



Not The Spoken Word

Bi-monthly newsletter of The Western Australian Historical Cycle Club Inc.

The Royal Greyhound Frame Number 13781 Serial Number 1 Built by Mortlock Brothers of Bishop Street, Jolimont, W.A. in 1958

I purchased this now historic bike in January 1959 when I was 13 years old. I had saved up money by working full time in the Pemberton Mill over the 6 week summer school holidays. It came from the Graeme Johnston Bike Shop in nearby Manjimup. Graeme was a dealer for Mortlocks, maker of Royal Greyhounds, at that time which was no doubt how he was able to get the bike to sell in his shop.

Mortlocks were selling The Royal Greyhound badged bikes as far back as 1907 and possibly earlier. They were primarily road going 'town bikes' as far as I have been able to ascertain. The Greyhound at Revolutions Transport Museum, although similar to mine in some respects is not a dedicated racer. The best you could say is it is a semi racer.

My bike (serial number 1) was one of three dedicated race bikes that were produced by Mortlocks especially for the 1958 Schoolboy Cycling Championships. The other two – serial numbers 2 and 3 were also sold by Johnston in January 1959, but to overseas buyers. Thus mine is the only dedicated Royal Greyhound in Australia and possibly the only one dating from this period left in the world. I'm not sure if the bike was actually used in the 1958 race as it was in as new condition on my purchase from memory.

As the owner of this bike, I represented Pemberton in the under 15 years Grand Finalists at the 1960 Schoolboys Road Cycling Championships held at the Midland Junction Circuit on Sunday 11th September. Unfortunately I was not placed as another rider fell off in front of me. Had it not been for that I recall thinking I could have won a place as I found it so easy on the flat circuit when I had been training on very hilly country around Pemberton.

In any case the place getters in the main went on to have very successful racing careers. I never competed again. Other well-known riders in the open division that day such as Evan Strudwick, Phillip Bristow-Stagg and Dave Melvin also had long successful racing careers.

The last time I rode the bike was in 1961 or 1962. It was subsequently stored in less-than-ideal conditions for almost 50 years. I took it out of storage in February 2020 and commenced its reconstruction, finishing in September 2020.

The bike was originally built using quality English, Italian and French components such as the Simplex "Tour de France" three speed derailleur, Italian racing rims, English chainwheel and brakes etc. It was beautifully finished in metallic paint of the era with extensive pin striping, scroll work and transfers.

I was able to remove all the rust while retaining original paint work.

The gears, crankset, pedals, wheels, chain, saddle, brakes,

handle bars, pump and bottle holder are all original to the bike. I have fitted new tyres, tubes, cables and handgrips.
Barry Peterkin (Read more about Barry in this issue's Stuck In The Shed p. 3)

Photos;
Mortlock Bros Ltd had a network of dealers across WA; Cover of the 1960 Schoolboys' Championship programme; The author with the bike in November 1959 being presented with the H. Warne trophy in a race run by the Pemberton Cycling Club.

<p>MORTLOCK BROS. The Trade House</p> <p>SOLE AGENTS FOR THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CYCLING ASSOCIATION. BUILDERS OF ROYAL GREYHOUND CYCLES.</p> <p>WHOLESALE ONLY. QUEEN-STREET, PERTH.</p>		
YES	YES	YES
YES	<p>RIDE ON A GREYHOUND CYCLE</p> <p>These Cycles are built by Mortlock Bros. Ltd., of Perth, who have just completed fifty years in the building of Cycles, etc.</p>	YES
YES	<p>We do Cycle Repairs of all description and we carry a full stock of parts and accessories</p>	YES
YES	<p>GREYHOUND CYCLES ARE NOW IN STOCK</p> <p>— AT — Joseph's Arcade GERALDTON</p>	YES
YES	YES	YES

Local Agents for . . .

MORTLOCK BROS LTD.

Representing

The New Vanguard Standard Car, also Flying Standard 8 and 14 h.p. B.S.A. and Panther Motor Cycles, James and New Hudson Autocycles, Greyhound Cycles.

