appreciated.			
				Event Secretary: Mark Harrison 34 Holwood Drive, Manchester M16 8WS. Tel: 0161-861-9296			

2007 From the WW Journal.....

“25 entries this year. Chris Myhill (Peak RC) won the event in 2.37 with the two Withys, Rik Meadows recording 3.18 and Howard Newhall 3.30. David Phillipson unfortunately had the flu so didn’t start. Buxton won the team prize. Thanks to Mark Harrison and all the helpers who made this event a success.”

In **2008** it was again Chris Myhill who took the honours in a time of 2-40.8 pushing the 2006 winner, Chris Edmondson down into second place and beating him by nearly two seconds. Ashfield RC took the team award.

2009, from the WW Journal..... “The National Hill Climb Champion, Matt Clinton was a worthy winner on Peaslows in a time of 2mins 23.1 seconds. Matt’s ride with slight wind assistance was only 15 seconds short of Malcolm Elliott’s hill record of 2mins 08secs. Last year’s winner, Chris Myhill was pushed down into third place by Buxton CC rider Laurie Brooking who also won the Under 18 prize.

New member Darren Maironis took the Withy honours and the Open Hill Climb Shield with an excellent first time ride of 3 mins 18.9 secs. Other Withy riders were;

Mike Irvine 3 minutes 21.3 seconds
Howard Newhall 3 minutes 27.3 seconds
Rik Meadows 3 minutes 32.5 seconds
David Phillipson 4 minutes 35.2 seconds

Rik had the usual mechanical, his pedal fell off before the event and he borrowed Mike Irvine's bike to ride the race. As usual nothing's simple where Rik's concerned, his start time was too close to Mike's to get the bike back to the bottom of the hill so Rik went off at number 22 in a field of 20 riders. The timekeeper was clearly puzzled by Rik's antics all afternoon and his finishing flourish riding across the line pointing to his knee (a la Johan Museew) did nothing to allay her doubts about his sanity.

David Phillipson was disappointed with his ride, he clearly missed Amanda's 'encouragement' from the back of the tandem."

2010

The Journal tells us that "Darren Maironis knocked 10 seconds off last year's time and was again the fastest Withy on Peaslows in a time of 3 minutes 9.7 seconds on 3 October 2010. Rik Meadows and Kris Spreckley were close together with 3.40 and 3.50. It was one of those truly 'orrible days on the hill, raining cats and dogs all day, rivers running down the road but strangely there were only 2 DNSs out of 24 on the start sheet. Darren wins the Hill Climb Shield for fastest Withy Wheeler. Fastest on the day and winner of the Jim Forbes Memorial Cup was Charles Taylor (South Pennine RC) in a time of 2.28.1. Buxton CC were again fastest team winning the Tom Frith Shield."

The Finish Sheets from 2008, 2009 and 2010 are below.

Withington Wheelers Jim Forbes Memorial Hill-Climb Peaslows Hill, Course J9/1 Sunday 5th October 2008

Promoted for and on behalf of Cycling TimeTrials under their rules and regulations

Awards

1st	Chris Myhill	Peak RC	2 min 40.8s	£25 - champagne to hold the Tom Frith Memorial Trophy
2nd	Chris Edmondson	Blackburn and Dist CTC	2 min 42.7s	£15
3rd	Adrian Lawrence	Lancs RC	2 min 43.6s	£10
4th	Chris Sower	Ashted RC	2 min 48.6s	£5
U18	Jacob Ragan	Rushdale Tri Club	3 min 13.8s	£5
Fastest Team	Ashted RC		9 min 27.6s	to hold the Tom Frith Shield

Chris Sower, David Cox and Richard Hildin

I am indebted to the following people for the contribution they made to the running of the event: Russ Forbes, Leo Koch, Rod Slater, David Phillipson, Colin Pritchard, Lance and John Talip, and my wife Sabrina.

Tony Millington, and Gordon Perry - Timekeepers.

I would like to thank Leo Koch for kindly donating a bottle of champagne to the overall winner.

