



Not the ...

Spoke'n Word

Volume 14 No 6

NEWSLETTER

May – Jun 2013

MINUTES OF MEETING 15th APRIL 2013

Meeting opened 7.35pm.

Present - 20 members and visitors present.

Minutes of Meeting 18th March 2013 - Read and accepted. Moved Mal Bell, seconded Topy Geer.

Treasurer's Report

Balance B/F	\$4,716.37
Income	\$ 253.20
Expenses	\$ nil
Balance	<u>\$4,969.57</u>

The Treasurers Report was accepted. Moved Mal Bell, seconded Phil Harris.

Correspondence In

- Swan Valley Ride and Display, Lilac Hill 28th April. "Bikes in the Valley". We have been promised \$300.00 to set up a display and to this end photos of Mal Bell's collection were taken recently. One of our major costs is Public Liability Insurance and the Secretary has been asked to write to Councillor Trease at Swan Valley Shire regarding this.

General Business

- Website – The Committee held discussions with Robert Frith regarding costs, format etc and these will be finalised shortly. Anyone interested is invited to attend.
- Albany members, Murray Gomm and Glenn Huffer attended the meeting and gave details of their bikes and activities in the Albany area which is thriving.

Events

- Saturday 30th March - Monday 1st April (Easter

Weekend) - Avon Valley Festival, Northam. The Festival was well attended for the three days over Easter. Mal Bell brought a number of Penny-farthings etc and was well supported by Merv Thompson, Robert Hunt, Harold Perry Tony hall, Tim Eastwood and Robert Frith. Merv Thompson managed to obtain sets of pre-war cigarette cards depicting bicycles of that period and earlier.

- Monday 15th April - General Meeting
- Sunday 28th April - Swan Valley Ride and Display. Sunday 5th May - Moondyne Festival Toodyay. Details later. We have been offered \$200.00 to attend this event so make it a good display.
- Monday 20th May - General Meeting
- Sunday 26th May – Carine Ride. Meet in Monyash Road, off Duffy Road for a 10.00am start.
- Sunday 16th June – River Ride, Applecross. Meet at Club Rooms for a 10.00am start.
- 17th June – Annual General Meeting. Please attend. A new committee is urgently needed and all positions are vacant, particularly those of President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Show and Tell

- Jeff Downie is sick and in a Nursing Home and is offering several bikes and parts for sale.
- Fred Starcken has bikes available. Contact Mal Bell for details.

We welcomed new members Marc Fellman and Stephen McVey.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

NEXT MEETINGS: Monday 18th February 7:30pm

Monday 18th March 7:30pm

Committee – President: Peter Wells 9459 1750

peter.wells@westnet.com.au

**Vice President: Merv Thompson
9450 2579**

**Treasurer: Harold Perry 9364 7253
11 Brentwood Ave, Brentwood 6153**

Secretary: Tony Hall 9446 5738

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Librarian: Harold Perry 9364 7253

Event's Organiser: Phil Harris 9459 7146

Committee Members: Andrew Blackmore, Alan Hind

DISCLAIMER The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the WA Historical Cycle Club and the accuracy of information published herein is not guaranteed.

MINUTES OF MEETING 20TH MAY 2013

APOLLO GEES

My humble apologies for not showing up for the May General Meeting. My usual chauffeur was over East, and I had arranged for another member to pick me up. Unfortunately he forgot all about the meeting, and by the time I realised, I could not have got there before 8.30pm, and I suspected that everyone would have gone home by then. I made a couple of phone calls via mobile, but got no answer, however I believe that there was a lot of bike talk on the verandah, and that there were two prospective members present. I hope that Jason Hall and Cameron Smith turn up next month.

Peter Wells

Due to the mix up over the May General Meeting there are no Minutes, but Harold Perry has given us the financial statement for that period.

Treasurer's Report

Balance B/F	\$4,969.57
Income	\$ 236.00
Expenses	\$ 152.60
Balance	<u>\$5,052.97</u>

