



Not the ...

MERV

Spoke'n Word

Volume 12 No 4

NEWSLETTER

Jan - Feb 2011

MINUTES OF MEETING 17TH JANUARY 2011

Meeting opened 7.40pm.

Present - 11 members.

Apologies - Dave Clark.

Minutes from the November meeting - Read and accepted. Moved Mal Bell, seconded Alan Hind.

Matters Arising

The address for Mal and Myrene Bell is 5 Mulberry Court, Maida Vale.

Treasurer's Report

Balance B/F	\$4,174.97
Income	\$ 100.83
Expenses	\$ 19.00
Balance	<u>\$4,256.80</u>

Treasurer's Report accepted. Moved Judy Perry, seconded Mal Bell

The expense of \$19.00 was queried. This was for a bottle of wine for Mal and Myrene Bell in recognition of their help in hosting the Christmas function.

Correspondence In

- COMVAS (Public Liability Insurance) advised that the new President is Morris Park of the Top Loader Club. Address is 78 Rosher Road, Lockridge WA 6054. Mob: 0421 871 600.
- National Machinery Rally to be held at Fairbridge Village, Pinjarra 2nd - 4th September 2011.
- Bridgetown Heritage Day 26th March 2011. Mal Bell will be going, may be supported by Bob Barrow. This clashes with the Guildford Festival to which we are committed.

General Business

- A Committee Meeting was held 29th November. Four people attended and discussed future plans.
- It was proposed by Peter Wells that \$200.00 be donated to the Queensland Premier's Disaster Relief Fund, seconded Alan Hind and carried unanimously.

Events

- 27th February 2011 Rockingham ride. Meet at 14 Cygnus Street, Rockingham @ 9:30am. NOTE bring you own meat.
- 20th March - Ride Classic Car Show
- 21st March - General Meeting
- 27th March - Guildford Fair Day
- 17th April - Alan's City Ride TBA
- 18th April - General Meeting
- 22 May - Bibra Lake Ride - Harold and Judy Perry organisers
- 20th June - AGM
- 26 June - Speed Dome Display

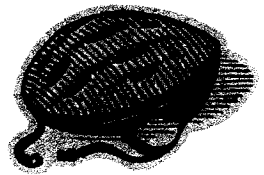
Show and Tell

Phil Harris showed an interesting model car bought recently. Several bits and pieces were sold among members. Peter Wells suggested an auction of surplus bikes in the near future.

Meeting closed 8:50pm.

COMING EVENTS

- Sunday 20th March - CLASSIC CAR SHOW, Whiteman Park. Cars and trailers MUST be out of the display area before 9:00am. Gates open 7:00am. There is plenty of shade at our site so come along for a great day and display your pride and joy. ENTRY FREE.
- Sunday 27th March - GUILDFORD FAIR DISPLAY, Stirling Square, Guildford. Be there and set up by 9:00am at our usual Gazebo site (you can't miss it). We do several demo rides in the park, so if you have period clothing please feel free to bring along and use it. This is always a great day with plenty to entertain all ages. Trailers and vehicles will be parked in the railway parking area in Victoria Street. I suggest that a shuttle vehicle be organised to bring drivers back as it is a fair step from the display area. ENTRY FREE.



NEXT MEETINGS: Monday 21st February 7:30pm

Monday 21st March 7:30pm

Committee - President: Merv Thompson 9450 2579

Vice President: Dave Clark 9255 1373

Treasurer: Harold Perry 9364 7253

11 Brentwood Ave, Brentwood 6153

Secretary: Tony Hall 9446 5738

27 Brentwood Ave, Woodlands 6018

Articles for Newsletter:

The Editor, Peter Wells 9459 1750

25 Constantine Way, Thornlie 6108

Historian: Ken Ward 9364 3601

Librarian: Harold Perry 9364 7253

Committee Members: Judy Perry, Tony Hall

2010 BUS TRIP TO CUNDERDIN EXPENSES

Hertz hire of bus	\$745.95
Less refund	<u>470.01</u>
	\$275.95
Fuel cost	74.00
Total Cost	\$349.94
Members contributions	380.00
Return to Club	30.06

HE PERRY - Hon Treasurer

That must make our very pleasant trip the best value ever. Thanks to all who helped make it such a success. PW

A FUNNY PHONE CALL

I get a number of phone calls looking for information about bikes and the club, but recently a young lady phoned me seeking the hire of an early tandem to use at her wedding. No, she didn't want to use it for the honeymoon, a car would be used for that, the loving couple wanted to have photographs taken with the bike. Wonder if they were wearing lycra?



