



Not the...

# Spoke 'n Word

Volume 8 N° 7

NEWSLETTER

May/June 2007

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

We don't seem able to attract many new members, in spite of getting lots of interest at our displays so it was good to see a new young face at the April meeting. Welcome aboard, Paul Harrison, we hope to see lots more of you.

Numbers at some events have been cause for concern, but no doubt those who attend regularly enjoy themselves. We must endeavour to find fresh venues for some of our events, hopefully that will entice more to the starting point.

During the year we have arranged for a supply of decals, and through a mix-up have more than we need, so we must try to interest Eastern States enthusiasts with our wares.

Financially we are doing quite well, thanks to the generosity of some members, and of course Channel 7 and the Christmas Pageant. Our display at this years Classic Car Show was probably the best that we have ever had, and attracted a lot of interest, while our Bike Week activities were also well received.

Altogether we have had another enjoyable year, with plenty of variety in our events, and very few grizzles from members. We are now negotiating with Revolutions, a Government run museum, to have a semi-permanent display of our machines, and the history of cycling in WA in particular. Revolutions is located in Whiteman Park, and covers all types of transport, from horses to trains, trams, buses, and other more normal road transport. Like many other WA tourist activities, they are among the worlds best kept secrets.

I think that the Club is doing quite well, and look forward to another year of good fellowship, with more members getting interested in improving the quality of their bikes, especially West Australian built ones.

I would like to thank all those who helped run the club during the past year, and especially Dawn and her merry band of ladies who work so dedicatedly in the kitchen after our meetings. The Club would be poorer without all these helpers.

Peter Wells.

## MINUTES OF MEETING 19<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2007.

*The meeting opened at 7.45pm*

*Present* – 13 members

*Apologies* – Denis Gibbs, Myrene Bell

*Minutes of Previous Meeting* – Read and accepted.

Moved Judy Perry, seconded Merv Thompson

*Matters Arising*

➤ Nil.

*Treasurers Report* –

Previous Balance \$1,641.37

Income \$20.00

Expenditure Nil

Closing Balance \$1,661.37

Moved Phil Harris, seconded David Clark.

*Correspondence In*

➤ Friends of Canberra Museum newsletter

➤ Bike Week display - DPI

➤ Bike Week details

➤ Council of Motoring Clubs - Newsletter

➤ Australian Cyclists

➤ Consumer Protection – Review of Incorporation

*Correspondence Out*

➤ DPI – Bike Week Display

*General Business*

➤ Peter spoke about Revolutions, a part of Whiteman Park. Revolutions display various forms of transport and there may be an opportunity for our Club to exhibit bicycles on a semi permanent basis. Peter asked that anyone wishing to loan a bicycle for the display at Revolutions should contact him.

➤ Merv talked on the ride from McDougall Park. A little confusion prevailed with one lost rider. The scenery was excellent with the riders viewing parklands universities and the river. The ride finished with lunch.

➤ Peter gave a brief synopsis on the Bike to Work Breakfast – a good display with interest shown from potential members. We may be asked to provide a display again next year.

➤ Alan spoke on the Whiteman Park Classic Car Day where we had 41 bikes on display. He described it as a very successful day for the Club.

**NEXT MEETINGS:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May AGM at 7.30pm  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm

**WAHCC Committee -** President: Peter Wells 9459 1750

Treasurer: Tony Hall 9446 5738

27 Bentwood Avenue Woodlands 6018

Secretary: Paul Redman

7 McKnight St Melville 6156 9330 2092

**Articles for Newsletter:** The Editor Peter Wells

25 Constantine Court Thornlie WA 6108 (08) 9459 1750

**Vice President:** David Clark 9255 1373

**Historian:** Ken Ward 9364 3601

**Club Photographer:** Alan Naber 9332 3956

**Librarian:** Harold Perry 9364 7253

**Events Co-Ordination:** Phil Harris 9459 7146 Merv Thompson 9450 2579

- Peter said he had displayed two bikes at the Thornlie Library which was very well received and the possibility that he may be invited to repeat the display at a later date. He suggested that other members may like to approach their local library to display historic cycles and promote the Club.
- Merv also reported on the day and the interest expressed by a person from Three Springs who is building a penny farthing. 16 members attended and the lunchtime barbeque was well received