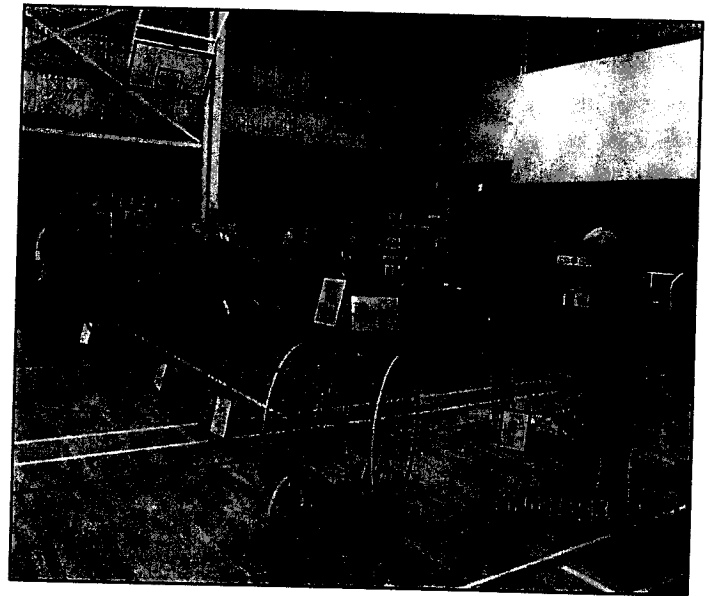
NORTHAM VINTAGE FAIR Easter 2013

The three-day Northam Vintage Fair display was well worth it. The display – particularly Mal's collection of penny-farthings, drew a lot of attention from the steady stream of visitors during the three days – Easter Saturday, Sunday and Monday. A lot of people wanted their photograph taken sitting on a penny farthing or the two trikes, the Columbia or the 1881 trike.

A lot of children were intrigued by Merv's toys and the doll, which was bigger than some of them. Unfortunately they could not try them because it might have left marks on the beautiful timber parquet flooring. Merv did an interview with the local radio station, which was broadcast from the Fair on Saturday. Unfortunately, none of us had a radio handy to hear what he said.

Merv had a great time showing people how his four wind-up gramophone players worked including two of the Swing Zing Dance School Black Jack Knights troupe, who did an impromptu performance to a record.

The Club's display area inside the Recreation Centre was about 12 metres by 10 metres square and there was plenty of room for our display.



Merv found two complete sets of 50 Players cigarette featuring bicycles through history, chosen by the editor of Cycling, up to the 1930s. Robert got the other complete set and Merv still has some incomplete sets.



Those who did the trip were Mal and Myrene Bell, Merv and Dawn Thompson, Harold and Judy Perry and Robert Hunt. Peter Wells visited with his daughters Angela and Ruth, son-in-law Simon and grandson Douglas. Tim Eastwood and Rob Frith brought their machines up by train on the special organised for the Vintage Fair, leaving Perth at 10am and leaving Northam at 4pm. They also brought Karen and Orlando and friends Kate Weller and her daughter Maddie and Karen's mum, Elaine Phillips, who was visiting from North Yorkshire.

One comment from a visitor about Robert's 1975 Peugeot Record du Monde: "That's not historic, I had one like that." She looked as though she had worn better than the bike!

RIDE IN THE VALLEY

Sunday 28th April

This new event for us turned out to be an outstanding success, with some twenty three members and friends turning up, some in period costume, and with over thirty exhibits. The range of HPVs and children's trikes dated from the mid-1800s to the late 1900s had the huge crowd of interested onlookers enthralled. To my mind it was one of the best events that we have had for years.

There were over 600 entries in the ride, from some riders as young as six years of age to octogenarians, and they came in all shapes and sizes, but they all had a love of cycling. Now it is a given thing that some of our longstanding members always turn up to this sort of event with a big selection of machines and memorabilia, but the Bells, Thompsons, Perrys, Phil Harris, all brought more than their share. It was also very heartening to see some of our newer members coming along with their families. This augers well for the future of the Club.

It was a pleasant surprise also for our members to receive a complimentary ticket for the sausage sizzle. This is the first time I think that that has happened, but I believe when we go out of our way to support these events it makes one realise that they appreciate our efforts.

I had asked for members to support this event, but did not expect such a great effort. Thank you, one and all, it is results like this that makes the organisers day.

MOONDYNE FESTIVAL, TOODYAY

Sunday 5th May

Lots of activity in the streets of Toodyay greeted us upon our arrival,—Moondyne Joe was cutting loose. Our Club set up our display at the front of Somerville Gallery, in a prime position. Space was limited. With a display of 23 assorted cycles, ranging from kids toy trikes, lots of safety cycles of various ages, a delivery bike, penny-farthings, boneshakers, and a vintage tricycle, lots of interest was shown by the public.

An attempt to have a grand parade had limited success because of the large number of people wandering the streets. Lots of stalls lined the streets, and many people were dressed in period costume.

Club members who attended were—Merv. and Dawn Thompson, Harold and Judy Perry, Rob, Karen and Orlando Frith, Tim Eastwood, Robert Hunt, Tony Hall, Mal and Myrene Bell.

The weather was fine, and a good day was had by all.

