

## **CHAIRMAN'S A.G.M. REPORT**

My first year as Chairman (for the second time I have been in this seat) has been totally different to the previous time I held this position. This is all due to the officers, committee members and helpers who are all part of a dedicated team of volunteers who give up so much of their time for this club.

What a team, I could run government with this lot!

Let us not forget, that all the club officials, helpers and coaches who help run this club, are all unpaid for their services. It comes to a shock to some people, that so many people can give so much of their own time for others for nothing but an occasional "Thank you". So on that note, can I say on behalf of all the members of The Slipstreamers and their parents, a huge "Thank you" to everyone involved within this superb club.

And what a club, around 200 members of keen, active youths learning and enjoying their cycling. We have a huge range of abilities within the Slipstreamers which shows the depth of interest in the club. And rest assured, that all abilities have been, and will be, catered for within the club.

It matters not if a child can only just manage to wobble a few metres along the apron or if they are attending the National Championships for their age category, they are all part of the same club and all part of the success that is "The Hillingdon Slipstreamers".

Over the ten years the club has been in existence, it has seen many of it's members achieve some very impressive results in events staged up and down the country. Our distinctive yellow and orange kit has become recognised throughout the country, and on more than one occasion, a podium placed rider has been a Slipstreamer. So on that note, Slipstreamers, keep up the training, listen to the advice of the coaches and keep on showing your Slipstreamers jersey's at races and I'm sure that we will have more riders visiting the podium.

Finally, it gives me great pleasure in announcing to people I meet, that I am the chairman of such a great cycling club. So much so, that I am willing to carry on as chairman (if elected of course) for another year. Even though I no longer have a child who is a member of the Slipstreamers, I still wish to continue my association with this club as I get so much satisfaction from seeing the young members progress to become accomplished athletes.

**KEITH.**

## Membership Secretary Report Slipstreamers AGM 2008

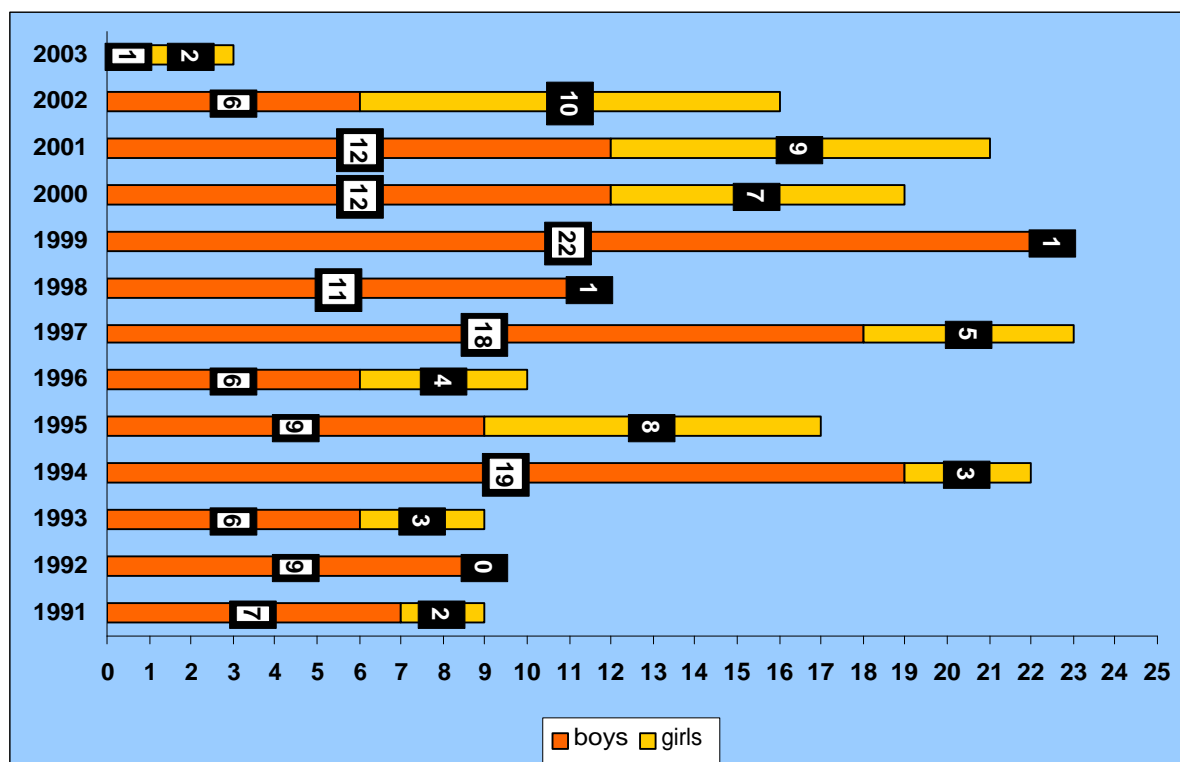
At the end of 2007 we had 194 members, which is a record. The statistical breakdown of our 2007 membership is as follows:

