

## Finsbury Park CC – Officers Reports - 2017

### Chairman's Report 2017

As I have said in the past, my thanks once again to all officers and members of the committee for running our club through 2017. This gratitude also extends to all club members who organised all of our clubs events throughout the year, from the dinner, reliability trial, time trails, road races, training camps in Spain and social events.

Through their efforts, volunteering their own free time, the club made 2017 again a successful year. Also I would like to extend my thanks, to all members, who marshalled and assisted at all of our promotions and associated cycling events. Club cycling in the UK relies on the very essence of its own members to give up their own free time to promote the sport of cycle racing and cycling in general.

To start on a sad note: Phil Koniotes sadly passed away on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017, he was 68. He had been out riding his bike when he had a severe heart attack. Phil Koniotes joined the Finsbury Park C.C. on 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 1965 and was an honorary member. In 1966 he won the Best Novice Cup. He was awarded the Joe Evans Memorial Trophy for meritorious service in 1978 and won the G.H. Hampton Gazette Award in 1971 1974 and 1986. The club sends condolences to Linda, Peter, Niki and their families.

On better news it was nice to see Brian and Jean Edrupt attended club dinner (27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018). Most of you may know Brian has been seriously ill from mid 2017. He had a major operation early January 2018 and is now on the slow road to recover. We all wish you well Brian.

Thanks to Neal Marin for his efforts in prompting Spoco open ten time trail in recent years.

Regrettably Neal won't be running the event in 2018. The club has a high profile in the year long Spoco competition, and would be good for the club, if we were involved with promoting events in the future. Anyone willing to take on such a role would as always with all of our events that we promote, get the full support from the club.

Alex Cohen promoted his first road race in 2017 and did a splendid job, in what is our most challenging race to organize and arrange. Alex is not resting on his laurels and will be back again as club organizer for 2018.

Club runs, and the introduction rides are going from strength to strength. Club runs are now running all year round, and have proved to be so popular, that there are two to three groups going out at various speeds. Introduction rides can be as much as four groups going out. This is bringing in a steady stream of new members each year. Special thanks to Simon, Peter, David, Anna, and Jeremy. The club membership is at a healthy 140 plus, which is a higher than last year, and this is reflected with the efforts of the club runs.

Our open 25 was based on the A10 for the first, making it easier for riders to ride out to, and also making it easier for our own club members to attend and assist.

Open 50 events stayed on the F1 for 2017, but again had modest numbers entering.

As Marshalling Secretary we had a healthy attendance from the membership in 2017 covering the six events the club promoted. As I have stressed before, this is the only commitment that we asked of club members, and with the ever increasing of traffic levels, it is essential that there is a high visible presence out of the road.

I will be sending marshalling details out very shortly. I look forward to hearing from you all?

I wish everyone a successful season for 2018, to be safe, and maybe, see you out on the road.

Kevin Megan  
Chairman

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## Hon. General Secretary 2017

Committee meetings:

11 meetings were held; March 2017 through January 2018. Committee year begins following the AGM.

1 meeting was held at Hazelwood Tennis Club, Ridge Avenue, London N21.

10 meetings were held at Southgate Hockey Club, Trent Park, London.

Name	Meetings	Apols		Name	Meetings	Apols
K.Megan	10	1		J.Greenwood	8	3
C.Lodge	7	4		S.Neatham	10	1
P.Bullen	8	3		V.Freeley	11	
D.Kendall	**			I.Bibby	6	5
P.Douglas	4	5		D.Andrew	8	3
S.Teoh	9	2		J.Verby	3	8
A.Gudeniak	5	6		N.Marrin	6	5
G.Turnock	4	7				

\*\* Dave Kendall managed his TT Secretary duties via email and social media from his temporary home abroad.

President, Norman Gardner attended four meetings. Alex Cohen, as road race organiser, attended two meetings.

**Membership:** Club membership at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 is recorded as follows:-

	2017	2016
President	1	1
Vice Presidents	7	9
Honorary Members	21	22
Members	106	92
Second claim	4	3
Junior	1	2
Total	140	128

- 16 new members were elected during the year as a result of initiatives by Simon Neatham, membership secretary.
- 4 members left the club, including Honorary member, Phil Koniotes, passed away, (RIP).

