

BRADFORD RACING CYCLING CLUB

25TH ANNIVERSARY



1961 – 1985
*John Rawnsley and Neil Orrell
still competing*

THREE PEAKS CYCLO CROSS

SUNDAY,
29th SEPTEMBER, 1985

**THE WORLDS
TOUGHEST
CYCLO-CROSS
RACE**

BRADFORD RACING CYCLING CLUB
**25th ANNIVERSARY 3 PEAKS
CYCLO-CROSS**

SUNDAY, 29th SEPTEMBER, 1985

Starting at 10.00 a.m. and finishing at HELWITH BRIDGE HOTEL
(3kms. South of Horton-in-Ribblesdale)

"The World's Toughest Cyclo-Cross Race"

On behalf of Bradford Racing Cycling Club I welcome you all to the 25th Anniversary 3 Peaks Cyclo-Cross.

The race based at Helwith Bridge Hotel for the third year has attracted entries from all over Britain and five times winner Eric Stone from Australia who emigrated there two years ago.

Out of the 13 winners of the 3 Peaks Cyclo-Cross, six are competing today - Eric Stone, Harry Bond, Barry Davies, Tim Gould, Ian Craig and myself. From Hull Barry Trotter and Graeme Forester and Ian Small from Sale who all rode in the 1962 race are competing.

I extend a special welcome to Neil Orrell who is taking part for the 25th time.

The route of today's race is very different to the one used for the first 3 Peaks Cyclo-Cross races, when competitors started in Horton, rode up and down Pen-y-Ghent then via Ribblehead to Whernside descending to the Hill Inn and climbing the steep face of Ingleborough from below Chapel-le-Dale Church, then over Selside to the finish in Horton, a distance of 25 miles 10 miles less than today's race.

The best vantage points for spectators are Chapel-Le-Dale, Ribblehead and Helwith Bridge. Please do not park at Skirwith and Horton.

My grateful thanks to all the people who have helped with this and the past 24 3 Peaks races as without them we should not be here today.

After the race at approx. 3-45p.m. Mr. Bill Mitchell the Editor of Dalesman Magazine will present the prizewinners with their trophies and awards, I hope you will all attend.