#### **Coming Events**

- 16<sup>th</sup> Apr Mon – General Meeting
- 29<sup>th</sup> Apr Sun – Garvey Park ride
- 21<sup>st</sup> May Mon – AGM
- 27<sup>th</sup> May Sun – Swap Meet
- 24<sup>th</sup> Jun Sun – Night ride around bridges, coffee after 6.30pm start
- 15<sup>th</sup> Jul Sun – York display to be confirmed
- Aug – Possible Toodyay bus trip

#### **SHOW AND TELL**

- Ken spoke on his talk at the Bayswater Historical Society. He said they were very interested in his talk but were not well organised.
- Mal Buckland showed a bike dated somewhere between 1900 and 1930, which he plans to restore. The name Turner was on the front stem which was fused to the racing handlebars.
- Mal Bell displayed a Glasson bicycle in excellent condition which was built in Gosnells and donated to the club. It was moved by Alan and seconded by Mal Buckland that it be donated to the Gosnells Museum.
- Peter showed a paint tin lid cut in half with a hole (about 10mm) located 10/15mm from the edge. He described how this allowed a clean pour with a minimum of spillage.
- Merv displayed a child's tricycle which he has rebuilt. He described how he made up various parts, hand painted the line markings and attached various decals to enhance the appearance.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm to enjoy supper and a chat.

#### **MINUTES OF MEETING 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2007.**

*The meeting opened at 7.40pm*

The Club welcomed Paul Harrison to our ranks.

*Present* – 12 members

*Apologies* – Paul Redman, Mal and Myrene Bell

*Minutes of Previous Meeting* – Read and accepted. Moved P. Harris, seconded M. Buckland

*Matters Arising*

- Nil.

*Treasurers Report* –

Previous Balance \$1,661.37

Income \$482.00

Expenditure \$188.30

Closing Balance \$1,955.07

Moved J. Perry, seconded D. Clark.

*Correspondence In*

- Cycling in the West

#### **Correspondence Out**

- The coming AGM was discussed. President said that a new Secretary was needed, and urged members to come forward to fill any positions.

#### **Coming Events**

- 29<sup>th</sup> Apr Sun – Garvey Park ride, 10am start
- 21<sup>st</sup> May Mon – AGM
- 27<sup>th</sup> May Sun – Swap Meet, 8am start, Sausage sizzle lunch
- 24<sup>th</sup> Jun – Night Ride 6.30pm start at Coode St South Perth.
- 15<sup>th</sup> Jul – York display
- 29<sup>th</sup> Jul – Tour de Ruste, Merv, Ken, Alan to show their collections.

#### **SHOW AND TELL**

- Mal Buckland wants Rat trap pedals.
- Alan Naber spoke on films available in Melbourne.
- Paul Harrison told of a 1910-1920 bike, a photo will be shown at next month's meeting.
- Merv said that chrome plating was now 10% dearer.
- Merv also showed photos of the Tunnel ride, and some other photos of his restorations.
- Denis Gibbs read a humorous poem published in Cycling in 1926.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

#### **OUR BIKE WEEK ACTIVITIES**

We certainly put a lot of effort into Bike Week 2007, with a big display for the Friday's Bike to Work Breakfast, followed by an even bigger effort at the Classic Car Show. Members can be justly proud of a top turnout for both events.

The brekkie display was put on by seven members, and there were about twenty machines dating from 1885 to 1970, so there was a good variety, and the big crowd obviously enjoyed what they saw.

The Car Show was even better, with forty one cycles on display, and seventeen members taking part. There were all types of machines there, some restored, others in good original condition, and a few rough, as found, for people to look at. There was a good variety of types, from penny farthings to virtually every type of machine made from the 1880s to the mid 1970s, even some specially built for children.

We had a great spot, with a picnic table and benches, and a group of shady trees, so that it was easy to arrange our exhibits in a huge circle around the trees. Our cabana was erected over the table, so that was used to display membership information, and also as a reading room as members perused some 1940s issues of Cycling (an English periodical).