### Club Property

Road race equipment V.Freeley

Club clothing S.Neatham

Club medal stock V.Freeley

TT race equipment V.Freeley

UHF radios x 4 V.Freeley

Vince Freeley

Hon. General Secretary

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## **Captains Report FPCC 2017**

The 2017 club year has built yet again on the success of the previous year. That's something we have been saying in these reports for several years now. It really has been a sustained period of success for the club.

It's nowhere more evident than at the Sunday gathering for the Club Runs from Potters Bar. We now have the problem of how many groups to split into! That's usually solved with a loose arrangement of about three groups, sometimes four. There's a lot of new faces, plenty of staunch regulars, and a few of us who can remember not so long ago when the entire club run wasn't as big as even one of the smallest of these groups. It's good as well to see some old faces returning to the club run – another sign of success.

The racing will be covered by other reports where we can read about another inspirational year with some outstanding performances right across the various disciplines. FPCC has always been a club that encourages activity in all aspects of our sport even when we've had fallow years in some areas. Now we have healthy levels of activity matched with success at the very highest levels. Throughout all of that, it occurs to me that the basic outlook of the club has never changed. Cycling, at its best, is a friendly and inclusive enough sport anyway but "The Park" seems to have that in spades. The encouragement, support and camaraderie that is shown to everyone - from the casual Sunday rider at the back of the slow group right up to the uber- focussed, dieting, FTP- measuring, turbo slave – is very special.

Thanks go here to those members that selflessly give of their time and knowledge to make all of that happen. We all know who they are (and if you're reading this at the AGM it's probably you). See you all during 2018 at the Ronde van Vlaanderen, various Time Trials, Track sides here and there, the occasional muddy field and marshalling point, the Duo Normand, some roads in France, Holland and Belgium and who knows where.

And, of course, the back of the Slow Group!

Chris Lodge  
Club Captain

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## **Membership Secretary 2017**

Our membership has again increased in 2017 thanks in large part to our Monthly introduction rides. It is now becoming the 'norm' to have three different speed groups on our Sunday club runs.

We still operate a proposer and seconder system for new membership applications. This in some ways seems a bit 'antiquated' for 2018 and new members have occasionally seemed a bit bemused that we have this system. In the past we have waited for monthly committee meetings to approve new members but we now do this via communal committee email and new members are normally approved within a few days. The proposer system ensures that members are made aware that they'll be called on to help out at a club event in the year and it also ensures that we are all actively involved in the club and we don't have cyclists using membership purely as a 'flag of convenience' to enable them to enter events that require a club membership.

Taking membership payments through the British Cycling website continues to be successful. British cycling impose an extra £1 levy on top of our membership fee for admin. This method of payment makes new membership applications easier as we just have to email applicants a link and we get all details online rather than having paper forms to deal with.

Membership has increased to £20 for first claim membership in 2018. I've received no negative feedback to this from members.

16 New members were welcomed into the club in 2017 (November 2016 through October 2017) -

Bryn Adams, Daniel Firmin, Sarah Cakebread, Ian Burns, Tony Allen Mills, Fabricio Batista, Samuel Prado, Rudy Pedri, David Walton, Tom Orange, Oliver Muir, Andy Neidhart, Chris Burrows, John Sorzano, Lauren Bedford Stockwell and Tony Bernie.

I take this opportunity to welcome also Jonathan Griffin, Garry Thompson, Garry England, Alexander Craig Thompson, Peter Banks and Matthew Chant who have joined us since October 2017.

Simon Neatham  
Membership Secretary

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### **Road Racing 2017**

Eight club members took part in the hurly burly of bunch racing in 2018. The year's stand-out riders were undoubtedly Honor Elliott - who shot from fourth to second cat in one season with a string of strong performances on the crit circuits including four podiums and one win, taking the club womens' crit championship in the process – and Greg Smith, who retained his second cat and picked up the means road race championship, the latter thanks to a strong 13<sup>th</sup> place in the club's own promotion, ably organised by Alex Cohen, at Rickling Green in early October. Gray Turnock focused mainly on the master's crit series at Hillingdon, rewarded with three podiums and the men's crit championship.