On behalf of Withington Wheelers I would like to say a very big thank you to the club member who donated a hundred pounds towards the running of the event. This is not the first time he has made such a donation, and his continuing generosity is greatly appreciated.

Finally thank you to all riders for entering the event and riding safely. We hope to see all of you again next year.

Event Secretary:
Mark Harrison, 34 Holwood Drive, Manchester M16 8WS.
Tel: 0161-861-9296

Withington Wheelers Jim Forbes Memorial Hill-Climb Peaslows Hill, Course J9/1 Sunday 4th October 2009

Promoted for and on behalf of Cycling TimeTrials under their rules and regulations

Awards

1st	Matt Clifton	Mike Vaughan on sk	2 min 23.1s	£25 - champagne and to hold the Tom Frith Memorial Trophy for 1 year
2nd	Laurence Brookling	Buxton CC	2 min 33.6s	£15
3rd	Chris Myhill	Peak RC	2 min 40.8s	£10
4th	Sam Clark	Buxton CC	2 min 41.1s	£5
U18	Laurence Brookling	Buxton CC	2 min 35.4s	£5
Fastest Team	Buxton CC		7 min 58.3s	to hold the Tom Frith Shield for one year

Laurence Brookling, Sam Clark, Lee Baldwin (2:41.8)

I am indebted to the following people for the contribution they made to the running of the event: Russ Forbes, Colin Pritchard, Lance and John Talip, Eric and Debbie Moore, Margaret Perry, and finally my wife Sabrina.

Jackie Scales and Gordon Perry - Timekeepers.

I would like to thank Leo Koch for kindly donating a bottle of champagne to the overall winner.

On behalf of Withington Wheelers I would like to say a very big thank you to the club member who, in its previous years, donated a hundred pounds towards the running of the event. Such generosity ensures that our club continues to stay afloat and it is greatly appreciated.

Finally thank you to all riders for entering the event and riding safely. We hope to see all of you again next year.

Event Secretary:
Mark Harrison, 34 Holwood Drive, Manchester M16 8WS.
Tel: 0161-861-9296

Withington Wheelers Jim Forbes Memorial Hill-Climb Peaslows Hill, Course J9/1 Sunday 3rd October 2010

Promoted for and on behalf of Cycling TimeTrials under their rules and regulations

Awards

1st	Charles Taylor	South Pennine RC	2 min 28.1s	£25 - champagne and to hold the Tom Frith Memorial Trophy for 1 year
2nd	Lee Baldwin	Buxton CC	2 min 31.4s	£15
3rd	Mike Conning	Team Raleigh	2 min 32.9s	£10
4th	Sam Clark	Buxton CC	2 min 39.8s	£5
U18	Jacob Pritchard	Bolton Hot Wheels CC	3 min 17.8s	£5
Fastest Team	Buxton CC		8 min 19s	to hold the Tom Frith Shield for one year

Leo Baldwin, Sam Clark, Chris Lee (3:00:00.0)

I am indebted to the following people for the contribution they made to the running of the event: Russ Forbes, Colin Pritchard, Leo and John Koch, Margaret Perry, Andrew Harrison, and finally my wife Sabrina.

Tony Millington and Gordon Perry - Timekeepers.

I would like to thank Leo Koch again for kindly donating a bottle of champagne to the overall winner.

On behalf of Withington Wheelers I would like to say a special thank you to the club member who very kindly donated a hundred pounds towards the running of the event. Such generosity ensures that our club continues to run the open hill climb and is greatly appreciated.

Finally thank you to all riders for entering the event and riding safely. We hope to see all of you again next year.

Event Secretary:
Mark Harrison, 34 Holwood Drive, Manchester M16 8WS.
Tel: 0161-861-9296

2011 and Lee Baldwin (Buxton CC) records the first of two wins (see result sheets below) pushing last year's winner Charles Taylor (South Pennine RC) into second place. Three Withington Wheelers climbed the hill; Darren Maironis in 3-10.7, Mike Irvine in 3-35.88 and Kris Spreckley in 3-49.27.

