



Not the...

Spoke 'n Word

Volume 6 No 1

NEWSLETTER

May/June 2004

AGM - MONDAY 17 MAY - 7:30 pm

Don't forget this important date in our calendar, those serving on the committee need your support, and some may wish to take a break after serving for a number of years looking after members interests.

Also remember that ANNUAL SUBS are due at the AGM and Ray will be only too happy to accept your \$20.00

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2nd - Sunday

Mongers Lake 10 am start

Contact Phil Harris 9459 7146

May 8th - Saturday

Bridgetown Field Day

Contact Merv Thompson

May 23rd - Sunday

Swap Day - BBQ at clubrooms

10am

June 13th - Sunday

Ride Around Bridges 10.30 am

Meet at Coode Street

June 21st - Monday

General Meeting

7.30 pm

June 27th - Sunday

Hilarys Ride 10 am

Contact Phil Harris 9459 7146

August

Collie Museum Trip date to be advised

Contact Ray Martlew 9451 1186

October 23rd - Saturday

Narrogin Field Day Display

Contact Merv Thompson 9450 2579

October 24th - Sunday

Midland Railway Workshops

Centenary Display.

NEXT MEETINGS Monday 17th May 7.30 pm

Monday 21st June 7.30 pm

WAHCC Committee-President Peter Wells 9459 1750

Treasurer Ray Martlew 9451 1186

Secretary Harold Perry 9364 7253

Events Co-ordination: Phil Harris 9459 7146

Merv Thompson 9450 2579 David Clark 9255 1373

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Club Photographers Mal & Gareth Buckland 9527 9427

BIKE WEEK BREKKIE — MARCH 12

Only a handful of our members were to be seen carrying the flag at the BTA sponsored ride and breakfast that starts Bike Week, which is a bit of a misnomer really, cos Bike Week now runs for fourteen days.

Those who I know attended were Alan Naber, Alan Hind, Dennis Gibbs, and Peter Wells. There may well have been more in attendance, but I have no knowledge of them. I suspect that the over-all attendance may have been a little smaller than last year, but there are

other events taking place in the suburbs nowadays, which could account for a drop in attendance in Forrest Chase.

As usual I cast my beady eyes over the bikes stacked all over the place, but there weren't too many old ones there. Although when I parked my 1945 Swansea I noticed Alan Naber's Rolls Rocket, which boasts telescopic front forks, and plunger rear suspension a la 1940s BSA motor cycles. It also sported a Sturmey Archer hub gear, with hub

brakes all round. I built something similar, although only with single speed Perry backpedal brake as a fun bike for use along the river wasteland in 1948, my good Swansea too precious to risk damaging on the rough going along the foreshore.

Getting back to the Brekkie, it was a great event, and I was particularly taken by the large number of the fair sex who obviously take their cycling seriously these days.

GETTING OTHERS TO KNOW US

This year I thought it was time to promote our Club a bit more, so asked the head librarian at the Thornlie Library whether I could display one of my bikes for Bike Week. As an enthusiastic cyclist himself, he jumped at the idea, so my 1907 Pilot took pride of place, surrounded by all the pamphlets, maps, etc. put out by the BTA. The display

proved a great success, and I have been asked to provide another machine next year.

Perhaps other members could try something similar in their districts to further interest in our hobby.

Peter Wells.

HOUSE OF BUICK

Although it had nothing to do with bicycles, a number of our members took advantage of the chance to see one of the best collections of Buick motor cars in the Southern Hemisphere, which was augmented with more vehicles of various car clubs come to visit. The many ladies present were delighted with the fabulous gardens that surrounded the house and garage buildings.

It was a very pleasant way to spend the day, and I know that several members had trouble getting away from all the beauty & nostalgia.

PROPOSED COLLIE MUSEUM TRIP

A proposal to hire a mini bus for a day trip to view a bicycle museum in Collie sometime in August has been mooted and further details will come to light later. What we need to know is how many members and their wives are interested in going, so that we can make arrangements re the size of the bus needed.

Please let Ray or Merrill-Martlew have your numbers ASAP, then we can let you know the cost per head, and details of date etc. It is suggested to travel on a Sunday so that more can get away from work. It should be an enjoyable trip.

Tel 9451 1186

Fax 9451 1182

BROOKTON OLD TIME MOTOR SHOW

Our presence at what may well be the last of these fantastic working displays, where many of the exhibits, especially the farm implements, actually parade around the oval, was well received by both the promoters and the general public. Which is not surprising, for although only a handful of members attended, our display covered a century of cycling, with only one modern (relatively), a 1980 Strida in the lineup.

I must make special mention of Myrene Bell who

rode her Rudge-Rotary around the oval on two occasions, a great feat because the gravel surface was quite heavy going and the brisk breeze didn't help when heading into it. I even noticed it riding a lightweight sports machine, so Myrene did very well indeed.

We had some nineteen machines on display including three penny-farthings, the Rudge Rotary, a solid tyred safety, an ice cream trike, a hand operated chain drive wheel chair, a couple of pedal cars, a Cyclops trike,

the others a mix of racing and roadster types.

Those exhibiting were Bob & Blanche Barrow, Mal & Myrene Bell, Phil Harris, Ray & Merrill Martlew (on a tandem—nearly forgot that) and Peter Wells.

Ray twisted arms enough to convince Phil & Peter to go to the nearby airstrip to look at aircraft that had been performing overhead throughout the day, but he took us the long way round, almost had us back in Perth before we had sighted an aircraft.

The strip is about 200 metres from the show ground, but they say we should see our own state first.

Peter Wells.

VCC OPEN DAY DISPLAY

Although the faithful few once again fronted on behalf of this club, a great display of human powered vehicles covering most periods up to the late 1960s, and a number of children's pedal powered toys were much appreciated by a good crowd of both sexes of all ages. The highlight for many was when Mal Bell showed how to ride one of his Penny-farthings, which was a bit risky on ball-bearing gravel; fortunately we didn't need our insurance.

Free tea & coffee, with a wonderful selection of cakes & scones was much appreciated, and helped to lift the spirits when the rain tumbled down a couple of times. The other items on display were of high standard, and helped make it a very pleasant day.

Members present were Mal Bell, Merv & Dawn Thompson and the Editor.