



SOUTHEND WHEELERS

100

100 years of cycling on sea

YB

Review of the year

2022

We're nearly 100

First and foremost, I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks to the committee, event organisers and all volunteers for their hard work and dedication this past year in what is a changing and challenging environment for both our club and our sport. Many people have gone 'above and beyond' to enable events to happen this year, with several people 'doubling up' on roles and in addition to that, organising and marshalling both club and open events. In common with all voluntary organisations the club relies on everyone doing their part (however small) to make everything happen, although at the moment we are seeing a healthy increase in member numbers but a decline in both participation and volunteers!

Our two-club championship racing/'come and try' days at the new Colchester closed road circuit and the historic Herne Hill velodrome were enjoyed with some good weather and good racing appreciated by those who participated, and (with a couple of exceptions) the majority stayed 'rubber side down'.

Whilst the numbers were reduced across some of our time trial events, the Saturday 7 series remained with reasonably healthy numbers, and two new categories (and trophies) to add an edge to the competition.

Making a welcome return after a COVID break, our summer barbecue proved very successful accompanied with glorious weather on the day and was the highlight of our summer social calendar.

Our new website, combined with our social media presence is attracting new enquires to the club from a wider audience, helping to increase our membership numbers.

Our centenary year

With only a few months to go now before we celebrate our 100th birthday and the club's rich history, here's a snapshot of what is planned for the first half of the year...

19 Feb - We start the year with the club reliability and in keeping with the 100 theme, the longer ride this year will be 100km, with two shorter routes available.

13 May - The Club celebrates its birthday with an official event in Cafe21 along the seafront

14 May - There will be a number of centenary club rides on the Sunday, with the main one heading out to Epping and back (the first club ride that was planned in 1923).

June - A month-long exhibition in the Forum (Southend Library)

2nd July - the club promotes the national 50-mile time trial championships

And to top all of that, we have a new club kit design, a new club logo and refreshed badge, to take us forward for the next 100 years and a new evening 10-mile TT course near Canewdon, so why not take a ride out to the event and leave the car at home?

Yours in sport,

Barry Simpson
Club Chairman



