JOHN RAWNSLEY, Event Organiser

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Food



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Past winners



John Rawnsley
1961



Harry Bond
1962, 1964, 1966, 1967



Ian Craig
1963



John Bell
1965



Tom MacDonald
1968



John Atkins
1969, 1970, 1976



Eric Stone
1971, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1982



Chris Wilkinson
1972



Barry Davies
1973, 1974, 1975



John North
1980



Arthur Manz
1981

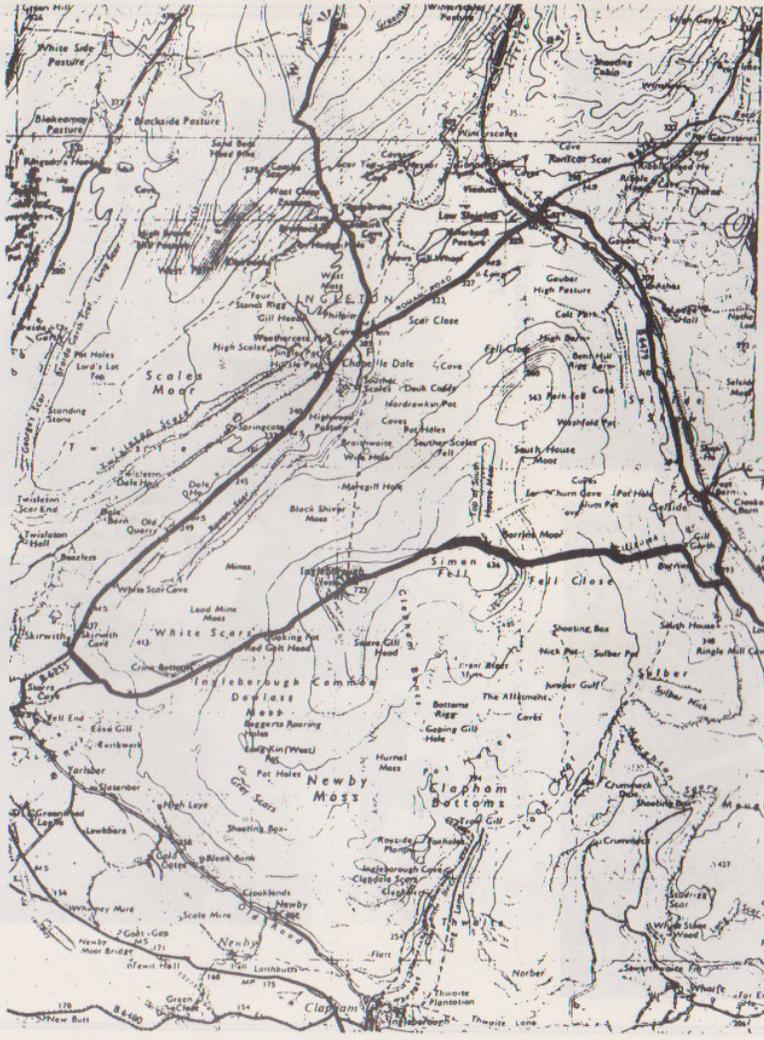


Richard Bates
1983



Tim Gould
1984

COURSE DELIVER



COURSE DETAILS

Helwith Bridge	(220 mts)	0	10.00-10.00
Horton	(227 mts)	3	10.07-10.07
Borrins	(293 mts)	6	10.14-10.15
Ingleborough	(723 mts)	12	10.45-11.20
Skirwith	(227 mts)	17	11.00-11.50
Chapel-le-dale	(285 mts)	22	11.10-12.10
Whernside	(736 mts)	26	11.45-13.15
Chapel-le-dale	(285 mts)	30	12.00-13.45
Ribblehead	(303 mts)	33	12.05-13.52
Horton	(227 mts)	42	12.20-14.10
Pen-y-ghent	(694 mts)	47.5	12.55-15.10
Horton	(227 mts)	53	13.10-15.35
Helwith Bridge	(220 mts)	56	13.15-15.45

The first 4kms will be neutralised, competitors riding in formation behind the lead car driven by Raymond Lynn (Race Director)

Road 30kms (25kms racing) Time 42mins-54mins
 Unsurfaced 26kms (79% of race time)
 2hrs 33mins-4hrs 51mins
 Unrideable 6kms

OFFICIALS

Event Organiser:
Mr. J. RAWNSLEY
18 Ashfield Avenue, Shipley,
West Yorkshire, BD18 3AL

Assistant Organiser:
Mrs. B. RAWNSLEY

Race Director:
Mr. R. LYNN

Commissaire:
Mrs. J. GILBERT

Judge:
Mr. R. STOYLES

Chief Marshal:
Mr. R. HARKER

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Bradford Racing Cycling Club sincerely thank the following for their assistance and co-operation:-

Local Farmers and Landowners
National Park Authority
North Yorkshire Police
Mr. W. Mitchell
Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team
Cave Rescue Organisation
Yorkshire Subterranean Club

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1st Chesterford Scouts Cambridge
1st Cottingley 5th Bingley Scouts
Mr. & Mrs. T. Gilbert (Helwith Bridge
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PRIZE LIST

1st £60
Norman Thornber Trophy & Jersey
by GibbSPORT
2nd £40
3rd £30
4th £25
5th £20
6th £18
7th £16
8th £15
9th £14
10th £13
11th £12
12th £11
13th £10
14th £10
15th £10
16th £10
17th £ 9
18th £ 8
19th £ 7
20th £ 6

21st-30th £5

AMATEUR

1st Andrews Bros. Trophy

FINISHERS AT FIRST ATTEMPT

1st £15
2nd £10
3rd £ 5

JUNIORS

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2nd 3 Peaks T-Shirt
3rd 3 Peaks T-Shirt

VETERANS

1st £15 & Michael Sulley Trophy
2nd £10
3rd Cycling Gloves

SENIOR VETERANS

1st £15
2nd £10
3rd Cycling Gloves

GRAND VETERANS

1st £12
2nd £ 8
3rd Cycling Gloves

LADY

1st £10 & Andrews Bros. Trophy

MOUNTAIN BIKES

1st £10
2nd & 3rd Cycling Gloves

TEAM

1st 3 at £12 & Norman Thornber
Team Trophy

2nd 3 at £8

3rd 3 at £5

PRIMES

Ingleborough £7
Whernside £7
Pen-Y-Ghent £7

All trophies to be held for one year
Certificates will be awarded to
Competitors completing the course in
the following times:

Elite Class Under 3½ hours
1st Class Under 4 hours
2nd Class Under 5 hours
Merit Under 6 hours

All finishers will receive a 3 Peaks
Anniversary Cyclo-Cross Medal

PRIZE PRESENTATION 15.45hrs

All competitors will receive 1 bottle of Super Body Power Electrolyte Drink
by Healthlife Limited

