



Not the... Spoke 'n Word

Volume 9 N° 3

NEWSLETTER

November/December 2007

SEASONS GREETINGS

This will be the last issue of this newsletter for the year, so we wish all our readers good health and happiness over the coming festive season, with plenty of tailwinds, and hopefully no breakdowns.

NEW MEMBERS NEEDED

Many of us are rapidly advancing in years, with the years now only having nine months, or so it seems, so it is imperative that we recruit some younger cycling enthusiasts to our group. If we cannot interest younger cyclists to join this Club, in a few years we will have virtually no members and the Club will have to close. So what can we do to encourage younger people to help preserve our rich cycling heritage?

One would think that all the interest our displays get would see some results with new members fronting up now and then, but for some reason it hasn't happened. Yet there are still people who are keen to see that older cycles are not thrown onto curb collections, and contact us regularly at displays.

So, how do we persuade younger people to join in our activities? Interest in cycling is stronger now that it has been for fifty years, and growing. We must grow with it, or we will have failed to preserve our main aim.

MINUTES OF MEETING 17TH SEPT 2007.

The meeting opened at 7.45pm

Present – 9 members

Apologies – Denis Gibbs, Phil Harris, Kim Bartlett, Alan Hind

Minutes of Previous Meeting – Read and accepted.

Moved Ken Ward, seconded Merv Thompson

Matters Arising

➤ Nil.

Correspondence In

➤ Council of Motoring Clubs – Minutes of AGM and General Meeting

➤ Have-a-Go Day, Wed 31st Oct

➤ Cycling in the West

➤ Peel Cycling Club

Correspondence Out

➤ Nil

General Business

➤ Discussion took place on the purchase of an urn. Dave undertook to purchase same.

➤ Peter tabled a list of bicycles brand names which had been manufactured and/or sold in Western Australia over the years. He asked members to add to the list if they know of brands not already noted.

Coming Events

➤ Merv suggested a club ride on Sunday October 21st. The ride to start at the Old South Perth Mill then along Riverside Drive to UWA. From there to Kings Park for lunch (BYO), finish back at South Perth.

➤ Merv proposed a motion authorising expenditure up to \$50 for the Christmas BBQ on December 9th. Moved Merv, seconded Alan.

Show and Tell

➤ Dave showed a front fork and chain guard, from an adult tricycle, which he had had sand blasted and powder coated. The cost of treating the complete tricycle was \$66.

➤ Peter advised that 3/4" handlebar grips were unavailable. He then showed a pair of 3/4" grips he had turned using a black reticulation riser as the base material. Peter also showed a jig he had built, mainly from scrap, to centre and true a wheel after lacing. Discussion took place on lacing wheels.

➤ Alan displayed his restored Evermore Dutch gents bicycle.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm to enjoy supper and a chat.

NEXT MEETINGS: Monday 19th November at 7.30pm
Monday 21st January at 7.30pm
VCC Club Rooms 6B Hickey St Ardross

Committee - President: Peter Wells 9459 1750

Vice President: David Clark 9255 1373

Treasurer: Harold Perry 9364 7253

11 Brentwood Avenue Brentwood 6153

Secretary: Tony Hall 9446 5738

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Club Photographer: Alan Naber 9332 3956

Historian: Ken Ward 9364 3601

Librarian: Harold Perry 9364 7253

Events Co-Ordination: Phil Harris 9459 7146

Merv Thompson 9450 2579

MINUTES OF MEETING 15th OCTOBER 2007.

The meeting opened at 7.45pm

Present – 12 members.

Apologies – Paul Redman, Alan Hind, Alan Naber

Minutes of Previous Meeting – Not available. To be presented at next meeting.

Treasurers Report –

Previous Balance \$2,457.62

Income \$135.00

Expenditure \$128.35

Closing Balance \$2,464.17

Moved Mal Bell, seconded Dawn Thompson

Correspondence In

- Mundaring Shire re meeting 2 Nov. Be at Brown Park Swan View by 9am.
- Have a Go Day 31st Oct. Cars to be out by 8am.
- Mundijong Display 2 Dec be there by 9am.

Correspondence Out

- Letter to C.M.C. re contact details.

Coming Events

- A bike ride was held around Lake Herdsman on 23rd Sept. 10 members met at Dodd St Wembley and had an enjoyable ride.
- Bike Ride 21st Oct. Meet at car park by the Windmill at 10am. For ride along the river.
- Christmas Pageant 8th Dec at 8pm.
- Christmas Party 9th Dec at 6.30pm at 7 McKnight Place, Melville. Paul Redman's house.

