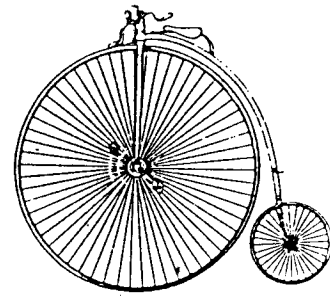
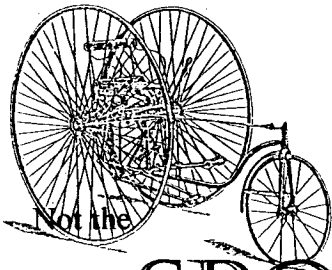


THE
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
HISTORICAL CYCLE CLUB



SPOKE'N WORD

NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN AUSTRALIA HISTORICAL CYCLE CLUB
VOLUME 1 - NO 9

MARCH 2000

Club members will please note the new Title of the club is " **THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL CYCLE CLUB.**" The reason for the change of the title was because the original name too closely resembled another clubs Title.

Our new title has now been advertised in the Southern Gazette February 22nd to 28th for intended application to become Incorporated and after one month the club will proceed with the submission of our Constitution.

Thirteen members attended our last meeting. Ricky Armstrong, Joe Cox and Tom Atkinson sent their apologies (off to Evandale for the Penny Farthing events) - Good Luck All. Mal & Julie sudden illness also apologised along with Phil Harris who had to work overtime to save his Penny Farthing.

Four members attended our first management committee meeting and discussed procedures for Incorporation Public liability, Events, Displays and Fund raising. The President thanked Club members and outside assistance in preparing the newsletter.

The committee also discussed office bearers for the Annual General Meeting (ANY MEMBERS WHO WISHES TO ASSIST - ie Secretary, Editor or any other positions, please contact the President.)

Peter Smith promises to bring our Club Badges to the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Transport Bike West - Funding Event
- Alan Naber will combine our cycling event with our Clubs 1st Anniversary at Wireless Hill.
(See Events Planner)
- Main Roads confirmed that Easter Saturday April 22nd requesting 10 PENNING FARTHINGs for the Official Opening of the Graham Farmer Tunnel.
- Mc Daniel Associates (Public Relations) have forwarded an Events Registration Form for Club Participation at the Albany Festival Week. (Albany Anzac Festival 2001)
- Gwen Atkinson (Pinjarra) rang regarding a train race with Penny Farthings or a Display on Monday 5th June.

GENERAL

Our Club is now receiving regular Newsletters from the Canberra Bicycle Museum (friends of the Bicycle Museum) and Cycling In The West. Ken Ward was pleasantly surprised to find one of his clubs Articles published.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Framed Sepitone of The Apollo Sociable (Tricycle) and extra long Policeman's Bicycle seat frame. Merv
- Malvern Star - data timetables USA bike parts - Alan
- 1950 Brooks seat and large old 1950's Tourist bag - Ken
- Catalogues -front wheel Recumbent - David

What's Happening Here !!

A bit of haggling in the back of the hall saw a small 20" wheel Hercules Cycle exchanged for a few Dollars by Alan & Don.

Our Meeting closed at 8.20pm for supper and the viewing of the second part of our video (part 2) of Cycling History

Next Meeting

**Monday 20th March 2000 at 7.00pm
Hickey Street, Ardross**

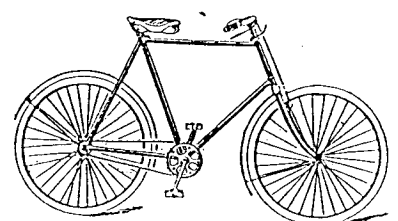
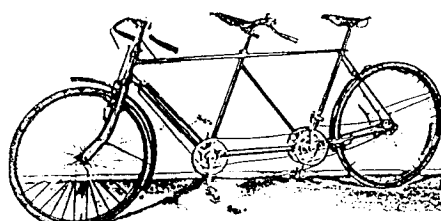
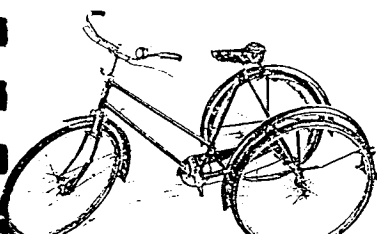
Correspondence to

M. Thompson

28 Axford Street, Como. 6152

Ph 94502579

Meeting: 3rd Monday of each month at 7.00 pm at 6B Hickey Street Ardross
Contact: M Thompson 9450 2579



Pennyfarthing for your thoughts

Penny farthings are about to take off in a big way in Australia. For the sporting event in Australia with the most specific impact on collectables in 2000 may not be the Sydney Olympics but the Evandale Village Fair and World Pennyfarthing Championships to be held at Launceston airport on February 25 next year.