We had a constant stream of visitors all day long, young and old, male and female, quite a few taking photos. Members were kept busy answering questions, explaining how some of the veteran machines worked. Just to make things easier for the ladies, we put on a sausage sizzle, and supplied cool drinks. We should have got a few more drinks, as the weather was quite humid, and got hotter as the day progressed, but we

didn't expect it to get quite so hot. Paul, Mal, and Phil acted as cooks, while Dawn handled the rolls. A vote of thanks was passed to those stalwarts, and a few expressed their pleasure at not having to bring along lunch, so we might have to do this more often.

For once there were plenty of helpers to erect and dismantle the cabana and club sign, and I was embarrassed by the number who helped me pack my car and trailer at the finish of the show, but still managed to forget my chairs and bag (complete with camera), luckily Phil did an emu bob and rescued them.

So it's thanks all round for all those who took part in Bike Week 2007, and no doubt we will be back in 2008.

Those taking part (some in both events) were:

Bob and Blanche Barrow  
Mal and Myrene Bell  
Merv and Dawn Thompson  
Harold and Judy Perry  
David and Ann Northan  
Paul Redman  
Tony Hall  
David Clark  
Phil Harris  
Jim Selkirk (from Gingin)  
Peter Wells  
Alan Naber

### **NINE MEN'S MORRIS**

Permit me to have a play on words, Maurice, but it will probably only be a Pom who would know that Nine Men's Morris was a dance performed by the Ancient Brits in days gone by. And anyway we didn't have nine men showing up for our ride starting from Garvey Park. No, we had three ladies grace us with their presence, and keeping we six gentlemen (I use that expression with tongue in cheek) company on our ride around the bridges. Those softies who stayed at home because of the threat of inclement weather missed a great event.

By the time all starters had unloaded their machines, and donned wet weather gear, blue skies beckoned, and we set off hoping to get at least part of the course covered before any showers returned. The further we rode the clearer the skies became, and the wind became a gentle zephyr, so some of us actually removed the coats, as it was only making us too warm, and we managed to cover the whole course without any problem, in fact we even had our lunch sheltering under a verandah in the park, had a good chinwag, packed our bikes and gear away, and started for home before showers returned.

The intrepid starters (and finishers) were:

Tony Hall – Raleigh  
Merv Thompson – Raleigh  
Dawn Thompson – Peugeot  
Ann Northan – Malvern Star Family  
David Northan – Malvern Star Skidstar  
Harold Perry – Rainbow  
Judy Perry – Swan Cycle  
Phil Harris – Flash  
Peter Wells – Indie 500

### **SWAP MEET – MAY 27th**

Our annual Swap Meet starts at 8am and continues until lunch time, when we finish with a sausage sizzle. We have a number of bikes for sale, some of them quite desirable, so roll up early, first in, best dressed. Don't miss this chance to snaffle those elusive bits to complete your project. No doubt some of our country cousins will grace us with their presence once more.

### **28" TYRES & TUBES**

Many older bikes were fitted with 28x1 $\frac{3}{8}$  tyres and tubes, but no doubt many don't realise that, particularly in country areas in Australia, even semi racers were fitted with 28inch wheels, the bigger tyre being much more suitable for loose gravel or sandy roads, just as many modern bikes now fit wide tyres for bush tracks or off road riding.

Tyres are still available from many of the better bike shops, but tubes are readily available. 700x35 tubes, fitted with Schrader valves are ideal, and my pet bike shop owner tells me that some new bikes are now being sold with 28inch rims. I don't think the old 28x1 or 28x1 $\frac{1}{4}$  tyres are available, but I have just finished rebuilding a very original 1939 Malvern Star 2 Star racer, which had been fitted with 28x1 $\frac{3}{8}$  thorn proof tyres from new, and was used in the Carnarvon area, on a station. It was in remarkable sound condition, too, and is a one owner machine

Peter Wells.

### **CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER**

For several years we have been electing a Club Photographer, but we don't seem to get many photos to put in the Club albums.

Now, perhaps we should try another way of filling our albums, as at many of our events several members can be seen busily snapping away. But we never seem to see much evidence of their efforts. Perhaps they are not happy with their results, but surely we must be able to get some photos occasionally to fill our albums. Would it help if we offered some assistance with the processing of these photos? It is only a couple of dollars extra for double prints of roll film, but digital processing is getting cheaper nowadays. Give this problem a bit of thought, and let us see if we can fill our albums so that we can show others what we are all about.