Ransome Motor Lawn Mowers

GILMOUR'S GARAGE, Pinjarra
WILLS' GARAGE, Nth. Dandalup

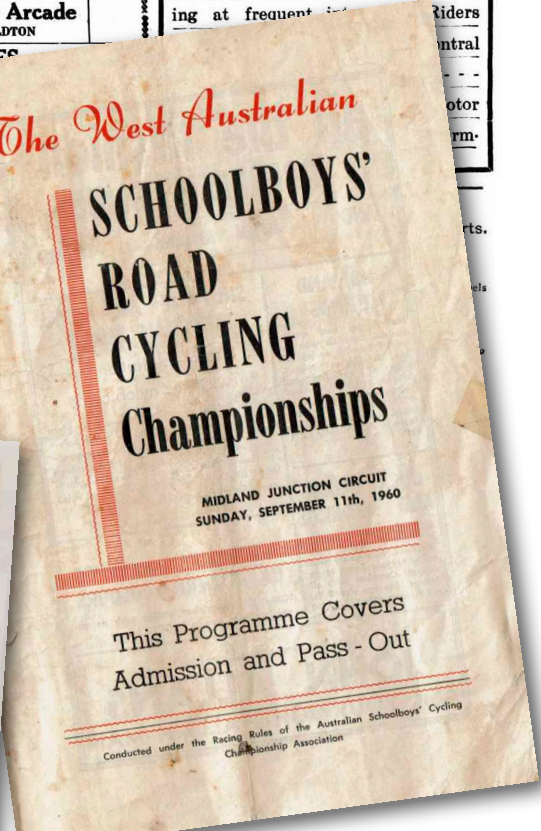
Wm. J. Rogers & Sons

Are the Local Agents for MESSRS. MORTLOCK BROS., the builders of the Famous Greyhound Bicycle, and have on hand a Full stock of Accessories and parts. Fresh Stocks of Dunlop Tyres and Tubes are arriving at frequent intervals.

The West Australian

SCHOOLBOYS' ROAD CYCLING Championships

MIDLAND JUNCTION CIRCUIT
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th, 1960



Auction Report

Auctions of bikes and parts donated to the club continue to make a up a substantial portion of club funding.

The most recent auction raised over \$700. More than half of this was the result of the sale of a Swansea 5 Swan with history to an interstate member. Swanses are among the best, if not the best, locally made bikes. They have a national reputation and continuing demand for the few examples that come to market is justifiably high.

Our next auction will feature a c.1980 Raleigh Superb step through model in very good condition so keep your eyes peeled for that one!



What Makes Us Tick?

Over the next few issues of the newsletter club committee is going to draw back the curtain and give members a behind the scenes peek at what it takes to keep the cogs in the WAHCC machine turning smoothly.

Many of the roles are low pressure unelected positions so if you see something you think you'd like to help with just let us know - info.wahcc@gmail.com

Many thanks to Kym Murray for sticking his hand up to take on the Auction Manager role that was covered in the last issue.

Newsletter Editor / Contributor

Responsibility for this role open to any club member - no need to be a committee member.

- Source newsletter worthy material from;
 - Club activities; meetings, displays and other events
 - Past exhibition stories
 - Recruit members for 'stuck in the shed' feature, send questions and organise photo. (Or maybe it's time for a new feature?)
- Collate club calendar
- Check and edit text for readability and accuracy
- Layout newsletter in desktop publishing app
- Email newsletter to members and non member subscribers via MailChimp
- Print and post to members with limited or no email access (currently 5)
- Legal compliance - submission to National eDeposit (NED) ned.gov.au

The newsletter editor doesn't have to execute all these tasks but should at a minimum coordinate Newsletter Contributors.