With old Olympic torches changing hands for thousands of dollars, depending upon the year they were carried, and lapel pins commemorating the past and the coming Olympics keenly sought, Olympic memorabilia is hardly neglected. But bicycles seldom make much of an inroad into Australian collectors' minds, and this is despite a distinguished history of local manufacture (or assembly) and racing.

The first bicycle race – of velocipedes – was held in Australia in 1869 and over the years the colder States of Victoria and Tasmania have produced a stream of champions culminating in a boom in track racing in the early 1900s leading to Australia's participation in the Tour de France.

Legendary names in Australian cycling include Sir Hubert Opperman who died on his exercise bicycle at the age of 91 and Russell Mockridge, who suffered the cyclist's ultimate misfortune of being run over by a bus.

Big names in Australian bicycle manufacture include Malvern Star (Melbourne), Super Elliott (Adelaide), the Hallam (Hobart), Ixion (Melbourne) and Speedwell (Sydney).

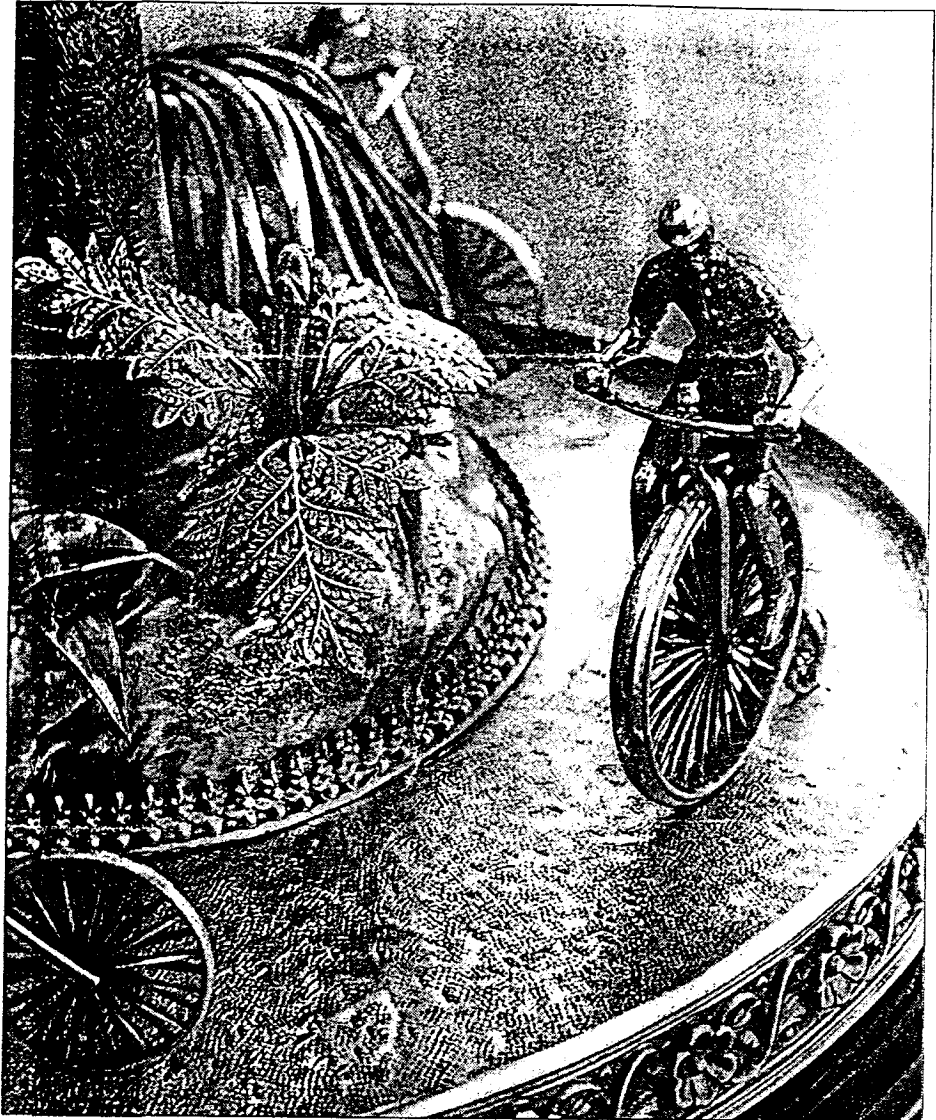
For all the attention paid to bicycle racing in Australia, the local market in bicycle memorabilia is limited, partly because it has been considered so sacred that much of it has found its way into permanent public collections like the Australian Gallery of Sport at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. The gallery has on loan or in its collection a lot of Opperman and Syd Patterson material as well as the Marchant Browne tandem which won the gold medal in the 1956 Olympics.