2012 A new organiser as Tony Scallan takes over from Mark Harrison. Lee Baldwin (Buxton CC) wins again with Adam Kenway second exactly four seconds slower. Buxton CC take the fourth consecutive team victory. Kris Spreckley was the fastest Withy Wheeler in contentious circumstances after his late entry was accepted. Kris recorded 3-10.0 but wasn't shown on the

finish sheet but won the Open Hill Climb Shield for the fastest Withington Wheeler in the Open Hill Climb. Howard Newhall recorded 3-12.3.

2013 and 32 entries received. Adam Kenway (Team Zenith) beats Lee Baldwin (Buxton CC) by nearly ten seconds. Adam recording 2-30.6 and Lee 2-40.1. Buxton CC win the Tom Frith Shield Team Award for the fifth year. Six Withington Wheelers on the start sheet and three finishers to at least record a team time; Kris Spreckley 3-04.5; Mike Irvine 3-14.5 and Howard Newhall 3-47.8.

The photo below taken at the finish on 29th September 2013 shows the Jim Forbes Memorial Trophy, the original Tom Frith Team Shield and the Tom Frith Continuation Shield, the Eric Higgins Shield for the fastest Withington Wheeler in the Open Hill Climb along with the 2013 Finish Board.



No event took place in 2014 but in

2015 Jim Henderson (Southport CC) took the honours with a time of 2.30.6, Sam Clark (Buxton CC) second with 2.41.2 and Ben Norbury (Congleton CC) 2.50.9. Sam Clark, Arne Beswick and Stuart Baker comprised the winning Buxton CC team for their sixth victory.

Fastest lady was Nicola Soden (Stocksbridge CC) in 3.45.6.

Tom Garnett (Ilkley CC) was the fastest Junior with a time of 2.54.4.

Withington Wheelers President, Tony Baxter, presents Jim Henderson with the Jim Forbes Memorial Trophy below;



Buxton CC Winning Team



Nicola Soden Fastest Lady



Tom Garnett Fastest Junior

2016


After having no Withington Wheelers in the 2015 event, in 2016 with a new organiser, Club President Tony Baxter, we were able to field a team of three riders. Needless to say we were

unable to prevent Buxton CC from taking their seventh team victory. The Withy's were Howard Newhall 3.36.9, Rob Kirk 4.15.3 and Chris Yianni 4.28.1.

Lee Baldwin (Champion System/ VCUK) won in 2.20.3, second was Sam Clark (Buxton CC) in 2.32.6 and third Arne Beswick (Buxton CC) in 2.50.7. The third team counter for the Buxton was Chris Lea 3.13.1.

Claire Swoboda (Starley Racing) was fastest lady in 3.37.3.

Here's the 2016 finish board;

 Withington Wheelers Jim Forbes Memorial Hill Climb Peaslows Hill, course J9/1 Sunday 2nd October 2016					
No.	Name	Club		Category	Time
	Chris Yianni	Withington Wheelers	Male	Vet	4.28.1
	Claire Swoboda	Starley Racing	Female	Senior	3.37.3
	Ian Jackson	East Lancashire RC	Male	Senior	3.43.4
	Jo Holden	Macclesfield Wheelers	Female	Senior	3.42.2
	Howard Newhall	Withington Wheelers	Male	Vet	3.36.9
	Josephine Gilbet	Footon Velosport	Female	Espoir	
	Stuart Baker	Buxton CC/Sett Valley Cycles	Male	Senior	3.28.6
	Dan Robinson	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior	3.46.8
	William Adams	University Of Manchester CC	Male	Espoir	
9	Arne Beswick	Buxton CC/Sett Valley Cycles	Male	Senior	2.50.7 2.50.7
1	Nigel Finch	Mercia - Lloyds Cycles CC	Male	Vet	3.57.8
2	Phil Brooke	Wills Wheels CC	Male	Vet	3.08.6
3	Chris Lea	Buxton CC/Sett Valley Cycles	Male	Vet	3.13.1
4	Daniels Kucerjavajs	SportCity	Male	Juvenile	3.37.5
5	Rob Kirk	Withington Wheelers	Male	Vet	4.15.3
6	Ben Norbury	Congleton CC	Male	Senior	7.44.9 5.04.9 *
7	Alexandra Kendall-Smith	University Of Manchester CC	Female		
8	Lee Baldwin	Champion System/VCUK	Male	Senior	2.20.3
9	Iona Sewell	Veloschils Interbike RT	Female	Senior	4.00.8
10	Sam Clark	Buxton CC/Sett Valley Cycles	Male	Senior	2.32.6