GRANDE FINALE FOR 2010

Once again our Christmas Party at the beautiful Bell residence saw a great turnout of members and their families and friends on a perfect evening, warm enough for no need for coats or headgear. And this year Mal had arranged the parking so that it was easy to get home without disturbing those wishing to lingalonga.

This time the Bell offspring and their offspring turned up in good numbers, the pool filled with many happy people, young and not so young alike. It was also good to catch up with some of our country members from way back when the Club was first started. As the cooking gear warmed up, the aromas of meats and even veggies filled the air and the would-be Master Chefs did their best to ruin perfectly good food. Surprisingly few alcoholic drinks were in evidence; perhaps the drink driving message is getting through, although our crowd have always been sensible in this regard.

By 9:30pm the cooking had been finished, most of the ample salads, sweets and Christmas cake had been polished off, and it was time for some photos on the BIG screen of some of the wonderful bike collections in Victoria and a couple of our recent events including the Bus Tour and the Toure de Ruste. President Merv thanked our hosts, the cleaning up had been done, so it was time for all to

part after a very pleasant evening and for once the roads were not filled with impatient motorists.

LOST STOLEN STRAYED

A small esky is waiting for someone to rescue it from the Bell residence, 5 Mullberry Court, Forrestfield. Ph: 9359 3335.

Hopefully before next Christmas. It's getting homesick.

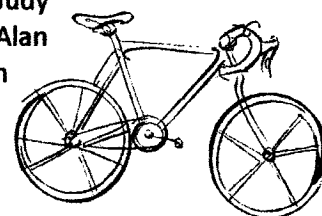
TOMATO LAKE RIDE

A good turnout for the first ride of 2011 was blessed with reasonably pleasant weather after the hot and sticky period since Christmas and no one got lost finding the venue. It was a small wheels ride and the variety of bikes was truly amazing with only a couple of normal sized machines to be seen.

The venue is very different now to the time when I, as a ten year old schoolboy, explored the area having ridden with mates from near the Causeway. Then it was just a swamp with lots of birds and native animal life and no housing within coo-ee of it. Now it is a very popular spot for all ages, as well as a dog's delight. Members and friends were soon on their way on the good paths in the area, although Douglas had trouble with the gears and had to proceed in bottom gear all the way. There's a lot to be said for Sturmey Archer hub gears, they don't give trouble if adjusted properly. The prolific birdlife (and I mean the feather type) was only matched by the number of dogs of all shapes and sizes. Thankfully they were all on leads, although some of the little ones were not particularly friendly.

After several laps of the area, a morning tea break was called, some taking advantage of the coffee shop, others settling for home cooking and a variety of drinks. Your Scribe had to depart early, but it was a pleasant way to start the New Year.

Those taking part were - Andrew Blackmore (Moulton Folder) his grandchildren Drummond and Catherine, Merv Thompson (Moulton), Dawn Thompson (Peugeot Folder), Tony Hall (Bickerton), Alan Hind (Flying Scot), Enid Nicholson (Ricardo), Harold Perry (Phoenix), Judy Perry (Shank's Pony), Alan Naber (Recumbent), Miriam (Birdie), Douglas Hughes (Giant), Peter Wells (Peugeot Folder).



10th Feb 2011

OPEN LETTER TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HISTORIC CYCLE CLUB

Dears sirs I read in the Jan Feb newsletter that the details of the Rockingham ride have been changed.