The Museum of Victoria has the bike on which Opperman set a 24-hour record riding from Mount Gambier to Melbourne in 1927 and a bike made in 1926 on which he set records in 1930.

Australia has also produced some determined private collectors. The Armstrong Collection, put together by compulsive fossicker Ian Armstrong and on view at Sandringham in Victoria, has 80 old cycles, mainly of the pennyfarthing vintage.

The Dickson Tradesmen's Club in Canberra houses the Canberra Bicycle Museum which has on view around the clock (the club's trading hours) 57 "bikes from around the world" from a holding of 720 bikes collected by Paul and Anne Marie Driver.

An 1890 men's early roadster called *La Souplette* and made in France almost entirely of hickory wood and an 1890s child's tricycle made by an unknown British blacksmith help complete the early history of cycling leading to an extensive coverage of the 20th century.



A rare silver plate trophy made in 1892 by William Kerr sold for \$875 in 1982.

Cycling memorabilia is probably an acquired taste not readily cultivated in the motorist who is trapped in a lane by a puffing cyclist. But an old pennyfarthing readily conveys a Belle Epoque ambience to any setting and evidently can be had for \$3,000 to \$4,000.

Nostalgia for the old bikes that baby boomers demolished as youngsters has made some of the fat-tyre, single-speed bikes of the 1950s and 1960s valuable while the mid-60s five-speed bicycles evidently run into thousands, according to an internet search.

The market has tended to take its lead from the annual sales held by Phillips International in its secondary Bayswater rooms in London. On August 21 this year 100 lots of vintage and collectors' cycles and 200 lots of cycle accessories, books and memorabilia raised £306,482, with only 1 per cent in money terms not finding a home.

Keen competition between a collector from the Middle East who took away 75 per cent of

the sale and an American resulted in a more than doubling of the auction record for a bicycle to £90,000 plus commission for an 1891 Raleigh bike with spring-tyred wheels.

The bike was one of about a dozen made by the Nottingham firm. The model never caught on because it could not practically rival the pneumatic tyre. But the price of 100 times the estimate possibly over-inflates ideas of the value attached to vintage bicycles as it was purchased in a contest between two determined bidders.

Organisers of an auction of cycling memorabilia to be held during the championships will be hoping the same two bidders turn up. The Australian buffs who scooped up silver and silver-plate cycling trophies sold off with limited marketing by the Sydney Bicycle and Motor Club in 1981 when a rare silver plate trophy made in 1892 by William Kerr sold for \$875 might consider returning them to the market.

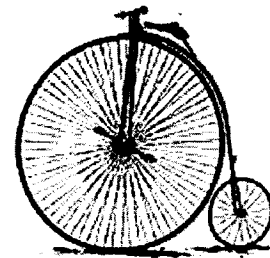
HISTORIC CYCLE CLUB EVENTS PLANNER MARCH 2000

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT	COMMENTS
Bike to Work Ride to the Breakfast combined with Melville BUG	Friday 17 March	Join the ride: 6am Mt Henry bridge south 6.15 Canning Bridge, 6.35 Narrows Br	Alan or Merv	Join the pennies and other old bikes for the 3 rd ride to the this event
BIKEWEEK SOCIAL RIDE AND HCC 1 ST BIRTHDAY BARBIE	SAT 25 TH MARCH	Ride from VCC clubroom 3pm, Barbie from 5pm	Alan or Merv	Join our 2 nd social event at the Wireless hill venue.
RIDE THE TUNNEL, PENNIES WANTED	SAT 22 ND APRIL	OPENING OF NORTHBRIDGE TUNNEL EVENT	MERV 9450 2579	
FREEMANTLE RECUBENT RIDERS	SUNDAY MORNINGS FORTNIGHTLY, 9AM From 30th Jan	FREO CAFÉ GINOS CAPPICHINO STRIP	DAVID DOUST 9418 4630 Doust@bigpond.com	INVITED TO THEIR REGULAR GET TOGETHERS
MONTHLY MEETING	Mon 20/3/2000 7 PM	VCC CLUBROOM 4 HICKEY ST ARDROSS (OLD WIRELESS HILL HOUSES)	ALAN NABER 9332 3956	BRING SOME HISTORIC CYCLE BITS TO SHOW Need a video player to show 3rd installment of the Bicycle video
MONTHLY MEETING	17/4/2000 7 PM	VCC CLUBROOM	Phil Harris 9450 2579	
MONTHLY MEETING	15/5/2000 7 PM	VCC CLUBROOM	Phil Harris 9450 2579	
PENNY RACE PINJARRA	1 ST W/E NOV 2000-	PINJARRA	TOM ATKINSON	