* Inc. 2.20 Secs LS

Results

1st	LEE BALDWIN	CHAMPION SYSTEM VCUK	2.20.3
2nd	SAM CLARK	BUXTON CC	2.32.6
3rd	ARNE BESWICK	BUXTON CC	2.50.7
1st Woman	CLAIRE SWOBODA	STARLEY RACING	3.37.3
Team	BUXTON CC	SAM CLARK CHRIS LEA ARNE BESWICK	8.35

Promoted for and on behalf of Cycling Time Trials under their rules and regulations

FASTEST WITHINGTON WHEELER: HOWARD NEWHALL

2017

A disappointing entry but the event went ahead on a fine afternoon and finally Sam Clark (Buxton CC) got his first win in the event with a time of 2.38.4. Buxton CC had two DNSs and with no team of three the Buxton were awarded their eighth team victory, Simon Watson the other counter in 3.53.2.

Second on the day was Ben Norbury (Congleton CC) 2.47.2 and third, Joseph Molyneaux (Leek CC) 2.51.9.

Claire Swoboda now with Chorlton Velo was fastest lady for the second year in 3.54.0
Fastest Withington Wheeler was Ben Davies in 3.49.2.
Below; Sam Clark with Withington Wheelers Club President Tony Baxter;



And here's an evocative picture of Ben Davies after crossing the finish line with Withington Wheelers president Emeritus Rod Slater in attendance;



2018

The 80th running of the Withington Wheelers Open Hill Climb. Sterling work by the event promoter Tony Baxter including event flyers and posters produced a great response and the field fell just short of 50.

Withington Wheelers

Jim Forbes Memorial



Open Hill Climb

80th anniversary event

Sunday 30th Sept, 2018 at 2.30pm
Peaslows Hill, Chapel-en-le-Frith
First prize £80

The winner, Adam Kenway (Vitus Pro Cycling) finished with a time of 2.14.2, only 6 seconds short of Malcolm Elliot's course and event record. Fastest Woman was Sarah Storey (Storey Racing) who finished in 3.31.0, fastest Junior was Tyler Koch (Mossley CRT) in 2.50.7 and the winning team were Manchester Wheelers represented by Alastair Ribbands, Christian Fox and Charles Dennison.

Withington Wheelers were well represented by six members. Fastest was Phil Wilkins in 3.43.8. A footnote for the history books here. Brid McMahon became the first Withington Wheelers Woman to ride the event, Brid gave it all she had at the bottom of the hill and unfortunately ran out of legs at the end but she deserves great credit for finishing. Well done Brid!

Withington Wheelers **Jim Forbes Memorial Hill-Climb** Peaslows Hill, Sunday 30th September 2018 80th anniversary of the event

Promoted for and on behalf of Cycling Time Trials under their rules and regulations



Results

Fastest rider	Adam Kenway	Vitus Pro Cycling
	<i>Holds the Jim Forbes Memorial Cup for one year</i>	
Second rider	Alex O'Brien	Garstang CC
Third rider	Kieran Wynne-Cattanach	Team B38/Underpin Racing
Fastest Woman	Sarah Storey	Storey Racing
Second Woman	Alexandra Kendall-Smith	Crimson Performance
Third Woman	Jo Holden	Macclesfield Wheelers
Fastest Junior	Tyler Koch	Mossley CRT
Fastest Team	Manchester Wheelers	
	<i>Alastair Ribbands, Christian Fox & Charles Dennison</i>	
	<i>to hold Tom Frith Shield for one year</i>	
Fastest WW	Phil Wilkins	Withington Wheelers

Great conditions during the event: mild, dry and a strong breeze up the hill. Very gratifying to see so many riders, a record number in recent years. I hope that we will see you all in 2019 – please note that we will move the time of the event next year to 11am in an effort to attract more entries.