The club requests that members prepare events so that the work load is shared. Then they change the details of what was prepared all WITHOUT consulting the person who prepared them.

If the club wants rides in a particular format then they should prepare them not ask someone to do it and then change the details without any consultation.

I was told in December that the committee had decided that only drink, salad and bread were to be provided and at that time I said that Logistics meant that there were going to be problems as the previous news letter stated that meat would be provided.

Then after the January meeting I read in the next newsletter that the time had been changed to an earlier time. For all you know I might not be available at the earlier time due to things like Church service or sleep.

I therefore make it plain to all that I WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS AMMENDED RIDE.

I will be in on Sunday the 27 Feb and will provide BBQ facilities for you all as I would not let anyone down even after I have been so badly treated.

I will not be renewing my membership at the end of this financial year as I do not need this sort of aggrevation.

MSM
Malcolm Buckland
14 Cygnus Street
Rockingham
95279427

Moulton Bicycle Club Member and West Australian Moulton resource.
Moulton bikes and parts wanted for rescue and information provided

One other thing that interested me was that there had been a vote at the committee to give money to the Queensland appeal. I wonder if the committee has the power to spend the clubs money without a full member vote on an item that was outside the direct clubs sphere.

And what of our own Sates problems at Carnarvon and more recently the bushfires? Surely our state should come first.

I hope to remain friends with some members and will always provide information that I have to others on Moulton Bicycles.

MSM
Malcolm Buckland

LETTER TO ME

Reference to Mal Buckland correspondence to me Feb 10th

Unfortunately Malcolm did not attend the January meeting when we discussed donating

REBUILDING WHEELS WITH WESTWOOD RIMS

Westwood rims are those early type with rolled edges and dropped centres like motorcycle rims and were made from a single strip of steel, unlike the later Endrick rims made from steel tubing, thus having two layers of steel where spoke nipples fitted. It is essential, especially when many rims are now suffering from the effects of rust, that those little oval washers be used when rebuilding or replacing spokes. Failure to do so may result in the nipples being pulled through the rims, and distortion of the rim.

Plentiful supplies of washers are available from Peter Wells so do not hesitate when doing that wheel job, get those washers. You do not need them with Endrick rims, but some alloy lightweight rims use small round washers to help strengthen them.

FOR SALE FOR SALE

Cyclops Scooter

Pneumatic tyres, rear brake, solid tubular steel frame, mudguards, original paint. Suit child 8 or older. VGC \$25.00. Peter Wells 9459 1750.

Since I have had no response from the advert in the last Spoke'n Word re Club bikes, I propose just retaining the Sturmey Archer bits and dumping the rest, which is a pity, because early bikes are getting harder to find, but I have no room nor intention to store them. I will not accept anymore bikes from a friend in the bush; it is obvious that members are not interested in even looking at them. PW.

WOT A CHRISSEY PRESENT!

Santa came to Ed's place on Christmas morning with a semi-trailer load of old bikes, 504 bikes to be exact! Luckily they were all in a box of handkerchiefs, so I did not need to build another shed. My daughter has a knack of finding unusual presents, must look for them long before birthdays and Christmas are near.

MAJOR TAYLOR WHO WAS HE???

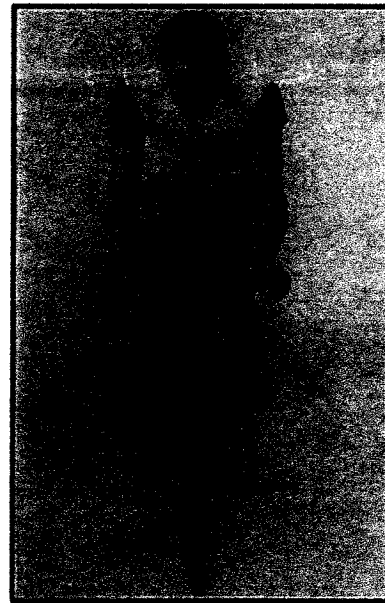
Just about every enthusiast for old bikes knows about that much desired adjustable head stem set that was so popular from the early 1900s to the middle of the 20th century. But who was this Major Taylor bloke, and what did he do?