Male : 139

Female : 55

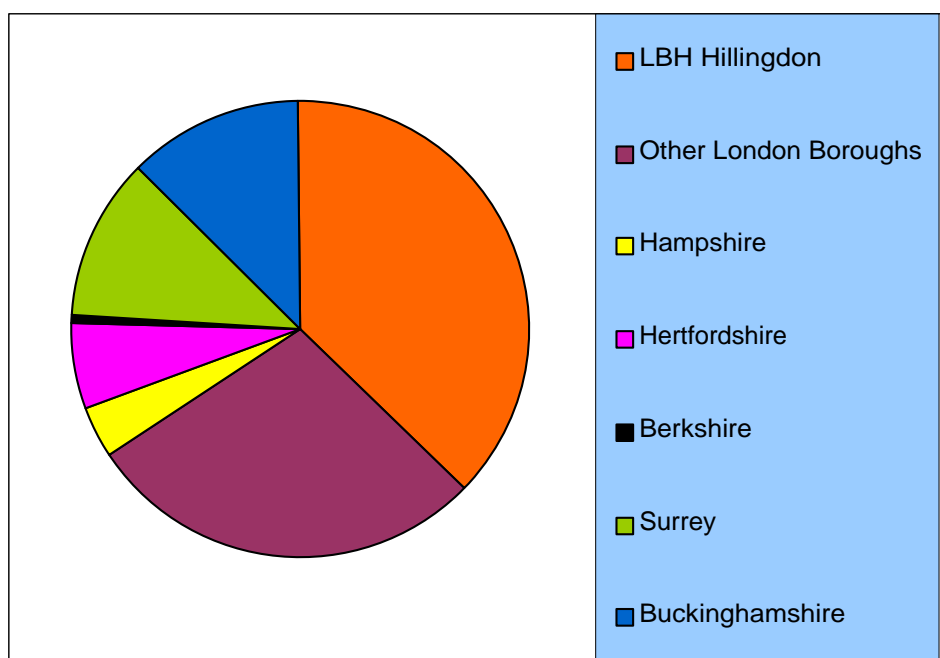
AGE	BIRTH DATE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
U6	those born 2001 or later	40	19	21
U8	those born 1999 & 2000	42	34	8
U10	those born 1997 & 1998	35	29	6
U12	those born 1995 & 1996	27	15	12
U14	those born 1993 & 1994	31	25	6
U16	those born 1991 & 1992	18	16	2

Below is a chart showing the numbers for each birth year according to gender.



Other information we can gather from the membership form is where all our members come from:

LBH Hillingdon (details below)	72
Other London Boroughs (details below)	55
Hampshire	7
Hertfordshire	12
Berkshire	1
Surrey	23
Buckinghamshire	24



