

SPOKESPIECE

Summer 2008

The Newsletter of the



Gloucester City Cycling Club

See all the latest information on
the club's web site:-

www.gloscity.co.uk

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Editorial

At this is the time of year I expect the weather to be kind, the days to be long and the hard training miles of winter to begin paying off, but to judge from much of this season's edition I seem somewhat behind everyone else.

The President and his lady wife have fitted in a hard (indeed, hellish) week's riding in Texas sunshine and our racing members have already covered themselves with glory. Particularly notable was a team prize in early April and Rupert Denny's breaking of a Club record set three years before he was born! Darren's racing report has all the detail. Beyond the Club's confines the British Cycling team have dominated the World Championships and are looking forward to the Beijing Olympics. It's only May and the racing season seems to have climaxed already; can there possibly be more highlights to come?

The tourists have been hard at it too; battling weather on the Sunday rides which has this year included blizzards, floods, wind, rain and most recently and best appreciated, sunburn! I'm pleased to welcome Malcolm Grainger as a first time contributor, complementing the Captain's reports with the story of his first Club tour, one that received its fair selection of Welsh weather and hills. He has mastered the very valuable art of diplomatic understatement, as those who where there can attest! Those who weren't will have to wonder what they missed.

Theo brings back memories of summer with his tale of riding end-to-end off road, and I hope that he stimulates some enthusiasm for the summer off road options as attendance on these has of late dwindled to insignificance.

Although we are indeed saying hello to the good weather and better riding conditions, there are some sad farewells in this issue. Long time member Geoff Howard has put away his bike for the last time, at the ripe old age of 81, and the long established Severn Valley CRC has been formally wound up. The Valley, as it was fondly known, was founded in 1950 and was perhaps best known for organising the Tour of the Cotswolds that was in its time one of the most gruelling road races in the UK. It was never a large club, but its tradition of recruiting mainly from youngsters meant that it introduced many to cycling, providing a legacy that has outlasted the club.

**Articles for inclusion in the next issue by
31st. August please.**