



Not the...

Spoke 'n Word

Volume 3 N° 4

NEWSLETTER

September/October 2001

A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

David hinted that he wanted someone to take over editorship some time back, and I have decided to take on the job. As you know, the newsletter is only going to be published bi-monthly, which means that we must be on the ball with coming events in particular. So I ask all members to give their support to Alan Naber and Phil Harris as they set out our activities. In order to keep the newsletter interesting I invite you to submit short articles, technical, of general interest, particularly of past events, even things that happened to you over many years of cycling. Let's face it, many of us have been riding bikes for over half a century, so there must be plenty of interest out there. So, help me to help you, and send in some items for publication. Our thanks are due to David Brown for carrying on the editorship over the past months.

Peter Wells

SEPTEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Nine members attended, as well as visitors Ray and Merrill Martlew, who have just formed a Tandem Club. They promptly joined our Club as well: welcome to our ranks. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted. The \$100.00 from BTA is still outstanding. Alan Naber will follow this up. Merrill will arrange for a tax number for the Club. A sign is needed to display at events. News that the meeting venue may be demolished next year caused concern. Merv is to make further enquiries on the matter. There were several show and tell items, this being as usual very interesting. Phil had a mint Brooks saddle, biscuit tins, and BSA pedals. Merv had a calendar of South Australian bikes, while Dave Clarke had a Kris bike for sale. Swansea decals are available from Alan Naber, Tom Atkinson has returned from a cycling trip to Kalgoorlie, Kambalda, and return, towing a trailer behind his bike, and camping out. A video of the Strathalbyn Penny Farthing Rally in 1986, a Mulga Bill video, and shots of Merv's 1914 Studebaker completed the evening.

OCTOBER MEETING - OCTOBER 15

Fifteen members attended, with 4 apologies. The minutes of the September meeting were read and accepted. Merrill Martlew has organised that taxation number, so now we can organise the \$100.00 due from BTA. Bill Burrows did not receive the last newsletter. There was no Treasurer's report, the previous balance being \$1,615.01.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Ken Ward handed in two large posters from Club displays, and Mal Buckland donated a nice storage cabinet. Thanks, guys. Members are asked to bring details of their bikes to the next meeting so that A4 size posters can be made for our displays. The November meeting will be the last for the year, will be VERY SHORT, followed by a fun evening. BYO drinks and a plate for supper.

SHOW AND TELL

Merv had an Edwardian desk clock - very ornate, and a complete Players cigarette card book of early bicycles. Peter had a 1934 Aussie racing frame, and details of Speed King and Flying Eagle cycles. Mal Bell had an antique inkstand complete with penny-farthing and rider. Milton Jones and Mavis, back from up north, had a Malvern Star Coronation Model rescued from a tip. Ken Ward had a number of early racing photos, and finally David Clarke had a unique and blackened billy for his Prospectors Bike. Coming events were discussed, and will be found on the events page.

PAST EVENTS

Midland Fair. Old WAGR Workshops.

Three members arrived early to set up a display at the old WA Government Railway Workshops. The Midland Machinery Preservation Club had invited our Club to participate, so we are getting to be known around the town. Despite wet and windy conditions, visitors came in their thousands to view the many displays, including working stationary steam engines, veteran and vintage cars, workshops full of old and original equipment, with the real attraction for me, the Power House. The original workshop sheds are huge, and housed numerous rail carriages in various stages of restoration. Separate displays included demonstrations on leatherwork, printing, etc. Enough to keep families occupied all day.

Great interest was shown in our bicycle display, keeping us busy for most of the day. Thanks to Phil and Alan for their help in promoting our club.

Merv Thompson

NEXT MEETING: Monday 19th November at 7.00pm
VCC Club Rooms 6B Hickey Street, Ardross
Meetings are held on the third Monday of the Month
January Meeting Monday 21st January 2002

WAHCC Committee - President: Merv Thompson 9450 2579
Treasurer: Peter Smith 9405 7561
Historian: Ken Ward 9364 3601

Articles for Newsletter: The Editor Peter Wells
25 Constantine Court Thornlie WA 6108
(08) 9459 1750

Vice President: David Clark 6278 1048
Acting Secretary: Dave Brown 9581 9084
Events Co-Ordination: Phil Harris 9459 7146
Alan Naber 93323956

**SUNDAY 7 OCT VETERAN CAR CLUB AUTO
JUMBLE**

Four members arrived early to set up stalls and bicycle displays. This was the first time that we had participated, also a great opportunity to promote the club. Much trivia and unwanted goods were sold on the day, including two bicycles. Those in attendance were Phil Harris, Alan Naber, David Clarke and myself.

