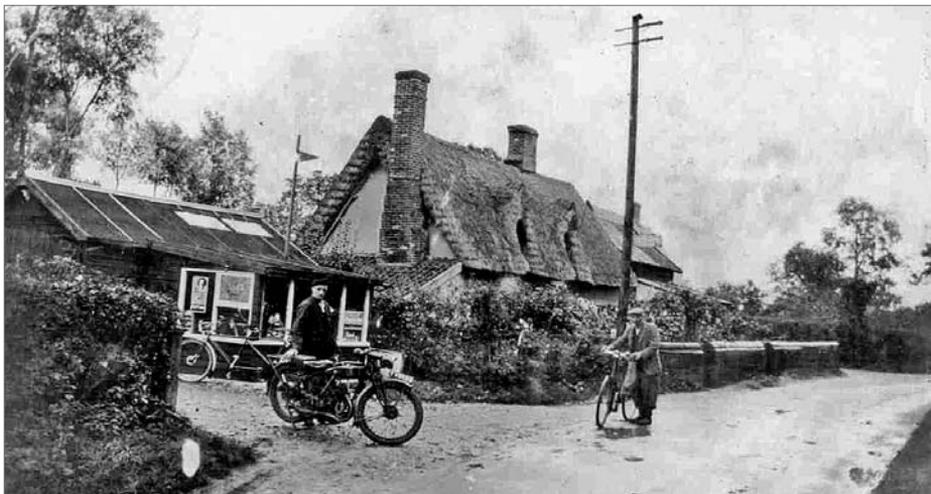


NOTES FROM THORNHAM

On Friday 8th September the Tour of Britain cycle race crosses Suffolk, leaving Newmarket at 10.45 and taking a winding route to Aldeburgh, where it finishes 114 miles and four and a half hours later.

At about 12.25 it reaches the Thornhams. Arriving from Wickham Skeith it turns left at the Shoes, goes up the Street past the phone box and Magna church, up to Parva, turns right past Parva church, crosses the A140 and heads for Eye.

It is a spectacle not to be missed, even if you aren't interested in cycling. Apart from the massed cyclists zooming round our tight corners and narrow lanes, there



are the support vehicles carrying officials and spare bikes, motorcycle police who clear the roads and close junctions ahead of the race and TV cameramen riding pillion on motorcycles and supplying pictures to helicopters hovering overhead.

Corners and long views make for good viewing positions. I suggest standing opposite the Shoes, on the bank in front of Magna church or on the Parva triangle. If you miss the race there will be live coverage on ITV4, with highlights shown in the evening.

Appropriately, just before reaching the Auberge the race will pass Tandem House. Many of you will remember Nat Hawes who had a cycle shop there until he retired in 1973. The photograph, taken in the 1930s and reproduced by kind permission of Christine Moore, shows her father Nat and his father Reg outside the cycle shop. Reg's wife, Margie had a general store at the far end of the house which she ran until she died in 1948. The tandem is propped up in front of the shop. They are fondly remembered by their former customers. More about them in future months.

AUGUST EVENT IN THORNHAM ● Sunday 6th: Mad Hatter's Tea Party, Walled Garden, 12.30-3, £3