Of those

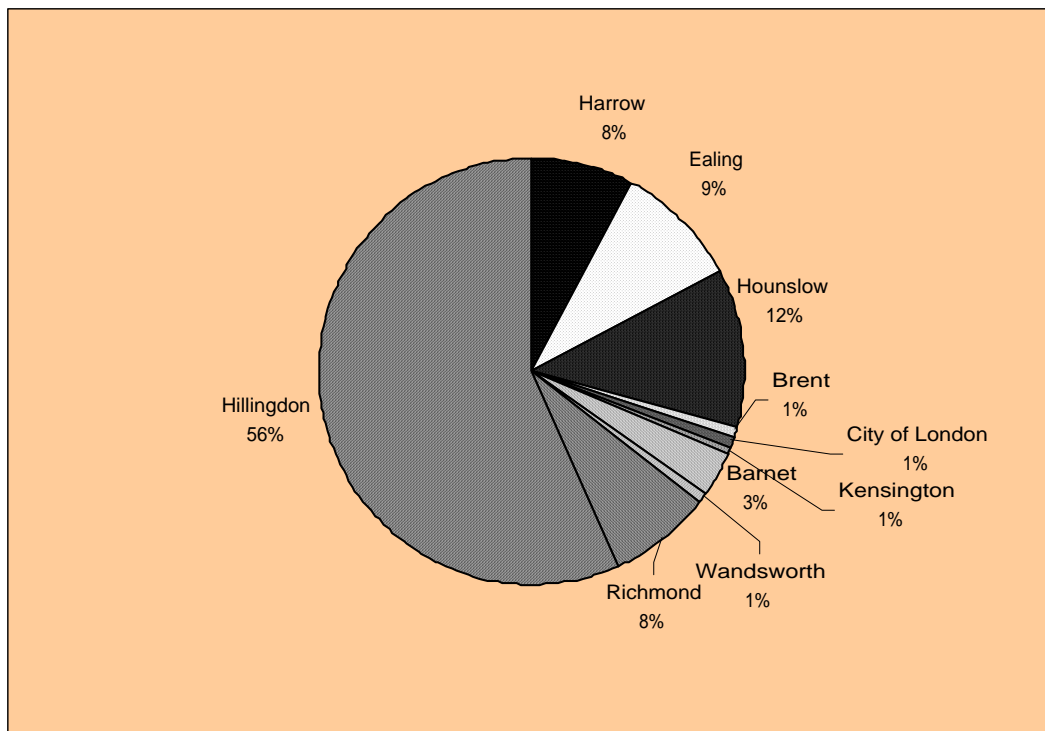
living in Hillingdon there is a further breakdown available:

West Drayton & Yiewsley	5
Hayes	23
Uxbridge	20
Harefield	3
Ruislip	4
Hillingdon	6
Northwood	8
Eastcote	3

Those living in other London Boroughs:

Harrow	10
Richmond	10
Ealing	12
Hounslow	15
Brent	1
City of London	1
Kensington & Chelsea	1
Barnet	4
Wandsworth	1

Our members from all London Borough's are shown below as a percentage.



It's good to see that Hillingdon has over half in this chart. Overall, London accounts for 65% of our membership, with Bucks and Surrey at 12% each. Herts is 6% and Hants 4%. No one seems to cycle in Berkshire as we only have one member from the whole county! Maybe this should be our goal for next year.

### **Looking ahead to 2008:**

- We now have two membership forms: one for the U16's and a new one for the U18's. They both include the need for members and their parents to have read and agreed to abide by the new codes of conduct.
- I have changed the "Information about the Slipstreamers" sheet to bring it up to date.
- Membership reminder letters have all gone out and as of February 16th there are 94 members for 2008.
- I still have welcome packs to organise, but hopefully I am now a lot closer to achieving this.
- It would be nice to get over the "200" for members, although I am not sure the coaches would agree with me but the treasurer might.
- Many thanks to Christine for all her help. I think that signing on has become a 2 person job now that we have so many riders in a relatively short space of time.
- As CWO the big thing to report on is the implementation of the codes of conduct. I have not received a single complaint or query, however their worth will only be truly appreciated when/if we ever have a problem with a parent or rider.
- My aim as CWO this year is to try and come over to the apron more often to talk to parents and coaches to understand any difficulties that might be happening.

*Alison Grant*  
*Membership Secretary & CWO*

## **Riders Reps Annual Report 2007**

Over the past year the Riders Reps have conducted a survey on what the Slipstreamers liked and disliked about their club. We have participated in choosing a new logo for the 10<sup>th</sup> year and we organised an Easter egg hunt for the younger members of the club.

Extra activities have been organised by the club such as Look-Out sessions and Calshot track sessions. These have been well attended and Slipstreamers who attended seemed to have enjoyed themselves.

We look forward to the upcoming year of events organised for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and many other activities that will be organised throughout the year.

# Coaching

Another year has flown by. We have been amazed at the high numbers of members that have turned up week after week regardless of the weather! Hopefully this means that you are enjoying yourselves. We have tried to make the sessions varied, working around the number of riders that turn up on the day.

Towards the end of the year we saw the introduction of monthly 'skill sessions'. These have been put into place so that we can more easily assess your bike handling ability. Lots of you can ride fast in a crooked line by yourselves, but more importantly you should be able to ride slowly as well as quickly; in a straight line within a group or solo; be aware of other riders on the circuit and more. These are all skills that will keep you safe on a bike whether you ride to get to school, out and about in the park or racing.