Merv Thompson

THE GREAT TRAIN JOURNEY

Last minute arrangements saw several members front at East Perth Railway Station to welcome the Federation trains, and although we had a mere five machines on display, we had the honour of a visit by the Lt. Governor, General Sanderson, and Premier Geoff Gallop and their entourage. And they were quite impressed, too, especially with the Gordonson prospector's bike, and another West Aussie bike, a Fremantle built Swansea. Those present were Milton and Mavis Jones, David Clarke (Gordonson), Alan Naber (1906 Triumph), Merv Thompson (Carrier bike), Peter Wells and grandson Eric Bell, (1939 Swansea and C1948 Flying Eagle).

This little display brought home the need for proper signs on the bikes, and details of the Club. Let's do it

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN 'CAN YOU HELP' PAGE

Ken Ward and Peter Wells have used this means getting information on cycling matters, with surprisingly good results. Ken had about fifty phone calls about ex racing cyclists, while Peter had calls from relatives of old cycle makers, getting both photos and information. The "Can You Help" page appears in Mondays West and is always worth a read.

FOR SALE-SWAP-WANTED

FOR SALE

Ladies Malvern Star – complete
Swansea brand black handlebar grips (NEW)
\$1.00 pair. Contact Merv Thompson (08) 9450 2579

AVAILABLE

Ladies and gents bicycles owned by the Club available for prospective members. Contact Dave Clarke (08) 9278 1048

WANTED

Kero Headlamp – 1920/30 any condition
Sports leather saddle or frame only
Contact Peter Wells (08) 9459 1750

NOVEMBER MEETING

**THERE WILL BE A VERY SHORT MEETING
FOLLOWED BY A SOCIAL EVENING. B.Y.O. AND
BRING A PLATE AND JOIN IN THE FUN**

DON'T FORGET – NO DECEMBER MEETING

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2001 – 2002

2001

Oct 31 Wednesday

Senior Expo Forrestfield Bike Display
Contact Mal Bell (08) 9454 8073

Nov 4 Sunday

Bridge-to-Bridge Ride-Mandurah. Starts 8.00am
Contact Phil Harris (08) 9459 7146

Nov 18 Sunday

Tandems Run – Burswood Park 10.30am start
Contact Ray or Merrill Martlew (08) 9355 0975

Nov 19 Monday

MONTHLY MEETING – SOCIAL NIGHT
BYO. Bring a plate.

Dec 8 Saturday

RAC-Channel 7 Christmas Pageant – Club Event
Contact Merv Thompson (08) 9450 2579

Dec 16 Sunday

Kalamunda Christmas Pageant – Start 4.00pm
Contact Mal Bell (08) 9454 8073

2002

Jan or Feb

Riverton Shopping Forum. One week club display
Contact Merv Thompson 9450 2579

Jan 21

MONTHLY MEETING

Feb 16/17

Mandurah Antique Collectors Club Fair. Club Display (Sunday Only)
Contact Phil Harris 9459 7146

Feb 18

MONTHLY MEETING

Apr 6/7

Guildford Heritage Festival. Club Display and Ride (Sunday 7th Only).
Contact Merv Thompson 9450 2579

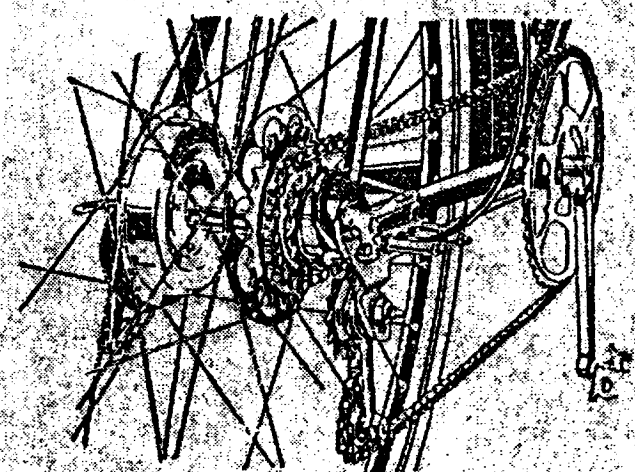
Jul 7

York Parade – Penny Farthing Race – Tentative Event

The Gears that "Make Cycling Easy"

