



Not The Spoken Word

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

Restoring An Oldy

Some years back the club had a run to see other members' collections and along the way visited the King of the Verge Collectors. He must have had several hundred bikes of all types and ages and they completely filled the backyard, carport and any other spare space on the property. There was even one leaning against the lady of the house's rotary hoist.

Now, that bike took my fancy. It was a very old BSA racing bike complete with a Major Taylor headset, a fully adjustable saddle tube and other early fittings. It took a good two years to get that bike in exchange for a fully restored Swansea Racer. I took the frame to Milton Jones for repairs but Milton passed away before any work could be finished.

Then I had a couple of visits to Royal Perth Hospital and took a long time to recover. In the meantime some vital parts disappeared from my workshop. I finally got some replacements from one of our south west members.

Eventually I took the frame to Quantum Cycles in North Perth and had the frame repaired and painted black. My daughter helped with the lug lining and I managed

to get some reproduction stickers. A new Brooks saddle and toolbag and the bike was almost complete. Another daughter took me for a tour of the shops in Guildford and I found a slightly damaged Lucas gas lamp. My mate Phil repaired it and K&D Chrome made it look like new. Dating from the components I believe the bike to be a 1912 model. It looks beautiful but compared with modern bikes it weighs a ton.

Peter Wells.

Percy Armstrong Goldfields Ride Update

The Inaugural Percy Armstrong Goldfields Ride scheduled for August 18th to 21st is definitely going ahead as between five to eight Great Southern members are on board. The Great Southern Chapter has organised the Ride which celebrates Percy Armstrong's maiden Bicycle Express Service ride by departing from where it all began, near the Coolgardie Post Office.

A bus for Great Southern riders has been booked, the meal plan is done, so the wheels are definitely in motion. Perth members are most welcome to join the adventure, but will need to arrange their own transport and be ready to depart Coolgardie on a sturdy vintage steed on August 18th.

The ride is approximately 70kms over two days and involves riding gravel roads and camping out in the bush. There will be a sag wagon following the riders so participants can choose to ride as much or little as they see fit. August sees the Goldfields at it's best and no doubt there will be some great times on the bus, in the saddle and around the campfire.

For more details about the itinerary, meal plan and cost contact Glenn Huffer;
hufferfamily@bigpond.com
or 0407 774 400.



Club Calendar

AGM & Bike Auction - Monday Jun 20th 7.30pm

Ardross Clubroom

Meeting - Monday Jul 18th 7.30pm

Ardross Clubroom

Speeddome Display—Sun Jun 26th- CANCELLED

Meeting & Speaker - Monday Aug 15th 7.30pm

Member Adrian Emilsen, proprietor of Melody Wheels, will speak about significant developments in bike hubs and wheels with a focus on the past 3 decades. Ardross Clubroom

Ride - Coolgardie Aug 17th - 21st

Coolgardie to Ora Banda, see front page.

Meeting - Monday Sep 19th 7.30pm

Club Constitution

Updates by the WA State Govt. to the Associations Act require us to make alterations to our constitution. For a period of 3 years from July 1st 2016 we have the opportunity to adopt a new constitution without having to call a special general meeting (and having it fail due to the lack of a quorum!). This will be the responsibility of the committee elected on June 20th.

The draft WAHCC constitution is available online:

<https://goo.gl/qODsTe>

Recent Club Events

Display and Ride - Vancouver Street Festival Saturday May 7th

Vancouver St, Albany

Despite inclement weather, The 2016 Vancouver Street Festival Tweed Ride was a big success. The Tweed ride was one of the Festival highlights featuring a huge array of artistic and vintage activities. There was a lot of rain and strong winds on the day, so it was a godsend to be able to set up the display of bikes using both of the club's marquees.

Fortunately for the ride there was a break in the rain sweeping across Albany. Forty two riders participated in the Tweed Ride and there would have been many more had the weather been more alluring.

The ride started on Stirling Tce outside the majestic UWA building with riders setting off on historic Stirling Tce, a perfect backdrop. It concluded on Vancouver Street with a parade and presentation of prizes. Winners were; Most Fetching Lady, local Nadine Mulvey and the Most Dapper Chap, another local Fred Walleford. The Most Magnificent Bicycle was won by the 1885 machine that Cathy Bell from Perth rode.

All three Albany bicycle shops, Bob's Bikes, Passmore Cycles and Impulse Cycles donated prizes.

A big thanks to our Perth cousins who travelled down and

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President: Robert Frith

Vice President: Merv Thompson

Treasurer: Malcolm Bell

Secretary: Kym Murray

Committee Members: Alan Hind, Malcolm Buckland, Murray Gomm

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participated in the display and the Tweed Ride. There were an amazing number old and rare machines that were much appreciated by onlookers. So thank you Merv and Dawn Thompson, David Clark, Alan Hind, Viv Cull, Mal and Myrene Bell and family.

The 25km Treadle Trundle was held the day before the Festival. This ride involved a generous amount of time at local coffee shops and enabled participants to get in a long ride on a vintage bike which complemented the shorter Tweed Ride. A wood fired pizza night was held later that day at orange tractor wine, a great opportunity for Great Southern and Perth members to meet and mix. Thirty three people attended.

Display - Arthur Grady Day Saturday May 28th

Kings Square, Fremantle

Club members just enjoyed the best Arthur Grady Day we've done yet! Seven members rocked up with over twenty bikes between them. Alan Hind's trio of Flying Scots attracted a lot of interest, as did Robert Hunt's Raleigh town bike. The Bell's penny farthing, kindly brought along by Andrew Blackmore, fascinates the great unwashed no end.

Heavy overnight showers cleared and presented us with a beautiful cool, sunny day.

The new marquee certainly made the display more visible from a distance, as well as providing welcome respite from the sun.

May Meeting

Ardross Clubroom

It was awesome to see so many members at the Perth May Meeting. Not just members but bikes! ... count them;

1. Merv Thompson raised eyebrows aplenty with a recent acquisition - a penny farthing racing model with it's original seat.. Manufacturer unknown, however a patent plaque on the wheel suggests it was made post 1888.

2. Peter Wells showed off a beautiful pre WW1 BSA racer he's been working on for a few years (full story on the front page). He'd originally spotted it "holding up a clothesline" in a backyard full of bikes and it took him some years to persuade the owner to part with it. (The identity of the previous owner was hinted at - is it longtime club member "Ivor"??)

3. Peter also had a Swansea child's bike he's recently restored in brilliant red and white.

4. Another child's bike, this one from Phil Harris. An irresistible op-shop find, a charming micro bike with Giro d'Italia livery. It also sports the original Italian shop price tag - €180!

5. Visitor Tom Favazzo brought in a Swansea 2 Swan that's been in the family it's whole life; his grandfather bought it in 1939(?) and rode it regularly to Fremantle Port where he worked as a crane driver. Tom generally rides a modern bike however having rescued the Swansea he's been enjoying riding it regularly. It was his transport to the meeting.

6. Rob Frith had his 1955 Rotrax onboard ready for a ride in the wheatbelt the next day. A mid-range offering from Southampton's finest, replete with Cyclo Benelux derailleurs and Cyclo Oppy pedals.

7. Rick Verschuren brought along a 2 Swan frame (no frame number visible) which he is donating to the June auction.

8. Not a bike! - Adrian Emilsen brought along his immense collection of freewheel removal tools as well as an intriguing freewheel vise.

Wanted

Rob Frith is on the hunt for a french threaded 4 speed freewheel. ph 0411555607