

GERRY GORMAN

I feel that I must write a tribute about Gerry, I do not know really where to start, Gerry I have known for 70 years, he was always known as Gerry to me even then, for he and his brothers were close neighbours.

From a cycling point of view Gerry was a figure for a young cyclist to look up too he was already a racing man an official and I was a newly elected racing secretary for the Trafford Park R.C. and I used to meet & be helped by Gerry at Manchester & District Time Trial Association meetings and also the Oldham & District Cycling Union meetings both were at that time the main time trial organisations for club combined time trials.

Gerry was at that time a member of Ashton Road Club along with his brother Alan & also Norman Grattage.

Ashton Road Club was a Racing Time Trial Club at that time and Gerry was quite successful, but I digress, it was when the last war began & the amalgamation of Club's that formed the Abbotsford Park Road Club that brought Gerry to the centre of cycling and formed his great attachment & became to me and no doubt others Mr. Abbotsford, he worked tirelessly throughout his active life for his club & cycling in general till the debilitating illness precluded further participation, his last public appearance was at his 90th birthday which had been arranged by his good friends Mary & John Longdon and of course Irene his wife who was also an Abbotsford member and who he married in 1948 his tandem partner a true life partner, The Abbotsford packed the wedding reception that took place at Mrs. Bates at Goostry and was long remembered.

He had other successful tandem partners and rode successfully on the track mainly in Tandem pursuit's & also on the road in Tandem time trials.

Gerry filled most posts in the Abbotsford & throughout the district and beyond

He also compiled a book "My Cycling Days" of which I am proud to have a copy that he sent to Flo & myself, I have read it many times & it is a treasure of those halcyon days that were cycling then & which unfortunately will never return.

He was President and a Life Member of the Abbotsford. I will print a list from Gerry's book of his achievements on the Official side this was produced in 1986 & he still worked tirelessly after that for the Abbotsford.

Also I should mention that he became the commentary "The Voice" for the Manchester Track League at Fallowfield which entailed at least twice weekly meetings during the summer months, but oh! happy times.

All this was achieved with the great help given by Irene and I should also mention that they also had a baby girl Sharon who was introduced to cycling but who achieved greater things in love of swimming, tragically she died not long after passing her Batchelor of Law in 1975 a very, very sad loss for Irene & Gerry.

There must be many facets of Gerry that I have not touched on he and Irene had many friends in the cycling world many who if they were with us would echo my thoughts when I say. Take care Gerry and I am sure many friends will have a cycling section in that great highway in the sky I am glad that I was a friend and club mate of yours.

Rest in peace. My deepest Sympathy to Irene.

Len Myatt

Some Images From Gerry's Cycling Days



GERRY IN TOURING KIT



GERRY IN A TIME TRIAL



WITH ALBERT SHAWCROSS



GERRY THE ABBOTSFORD CLUBMAN

A Short Summary Of Gerry's Many Official Duties

Treasurer	Abbotsford Park R.C.	1968 - 1972 1973.1980/2
Delegate to	Oldham & District C.U. National Cyclists Union) London Conferences) Road Time Trials Council	1936 - 1944 1951 - 1954 1964 - 1972
Committees	Other than ex-officio Road Time Trials Council) Manchester D.C.	1945 - 1964 1972 - 1976 1976
	(Courses) Manchester & District TTA Manchester Track League Manchester Centre NCU Manchester Athletic Club T.L.	1945 - 1950 1945 - 1956 1948 - 1951 1942 - 1944
Announcer	Manchester Track League Isle of Man Week National Cyclists Union) Massed Start Championship) Isle of Man Numerous Sports Meetings	1947 - 1954 1948 - 1953 1949 1947 - 1954
Deputy Announcer	Manchester Track League	1945 - 1946
Timekeeper Handicapper	Manchester & District TTA Road Time Trials Council) Manchester D.C.	- - -
Assistant Judge	Manchester Centre NCU	1951 - 1954
Starting Judge	Manchester Track League Manchester Wheelers Meet	1957
Editor	Abbotsford Park R.C. Magazine	1983 -

ON THE OFFICIAL SIDE

President	Abbotsford Park R.C. Manchester & District TTA	1955 & 1963 1980 - 1982
Chairman	Manchester Track League National Cyclists Union) Manchester Centre & its) Committees, General, Racing,) Massed Start & Road Safety) Wilbraham Community Centre	1950 - 1954 1951 - 1954 1978 - 1979
Secretary	Abbotsford Park R.C.(pro-tem) Road Time Trials Council) Manchester D.C.)	1944 - 1945 1964 - 1972
Racing Secretary	Ashton Road Club Abbotsford Park R.C. Oldham & Dist. C. U.	1939 - 1942 1943 - 1964 1940 - 1944
Ass. Racing Secretary	Ashton Road Club	1936 - 1939
Press Secretary	Abbotsford Park R.C.	1942 - 1943
Sports Organiser	Manchester Track League	1955
Manager	Harris Stadium	1955 - 1956
Open Events Promoter	Abbotsford Park R.C. Oldham & Dist. C.U. Road Time Trial Council) Manchester D.C.) Manchester & District TTA	1943 - 1975 1940 - 1944 1972 1979
Kilometre Championship Secretary	Manchester & District TTA	1978 - 1979