MARY'S LITTLE BIKE,

Mary had a little bike,
 Its gear was fixed and high;
 And every hill that Mary climbed
 Made Mary moan and sigh;
 But Mary's boy friend, Archie,
 Said, I'll banish all your fear,
 I'll have your cycle fitted
 With a



"TriVelox"

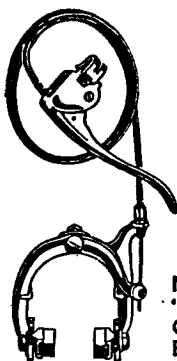
3-Speed Gear!

For Particulars— **Armstrong Cycle & Motor Agency.**
 PREMANTLE ——— PERTH ——— KALGOORLIE

This little advert in the 1934 Bassendean York and Return Road Race programme brought back memories of the first time that I became aware of multi geared cycles. I had started cycling in 1934 on a 24 inch wheeled Bluebird, on a farm 13 miles from Southern Cross, where all the bikes in the area had single fixed gears, and very few sported brakes at all. After all there was very little traffic, and the country is almost devoid of hills. In 1938 my family, along with many others, forsook the land after a series of crippling droughts, and returned to Victoria Park to live. One of my schoolmates had a brand new Gordonson cycle fitted with derailleur gears, making him the envy of all in the school. You will note that the cycle depicted has the later dropouts, and a Sturmey Archer hub brake, no doubt fitted to an Armstrong cycle.

Peter Wells.

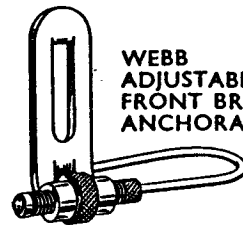
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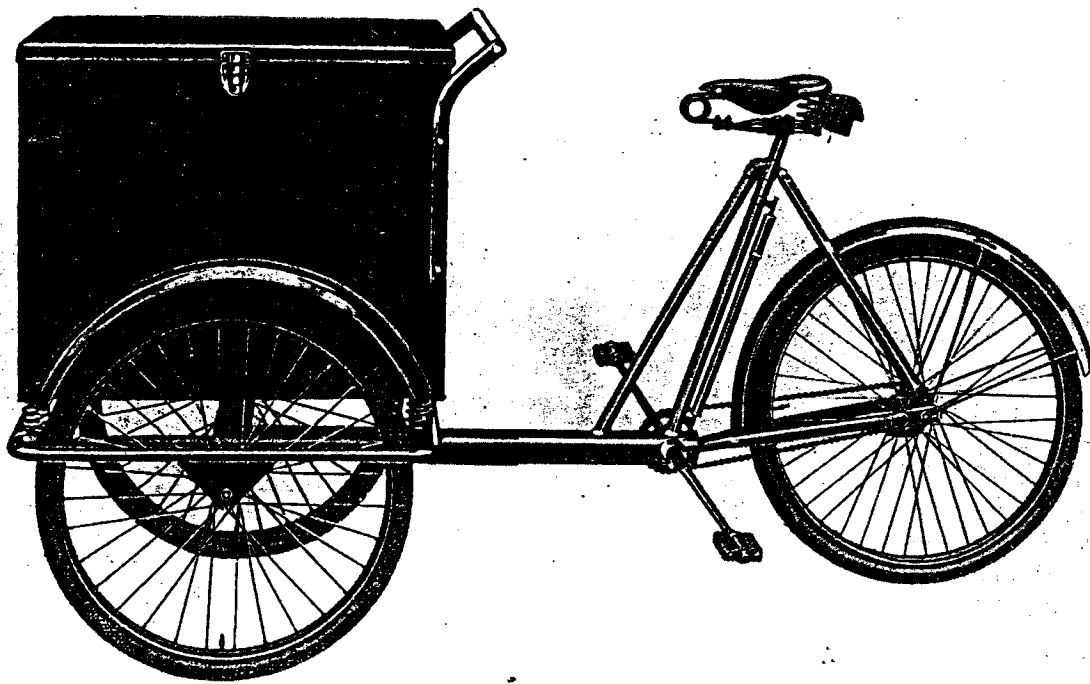
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