Duncan Elliott was the photographer at the finish and he has made all the photos available free for personal and not commercial use. The link is: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1vcijsrpgvovgn9/AAC8zA2lwaU4OYcWlvd1v9pa?dl=0>
 Duncan's website is www.duncanelliott.co.uk email duncan@duncanelliott.co.uk

Thanks to the timekeepers Graham Lawrence and Christine White and to all the volunteers from Withington Wheelers who acted as marshals, helpers and provided refreshments. Thanks to Duncan Elliott for his great photos. A special thanks to Louise Clark who made a WW coloured bobble hat which we presented to Brid McMahon as the first ever WW woman to ride the event.
 Event Secretary - Tony Baxter Valerieandtonybaxter@yahoo.co.uk

1	Adam Kenway	VITUS PRO CYCLING	2:14.2
2	Alex O'Brien	Garstang CC	2:20.6
3	Kieran Wynne-Cattanach	Team B38/Underpin Racing	2:24.8
4	David Fellows	Solihull CC	2:31.9
5	Arne Beswick	Buxton CC/Sett Valley Cycles	2:32.7
6	Daniel Pullen	CYCLING SHEFFIELD Giant	2:35.4
7	Sam Clark	Buxton CC/Sett Valley Cycles	2:40.0
8	Ben Norbury	Congleton CC	2:43.9
9	Luke Buswell	Manchester Bicycle Club	2:46.9
10	Joseph Molyneux	Leek CC - Den Engel Belgian Bar	2:47.0
11	Alastair Ribbands	Manchester Wheelers	2:49.8
12	Jack Dooley	Congleton CC	2:50.5
13	Tyler Koch	Mossley Cycle Racing Team	2:50.7
14	Callum Dixon	Go Below - Kingud	2:53.5
15	Andrew Wiley	Univ. of Manchester CC	2:54.5
16	Charles Dennison	Manchester Wheelers	3:03.2
17	Sion McGuinness	Energy CC/Clwb Beicio Egni	3:06.6
18	Daniel O'Donnell	Macclesfield Wheelers	3:07.5
19	Christian Fox	Manchester Wheelers	3:09.6
20	Jack Johnson	Manchester Wheelers	3:10.7
21	Brian Turrall	Team Wheelguru	3:13.2
22	Dan Swain	South Peaks CC	3:13.4
23	Nigel Modlinsky	Seamons CC	3:13.7
24	Paul Whittaker	Rutland Cycling Club	3:14.9
25	Gavin McCloskey-Lambert	Manchester Wheelers	3:15.4
26	Michael Summers	Glossop Kinder Velo CC	3:18.9
27	Nic Sharpe	Energy CC/Clwb Beicio Egni	3:23.3
28	Dan Robinson	Manchester Wheelers	3:24.1
29	Chris Spencer	Wythenshawe Velo	3:24.7
30	Ronan O'Cualain	Seamons CC	3:26.0
31	Gavin Lynch	Glossop Kinder Velo CC	3:28.9
32	Martin Wigan	Seamons CC	3:30.1
33	Sarah Storey	Storey Racing	3:31.0
34	Alexandra Kendall-Smith	Crimson Performance Team	3:37.8
35	Phil Wilkins	Withington Wheelers	3:43.8
36	Christopher Johnson	Islington Cycling Club	3:44.1
37	John Lowe	Withington Wheelers	3:44.4
38	Jo Holden	Macclesfield Wheelers	3:46.7
39	Howard Newhall	Withington Wheelers	3:54.5
40	Simon Lever	Withington Wheelers	4:02.3
41	Brid McMahon	Withington Wheelers	5:51.1
42	Ian Jackson	East Lancashire RC	DNS(A)
43	Mark Pilling	Macclesfield Wheelers	DNS(A)
44	Lorna Begg	Chorlton Velo	DNS(A)
45	Julian Wilkie	Cheshire Maverick CC	DNS
46	Paul Wilkins	Withington Wheelers	DNS
47	Steffan North	Wills Wheels Cycling Club	DNS
48	Simon Watson	Buxton CC/Sett Valley Cycles	DNS
49	Lee Baldwin	VCUK Velochampion	DNS



