



Not the...

Spoke 'n Word

Volume 8 N° 5

NEWSLETTER

Jan/Feb 2007

MINUTES OF MEETING 20th NOVEMBER 2006.

The meeting opened at 7.45pm

Present – 22 members

Apologies – Nil

Minutes of Previous Meeting – Read and accepted.

Moved David Clark, seconded Dawn Thompson

Matters Arising

➤ Peter advised he was having trouble purchasing sparklers. Alan Naber volunteered to purchase some (illuminated tube type).

Treasurers Report –

Previous Balance \$3,837.88

Income \$96.60

Closing Balance \$3,934.48

Moved Mal Bell, seconded Phil Harris.

Correspondence In

➤ Have a Go Day survey form

➤ DPI re Bike Week 9-18 March 2007 – Breakfast on 9th March

➤ Charley Cannon – Cord on Blue Nannup

General Business

➤ Discussion took place on the letter from DPI re Bike Week. It was decided to make our display at the Classic Car Day at Whiteman Park on 18th March our Bike Week event.

➤ Peter advised that Shirley Smith was unable to carry the Club Banner at the Channel 7 Christmas Pageant. He asked for a volunteer for this task.

➤ Merv Thompson spoke on the idea of a club event centred at Nannup. To be discussed at Management Committee.

Past Events

➤ Judy Perry gave a briefing on the Darkan Centenary (to be published in the Spoke'n Word). She thanked the Bell family for their efforts in this event.

➤ The Club's comments in response to the Have-a-Go-Day survey were read. Discussion took place and the comments were endorsed.

Coming Events

➤ 26th Nov Sun – Carine Swamp ride.

➤ 9th Dec Sat – Channel 7 Christmas Pageant

➤ 10th Dec Sun – Christmas BBQ.

➤ 15th Jan Mon – General Meeting

➤ 21st Jan Sun – Perry Lakes Ride

➤ 19th Feb Mon – General Meeting

➤ 25th Feb Sun – Como Ride

➤ 9th Mar Fri – Bike to work Breakfast

➤ 18th Mar Sun – Classic Car Day

➤ 20th Mar Mon – General Meeting

SHOW AND TELL

➤ Merv spoke on an event he attended at the Fremantle Art Centre. It was a workshop where old bike parts were available for kids to make up bikes under parental supervision. Some of the results were odd but successful.

➤ Peter displayed a range of transfers which the club has had made. They include Swansea script, Swansea block letter, Armstrong, Raleigh, Malvern Star, plus frame decals.

➤ Peter also displayed an interesting 5 star Malvern Star racing bike c1955, with a lug less frame. The cycle had been specially built for Brian Shaw, who had raced it, then kept it until his death some months ago. It was then donated to the Club by his brother, on the proviso that it would not be sold. It created a lot of interest, with a number of members trying to buy it.

➤ A framed photo of the staff of Speed King Cycles outside their shop was also displayed by Peter.

➤ Alan donated a range of tools for sale to raise Club funds. Two sets of centre bracket taps will be retained for the Club.

➤ Merv Thompson spoke about a bike he has acquired which is powered by a car starter motor attached to the rear carrier. The bike is belt driven via a smaller rim attached to the spokes.

➤ Phil Harris organised a raffle which raised funds for the Club.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm to enjoy supper and a chat.

NEXT MEETINGS: Monday 15th January at 7.30pm
Monday 19th February at 7.30pm

VCC Club Rooms 6B Hickey Street, Ardress

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

DARKAN 100 YEARS

We woke to an overcast early morning. Met the young Bell family Grant, Nancy and boys Jake and Connor on arrival. Fortunately they were given a tent which we shared with them.

The organizers and visitors to the Pioneer Day were very appreciative of the family resplendent in their costumes and the penny farthing on show. They attracted quite a lot of attention.

Grant gave an exhibition of riding them around the perimeter of the oval. The weather reached the predicted 29° and was very pleasant. The boys were very well behaved especially as they travelled 200km and it was a long day for them.

Harold caught up with many friends and clients and enjoyed talking about old times in 1952-1954. Unfortunately many have passed on and others in poor health.