Show and Tell

- Ken Ward detailed his trip to Bali and showed his purchase from a shop selling bike parts.
- Merv Thompson showed photos taken at the York show.
- Peter Wells showed seat post shims made from a jam tin.
- Ray Martlew showed an American Magazine "Bicycle Quarterly" containing technical information. The Club will consider subscribing at US D45. He also showed memorabilia from his time in New Zealand.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm for tea and a chat.

HERDSMAN LAKE CIRCUMNAVIGATION

A perfect cycling day saw ten members turn up for a gentle cruise around Herdsman Lake, and later around Mongers Lake. These lakes are at their best this year, after better rainfall than has been the case for probably a decade, and the wildlife are making the most of it. There must be thousands of birds of all descriptions in the areas of pristine bush, along with their enemy, the tiger snakes. Luckily, the authorities have been sympathetic in their handling of this area just a few minutes ride from the CBD, so it is possible to see the wildlife in their natural habitat, and still enjoy walking or riding on the numerous paths that abound in the area.

Some of the paths are made from limestone, and although a little rough in places, proved to be no problem, except where one spot was under water due to the unusually high water level. There were also numerous side tracks through the bush which most riders enjoyed, especially the amazing variety of flora to be seen and smelt.

A pause for a cuppa after returning to our start point, saw us set off for a ride around Mongers Lake, and that was where your scribe had a catastrophe with his newly restored Armstrong when the steering tube decided to call it quits. A repair of this tube during the rebuild proved faulty, and luckily the break happened just as I was mounting, not when riding along. A spot of gravel rash (or should that be bitumen?), but luckily no damage to the paintwork or the gas headlamp. I'll be more careful with my repairs in future.

So, after cruising around both lakes it was time for a picnic lunch, where we were entertained by Harold with his portable gramophone and vintage records – just like our picnics back in the forties. The girls boasted about their culinary skills, even going back to their teen years, which proved interesting.

Starters were:

Phil Harris – CWS

Harold Perry – Swansea

Judy Perry – Indi 500

Merv Thompson – BSA

Dawn Thompson – Peugeot

David Northan – Malvern Star

Ann Northan – Raleigh 20

Tony Hall – Malvern Star

Alan Nader – Everton

Peter Wells – Armstrong

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

I am having a cleanout of surplus parts and accessories, with Endrick and Westwood wheels, various hubs, centre bracket and steering head parts, crank sets etc. Most of these parts are in good condition. First in, best dressed.

Peter Wells (08) 9459 1750

FOR SALE

The following Club owned bikes and frames are now available at giveaway prices.

1948 Bates (English) sports 22inch frame, very original, excellent paint and chrome. 3 speed derailleur. Needs minor works.

Manxman (West Australian) ladies. Complete, original though faded paint and decals.

Malvern Star gents. 3 speed Sturmey Arch. Curved top bar. Complete.

Gitane, small frame, gents. Original paint. Needs some repairs.

Several frames, men's, ladies.

Aussie gents, complete and original. 3 speed hub gears and sports stick shift.

See Peter Wells for the Club bikes (08) 9459 1750

3/4 INCH HANDLEBAR GRIPS

Recent efforts to obtain 3/4" grips for a couple of children's trikes and small bicycles proved fruitless, but luckily I found the answer to the problem when doing a minor repair to the garden sprinkler system. I spied a sprinkler upriser of larger than normal thickness, and on measuring it discovered that it had an internal size of 19mm. Now that is as near as possible to 3/4 inch, so being plastic could easily be made to fit.

So I bought a riser for a princely sum of \$2.20, then did a simple turning job in the lathe to bring the outside diameter down, then turned a number of grooves into the plastic to give the effect of a moulded grip. To finish the ends of the bars, and mainly to stop any little fingers getting jammed in the tube, I made up plugs of wood, then coloured them with a felt marker pen. You can only get black riser tubes, but perhaps other sources of tubing may be available, no doubt dearer.

I used a plastic hammer to fit the grips, and softened the grip by applying gentle heat from a heat gun. The finished article looks just right, and really sets the completed machine off.

Peter Wells.

RESOLUTIONS DISPLAY

I am surprised that no one has come forward to offer any West Australian bikes for our proposed display at Resolutions in Whiteman Park, but I am not particularly worried, because when we have our ride and picnic day at the Park, members will have the chance to see what Resolutions is all about, and then we will no doubt get some bikes offered.