The effort that has been put into training has shown results for those of you that participate in racing, and it is good to see that the club is represented across all the age categories.

Opportunities have been provided for you to have training on the indoor track at Calshot and to do mountain biking at Bracknell. It would be nice to see some new faces mixing with the regulars. There is no minimum or maximum age, you just need to be able to follow instructions. Mums and Dads are welcome to join in at both Bracknell and Calshot.

On a more serious note, the Club has recently introduced a cut off time for signing on and joining in the session on a Saturday morning. This has been requested by us the Coaches because it is very disruptive to have people arrive half way through a briefing or exercise and is more so now that our numbers are increasing. It is also not fair to those that have been there since the beginning.

In the same vein, please do not just leave your group because you fancy a snack. If you are working with a partner it leaves them stranded! When you rejoin the group you don't know what is now expected of you. You should carry a bottle on your bike (bottle cages are very cheap) and a snack in your back pocket. That is what the pockets are for! Parents of younger children - please encourage them to listen to the Coaches and to follow instructions.

I would like to say a big thank to all of the Coaches and to the signing-on team, that turn up week in and week out. They are:

Brian Wright, Steve May, Nick & Lindsey Hobbs, Keith Wilmot, John Gunn, Ralph Passey, Mark Doel, Alison Grant, Christine & Steve Maslin.

Julie May

## Racing Secretary

Club members regularly road raced in the Tuesday night series from April to August. A small number of regulars also track raced the Monday night series at Reading and Stephanie May and Connor Woodford flew the flag for us at Welwyn on Fridays.

The Imperial RT Winter Series from December to February has recently finished with a good number of our members taking part. The final results were in a recent issue of the magazine.

It was good to see some new faces taking part in road and track racing at national events away from Hillingdon.

We have a total of 22 riders listed in the BC national rankings across all the age categories. The highest placed rider was Daniel Maslin, 2<sup>nd</sup> in his cat with 199 points. Dan also finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the National Track (area) Series and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the National Track Series finals. He was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the National Road Series.

We were the highest placed U16 youths only club. 49<sup>th</sup> Nationally and 6<sup>th</sup> in Central Region.

### **Very well done to everyone, you should be proud!**

The club championships this year saw more than 80 members taking part. This year saw us hold the track and mountain bike events away from the circuit at Calshot Velodrome and Lotts Wood, Amersham. This gave us a better competition and we hope to repeat this in 2008.

The winners have been detailed elsewhere.

We promoted a successful round of the National Youth Circuit Series in September. Thank you to everyone who helped on the day. It is definitely a team effort. In 2008 we are doing it again in July!

The Tour de France arrived in London in July and it was a fantastic sight. Several of our riders joined in the support races.

There have been opportunities to ride the track at Calshot and to go mountain biking at the Lookout, Bracknell. The number of participants has been good. My thanks to Keith Wilmot for organising these.

The Tuesday night race series for 2008 starts on April 8<sup>th</sup> and continues until August 19<sup>th</sup>. I will post the details of other races for 2008 that I think will be of interest on the notice board.

If anyone wants to race but doesn't know how to get started, please come and see me.

I would like to say a big thank you to Nick Hobbs and Steve Maslin who have assisted me with judging the youth racing, and who have successfully stood in for me on occasion. Also to Ralph Passey who has been the mainstay for the gear checking and bell ringing, and Christine Maslin turned out to be a natural with the photo finish! If anyone else would like to have a go please volunteer! Many hands (and eyes) make light work!

I look forward to seeing many more Slipstreamers on the start line at Hillingdon and other venues in 2008.

Apologies to anyone I missed!

Steve May

## **Press Officer's report on 2007-2008**

The Slipstreamers' Saturday morning sessions were again publicised in the *Whats On* column of the *Gazette* series of newspapers, which circulate in the London Borough of Hillingdon.

The results of the summer 2007, autumn 2007 appeared week-by-week in the *Gazette*, as did some results of the winter 2007-2008 race series and a reports and photographs at the conclusion of both the summer and winter series. Similar coverage was given to the youth race in support of the Elite series race in June, the London Youth Games, the Blackpool Festival of Cycling both in July, the National Youth Series in September, and the Christmas party and prize giving in December. On two occasions, in April and May local journalist Cathy Ranson featured the Slipstreamers in her column in the *Gazette* series.