Note Hickey St splits into 2 near after the start and at first bend, take the small road on right.

Saturday, January 29, 2000

THE
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HISTORICAL CYCLE CLUB



Not the

SPOKE'N WORD

NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL CYCLE CLUB

VOLUME 1 - No 10

MARCH 2000

What's Happened since Last Time?

Good Attendance at the last meeting. Sixteen member and one visitor attended the meeting on 20/03/2000

Incorporation - The Application for incorporation has been submitted. Expect another month before we get confirmation of acceptance.

The Name Badges have arrived. The badges are rectangular in black and white. The new club title is in a prominent position and our names are between two pennies both facing inwards. To ensure that members always have their badges the badges are to be issued and returned at the beginning and end of each meeting/ event.

Annual General Meeting of the Club has been planned for May.

The President, Treasurer & Events Co-ordinator have agreed to stand for re-election to their post.

There are vacancies for a Vice-President, Secretary & Newsletter Editor. Nomination forms for all post will be available at the next meeting.

Money - we received a cheque for \$90 from the Transport Dept. sponsoring our First Anniversary Ride or at least the Sausage Sizzle! Our Funds stand in credit to the tune of \$627.90.

Fame at last The Club now has its activities publicised in the Bicycle Transportation Alliance brochure thanks to Alan Naber.

Bike Week 2000 - For Alan's report see over.

10 Pennies still due to roll down a hole on 22nd April. Merv is busy

ensuring that all parties know where to be and when for the Historic ride through **The Graham Farmer Tunnel**. If there is sufficient support the Club may also form a group of riders for the Public ride through day on the 23rd April.

Chance for another outing.

"Bike in the Valley" 10.00am 7th May Charity ride in aid of the Morrison Lodge. Start Swan District Netball Centre Gray Drive Midland. Pay on the day possible.

Club Dress & Logo. Opinions have not yet crystallised over the choice of Tee shirt or Antique style shirt or words thereon and what form a Club logo should take if we need one and where it should be applied to either of the above items of clothing.

If you could bring along to the next meeting or send in your design for a logo as well as consider how we can be recognised when appearing in Public as members of the Western Australian Historic Cycle Club.

This is an important step so we all need to feel that we have taken part in the process and are happy with the final choice.

Tasmania 69 pennies stack.

For Tom Atkinsons full report of the event see over.

Show & Tell or Interesting things Brought to the last meeting.

Merv's contribution - Humber and Rudge cycle spanners, Fork braces and Bend wood handlebars details not known.

Eric brought a replacement solid circular tyre for a 54 inch penny wheel. Fitting these seems to be only for those who can do press ups with their thumbs and has sparked off the idea for a "How To..?" series.

Phil wowed us with a c.1950 Lucas Club Racer. sporting 28 inch wheels,

flat rims, original paint and transfers a bit faded & original handle bars. There was no provision for a front brake so the current free wheel sprocket seems unoriginal as does the welded on side pull rear brake. There are suspicious flats on the seat stays where a clamp on rear brake may have been?

Phil plans to restore the bike to original condition so any information/ parts etc would be most useful.

Dave B brought in the latest UK Veteran Cycle Club Magazines.

Thinking he was the only WA member - wrong both Alan and Eric are also members.

Peter showed us his newly aquired two wheel small child transporter trailer. The meeting closed at 9pm but people were still chatting at 9.55!

The Club 1st Birthday ride. 25/03/00

Reported by Mavis Jones

Members gathered at our Clubrooms to celebrate our first anniversary. We were joined by several visitors, Arthur and Valerie who read of our meeting in the Bikeweek programme; plus five visitors from the Melville Bike group. It was great to welcome our country members, Tom and Joe with their Pennyfarthings who made the journey from Pinjarra to participate with us. At 3pm approximately twenty riders were ready to depart for our ride from the Clubrooms to Point Walter, following the bike path that meanders along the riverside. Merv our President emphasized that this definitely was not a Race. What a fine turn out it was!!!