COMPETITORS

J—Under 19 V—40-44 SV—45-49 GV—Over 50

First Attempt

First Attempt

	CHESTERFIELD COUREURS/NESS		V. C. ELINA	
1	Tim Gould	No	50 Ian Craig SV	No
2	Chris Ledger	Yes	FEATHERSTONE R.C.	
3	Michael Stenton	No	51 Stephen Bates	Yes
	ANDREWS BMW BRADFORD		FESTIVAL R.C. SURREY	
	ELLIS BRIGGS CYCLES		52 David Rosbotham	No
	GEE LONG WINDOWS AUSTRALIA		53 John Rosbotham	Yes
4	Eric Stone	No	GAINSBOROUGH AEGIR C.C.	
	ABBOTSFORD PARK RC		54 John Dowell GV	Yes
5	Mike Ware GV	Yes	GLOSSOP VELO	
	ABERTILLERY WHEELERS		55 Howard Keefe	No
6	Stuart Stanton	No	GOSFORTH R.C./M. STEEL CYCLES	
	ALTRINCHAM R.C.		56 Peter Brookes	No
7	David Halman	No	HALESOWEN A. & C. C.	
	ARCHER R.C./PERMAFENCE		57 Glyn Bann	Yes
8	Roger Hughes	Yes	HAMBLETON R. C.	
	BEAUVALE C.C./OLYMPIC CYCLES		58 Noel Clough J	Yes
9	Richard Walker	No	HORWICH C.C./PARTINGTON CYCLES	
10	Roger Smith	No	59 Eric Taylor	No
11	Ian Brenham	No	60 Graham Nabb	No
12	Philip Pittson	No	61 Andrew Greenhalgh	No
13	Daniel Butler	No	HUDDERSFIELD STAR WHEELERS	
14	John Dale	No	62 David Beeston V	No
15	David Horton J	Yes	63 David Greenwood SV	Yes
	BONNYRIGG C.C. EDINBURGH		CITY R. C. (Hull)	
16	Harry Lawson GV	Yes	64 Nigel Pedley	No
	BOURNMOUTH ARROW/ FIRCROFT HOTEL/ANC		65 Rob Stones	No
17	Graham Starmer	No	HULL COUREURS/ PETERBORO BUILDING SOC./ IAN WHITE CYCLES	
	BRADFORD R.C.C.		66 Mike Dalton	No
18	Barry Peace	No	67 Stephen Giles	No
19	Darren Harker J	Yes	HULL THURSDAY R. C. / FALCON CYCLES	
20	Mark Gill	No	68 Barry Trotter SV	No
21	Harry Bond SV	No	69 Graeme Forester SV	No
22	Mark Bond J	Yes	70 Graham Robson	No
23	John Rawnsley SV	No	71 Stephen Webster	No
	BRADFORD WHEELERS/ ELLIS BRIGGS CYCLES/SATURNE		72 Nicholas Hope	No
24	Christopher Hill	Yes	73 Martin Cockerill	No
	BRIGHTON EXCELSIOR C.C.		74 Andrew Nicholson	No
25	Tom Roberts	Yes	75 Ian Nicholson	Yes
26	Simon Roberts	Yes	76 David Bettison	No
	BROMSGROVE OLYMPIQUE		IPSWICH B.C.	
27	Tony Wilson V	Yes	77 David Triggs	Yes
	BURNLEY SPORTIFF		78 Trevor Last	Yes
28	Russell Birtwistle	Yes	KEIGHLEY R.C./ MICK WALKER CYCLES	
	BUXTON C.C.		79 James Rosser	No
29	Chris Jackson	No	80 Mick Walker	Yes
	CALDER CLARION		81 Brett Weeden	Yes
30	Steve Burton V	No	KENT VALLEY R.C.	
31	Jim Blankley GV	No	82 Alan Evans SV	No
32	George Masson GV	No	KESWICK A. C.	
33	Dougie Dunbar SV	No	83 Nigel Lanaghan	No
34	Tony Lee SV	No	LAKES R.C.	
	CLAYTON VELO/ASTRASEAL/ TARMAC/GIBBS SPORT		84 Andy Stubbs	No
35	Jack Belcher	No	85 John McMinn	Yes
36	William Belcher	Yes	LANCASHIRE R. C.	
	CLEVELAND COUREURS		86 Frank Loftus	No
37	Robert Murphy	No	87 Peter Walkington V	No
	CLEVELAND NUCLEAR A. C.		LEAMINGTON C. & A. C./ CLIFT CLEAN AIR	
38	Tom Maughan GV	Yes	88 Roger Gardner V	No
	COLCHESTER ROVERS		LEEDS WELLINGTON C.C.	
39	Tim Rainger	Yes	89 Philip Norfolk	No
	DE MONTFORT B. C.		LYME R. C. / S.O.T. CYCLE SPEEDWAY	
40	Mike Johnson	No	90 Ian Cartlidge	No
41	Andy Reid	No	MACCLESFIELD WHEELERS	
42	Andy Watson	No	91 Robin Parker SV	No
43	Graham Barnes	No	92 Mark Bethell	No
	DISS DISTRICT WHEELERS		93 Brian Renshaw	No
44	Larry Saunders V	Yes	94 John Jackson	No
	DONCASTER WHEELERS		95 Stephen Davies	Yes
45	Stephen Shaw	No	96 Colin Yates	Yes
	V.C. ELAN/HARRY PERRY CYCLES			
46	Peter Haswell SV	No		
47	Paul Mephram V	No		
48	Ian Harris	No		
49	Nev Luxton	No		