Bob's BIKETOGRAPHY in Freo

Sunday March 26 EARLY START 9am - less traffic - safer road & pedestrian traffic

Meet in front of Round House tunnel, High Street West End Fremantle

An easy stroll and slow ride around Fremantle stopping regularly

Bring a bike you would like to photograph - in a **FREO ARTY WAY** or just join use for the walkabout

Bring your **smart phone or simple pocket camera** - easy & more than capable to produce good images

There are so many quirky photo opportunities within easy walking distance

See my Facebook page for recent examples www.facebook.com/bob.sommerville.77/

ALL WELCOME - friends & family

A **WAHCC** social event - plenty of opportunities for a chat - and it will be fun

No restrictions on taking bikes on trains on Sundays. Park out for free - train in to Freo



I am currently proposing for us to end the tour with a Sunday lunch together at a central Freo cafe I need to know approx numbers please asap to liaise with owners to provide us with menu choices at a value price.

If you are keen to join us would you email or txt msg me please:

Bob Sommerville 0411 123 936. bobsommervl@gmail.com

Stuck In The Shed With Barry Peterkin

What are you currently working on?

Always working on something or other. Just the other day repaired a roof sized dent in a 1980 Mercedes for an old mate. Had to make special tools to do the job do to lack of access. I quite enjoy a challenge.

The next project I need to get on with is to restore the cart my father built for my 4th birthday in 1949. I played with it as have my children and latterly my grandchildren but they are now too big for it. I will make it as when my father built it and leave hopefully for great grandies. Having had it for nearly 74 years it is very special especially as it was built for me by my father.

How many rideable bikes do you have?

Only have my 1958 Royal Greyhound - (see story on p.1) and a modern bike. Interesting comparison is that 1st gear in the Greyhound is equivalent to 14th gear on my modern bike. Considering I used to ride my Greyhound up steep hills in 2nd or top gear I must have lost some condition in the past 63 years as I am flat out riding my modern down hill in 14th gear now!

If push comes to shove what is your favourite bike?

Undoubtedly the old Greyhound is my favourite.

What was your first bike?

As a kid I had a girls Malvern Star which I rode up to getting my racing bike.

Pick a bike any bike.. in your dreams what are you riding?

Maybe a Steel Bishop!

Whistle while you work?

Give us a tip on the sounds that fill your workspace.

I like natural sounds such as my Mig Welder, my compressor and panel hammers or slapping tool hitting metal. The sand blast cabinet that I built to aid in the restoration of my 1930 Chrysler is also music to my ears!



Best of Luck to the Groper M. ELLEMENT.

Before leaving for Melbourne, Mervyn Ellement, the young Fremantle cyclist who will represent Western Australia at the Australian Junior Cycling Championship contest, to be held there on July 22, was tendered an enthusiastic send-off in the Scottish Hall, on Monday last. Included among the well wishers were: Mr. and Mrs. H-Opperman, Mr. Fred Peterson, (Peterson and Moira), Mr. J. Nabb (manager Bruce Small Prop.), Syd. Congdon (Asst. Organiser State junior championship) Mr. Howard and Les Baldwin, (Swansea Cycle Agency), Arthur Grady (Kookaburra Cycles), Don Hill, (Pres. Amateur Union of W.A.) Mr. L. B. Brickhill (Pres. F.A.C.C.P, Mr and Mrs. Horrie Marshall, E. Michelson, R. MacInerney, Geo. Budd, B. Haskell The president of the Fremantle Cycling Club, Sir. L. B. Brickhill, spoke in appreciative terms of Ellement's ability as a cyclist and of his good sportsmanship. Fremantle cyclists both, amateur and professional, had he said, shown a fine spirit by the manner in which they had assisted Ellement in his preparations for the big race, and they were all very pleased at his success. Mr Hill, president of the West Australian Union, congratulated the town of Fremantle on having produced such a promising junior as Ellement, and wished him the best of luck in the, final. Applause greeted Mr. Opperman as he rose to make the presentation, and it was renewed when he expressed the opinion that local junior cyclists were at last equal to those of the Eastern States. In expressing thanks, young Ellement said that he hoped that either himself or J. Mitchell, Kalgoorlie, would "bring home the bacon" to W.A.

From Fremantle Advocate Thursday 13 July 1933, page 7. Merv was the frame builder at Swansea Cycle and Motor

An advertisement for Brampton Tubular Construction Hubs. The top part features a globe with the text "The HUB of the UNIVERSE" and "BRAMPTON" below it. Below the globe are two detailed drawings of a tubular hub. The text in the center reads "BRAMPTON Tubular Construction Hubs Are Guaranteed 100%". At the bottom, it says "Against Fault in Material or Design Write for Catalogue to BRAMPTONS, Box 300F. G.P.O., Melbourne."