Elsewhere Anthony Jarrett was the only man to win though university finals saw him focus on his studies for most of the season. Dominic Bray was a keen competitor in the LVRC Last of the Summer Wine series at Hog Hill, his best performance a fourth place in category, sending back a series of entertaining race reports to the facebook page as a bonus by-product.

Richard Pizzev is now a second claim member but was still racing for the club in 2017 spreading our fame in the far flung circuits of west Wales. His 3<sup>rd</sup> place round 8 of the Harvey Hadden Circuit League proved the decisive winning performance in the club road race aspirants competition. Overall, 2017 saw perhaps not quite as much racing as in previous years especially on the open road, but the emergence of Honor Elliott, who surely will achieve much more in 2018, and the consolidation of experienced riders such as Greg Smith augers well for the future.

Gray Turnock  
Road Racing Secretary

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### **Time Trials 2017**

This is my seventeenth year of writing these reports and I have to admit I'm running out of superlatives to describe the ever improving performances our riders keep producing. Records keep getting broken – eight this season – but most importantly another year of fighting for club honours across the various competitions.

Last year I wrote about Dan Northover leaving for a 'big' race team and this year he features as a returning Finzberry. Mr Hindsight is a wonderful fellow who says that if only Dan had chosen his events better he may have featured more prominently in the list of winners. But he didn't so... Starting with the premier event: the Touche Cup for the club's BAR. The last few seasons have been a tight battle between Julian Elliott and Gray Turnock and 2017 was no different. Julian specialises in smashing the opposition good and early so it was no surprise to see him knock 9 seconds off his 25 mile club record on his favourite E2 course in early April. Gray had chosen to ride a fixed gear in that event, which was a big dent in his BAR ambitions but he had the consolation of setting the

second fastest MG 25 time ever (and fastest on an actual fixed gear). With Ian Bibby also riding that event and returning with 53:45 the trio broke the club's 25 team record with a combined 2:36:19. Moving on to 50 miles, Dan made a cameo appearance on the E2 a month later to set the season's fastest with 1:42:31 – pipping Julian by just 6 seconds, who along with a 1:50:11 by Phil Murrell set a new club team record with 5:15:19. Gray knocked out 1:46 twice later in the season but he was on the back foot over the two shorter distances. But he screamed back in contention by breaking his club record on, yes of course, the E2/100 with 3:38:07. Julian was keeping his powder dry for the National Championship later in the year. He finished a credible 21<sup>st</sup> but on a slower course only managed 3:53:25.

The BAR competition would hinge on whether Gray could produce a really fast 25. In most people's books his best time of 50:37 would count, but not in 2017, and Julian ran out the winner with an average over the three distances of 28.637mph against Gray's 28.463mph.

As a powerhouse Julian comfortably set the fastest 10 of the season with 19:22 which helped him to an amazing average of 29.951mph for the six rides over 10, 25 and 50 miles needed to be Club Champion and win the Johnson-Hussey Cup. He also put his name on the Gordon Stewart Bowl for the first time for the handicap competition.

After finishing 9<sup>th</sup> in 2016 for the national BBAR, Gray had high hopes of improving his 12 hour by a considerable distance and rising up the table for 2017. But unfortunately it "all went wrong" on the day and he ended up in the hurt locker. Though still he only fell short of the club record by less than a mile and won the Seward Cup with 276.978 miles.

In 2016 Julian won the Vets Trophy, for which one must ride two races each over 10, 25 and 50 mile TTs, by an improvement of six minutes. And in 2017 Julian won the Vets Trophy by... an improvement of six minutes. Stop it. STOP IT! For the record his total time was 5:44:05.

The Odam series of club 10 mile races saw some close results. Bryn Adams adds his name to the list of club champions by scoring 42 points to win the main event, with Simon Neatham producing a very consistent set of results to win the scratch event.