MALDON & DISTRICT C.C.			V.C. SNEYD STOKE-ON-TRENT		
97	Dave Cruse	Yes	145	Derrick Baddeley	No
98	Neil Chapman	Yes		SOUTH PENNINE R.C.	
99	Rob Cruse	Yes	146	Dave Patrick	Yes
	MANCHESTER WHEELERS/ TRUMANN'S STEEL			SOUTHPORT R.C.C.	
100	Barry Davies	No	147	Terry Wignall	No
101	Malcolm Fraser	Yes	148	John Parker	No
	MATLOCK C.C.		149	Kevin Bladon	No
102	Peter Middleton	Yes	150	Nicholas Pope	Yes
103	Raul De Mengel	Yes		SOUTH YORKSHIRE R.C./ ERIC GILBERT CARPETS	
	MEDWAY VELO		151	Paul Gilbert	No
104	Raymond Brogan SV	Yes	152	Nigel Gilbert	No
	MERSEYSIDE WHEELERS		153	Martin Teanby	Yes
105	Eddie Manning GV	No	154	Nigel Smith	Yes
	G.S. METRO TYNE & WEAR			SUNDERLAND CLARION/ EVERFRESH BACON	
106	Frank Devlin	Yes	155	Steve Davison	Yes
	MID-ANGLIA WHEELERS			TEESIDE VELO	
107	Jerry Turner	No	156	Ian Hodgson	No
108	Peter Turner	No		TYKES C.R.T.	
	MIDDLESBOROUGH		157	Bob Norvill V	No
109	Andrew Leon	Yes	158	Timothy Warburton	Yes
	MIDDLETON C.C.		159	John Kendrick	Yes
110	Philip Doherty	Yes	160	Carl Neilson J	Yes
111	Terry Cavanagh	Yes		WALSALL ROADS C.C.	
	MILDENHALL C.C./DAIRYTIME		161	Alan Sorrell GV	No
112	Mike Chambers V	No		WELLAND VALLEY WHEELERS	
	MILTON KEYNES C.C.		162	Victor Barnett V	No
113	Philip Ashbourn SV	Yes		WENSLEYDALE WHEELERS	
	MILTON KEYNES VELO SPORT		163	Paul Bateman	Yes
114	Stuart Eccles	Yes		WEST KENT D.A. C.T.C.	
	MIRFIELD C.C.		164	John Ennis SV	Yes
115	Martin Green	No		WEST PENNINE R.C.	
	MUSSELBURGH RD C.C./ AUDIO AIDS		165	Roy Gibson	Yes
116	Colin Gordon	Yes		WOLVERHAMPTON WHEELERS	
	NEWBURY R.C.		166	Peter Hartill	No
117	David Canning V	No		V.C. YORK/TONY BOSWELL	
	NORFOLK OLYMPIC C.C.		167	David Byworth	No
118	Mike Parkins V	No		YORKSHIRE CENTURY R.C.	
	NORTH LANCASHIRE R. C.		168	Mark Colley	Yes
119	Nicholas Dinsdale	Yes	169	Martin Sowery	Yes
	NORTON WHEELERS/ RON HARRISON/ TOKINA			YORK C.R.C./PERSIMMON/ QUEST / DUTRONC	
120	Paul Sleaford	No	170	Peter Mathieson	Yes
121	Darrell Bradbury	No		YORKSHIRE R.C.	
122	Mick Fairest	No	171	Stephen Holcroft	Yes
123	Dominic Thorpe	Yes		ZENITH C.C./JULIES CYCLES	
	OXONIAN C.C.		172	Mick Davies	No
124	Steven Gregory	Yes		ZODIAC C.R.C.	
	PENN C.C./ RENAULT WOLVERHAMPTON		173	Neil Orell SV	No
125	Timothy Wilkes	Yes	174	Ian Small SV	No
	RAVENSTHORPE C.C.		175	Keith Broadbent	No
126	David Sowerby	No	176	Stuart Johnson	No
127	Stephen Larkin	Yes	177	Ian Watts	No
128	David Vivian	Yes	178	John Watchman	Yes
	REDHILL C.C.			LADIES	
129	Gordon Peddie SV	No		BINGLEY HARRIERS & A.C.	
130	Simon Scarsbrook	Yes	179	Christine Walker	Yes
	ROXBY WHEELERS			MOUNTAIN BIKES BATH	
131	Robert Howard	Yes	180	Paul Davis	Yes
	ROYAL SUTTON C.C.			CHELMSFORD	
132	Stephen Hampton	Yes	181	Andrew Wood	Yes
133	Peter Hughes	Yes		CROYDON R.C.	
	RUGBY VELO		182	Robert Chappell	Yes
134	Alan George V	No		DEESIDE THISTLE R.C.	
	RUTLAND C.C.		183	William Rawles	Yes
135	David Longden V	Yes		KEIGHLEY VELO/ CROAD AUTOMATICS	
	SCOTTISH MOUNTAINEERING CLUB		184	John Garwell	Yes
136	Keith Burns V	No		SOUTHPORT R.C.C.	
	SCUNTHORPE R.C.		185	Tim Hutchinson	Yes
137	Michael McInerney V	No		SUMMIT C.C. BLACKBURN	
	SELBY C.C.		186	Steve Wilde	No
138	Kevin Carr	No		WINDEMERE	
139	Steven Lancaster	No	187	Eifion Jones	Yes
140	Stephen Boothman	No		YETI MOUNTAINEERING CLUB HAWKSHEAD	
141	John Hook	No	188	Joseph Arthy	Yes
142	Nicholas Morley	Yes		GREAT LANGDALE	
	SHEFFIELD PHOENIX C.C.		189	Andrew Beavon	No
143	Kim George	No			
	SKIPTON C.C.				
144	David Greenwood	Yes			