Marshall Walter Taylor became a top rider at the end of the nineteenth century, when the safety bicycle was just coming into vogue and causing the demise of the Ordinary, or Penny-farthing as it was better known, and he became one of the greatest

riders ever seen. Taylor had started his riding career as a trick cyclist and that skill enabled him to escape from many of the blocking moves of the white competitors. His great speed and endurance saw him win many races despite their efforts. He was unable to ride in the Southern States in the USA so he went to Europe, England and Australia, where he continued his amazing racing feats.

Just how he got the Major name is not clear, but it is one that is still talked about almost 100 years after his brilliant career finished. At one stage he

became involved in the cycling trade in USA, but whether he had anything to do with that famous head set is not known by this scribe. They were made in various forms, with the usual square tubing most common, but round and oval tubes were also used on the, as it is better know



these days, the Penny-farthing. Unlike most top riders at that time Taylor was an Afro-American and racial prejudice was rife in USA, especially in the Southern States, so he found it difficult to compete on an equal footing with white riders. They boxed him in during races, refused to allow him entry into the League of American Wheelman, and did almost anything to stop him winning races. One of Taylor's tricks was to feign fatigue during a race, then, when his opponents felt safe about him, he would turn on a blistering turn of speed, catching them napping. In one track race, his opponent, Frenchman Edmund Jacquelin and Taylor jockeyed for a drafting position, riding side by side at an ever slower speed until both riders were balancing stationery on their bikes. Taylor then pedalled backwards, so that Jacquelin had to move forward. In the ensuing dash to the finish Taylor crossed the line first.

Taylor was a master at race tactics, and had his success on three continents and England making him one of the greatest riders ever. My 1902 Raleigh has one of the round type head stems, as far as I know, original equipment on that machine.

A GOOD SITE FOR STURMEY ARCHER
vancruisers.ca and look under the 'Bike tech' tag.



BILL READ – DEANE TOSELAND
Record Breakers

Sometime back I came across an original photo of the above riders mounted on a AUSSIE tandem, with the caption denoting that it was appreciated from Toseland for Read's help in the record breaking feats on both road and track back in 1935.

I had no success in finding out about those records, but recently was loaned a couple of photos and scrap albums dating from 1933 – 1937, and there found details of not only the Read-Toseland record, but much more about record breaking and cycle racing and those taking part in WA at that time. The books also give a look into a young WA girl racing not only here but tin France, England and USA. The amazing amount of cycle racing details to be found in newspapers in those days is incredible. We are lucky to see a mention about the Tour de France or Tour Downunder in the West.

Read and Toseland were the holders of the inaugural record from Northam to Perth riding a tandem at a time when records were done using single speed machines. Unfortunately the record did not last long, because it was a time when record breaking was a popular pastime with cyclists all over

the world. Records depended on favourable winds, especially in the hilly sections. Even Oppy got involved with record rides from Kalgoorlie to Perth, and Perth to Bunbury and return in 1937.

I intend having the albums copied, hopefully with not too much expense and if possible with a copy for the Battye Library. The photos are in good condition, but the newspaper cuttings are badly discoloured, but with modern technology they should be recoverable.

Incidentally, Read and Toseland did the trip in 2 hours and 37 minutes (approx). Not bad for the roads in those days, there were lots of bends, and the hills were not graded like today.

Back in 1953 I thought I was doing pretty well to drive my MG from Perth to Northam in one hour, so the boys must have been flying.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2011

- Sunday 20th March – Classic Car Show and Club Display. (See coming events).
- Monday 21st March – General Meeting
- Sunday 27th March – Guildford Fair (See coming events).
- Sunday 27th March – Bridgetown display (Bells and Burrows group)
- Sunday 17th April – Alan's City ride
- Monday 18th April – General Meeting
- Monday 16th May – General Meeting
- Sunday 22nd May – Judy's ride
- Monday 20th June – AGM (New faces needed. How about you???)

