



# PRESS RELEASE

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## 2009 - EUROPEAN MASTERS TRACK CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

DAY 6 – SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> AUGUST

### FINAL DAY RESULTS

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#### **Men 135 Years + Team Sprint (open to any three masters riders whose combined age is 135+ years)**

Retaining their title, Great Britain's Steve Cronshaw, Ivor Reid and Andrew Tranter riding as "Two Sassanachs and a Jock", shaved 0.2 secs of their 2008 time as their 50.402 beat the same 2008 Italian team of Marco Cannone, Graziano Pantosti and Fabio Alberti who claimed the Bronze last year with 52.550. The Bronze was claimed by Team Italia 2 of Fabrizio Fedele, Andrea Savini and Claudio Scabbio with 1:00.744

<b>GOLD</b>	"Two Sassanachs and a Jock"	Great Britain
<b>SILVER</b>	Team Italia 1	Italy
<b>BRONZE</b>	Team Italia 2- "The Crazy Boys"	Italy

#### **Men Open Team Sprint (open to any three masters riders)**

Previous pairing of Dave LeGrys and Ben Elliot teamed up with Lee Povey as "Team Terminator" took the Gold ahead of "Team Look France", consisting of Vincent Kerfourn, Dominique Sioul and Jean Paul Benvenuto. 48.873 to France's 50.20. Bronze medal went to "The Ego Assassins" consisting of Simon Schmidt, Miles Stovold and Marlon Moncrieffe with 52.408, narrowly ahead of "Planet X" with 52.417.

<b>GOLD</b>	Team Terminator	Great Britain
<b>SILVER</b>	Team Look France	France
<b>BRONZE</b>	The Ego Assassins	Great Britain

#### **Men 60 – 64 Years Points Race**

Taking all four sprints and a lap, France's Gerard Louis Robert added the 60 – 64 Points to his 2008 55 - 59 title when his 30 point tally was 20 ahead of Silver medallist Heinz Bandener of Germany. Great Britain's Dick Cubison completed a completely new podium line up when he took the Bronze

<b>GOLD</b>	Gerard Louis Robert	France
<b>SILVER</b>	Heinz Bandener	Germany
<b>BRONZE</b>	Dick Cubison	Great Britain

#### **Men 65 – 69 Years Pursuit**

Another Masters debutante Roland Rolleau of France forced Great Britain's Barry Hartley into the Silver medal position as he broke the existing European record of 2.38.561 by .448. Hartley's 2.42.137 was still 3 tenths faster than last year. Last years Champion Guido Lupo of Italy had to settle for the Bronze in the ride off, beating Barry Ferguson of Great Britain 2.43.376 to Fergusons 2.52.486.

<b>GOLD</b>	Roland Rolleau	France
<b>SILVER</b>	Barrie Hartley	Great Britain
<b>BRONZE</b>	Guido Lupo	Italy

#### **Women 30 – 39 Years Pursuit**

Mari Todd of Great Britain set a new European record for the 30-39 age group on her way to the title,

beating Melanie Sneddon 2.35.548 to 2.38.337. Bronze was taken by Sabrina Huckes of Germany with 2.46.169 and pushed last years Bronze medallist Aideen Collard off the podium.

<b>GOLD</b>	Mari Todd	Great Britain
<b>SILVER</b>	Melanie Sneddon	Great Britain
<b>BRONZE</b>	Sabrina Huckes	Germany

#### **Women 40 – 49 Years Pursuit**

Taking possibly her hardest medal to date, Janet Birkmyre fought back from a deficit with 2 laps to go to claim her fourth Gold of this years championships against fellow Brit Jayne Paine, to take the verdict by .532 seconds. Birkmyre was the only medallist from 2008 to reclaim a podium place as Cheryl Owens secured her third Bronze of the week as she beat Jeanette Baxter 2.44.932 to 2.50.800

<b>GOLD</b>	Janet Birkmyre	Great Britain
<b>SILVER</b>	Jane Paine	Great Britain
<b>BRONZE</b>	Cheryl Owens	Great Britain

#### **Women 50 Plus Years Pursuit**

Christine Higgs set the time to beat in this new event for Women 50+ in qualifying when she posted 2.44.759, however that meant she would again have to ride against Masters regular Petra Kluender of Germany in the final, while Finland's Arja Scarsbrook met her qualifying opponent Heather Sanderson of Great Britain. While Scarsbrook caught Sanderson in 1.51.3 seconds, Higgs had a real fight on her hands with Kluender drawing on her road stamina to keep level. In the end the event was 2 laps too long and Higgs managed to stay on her target and pull out a 1.2 second gap for the gold medal

<b>GOLD</b>	Christine Higgs	Great Britain
<b>SILVER</b>	Petra Kluender	Germany
<b>BRONZE</b>	Arja Scarsbrook	Finland

#### **Men 70 Plus years Pursuit**

2008 Champion Brian Dacey could only manage third this time round as he found himself up against the formidable shape of former German professional Otto Altweck. Dacey's qualifying time was almost 5 seconds slower than the German who had Britain's Fred Smith for the race for Gold. However Altweck turned on the style to not only crush Smith by 6 seconds, but also record a new European and World Best time of 2.40.436. Dacey's consolation was beating Gordon Johnston for the Bronze in 2.45.235 to 2.50.137

<b>GOLD</b>	Otto Altweck	Germany
<b>SILVER</b>	Fred Smith	Great Britain
<b>BRONZE</b>	Brian Dacey	Great Britain

#### **Brian Cossavella Memorial Scratch (non championship event)**

The frenetic pace of the final scratch event of Masters events at Manchester went up a notch with a race that did the sadly missed former World Masters Organiser Brian Cossavella proud. Rarely could a race so justifiably have been said to go 'from the gun' However on Saturday night, a quintet of riders had gained a lap on the rest of the field, within the first five! Austrian Wolfgang Kotzman, the Mens 40-44 points race winner, Bronze medalist Giuseppe Ravasio of Italy, France's Alain Borne of France, and Britain's 35-39 Sprint Champion John McClelland and Boyd Roberts, the Points 30-34 Bronze medallist. As Richard Prince, the new 30-34 Points Champion and 2008 Cossavella Memorial winner was disqualified when already a lap down, the speed seemed to move up a notch as Roberts went away again with the front half of the field and before long 10 riders were at least a lap up with Robert's five two laps up. As the pace seemed as though it couldn't get any hotter, Roberts went again with 12 to go and the race was over as he joined the rest of the field just as the line out for the sprint had started to wind the pace up further. Rounding the final curve, McClelland and Kotzman went head to head with the Austrian gaining a tyre's width verdict for 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

<b>FIRST</b>	Boyd Roberts	Great Britain
<b>SECOND</b>	Wolfgang Kotzman	Austria
<b>THIRD</b>	John McClelland	Great Britain

#### **Final Medal Table**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Gold</b>	<b>Silver</b>	<b>Bronze</b>
Great Britain	26	32	28
France	13	4	8
Germany	4	4	3
Denmark	2	1	1
Ireland	1	2	-
Austria	1	1	-
Italy	-	4	5
Finland	-	-	2
Greece	-	-	1

### **Best Rider Awards**

Both male and female best riders of the championships each achieved the maximum four gold medals in their respective age categories.

Gerard Louis Robert of France won 4 golds in the Mens 60 – 64 Years age category, and Janet Birkmyre of Great Britain won 4 golds in the Womens 40 – 49 Years age category.

**Full Results available at [www.cyclingmasters.com](http://www.cyclingmasters.com)**