Bradford RC members Donald Berry and Mike Turner of Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue team, check on the progress of the race



*Tim Gould descends Whernside in the 1984 race
(photo Colin Doeg)*

1961 – THE FIRST RACE



Start of the First Race



Heading towards Pen-Y-Ghent

PEDALLING OVER 3 PEAKS - 27 complete 25-mile course

The first cycling race to be held over the Three Peaks of Yorkshire was won yesterday by J. Rawnsley of Bradford RCC. He completed the 25-mile course in 3hrs. 21mins. 35secs.

This was a cyclo-cross race — “the most severe event in the calendar,” as the programme so rightly described it — in which riders cycled up mountains until the going became so rough that they were forced to carry their machines.

The three peaks of Pen-Y-Ghent (2,273ft.), Whernside (2,419ft.), and Ingleborough (2,373ft.) have for long been a Yorkshire yardstick for courage and endurance. Men have walked over them, run over them, and even driven or lugged a field car over them. And now they have submitted themselves to what seems to be the ultimate refinement in mans inhumanity to himself - running up a mountainside with a 23lb. bicycle on his back. As a physical punishment this is perhaps best understood only by any army defaulter who has been forced to march at the double, holding aloft a 7lb. rifle.

Rawnsley said he covered the course half on foot, half riding, and carried his machine for a total of about five miles out of the 25, grabbing at tufts of grass with his left hand to haul himself up. He suffered three times during the race from attacks of cramp, and once after it, from an attack of hiccups.

The 35 starters began the race in Horton-in-Ribblesdale with the assault on Pen-Y-Ghent. They were sinewy men, trained until they were as bony and lean as drawn chickens. Winds on the peak stung colour into their pale city cheeks and mud from the streams splattered their legs up to the thigh. Many of them fell on the helter-skelter of descent; one retired with a gashed elbow, another with a badly buckled machine.

They rode or ran over 10 miles of road and 15 miles of unmade roads, tracks and fells, bent and pouched like kangaroos with their jerseys stuffed with chocolates, bananas, and oranges. The going was worst on Ingleborough, according to Rawnsley “a 45deg. climb, and each step was agony”.

Twenty-seven completed the course. H. Bond, also of Bradford RCC, led for much of the way and was unlucky to be baulked by a car in the final sprint. He finished only two lengths behind Rawnsley. A Londoner, M. Garwood, was third, only 35sec. after the winner — a remarkable performance for a man taking part in his first mountain race.

But in cyclo-cross over mountains, the men who do the best are surefooted and have an eye for the lie of the land. The race sorts out the sheep from the mountain goats as well as the men from the boys.

1971 RACE

THREE PEAKS CYCLO-CROSS HAS A NEW WINNER AND NEW RECORD

Eric Stone (R.B.M.) the 25 year old international rider from Derby, reduced the course record by more than nine minutes to 2 hours 37 minutes, 33 seconds to win Sunday's Three Peaks Cyclo-cross over a 25 mile course based on Horton-in-Ribblesdale.

Stone led from the start, crossing the line more than six minutes ahead of Coventry's John Atkins (T.I. Carlton). He thus foiled a hat trick of wins by the reigning British professional who set up the previous event record a year ago.

Tom McDonald (Keighley St. Christopher's) was third, a further 13 minutes behind, holding off a late challenge from Roger Canavan (G.S. Barossa) to cross the line with just one second to spare.