The display will give this Club some valuable advertising, letting the public know what we are about, and also giving them some idea of the great involvement that the humble bicycle had in the prosperity and general opening up of so much of Australia's farming and mining districts, especially in the early to mid 20th century. It wasn't until the post WWII era, and the rapid rise in the use of the motor car, that the almost universal use of the humble bicycle began to decline. Thankfully, although for different reasons, the bicycle is once again gaining popularity, but unfortunately they are no longer being built in Australia by Australians.

FOR SALE

1939 Swansea 4 Swan racer, small frame size. Peter Wells
(08) 9459 1750

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SATURDAY 8TH DECEMBER

Due to the so called daylight saving the start time has been put forward to 8.30pm.

We are to arrive at the assembly point on what is left of the Esplanade at 7.30pm.

Other instructions are as follows:

Participant Parking – West End Langley Park – **PASSES ONLY**. Enter from Plain Street the Terrace Road heading west.

Other Parking – East end Langley Park or City car parks – fees apply

On Arrival – check the position of your group or float in the Parade.

Toilets – The Esplanade & Supreme Court Gardens.

Water – Please bring your own water.

Water – Will be distributed along route by Scouts.

First Aid – Located at the Esplanade, most intersections along the parade route and at Langley Park.

End of Parade – All floats and walking groups will finish on Langley Park. All walkers to keep clear of float area.

Post Pageant Drinks – Langley Park – outside float area. Present drink letter.

CANBERRA BICYCLE MUSEUM

This great Museum has now moved into its new premises, so take note of the new location, which enables the Museum to provide better facilities for displaying their machines.

Canberra Bicycle Museum & Resource Centre

3 Rosevear Place, Dickson, ACT, Canberra

Phone (02) 6247 1363 Fax (08) 6230 5298

Website www.canberrabicyclemuseum.com.au

Opening hours – Wednesday 10am – 4pm

Saturday 11am – 3pm

PERTH TO NEDLANDS RIDE 21st OCTOBER

Seven club members met at Mill Point Road, despite a few dark clouds hovering above us we rode across the Narrows Bridge and headed along the Swan River foreshore to Nedlands.

Out front setting the pace was David on his Malvern Star followed by Tony who looked like he was riding a cotton reel. that is until we got closer and discovered he was wrapped around a "Bickerton" folding bike. Judy (back seat rider) kept Harold awake by yapping to him. Dawn rode a Dutch bike called an "Aerts" as her faithful Peugeot needed a new tube. Close behind was Alan on his Bitzer who was so close to Dawn that I believe he was hanging onto her mud guard. Last but not least was myself left to pick up the spare nuts and bolts.

The weather was kind to us and we enjoyed a pleasant ride passing the old brewery and the recent addition of a bronzed bathing beauty statue and out in the water commemorating where the old Crawley Baths were built (which opened in 1914 and closed fifty years later). An unexpected contingent of bike riders passing us along Mounts Bay road gave us a reminder of the good old days when we were younger and fitter.

We finally finished up in Nedlands at the foot of the steps which led to a road some seven metres above us. After a short pit stop we returned deviating through W.A. University grounds to find the coffee shop closed.

Within site of the Narrows Bridge, Judy's Raleigh bike got a slow puncture and we decided to return, where several riders had lunch and a chat along the river foreshore.

We covered about 12kms, on the day and have now been on most of the River Recreation cycle tours around Perth.

Merv Thompson

LIGHTWEIGHT SUMMER SHIRTS

Let me know ASAP if you want lightweight shirts for summer. Short or long sleeves are available, and they will cost \$27 short sleeves, \$30 long sleeves.

Peter Wells (08) 9459 1750

NB I am only getting shirts for anyone ordering them now.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2007

Oct 31st Wednesday – Have a Go Day, Burswood. Cars must be out of the area by 8.00am..

Nov 2nd Friday – Mundaring Shire Display. Meet at Brown Park, Salisbury Road, Swan View 9.00am.

Nov 19th Monday – General Meeting

Nov 25th Sunday – Whiteman Park Ride & Picnic. Meet in front of Motor Museum 10.00am sharp.

Dec 2nd Sunday – Mundijong Display. Be there by 9.00am.

Dec 8th Saturday – Christmas Pageant. See main notice.

Dec 9th Sunday – Christmas Party 6.30pm, at Paul and Helen Redman's abode 7 McKnight Place Melville. BYO meat and drinks.

NO DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2008

Jan 21st Monday – General Meeting

Feb 3rd Sunday – Burswood River area ride. Meet at 10.00am car park.

Feb 18th Monday – General Meeting

Feb 24th Sunday – Rockingham Ride

Mar 16th Sunday – Classic Car Show

Mar 17th Monday – General Meeting