Continue over

Next meeting:-
Monday 17th April 2000
VCC Rooms Ardross

Correspondence to :-
Merv Thomson or
Dave Brown.

1st Birthday Celebrations -C'tnd.

- Four(4) Penny's led the group - Peter Smith with a very modern little trailer attached to his bike, which carried his precious little son Jarrad (safely held by seat belts plus crash helmet to fit his head). Phil Harris with his mint-condition Raleigh which he has recently managed to persuade the owner to release from storage into Phil's possession. Alan Naber on his big black beast (about 1920 model). Merv and Dawn Thompson on their folding bikes. The remaining crew were on various types and vintage models. Conditions were ideal for cycling, a gentle breeze and wonderful views of the river, yachts and the city skyline across Melville waters. Everyone rode to the Point Walter kiosk. We admired Peter Smith's smooth riding skills as his little boy was sound asleep during our stopover. Cold drinks and a BBQ were set up on our return. Soon sausages and onions were sizzling. Peter Smith again showed his cooking skills and we all enjoyed the results in buns with salad. Merv reminded us of the reason to be there. Our sincere thanks to Mrs Lynn Harris for bringing along a Birthday Cake decorated with Pennyfarthing drawing and model. It was certainly enjoyed by all! Dawn Thompson carried out the formal cutting of the cake. All members confirmed Merv's thanks to Dawn for her catering efforts over the year. A vote of thanks was also given to Merv and Dawn for their organizing skills in establishing the Club. It is now up to all members to support them in the coming year. Only fading light caused us to wending our way home all agreeing that a fantastic event had successfully been held.

--oooOooo--

Evandale Village Fair 2000 *Report by Tom Atkinson*

The Century Ride 100 miles (160 Km). - This ride started at 06.45 hrs. at Evandale then through Launceston then along the Tamar Valley and finished at Tamar Ridge Vineyard at Kayena. 21 riders started in this event, 19 of these completed the distance. At Launceston traffic lights were a bit of a problem. Some riders got through some didn't, this caused the field to split up somewhat into ones and twos. About half way through the ride there were approximately 8kms of gravel road which was rough and in some places very soft - this made riding difficult. At the end of the ride we had a repeat of this same section of road and finished with two laps of the Vineyard. All this was followed by a BarBQ dinner. Apart from a lot of sore rear ends the dinner was much enjoyed.

The Airport Sprint - Approximately 60 riders waited in vain to take part in the sprint but because bad weather had delayed some flights no "slot" was available for the sprint to be run along the runway

The World Championships - and supporting events went off very well with a total of 70 entries.

Joe Cox has become the World Champion in the Super Veteran Class. Congratulation on a great effort.

Three of the events were marred by falls. Our own Nicki Armstrong was unfortunately involved in one of these. Someone came off on a turn in front of Nicki and resulted in her having a bad fall. I am sure we wish Nicki a speedy recovery.

Penny Farthing Stack - The record free standing stack of Penny Farthing - 58 held by an English club was broken this year at Evandale with a stack of 69

—oooOooo—

Bike to Work Breakfast, Forrest Chase. Friday 17 March *Report by Alan Naber*

The start to the Bikewest annual Bikeweek WA provided a good venue to publicize the HCC and ride for a number of HCC riders. Tom Atkinson and Joe Cox started from Mount Henry bridge on their penny farthings causing much surprise to the everyday commuters! They were followed later by Dennis Gibb, a little lost in unfamiliar territory!. Merv and Dawn were joined at the crossbar by their vintage tandem and rode from South Perth. All arriving for a free breakfast with around 2000 others between 6 and 8.30am.

Alan Naber complete with bowler hat set up a stand to publicize the HCC and displayed a couple of Malvern stars, a 1930s 5 star and also a 1953 Coronation model. A lot of interest was created and a number of potential members contacted.

A great fun event, see if you can get yourselves real early up next year to join the ride!

—oooOooo—

Information Wanted.

Jack Silverthorn rode in the 20's winning the Healing Cup. He built the SilverPrince Cycle at Kalgoorlie. His daughter -in-law Denise Silverthorn is interested in any information /recollections of Jack Silverthorn. Her address is:- 33, Shackell St. Coburg. Victoria. 3058.

--oooOooo--

Items Wanted or for Sale.

Wanted Spoke making equipment .

Contact - Malcolm Buckland on 9527 9427

For Sale Rim liners for 16 inch wheel. \$1 each

Contact - as above

THE END