Fastest rider **Adam Kenway** Vitus Pro Cycling
Holds the Jim Forbes Memorial Cup for one year



Fastest Woman **Sarah Storey** Storey Racing



Brid McMahon, First Withington Wheelers Woman to ride the Open Hill Climb



Fastest rider **Adam Kenway** Vitus Pro Cycling
Holds the Jim Forbes Memorial Cup for one year
 Second rider **Alex O'Brien** Garstang CC
 Third rider **Kieran Wynne-Cattanach** Team B38/Underpin Racing

2019

Well how did we get away with that! The rain in all directions can only be described as biblical and the drive home would have been better by boat, somehow though Peaslows Hill stayed dry for the whole of the Open Hill Climb.

Unfortunately organiser Tony Baxter was unable to attend due to illness but Valerie stepped into the breach and everyone rallied round to get the job done. Well done and huge thanks to all the club members (and family members and friends) who turned out to help.

The Men's winner Adam Kenway made a lovely speech thanking and congratulating the club on a friendly, enjoyable and well run event. The fastest Woman, Rebecca Richardson asked whether she had beaten the Women's record for the hill, after some research we can confirm that Rebecca's time of 3.00.0 is a Woman's record on Peaslows.

Results were;

Men;

Adam Kenway	2.13.9
Andy Nichols	2.15.3
Kieran Wynne-Cattanach	2.17.8

Fastest Vet

James Wakefield	2.52.8
-----------------	--------

Fastest Espoir

Kieran Wynne-Cattanach	2.17.8
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Women;

Rebecca Richardson	3.00.0
Lucy Lee	3.16.3
Jess Railton	3.21.6

Fastest Team;

B38/Cycles in Motion

Here's some of the excellent pictures taken by Simon (David Bailey) Tiller.



Withington Wheelers Jim Forbes Memorial Hill-Climb Peaslows Hill, Sunday 29th Sept, 2019 Event record 2:08.4 Malcolm Elliott, Rutland CC, 1981				
1	Jonathan Pottle	Ashted Training CC	Male	Veteran
2	Jon Small	British South Cycling Club	Male	Senior
3	Jon Small	British South Cycling Club	Female	Senior
4	David	Team H&A	Male	Senior
5	Daniel	Muskefield Wheelers	Male	Veteran
6	Daniel	Ashted Training CC	Male	Veteran
7	David	Ashted Training CC	Male	Senior
8	Mark	Rowbottom	Male	Senior
9	Lee	Valley Club Motors	Female	Espoir
10	Mark	B38/Cycles in Motion	Male	Senior
11	James Wakefield	Huddersfield Star Wheelers	Male	Veteran
12	Andrew	Widley Hill Sports Club	Male	Veteran
13	Richardson	Widley Hill Sports Club	Female	Senior
14	David	M&A C.C.	Male	Senior
15	Joseph	Malvernians	Male	Senior
16	Nicola	Leeds CC, Don Valley Belvoir Bar	Male	Senior
17	Christopher	Don Valley Belvoir Bar	Female	Senior
18	Paul	B38/Cycles in Motion	Male	Veteran
19	Paul	Rutland Cycling Club	Male	Veteran
20	Paul	Don Valley Belvoir Bar	Female	Senior
21	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
22	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
23	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
24	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
25	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
26	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
27	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
28	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
29	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
30	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
31	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
32	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
33	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
34	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
35	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
36	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
37	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
38	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
39	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
40	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
41	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
42	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
43	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
44	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
45	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
46	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
47	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
48	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
49	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
50	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
51	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
52	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
53	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
54	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
55	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
56	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
57	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
58	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
59	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
60	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
61	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
62	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
63	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
64	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
65	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
66	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
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77	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
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88	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
89	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
90	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
91	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
92	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
93	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
94	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
95	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
96	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
97	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
98	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
99	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior
100	Paul	Manchester Wheelers	Male	Senior