With Dave Fairweather, eighth, and Paul Loftus ninth, the Keighley Club ended Bradford Racing C.C.'s ten-year winning sequence in the team section.

Stone led Atkins by one minute on the climb of Whernside (2,414 feet), doubling this at Ingleborough (2,373 feet), and pulled a further 4 minutes out of his rival on Penyghent (2,273 feet)

ERIC STONE (RBM) 25m in 2-37-33; 2 J. Atkins (TI Carlton) at 6-3; 3 T. McDonald, Keighley St. Christopher's at 18-58; 4 R. Canavan GS Barossa at 18-59; 5 R. Nobbs, Southern Cross, at 19-24; 6 J. Rawnsley, Bradford RCC at 24-41; 7 B. Davies (Ron Kitching Cycles) at 29-48; 8 D. Fairweather, Keighley St. Christopher's at 30-4; 9 P. Loftus, Keighley St. Christopher's at 35-51; 10 P. Norfolk, Leeds Wellington at 37-50. TEAM Keighley St. Christopher's.



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1966 RACE — BOND WINS THREE PEAKS RACE

When the 6th Annual Three Peaks Cyclo-Cross had ended on Sunday, organiser John Rawnsley (who came third) said: "This is the race I have dreamed about. It's had a top-class field and ideal conditions." The field included four cyclo-cross champions. Held over a 25-mile course which took in the summits of Penyghent, Whernside and Ingleborough (and involved 5,000 feet of climbing), the race attracted an entry of 50. It was held under the auspices of the Bradford Racing Cycling Club.

The main talking point after the race was the shattering of what had become known as the "three hour barrier". After six years of endeavour by some of the country's toughest cyclists, no-one had completed the circuit in less than three hours, but the record — held by Harry Bond — stood at a tantalising 3 hours 5 seconds until Sunday.

It was Harry Bond's race. This remarkable cyclist, who is now 27 years of age, and who ride for the organising club, had a sub-three hour time as his main incentive, but shortly after the race began he was involved in an eightman pile-up in the lane leading from Horton to Penyghent, injured a wrist, and a pedal of his machine was bent, but fortunately it still revolved, and he became accustomed to hearing it catching the crank.

GRUELLING CLIMB

Harry caught up the leaders about half way up Penyghent and he had John Bell of Bradford Wheelers, as a companion until half way up the second peak, Whernside. Then Harry Bond went ahead. He was over four minutes ahead of Bell when he tackled the gruelling climb among rocks on the way to Ingleborough's summit. Down at Horton, where a large crowd assembled to see the finish, Harry Bond flashed across the line a good nine minutes ahead of Bell — and he still had the energy to lift his cycle high above his head for photographers. Bond has now won the Three Peaks Cyclo-cross three times. He described conditions as ideal, with the ground just right and the air coolish. Bond achieved his aim, and set up a new record of 2 hours 57 minutes 21 seconds.

Bell, who lives at Preston, and is 22 years old, was last year's winner, and this year he showed incredible strength and skill, especially as he had a fall when descending Whernside, severely damaging the forks of his machine an incident which lost him valuable minutes and which shook him up. Bell still managed to end the race eight minutes ahead of the man in third place. And Bell was cramping up on the last stretch — the road between Selside and Horton.

John Rawnsley always manages to raise the temperatures of those watching the finish of a Three Peaks Cyclo-cross by engaging in a furious final sprint. It happened for a third time in the history of the race when he had John Atkins, of Coventry R. C. the British Cyclo-cross champion, as a close companion. Both were affected by a cramping of the legs, but Rawnsley managed a remarkable burst of speed and was adjudged half a wheel ahead of Atkins at the line. Both were credited with the same time.

WELL DONE!

John Atkins did remarkably well for a rider who had not taken part in a Three Peaks event before and whose main competitive racing has been in gentler countryside. He found that running up the fells was a bigger drain on his energy than usual in a cyclocross. It was the longest race in which he had taken part. Atkins showed remarkable skill in cycling down slopes which were treacherous because of deep, muddy stretches that could not be easily seen in advance. Such stretches brought the experienced Rawnsley off his machine several times, and on three occasions he went over the handlebars.

Assistant organiser for the race was Mr. M. Renshaw, Competitors' stewards were Miss D. Clark and Mrs. H. Bond.

First 10 placings: 1 Harry Bond, Bradford R.C.C. (2-57-21); 2 John Bell, Bradford Wheelers (3-6-59); 3 John Rawnsley, Bradford R.C.C. (3-14-56); 4 John Atkins, Coventry R.C. (3-14-56); 5 R. Nobbs, Colchester Rovers (3-21-38); 6 Jim Blankley, Calder Clarion (3-23-47); 7 Ted Norfolk, Bradford R.C.C. (3-26-21); 8 Philip Norfolk, Bradford R.C.C. (3-26-47); 9 Steve Gregson, North Lancashire R.C. (3-27-35); 10 Paul Loftus, Keighley St. Christophers (3-28-37).