Mal Bell

CARINE RIDE

Sunday 26th May 2013

The morning could scarcely have been better for our ride around the pathways of the Carine Regional Open Space; clear blue sky, not too hot, not too cold, just a gentle breeze. The venue at the car park by the Mary Ferguson Centre and the Riding for the Disabled Centre in Monyash Road, Carine had grass and shady trees adjacent for a possible good lunch site. Four club members were there for the start, and subsequently two separate circuits of the area were ridden around in this picturesque reserve, which was very well attended by family and sporting groups enjoying their recreation. Our easy riding was done on sealed pathways (apart from one optional short unsealed stretch) which had only a few gentle inclines. Plenty of others were on the pathways: family groups (some with small children on tiny trikes, bikes and scooters); dog walkers; a few other cyclists. It's a popular public venue, so our pace was not hurried, and much bell-ringing was essential. At least our lot did have bells!

Those attending were: Ann Northan (MS 'Family Star' compact); David Northan (MS 'Skidstar'); Robert Hunt ('Record' road bicycle 1970s?); Tony Hall (Raleigh 'Stowaway').

David Northan

COMING EVENTS

River Ride Applecross

Sunday 16th June

Meet at club rooms 9.30am for a 10.00am start. There will be good cycle paths along the route. BYO lunch, drinks. Contact Judy Perry 9364 7253.

Speed Dome

Sunday 30th June

This popular display will no doubt have plenty of Eastern States riders competing on the track unlike last year when the Olympics kept them away. We need to get to the Eastern entrance to unload our bikes, and to be there by 9.00 o'clock. If you are not wearing Club shirts, make sure that you are wearing your Club name badge or you will be charged for entering. Bring your own lunch and chairs. The racing is spectacular so don't miss this event.

Tour de Ruste

Sunday 28th July

We still have no venue for this popular event. Surely someone must know of a couple of places that we can visit to see member's collections. We might even have to have another look at places that we have visited in the past.

Bus Tour

22nd September

An interesting venue needed within 200km of Perth. Put your grey matter to work on this popular spring event.



COUNTRY NEWS

The members way down south have recently put on a very successful display, getting a lot of interest and at least three other enthusiasts wanting to join us. It is obvious that there are still lots of old bikes to be found in sheds in the bush, and naturally many of them will be West Australian. The Albany members are looking for some help organising their group so that they can take part in rides and displays, and hold meetings just like we do. This could see even more rare machines back on the road, so it could also give us more information on country riders and their racing activities. In the 1930s and 1940s almost every country town had a small cycling club, with regular races and touring events so there could be lots of history to be unearthed. Let's give them our support.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

In this issue you will find a Nomination Form for the AGM to be held on 17th June. Some members of the Committee have served for seven or eight years and it is high time that they were given a rest. As I am standing down from the President's position, you will need to give serious thought to this matter. It is also time to give Tony Hall a break after years in the job as Secretary. We now have record numbers in the Club, so surely there must be five or six among you who can come forward to keep the Club going.

WE CAN'T EXIST WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS.

VETERAN TOECLIPS

I have recently obtained one only veteran toeclip, circa 1910, and would like to know ASAP if any member is interested in getting some made. I need 2 pair but the more we order the cheaper they become. They will be made of stainless steel, and the cost is tentatively \$25.00 to \$30.00 per pair. Straps are not included, but are readily available.

Let me know ASAP if you want some. They will really enhance your older machine.

*Peter Wells 9459 1750
peter.wells@westnet.com.au*

NEW MEMBERS

Over the past few months we have had a very welcome influx of new members, both from the country, and from the metropolitan area. They are also much younger than some of us oldies, and are even into restoring bikes. At the display at Lilac hill it

was great to see members turning up with their better halves and children in tow, which shows that they realise that we are a family friendly bunch.

So, we welcome Stephen McVey, Marc Fellman and Evan Strudwick to our ranks over the last few weeks. Before that of course we welcomed Murray Gomm and Glenn Huffer, both from Albany, not to forget Rob Frith and Tim Eastwood who have got involved in organising a website for the Club.

Things are looking good with new blood and new ideas coming into the club. Now maybe some of our long serving committee can have a rest after years of faithful service.

SWANSEA FRAME NUMBERS

For some time now I have been compiling a list of Swansea frame numbers, and by having a few numbers from one owner bikes have been able to get some idea of how old the bike may be. There are undoubtedly more Swanses in the Club than appear on my list, so would owners please let me know details of your bike - frame number, type (roadster, ladies, racer, etc) and number of swans on the headstem. Those details will be added to my list, and if you know the name of the original owner, and hopefully when it was purchased, it will enable getting a better idea of the age of your Swansea.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2013

- Sunday 16th June - River Ride Applecross (See Coming Events)
- Monday 17th June - AGM
- Sunday 30th June - Speed Dome Display (See Coming Events)
- Monday 15th July - General Meeting
- Sunday 28th July - Tour de Ruste??? Ideas needed
- Monday 19th August - General Meeting
- Sunday 25th August - Ride
- Monday 16th September - General Meeting
- Sunday 22nd September - Bus tour - where to go??