Top left;
Men's winner
Adam Kenway
with Kieran
Wynne-
Cattanach and
Andy Nichols.
Middle left;
Women's winner
Rebecca
Richardson with
Lucy Lee and Jess
Railton.
Bottom left;
Winning team
B38/Cycles in
Motion.
Andy Nichols,
Rick Bailey and
Kieran Wynne-
Cattanach.

For the Record. The Event Record is still held by Malcolm Elliott who recorded 2-08.4 1981. Ten years later, Neil Byrne recorded the fastest time by a Withington Wheeler; 2-36.4 in 1991. A new Women's record was set in 2019 by Rebecca Richardson (Brother.UK Fusion RT) in a time of exactly 3-00.0.

Finally, Dick Woore did of course record a time of 2-35³/₅ in 1948 but he was of course riding for the Manchester Clarion and he didn't become a Withington Wheeler until 1951. Dick was often referred to as the "Master of Verse" and he contributed a number of poems to the Withington Wheelers Journal during the period 1949 to 1953. Here's "The Hill-Climbers Lament" written by Dick in 1951.

The Hill-Climber's Lament1951

As you sit there in the saddle, with the seconds passing by,
you think of when you entered, and then you wonder why:
Your minute-man has reached the bend and starts to weave and dance
You've got to reach that corner in a minute to stand a chance
The next four minutes are going to hurt, but no time now to rue it,
It's your own darned fault you're in this mess, what's more you've paid to do it!

five-four-three-two-one-GO !" That's it...the rear wheel spins then grips
The front one tends to lift a bit, and shoes creak in the clips.
The butterflies have settled now and you're master of your mount.
The job on hand....to do a ride, and make every second count,
Steady! Not so fast there: Find a semblance of a rythm
having found it, keep it going if you want to be there with'em.
To climb this easy bit too fast could mean an awful bloomer,
"Easy bit!"....Some blokes must have a queer sense of humour.
You're fighting round the corner now, and the wind is playing tricks
good job you scrubbed the "fifty-nine" and stuck to "fifty-six"

This is it: No let-up now, as you strive to stop the sway,
mere legs are not enough now, and arms come into play,
Your minute-man is now in sight, you think you're going quicker
Hard to tell though, as he bobs about, the "gallery's" getting thicker.
Yes: He's falling back now and doing a spot of tacking,
You should just about do it, that's if you keep it cracking.
On him now, he's in a state and really taking a hiding,
to squeeze through now is going to need a spot of canny riding

There he goes! towards the verge, front wheel off the road,
You're past him on the inside, and blow The Highway Code!
Now, it's 'neck or nothin'.... with the gradient getting steeper
as you fight towards the final bend in sight of the Timekeeper,
The "Up, Up, Ups!" are louder now, with all the lads can give 'em
as tortured aching arms and limbs strive to match the rythm.
The usual wise guy is there as well,...your answer wont bear print,
as he leans out over the front wheel and shouts "This is where you sprint"

The last fifty yards are here now, with the old chalk line in sight,
You can chip five seconds off your time by riding this bit right.
So here goes, give it all you've got, and a little bit more as well,
and the effort's stepped up slightly, though to do it hurts like h...
That's it, someone grabs you and slips the toe-straps slack,
Can't speak for just a moment, but your number's on your back.
Ah! it's coming back now. "Say, have I beaten four minutes ?"
"Yes chum, three forty-nine" which ain't so bad for Winnats!

R. Woore 1951