Cheryl Smith again defended her Edrupt Trophy for the fastest women's 10 with a big improvement to 24:28 and similarly for the Women's Trophy for two 10s and 25s with an average of 24.222mph. She also set the first club record over 15 miles with a time of 37:35.

The club hill climb on the usual Essendon Hill saw weather befitting of such a coveted race. Whilst all the pre-talk centred on which of the skinny brigade would win this year, Dan was quietly practicing on the steepest hills North London has to offer. Come race day this diligence paid off with a winning margin over Matt Southerden more slender than the latter's waist, with prior champion Gray having to live with third place just 2 seconds slower.

Later in the season the club 25 record was shattered by almost four minutes by Julian (50:17), Michael Briars (50:35) and Phil (50:40) for a combined 2:31:32. Float day perchance?

Cheryl Smith has carved a bit of dominance the past few seasons on the TT front and continued in 2017 with more racing and lowered PBs. After clarifying what time was needed to create a club 15 mile record – the previous fastest time just being recorded as only 'best on record' – she promptly did the necessary with 37:35 in the CC Breckland event in July. She kept her titles with the fastest 10 at 24:28 and an average speed of 24.222mph for the Women's Championship. Maybe some of the road racing ladies may care for an occasional TT in 2018?

As ever the Park were represented well in SPOCOs throughout the season with honours spread out evenly. Phil, Jeremy Greenwood and Gregory Smith defended the team competition, with Richard Pimlott winning the handicap prize and Ian Bibby taking top spot as Senior Vet. Well done to all.

Dave Kendall

Time Trials Secretary

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### **Track Secretary 2017**

2017 was a great year for Finsbury Park CC riders on the Track with our members racing up and down the country.

One of the key aims of the club is always to encourage existing and newer club members onto the Track but sadly despite the best efforts by Vince Freeley and Cheryl Smith we were unable to secure any Track Sessions at our local venue, the Lee Valley Velodrome. Slots had either been given to other organisations or they were at times of the day which made it unworkable for the majority of our members to attend. All we can hope is that this situation changes in the future. This aside our man for all things Track, Chris Lodge arranged a number of very successful trips to the continent for Track Training Sessions where thankfully regulations are more relaxed.

The main contenders for the 2017 award for Club Track Champion, the Stilts Cup were Ian Prenelle, Chris Lodge and Vince Freeley, all of whom competed in local events at the Lee Valley Velodrome, Welwyn and Herne Hill as well as a number of National and International events. Sadly with the World Masters Track Championships being run in Los Angeles any awards at the Worlds this year were off without some serious commitment of time and expense, consequently Vince wasn't able to repeat his world class achievements of 2016. As it was Roubaix in France for the European Masters Track Championships set this year's Geographical limits. Here competing for their country Chris and Tom Boulton put in great performances with Tom achieving 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 750m TT. Vince and Chris battled it out throughout the year but consistency and effort paid off in the end for Chris by achieving many placings and therefore points which put him at the top of the leader board. Chris Lodge was therefore crowned with a well-deserved award of Club Track Champion for 2017.

As far as 2018 is concerned we will have to wait and see what transpires. Whatever that is, it will no doubt be another year that Finsbury Park CC riders make their mark in UK Track Cycling.

Ian Bibby  
Track Secretary

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### **Medal Secretary 2017**

Regrettably, I was not successful in engaging a new medal supplier in 2017 that can supply medals in our traditional pattern to the standard required, and at a reasonable price.

Record and BAR badges were purchased from our original supplier, albeit at increased prices, and we were able to satisfy the almost insatiable demand as records continue to fall; we hope to have enough on hand for at least 2018.

Other supply routes are still being pursued; meanwhile, we are accumulating a backlog of silvered enamel, bronze enamel and bronze badges to an approximate value of £2000. The committee is determined to ensure that all medal winners will receive their overdue FPCC medals when the situation is resolved.

Therefore, members will appreciate that at some point in the near future the treasurer will have to meet this outstanding item with the consequent impact on our finances. Fortunately, our accounts are in excellent health and we have more than enough funds to meet our obligations in this regards.

Vince Freeley,  
Medal Secretary

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