So ended a very interested and enjoyable day.

Judy

Our thanks to the Bells and to Harold and Judy for making the trip on behalf of the Club. We need to make others aware of our existence, and displays like this are a great way to do that.

Ed.

CARINE RIDE – 26th NOVEMBER 2006

The 'StreetSmart' shows it as 'Carine Regional Open Space'. Was it the word 'Swamp' in the Calendar of Events that put off the Historic Riders, or could it have been the weather forecast? An intrepid quartet (yes, four) set off shortly after the appointed time for a gentle ride around the sealed pathways, which are only slightly undulating. The morning was pleasant, warming up, but a slight breeze kept us cooled when on the move. Also, scattered thin high cloud layers lessened the sun glare a little.

A number of activities were going on in the area, cricket, tee-ball, soccer, jogging and walking, even a lady using a lacrosse racquet to bounce a ball onto a training wall more usually used for tennis practice. The BMX/skateboard rink was in use, but we gave it a miss! Dog training and socializing was being carried out by three separate groups of about a dozen people each. Not very many other cyclists were encountered at the time, but our path was crossed by a couple riding Puch electric scooter-bikes. While riding on the section of path parallel to the Reid Highway, our quartet was overtaken by a trio of faster riders (isn't everybody faster than us?) who seemed to have the all too common aversion nowadays to operating their bells – if fitted! At one stage we cheated a little by walking our bikes from path to path for a short distance across the grass at the Southern end. It was noteworthy that no obvious broken glass was encountered on the pathways – that made a change!

There is a 'Big Carine Swamp' and a 'Little Carine Swamp', but they have plenty of water and look more like lakes. Riding (or Walking) around the area, there are patches of tree shade, glimpses of the 'lakes', plenty of waterfowl and other birds, horses in a large corral (Riding for the Disabled stables). Neat and tidy, with well-mown grass, this venue is

OK as to availability of toilets, covered picnic tables with benches, and rubbish bins. There is an alternative, possibly more convenient, parking area on the Eastern side of the Reserve near the riding stables, off Mōnyash Road.

Those taking part were:

Ann Northan – Raleigh 'Romana' mixte

David Northan – Malvern Star Skidstar customized

Judy Perry – Bianchi demountable

Harold Perry – Malvern Star Four Star

THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The introduction of the so-called daylight saving certainly put a spanner in the works of the Pageant, and no doubt many parents of toddlers would have been very pleased to finally get them tucked into bed.

Our biggest problem was coping with the traffic jam trying to get into the parking areas, it taking this writer ¾ hour to cover about half a mile before entering the allotted area.

The crowds seemed to be higher than usual, so perhaps the powers that be will come up with some idea how to separate participants and on-lookers trying to park in future.

We had lovely warm weather, and this year started near the front of the parade for a change, which nearly caught a few of us napping as we finished decorating our bikes with fluoro strips. It was good to see a number of young faces among our ranks, and a couple of visitors as well, the later on an interesting tandem.

Young Mathew Bell was giving Myrene a spell, riding the Rudge Rotary, and coping very well with the hills en route. Our banner has been carried by Shirley Smith for years, but Rebecca Bell took her place since Shirley is having some health problems as present. We owe both of these young ladies our thanks for doing this important job for us.

Apart from a forced delay caused by the need to halt the procession to enable an ambulance to attend someone in the crowd, we seemed to do a lot of stopping and starting this year, but the crowd obviously appreciated our display, especially the penny farthing riders.

The wicked witch (alias Merv) attracted a lot of attention, mainly because he has yet to learn how to get his wheels to run concentrically. We may have to run a beginners class in bike maintenance. Alan's Kangaroo Hercules also caught everyone's eye, and for once your scribe stayed upright for the whole distance. There were twenty two members and friends taking part, a good turnout indeed. And I must add that Paul's swaggio outfit was also great.