In all cases reports of Slipstreamers doing well in individual races or races series with good photographs, and/or featuring our vice-presidents Bradley Wiggins and Jenny Copnall were published.

In February 2008 the press officer was a guest on the Saturday Sports programme on the Hayes FM (91.8) community radio station on 91.8. This being the first occasion that Slipstreamers have been covered on the radio.

In the coming year I intend to continue to send weekly race results, and brief reports with photographs of major events to the *Gazette* series of newspaper, to take up the invitation of a return visit to Hayes FM, and to seek other opportunities to publicise the Slipstreamers. Any suggestions for other newspapers or magazines that might be interested in carrying reports of Slipstreamers' activities would be welcome.

Nick Hobbs

## **Editor/Webmaster's report on 2007-2008**

Six issues of 'The Slipstreamer' have been published and distributed this year, the first two of 4 pages, the second two of 8 pages and the last two of 6 pages, reflecting both the seasonal activity and the general increase in the number and scope of activities that the club and its members are involved in. This compares to five 4-page issues last year. Disappointingly this year we have had no articles from individual Slipstreamers and this is something we need to try and redress next year.

Contributions are welcome from all ages of members, not just in writing, for example drawings, cartoons or photos from riders, parents or helpers. Please send them to me by email ([lindsey@maygoods.freeuk.com](mailto:lindsey@maygoods.freeuk.com)) or give them to me on a Saturday morning. If I'm not there, you can always leave them with Alison at signing-on.

With such an increase in membership over the last year, the task of printing, enveloping and posting all the copies has got that much bigger and I would like to thank Julie May for all the work that she does to get each issue out to members.

The website ([www.slipstreamers.co.uk](http://www.slipstreamers.co.uk)) is positioned to be used mostly as a static general information site, including race series and club competition results with a diary of forward events, with news being distributed to members via the newsletter but I have been making more of a feature of the gallery, putting up pictures of each of the club's events as soon as possible after they happen which seems to be a popular feature. Most of the photos have been mine, with some from other committee members but we should perhaps encourage others to send in their photos and reports especially when they are attending events as possibly the only member of the club.

My thanks to Alan Grant for hosting the website on a trouble-free server and for maintaining the domain name for free.

Lindsey Hobbs

## Slipstreamers Club Kit

We have sold much club cycling kit , along with fleeces and t-shirts .

23 pairs of shorts

31 Short sleeved tops

5 Training tops

5 Thermal tops

Many of the Fleeces and T shirts (T Shirts at a reduced price)

Total of nearly £2000 received

Most of the kit sold has been in the 6-8 and 9-11 age ranges .

I have a quote from Endura for replacement stock and special orders for some members . Confirmation of the order is awaiting colour samples as they have changed their inks recently .

The prices have increased since the last order , partly due to Endura no longer supplying the 6 panel shorts .

I would like also to ask if the club will be subsidising the kit to some extent , or not to reduce the impact of the price increase ?

R Passey

## Trophy Secretary's Report Feb 08

An easy year for the trophy secretary thanks to both Julie and Jeff. Julie undertook the thankless role of data input clerk whilst Jeff did his usual trick of magicking the ordering the trophies and getting them all engraved in the blink of an eye between getting the results of the club championships and the presentation.

The actual presentation, with Bradley in attendance, obviously went down really well.

All the trophies were presented except, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running, the most improved rider – male (maybe there's something about this trophy). The committee has agreed that should the recipient return to the club, the medal will be presented but not the shield.

Tad presented 3 trophies to the club to be awarded to recipients as the committee thought fit. However, despite initial misunderstanding Tad doesn't want these to be given on a one-off basis. He believes that they are too decent for that. So the committee is left with the task of deciding 3 new annual awards. Tad would also like them to be engraved with something along the lines of "presented to Slipstreamers by Tad".

Finally, despite having an easy time last year, I have decided not to seek re-election at the AGM.

## **Mechanics Report**

We currently have 33 road bikes, 17 track bikes, 12 mountain bikes and 1 tandem.

The mechanics have been doing quite a few repairs.

It was recently requested that new riders be directed to the mechanics as part of their induction to ensure bikes are safe to participate in sessions. This is now happening.

The mechanics' team is happy to do repairs but will charge if they have to supply parts.