

Gossip From The Cycle Speedways

ANOTHER interesting letter this week from Master N. Pike, captain of Southampton Turfs. In a future issue of SPEEDWAY GAZETTE I shall be publishing an excellent photograph of Norman and his Turfs which he has sent me. Norman tells me that he is already going ahead with plans for the 1948 season. The average age of the Turfs is 14. Any juniors in the Southampton district desiring information regarding Norman's team should communicate with him at 173, Foundry Lane, Freemantle, Southampton.

Michael E. King, of 46, Sharman's Cross Road, Solihull, Birmingham, wants to form a cycle speedway team, and will be glad to hear from any other enthusiasts in the Solihull area.

Master T. Edmonds, of 119, Shepperton Road, New North Road, Islington, London, N.1, tells me that until they disbanded he rode for a team called the Galleon Aces. He is anxious to contact teams in the Islington area.

News of Earlham Eagles, who operate at Earlham Estate, Norwich, Norfolk. Their manager, Master F. O. Smallwood, of 42, Havelock Road, Norwich, says that during the winter months the Eagles have ridden 10 friendly matches and won them all. They are now building up a strong team to enter the first division of the Norwich League. He claims that their present combination—J. Mayhew (capt.), F. O. Smallwood, J. Howard, C. Howard, M. Flood, C. Claxton, R. Vickers and A. Hellesdon—comprises the strongest team in Norwich.

Master Smallwood would like to contact Glasgow reader Robert Devine

and discuss the recent challenge issued by Master Devine.

"I am sure that Earlham Eagles could beat any team in England," claims the Earlham chief. "Our motto is: 'We can win and we will win!'"

Terry J. Brown, of 136, St. Mary's Road, West Ham, London, E.13, writes to me on behalf of the East London Cycle Speedway Control Board, of which he is secretary. The Board was formed on December 31, 1947, and so far has the following teams lined up for the East London League for 1948—Becton Aces, Forest Gate Tigers, Strat-

ford Hammers, and Woodford Diamonds. More teams are required to bring the membership of the League to at least 10 clubs. Applications should reach Terry no later than January 31.

Smith, J. Buffham, K. Noble and V. Pope.

I understand that a league has now been formed in Romford known as the South West Essex C.S. League. League secretary and captain of Eastbury Eagles, Frank G. Newman, of 17, Eastbury Road, Romford, Essex, will be pleased to hear from any teams of riders interested in the venture.

Ron North, of 197, Western Road, Southall, Middlesex, is in need of riders to strengthen his Heston Tigers team. Tigers also wish to enter a league.

Also in search of a league are New Cross Rangers. Communications should be forwarded to Master A. E. Conway, 4, Railway Grove, New Cross, London, S.E.14.

The retirement of last season's captain has slightly disorganised Odsal Pirates, but Denby Croft, of 129, High Street, Wibsey, Bradford, Yorkshire, is endeavouring to re-form the team and will be glad to hear from volunteer riders in the area. Last season the Pirates performed with credit in the Bradford Junior Speedway League. They have a track in a field near Odsal Stadium.

Jeffrey Anthony, aged 13, of 3, Eskrigge Street, Broughton, Salford, 7, Lancs., has formed a team called Belle Vue Cinder Devils. His father manages the team and the Devils will open their season on March 6.

Miss Jean Underdown, of 26, Whalebone Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex, gives further evidence that the fair sex is interested in cycle speedway. She writes to me on behalf of Hainault Diamonds, a Chadwell Heath team, who wish to hear from riders and teams in their district. Communications should be forwarded to Master Brian Taylor, 16, Whalebone Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

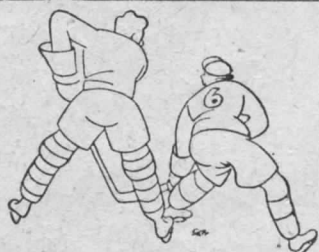
Jean tells me that the Diamonds have been operating for more than a year and at the moment are considering the running of a track magazine.

Conducted by BASIL STOREY

Present Board officials are: Chairman: Ronald Genz; Vice-chairman: Pat Clark; Secretary: Terry J. Brown; Committee: Ray Black, John Lock, Ron Sheepy, George Dillion, Len Silver, Bob Frame, George Welch and Dennis Day.