ON THE PEAKS

As one who stood beside the course last Sunday as the 50 competitors were in action, I would simply comment on the incredible stamina and skill needed to complete this course in a reasonable time. Harry Bond, who has represented the country in international cyclo-cross events, does not look like a superman, being on the small side. He has an astonishing friendliness. Harry went round the course in two hours, 57 minutes, 21 seconds, or less than one hour a peak! I watched him cycle down the rough lane from Penyghent to Horton: I saw him streak up the dale to Ribbleshead, and through binoculars I saw his lightly-toned jersey bobbing on the slopes of Whernside as he headed to a check point well above the 2,000 feet contour. He was still capable of smiling as he pushed his cycle to the very steep crags leading up towards Ingleborough. On this race he did not stop to wash his face in a stream near Selside, as in 1964, when his time was 3 hours 5 secs. He made sure of breaking the "three hour barrier" and did so with minutes to spare. He rode and ran with an injured wrist, and with a pedal of his machine slightly bent, a consequence of being involved in a pile up of men and machines near the start of the race.

1968 RACE – FOUR PEAKS - McDONALD'S TOO !

The biggest and best 3 Peaks cyclo-cross to date provided Keighley St. Christopher expert Tom McDonald with the biggest and best win of his career so far.

With national champion John Atkins, making his second outing of the weekend in the colours of his new sponsor, Marsh and Baxter, man of the moment in cyclo-cross Eric Stone, Matlock CC and course expert and record holder Harry Bond, Bradford RCC in the field, McDonald was little more than a "fancied outsider" amongst the 54 riders who started the event, though he was third last year.

Conditions were very bad, with repeated downpours of heavy rain making the already tricky underfoot conditions worse as the race progressed, and the summits of all three mountains were shrouded in cloud—a situation that didn't help those not familiar with the course.

Out from the start at Horton-in-Ribblesdale and into the clouds on Pen-Y-Ghent former runner Barry Davies, Denton CRC was setting the pace, and took the first mountain prime from Stone, McDonald and Atkins in that order, these four having already pulled clear of Harry Bond, and Brian Hawkes, Hemsworth Wheelers.

On the descent McDonald had the hair-raising experience of rolling a tub off.

Since it started eight years ago the race has become more and more a battle of tactics as well as skill and many riders changed onto road machines at the foot of the first mountain for the six mile road section to Whernside, the second of the peaks.

Starting this, Stone and Hawkes held a slight lead from McDonald, with Bond, Atkins and another previous winner, John Bell, Harrogate St. Christophers at about half a minute.

In the clouds on Whernside McDonald showed that he might be the winner, taking the prime and causing a regrouping of the leaders coming off the mountains with Stone and Atkins, the three of them clear of Hawkes and Bond.

At this stage it was anyones race and many people fancied Atkins to bring home the bacon.

With the great cloud-hidden mount that is Ingleborough to be climbed, these five riders were still all in with a chance of winning, the first time that the race hasn't really been sorted out before this point.

McDonald and his team mate Paul Loftus had prepared very diligently for this race and now it paid dividends.

McDonald had a secret weapon that had caused much mirth at the start but proved very useful. He had fitted a sling to his bike so that he could put it on his back and have both hands free.

First to go was Atkins, as Ingleborough became steeper, then Stone, and over the top McDonald knew that barring accidents he was home and dry (or wet).

The Bond-Hawkes tandem passed Atkins and Stone over the last mountain and the sprint for second place went to Hawkes, the third time he has been second.

This completed a Yorkshire 1, 2, 3.

Atkins finished five seconds behind these two but poor Eric Stone took the banging of a lifetime losing ten minutes on the winner in the last six miles.

He got lost in the clouds and crashed five times descending the mountain.

McDonald was a picture of elation at the finish, flung his cap in the air as he approached the line.

"I knew it was mine when Stone cracked" he said "Now for two or three celebration pints".

Consider the record of Harry Bond in this race; he has only been training three weeks this year but like Hawkes was able to use his knowledge of the course to great advantage.

He has been in the first three in the race in all eight editions.

For the winner, this is the boost he needs to put him to the top of the 'cross game.

He has rested the summer in order to give it a real try.

John Rawnsley and Sid Bond helped the promoting club to keep their 100% team record.

It must be "the" event for attracting spectators and the press. There were hundreds out watching despite the weather and Yorkshire Television had two camera crews there.