### **DE RUSTING STEEL COMPONENTS**

A couple of months back we had quite a lot of discussion regarding derusting small components. Various methods were used by members, with varying success, but it was evident that most of us were having difficulty with the rust reappearing before the painting process was done. I had a discussion with a chrome plater, and he put me wise on how to overcome that problem.

Various acids were being used to get rid of the rust – citric acid, hydrochloric acid, sulphuric acid, and all were OK, some taking longer than others, and some

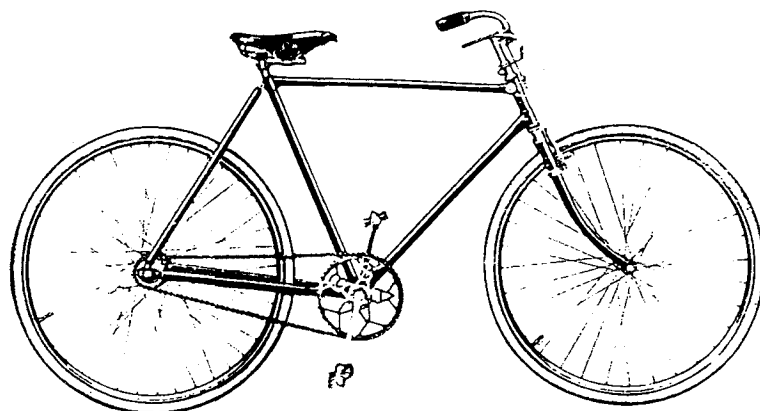
having disposal problems.

Immediately on removal of the parts from the acid bath, they must be washed thoroughly with water, if possible using a pot scourer to get the part clean. **WARNING**, use plastic gloves for this job, you can have skin damage. Then immerse the parts into a solution of caustic soda and water. A mix of about 20 litres of water to a small container of caustic is about right. Once again, caustic burns hands, so **USE GLOVES**, and avoid splashes on clothes or your body. Leave the parts in the caustic solution for a few hours, then wash thoroughly with clean water. Rub over with another pot scourer, before applying paint.

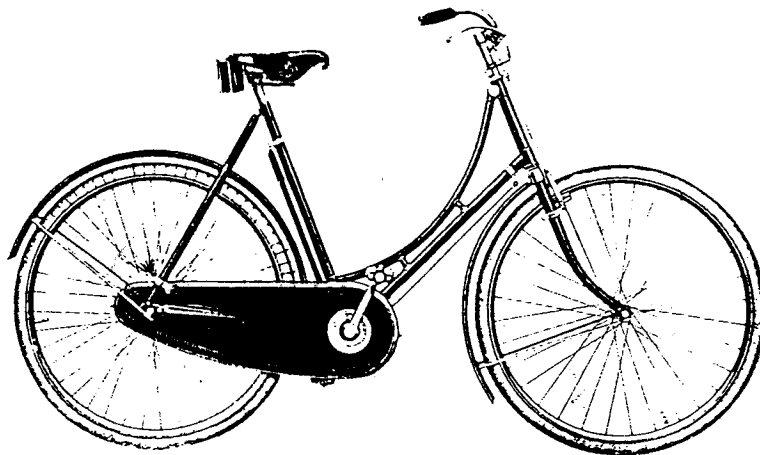
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**Built from B.S.A. Fittings.**

AUSTRALASIAN MODELS.



The Light Roadster machine, illustrated above, is built from "G" pattern fittings, and has necessary clearance for roadster tyres.



The Lady's fittings are designed to take 28 in. wheels, with clearance for 1 1/2 in. tyres. a frame very taking in appearance, the lines of which have been very carefully considered.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2007

**May 21<sup>st</sup> Monday** – Annual General Meeting

**May 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday** – Swap Meet. 8am start. 6B Hickey St Applecross. Sausage sizzle lunch

**June 18<sup>th</sup> Monday** – General Meeting

**June 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday** – Night ride 6.30pm start. Coode St South Perth. **NO LIGHTS - NO START.** Enjoy a coffee after.

**July 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday** – York display. Be there by 9am

**July 16<sup>th</sup> Monday** – General Meeting

**July 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday** – Tour de Ruste

**August 20<sup>th</sup> Monday** – General Meeting

**August 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday** – Bus Tour details later