At a recent meeting of the Acorn S.C.C., East Acton, London, W.3, Dudley Smith was appointed captain in succession to Derek Hicks, who has resigned to join the R.A.F., J. Buffham was elected vice-captain and K. Noble treasurer. Four riders were nominated to represent the Acorns in the Grand Prix at Stratford on January 25—D.

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Winners of the Cycle Speedway Trophy presented by Johnnie Hoskins at Odsal last season were Harbour Road Cobras. Team (left to right): Paul Harper, Don Wainhouse, Stan Clough, George Loxham, Keith Horsley (captain), Calvin Wigglesworth, Eddie Higgins and Geoffrey Barraclough.

This photograph was taken on the big night at Odsal Stadium.

Gossip From The Cycle Speedway

FOR the benefit of all secretaries of Cycle Speedway Clubs within a 20 mile radius of Belle Vue, Manchester, who missed the announcement in last week's SPEEDWAY GAZETTE, I would again draw attention to the fact that Miss A. S. Hart, Speedway Manager of Belle Vue, will be glad to hear from them with a view to forming a Cycle League.

Miss Hart makes one stipulation, and I know that you boys will respect her wishes. She requests all contact must be by letters only, and that these must come from club secretaries and not individual team members. So go to it lads. Miss Hart, chief of the famous Belle Vue "Aces," wants to help you and I can assure you that she most definitely will do so.

S O S from Clapton Racers, affiliated to the East London League, who open their home fixtures on Sunday, April 18, against Beckton Crusaders, but are having difficulty in finding a track. Anyone who can assist the Racers in this direction should communicate with Master Eric Richardson, 175, Powell House, Lower Clapton Road, London, E.5.

Anyone in the Edgbaston district of Birmingham interested in joining Edgbaston Eagles should contact Master D. H. Emery, 96, Selwyn Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 16. The Eagles have now been in existence nearly three years but are short of riders for the 1948 season.

Also recruiting riders is Master D. J. D. Broom, of Hill Croft, The Croft, Garden Village, Stoke-on-Trent.

Seeking to form a league in the Morden and Worcester Park, Surrey, district is Master D. C. Kirby, of 7, Conrad Drive, Worcester Park, who is member of a team called Morden Meteors. In the past, Meteors have met such teams as Mitcham Racers,

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Wimbledon Wolves, Tolworth Tigers and Cheam Devils. Any club secretaries in the district wishing to form a league should get in touch with Master Kirby as soon as possible.

Writing to me on behalf of the Acorn S.C.C., East Acton, Master K. Noble, of 8, Western Avenue, East Acton, London, W.3, announces that arrangements are in hand between the Acorns and the East London Cycle Speedway Control Board for the staging of three Test Matches—North West London v. East London League, or as Len Silver, of the East Londoners, prefers to call it, West Ham v. Wembley.

The first of these matches was due to take place last Sunday, March 7, on the Janson Road track. The second Test will be held in North

West London and the venue of the final Test will be decided by the spin of a coin.

Master Noble informs me that arrangements are also being made for a match between Acorns and the famous Mitcham Broadsiders.

Rider-manager of a team called Lordship Water-rats, Master Ron Johnson (no relation of the famous "Ranger"), of Wilton Villa, Albion Grove, Stoke Newington, London, N.16, has had his challenge to Chingford Wolves accepted and the teams meet on March 13, with a return fixture on March 20.

The Water-rats operate on a bombed site near the Stoke Newington Waterworks, hence their name. The circuit is 60 yards and the surface composed of loose earth. The starting gate is worked by weights and the "Rats'" colours are blue and yellow. Ron tells me that he will be pleased to hear from any riders, average age 15, who would like a trial.

Frank (Dusty) Williams, of Chingford Wolves, tells me that one of their best riders, "Bronco" Smith, has had the misfortune to break an arm. Here's wishing you a speedy recovery, "Bronco."

The Wolves, who as stated above are due to meet Lordship Water-rats, desire fixtures with any teams, average age 13 to 15. Correspondence to Master Frank Williams, 138, Bluehouse Road, Chingford, London, E.4.

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BIRMINGHAM JUNIORS

Claiming to be the oldest cycle speedway team in Birmingham (they were formed in April, 1944) are Birmingham Stars.

This photograph was submitted by the Stars' captain, Master Peter Hook, of 61, Hawthorn Road, Erdington, Birmingham.