Club Calendar

Mon 20th Mar 2023 19:30 General Meeting

In-person at 41 Britannia Road, Leederville
 Online Zoom Meeting ID: 896 2070 3705

Tue 21st Mar 10:00

RWAHS - Guest Speaker Alan Naber

Alan will be presenting his "Social History of Cycling" at the Royal WA Historical Society's rooms. 49 Broadway, Nedlands (corner of Clark St) \$10 entry

Sun 26th Mar 2023 09:00 Ride

Bob's Biketography

Meet at the Roundhouse Whalers' Tunnel, west end of High St, Fremantle. See details on p.2

Mon 17th Apr 2023 19:30 General Meeting

In-person at 41 Britannia Road, Leederville
 Online Zoom Meeting ID: 896 2070 3705

April 21-23 2023 York Heritage Festival

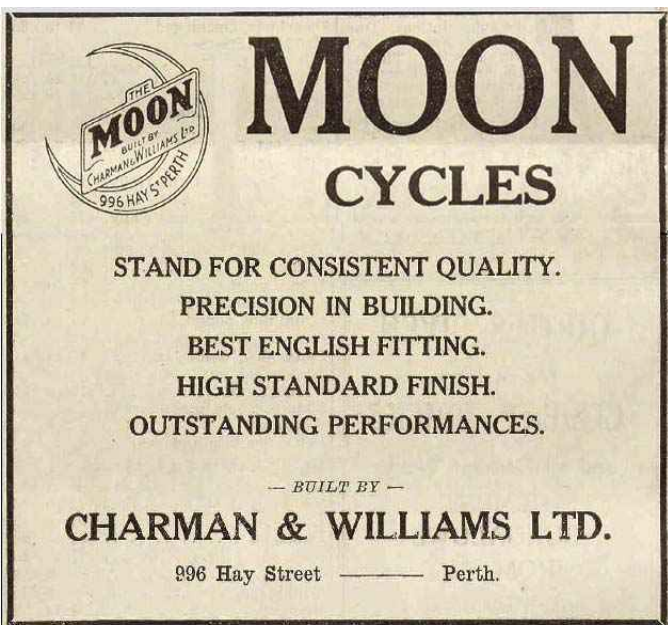
The club will have the forecourt of the building at 87 Avon Terrace (same spot as last year). The event runs from 10 to 3 each day and we are scheduled to do show rides through town at 11 and 2 on Saturday 22nd and 11am on Sunday 23rd.

Sun 7th May 2023 10:00 Moondyne Festival - Toodyay

The Moondyne Festival organisers have once again given us the forecourt of the Old Fire Station at 107 Stirling Terrace. The easiest access for participating club members is via Charcoal Lane at the rear of the Old Fire Station. Arrive at 9/9:30 for a 10am start.

Mon 15th May 2023 19:30 General Meeting & Auction

In-person at 41 Britannia Road, Leederville
 Online Zoom Meeting ID: 896 2070 3705



Club Regalia

It's been a while since the club has had caps and polos available - well the wait is over.

The caps are one size fits all and will have the club logo on the front and the club name on the back (The caps we've priced are actually a bit nicer than the ones used for illustration purposes here - they will have a white detail at the front of the brim and as close a colour match as we can find for the polo shirts.)

The polos are a poly/modal blend with a fine knit/waffle pattern. The colour is 'Junior Navy' - not a dark navy but darker than the old club polos - a classic colour suitable for all occasions. Club logo embroidered in white on the left.

Polo sizing in cm as follows; (HSP = high shoulder point to bottom hem)

	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
CHEST	53.5	56	58.5	61	63.5	66.5	70	73.5
HSP	70	72.5	75	77.5	80	81	82	83

Caps \$30

Polos \$40

We need a minimum orders of 25 to proceed so please get back to us with your order - info.wahcc@gmail.com