Those taking part were:

Alan Naber – Hercules

Paul Redman - 49 Swansea

Merv Thompson – Funbike

Dawn Thompson – 49 Norman Trike

Desiree Harris – BSA 20

Phil Harris – Malvern Star Trade

Terry and Pat Price – Tandem (visitors)

Ann Northan – Hercules

David Northan – Peugeot

Mathew Bell – Rudge Rotary

Rebecca Bell – Our Banner Carrier

Ken Bell – Penny Farthing

Steven Bell – Penny Farthing

Grant Bell – Penny Farthing

Peter Bell – Penny Farthing

Harold Perry – Lucas

Ray Martlew – Allsop

Tony Hall – Electric

Danica Cannella – City Hopper

Michael Smith – 07 Pilot

Peter Wells - 25 Speed King

GUEST SPEAKER – FEBRUARY MEETING

Ken Ward has arranged for Rod Evans to talk at the February General Meeting on his racing and record breaking achievements. Rod has had a very interesting cycling life, don't miss this opportunity to hear him.

POST PAGEANT GET TOGETHER

Paul Redman, with Helen's blessing, very generously offered to hold a BBQ on the night after the Pageant, an offer taken up by twenty six members and friends. And what a great success the evening turned out to be. It was so noisy with everybody talking at once that it was a relief to move outside to the very pleasant back garden and covered BBQ area. There we found that everything had been set up for a sit down meal, with a large variety of salads and nibbles to tempt our taste buds, as well as a big BBQ, with a smaller one also brought into use to cope with the by now hungry horde.

It was good to see so many ladies present, they often feel left out on our events, not all being ardent cyclists. Perhaps they will grace us with their presence on our annual bus tour, which will see us moving north this year if everything goes to plan.

The noise and good fellowship carried on unabated until 10pm, before couples started to head home, all declaring the evening to be a great success. A vote of thanks to Paul and Helen was endorsed by all present. I didn't see it, but the dishes magically disappeared from the tables, and somehow emerged spotless and shining ready to be put away. Thanks to all who helped there, and also those who stacked chairs and tidied the pergola area.

Perhaps we should look at having more of these social get togethers, we may look at this in the new year.

TOO MANY RIDES?

Over the last few months, our rides haven't been very well patronised. Now, this may just be a clash of dates that conflict with other activities of members, and of course we cannot expect everyone to attend every ride, but to have only four people turn up for an event doesn't give the organisers much joy.

If you feel that we are having too many events, let us know, and we can change our calendar, but we need more starters. Perhaps we need to do something about the way we present our events, so that members feel that they want to participate. Let us know what you want, so that we can get more participating. I understand that many of us belong to more than one club, and that it is not always convenient to attend, but we need more than four people attending to make the organisers time worthwhile. We shall discuss this at the January meeting, so let's have your thoughts on the matter.

Peter Wells

CYCLE DECALS

We now have a supply of decals for a number of makes available. These are not the waterslide type, but the modern stick on one.

They have been faithfully copied from the transfers on original machines, and are as near as possible to the original colours. Over the years the originals have faded, but allowance has been made for this. The frame kits, although taken from mainly Malvern Stars, are suitable for most bikes of the thirties through to the late fifties, since most Australian makes were very similar on their frame decoration.

From what I have seen most English bikes of the period had fairly simple lining and frame decoration, unlike our Australian bikes.

The following list shows what is available, and the years of the machines they were copied from.

Swansea Down Tube – Early Pre 1945 Block letters

Swansea Down Tube – Late Scroll letters

Swansea Head Stem – Early Pre 1945

Malvern Star Down Tubes

Malvern Star Pre 1939 – block letters

Malvern Star 1939-1945 – Scroll red

Malvern Star Post War – Scroll blue

Malvern Star Seat Tube (blue) 1938

Malvern Star Seat Tube (gold) 1945?

Frame Kits Ex Malvern Star

Red or blue kits to 1938 – no arrows – 6 pcs

Red or blue kits 1939 on – with arrows – 6 pcs

These kits suit Malvern Stars but suit many other machines from the early 1930s on.

Also Red frame kits that also suit many makes.

Raleigh down tube – scroll, gold or silver

Contact Peter Wells (08) 9459 1750 for more details of these products.

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