TOM McDONALD, Keighley St. Christophers, 3-7-51; 2 B. Hawkes, Hemsworth Wheelers, at 3-50; 3 H. Bond, Bradford RCC, 3-51; 4 J. Atkins (Marsh & Baxter) at 3-56; 5 E. Stone, Matlock CC, at 9-10; 6 J. Rawnsley Bradford RCC, at 10-55; 7 D. Brassington, Coventry RC, at 16-37; 8 D. Smith, Keighley Velo, at 20-38 9 S. Bond, Bradford RCC, st; 10 N. Sycamore, Romford RC, at 22-35
Team: BRADFORD RC (H. Bond, S. Bond, J. Rawnsley)

COLIN WILLCOCK

ROLL OF HONOUR

1961	1. J. RAWNSLEY 3-21-35 Bradford R.C.C.	1970	1. J. ATKINS 2-46-55 Carlton Cycles	1978	1. E. STONE 2-50-35 Ron Kitching/Sun Tour McManus & Poole
	2. H. BOND		2. H. BOND		2. J. NORTH
	3. M. GARWOOD		3. C. WILKINSON		3. J. ATKINS
	Team: Bradford R.C.C.		Team: Bradford R.C.C.		Team: Bronte Wheelers/ McManus & Poole
1962	1. H. BOND 3-20-08 Bradford R.C.C.	1971	1. E. STONE 2-37-33 R.B.M.	1979	1. E. STONE 2-40-00 Ron Kitching/Sun Tour
	2. J. RAWNSLEY		2. J. ATKINS		2. J. NORTH
	3. J. BLACK		3. T. MacDONALD		3. B. DAVIES
	Team: Bradford R.C.C.		Team: Keighley St. Chris C.C.C		Team: Ron Kitching/Sun Tour
1963	1. I. CRAIG 3-28-20 Lune R.C.C.	1972	1. C. WILKINSON 2-45-45 Bronte Wheelers	1980	1. J. NORTH 3-00-16 G.B.-Bronte Wheelers/ McManus & Poole
	2. J. WHITTAM		2. C. DODD		2. R. BATES
	3. H. BOND		3. J. RAWNSLEY		3. P. HAGI
	Team: Bradford R.C.C.		Team: Bronte Wheelers		Team: Bronte Wheelers/ McManus & Poole
1964	1. H. BOND 3-00-05 Bradford R.C.C.	1973	1. B. DAVIES 2-56-50 Ron Kitching Cycles	1981	1. A. MANZ 3-09-02 Switzerland - V.C. Bauma/Assos
	2. J. RAWNSLEY		2. P. WALKINGTON		2. K. HASLEBACHER
	3. D. NORTON		3. T. MacDONALD		3. J. NORTH
	Team: Bradford R.C.C.		Team: Bronte Wheelers		Team: Bronte Wheelers/ McManus & Poole
1965	1. J. BELL 3-14-34 Bradford Wheelers	1974	1. B. DAVIES 2-50-40 Ron Kitching Cycles	1982	1. E. STONE 3-12-10 G.B.-Andrews Bros. BMW Bradford
	2. B. HAWKES		2. J. RAWNSLEY		2. A. MANZ
	3. J. RAWNSLEY		3. T. MacDONALD		3. C. HUBER
	Team: Bradford R.C.C.		Team: Bronte Wheelers		Team: Bradford R.C.C.
1966	1. H. BOND 2-57-21 Bradford R.C.C.	1975	1. B. DAVIES 2-52-18 Ron Kitching Cycles	1983	1. R. BATES 3-05-59 Bradford R.C.C.
	2. J. BELL		2. C. WILKINSON		2. T. GOULD
	3. J. RAWNSLEY		3. V. BARNETT		3. A. MANZ
	Team: Bradford R.C.C.		Team: Bronte Wheelers		Team: Bradford R.C.C.
1967	1. H. BOND 3-14-27 Bradford R.C.C.	1976	1. J. ATKINS 2-48-12 Viscount Shimano	1984	1. T. GOULD 3-20-16 Chesterfield Coureurs/Ness
	2. B. HAWKES		2. E. STONE		2. B. PEACE
	3. T. MacDONALD		3. C. WILKINSON		3. M. JOHNSON
	Team: Bradford R.C.C.		Team: Bronte Wheelers/ McManus & Poole		Team: Norton Wheelers
1968	1. T. MacDONALD 3-07-51 Keighley St. Chris. C.C.C.	1977	1. E. STONE 2-40-18 Bradford R.C.C.		
	2. B. HAWKES		2. J. ATKINS		
	3. H. BOND		3. C. WILKINSON		
	Team: Bradford R.C.C.		Team: Bronte Wheelers/ McManus & Poole		
1969	1. J. ATKINS 2-51-58 Marsh & Baxter				
	2. H. BOND				
	3. E. STONE				
	Team: Bradford R.C.C.				