

Not The Spoken Word

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

Vale Ken Ward

Club member Ken Ward died recently aged 90. Ken was a founding member of the club and an active rider into his mid eighties.

The WAHCC was well represented at Ken's funeral in Fremantle. Past President Peter Wells has offered to pen a longer piece celebrating Ken's life and achievements for the next issue.



Vancouver St Festival

The RAC Tweed Ride held in Albany on May 9th 2015 was a great success. The Tweed Ride was just one of the many activities as part of the second Vintage Vancouver Street Festival. A wood fired pizza night was held with Perth and Albany members the evening before the festival and ride and was enjoyed by all.

The festival was held on historic Vancouver Street and there were 4,500 people through the gate on the day. Sixty people rode in the Tweed Ride which was a big increase from last years inaugural Tweed Ride which had 25 participants. A big thank you to Mal and Myrene Bell and family who travelled down with their ancient cycles members will be familiar with.

The Tweed Ride was a major drawcard of the festival thanks to a team effort from Perth and Great Southern

members. It may have been the first time ever that eight penny farthings were on Vancouver St at once

Thanks to the generosity from local bikes shops, Passmore Cycles, Bob's Bikes and Impulse Cycles, prizes were awarded for the most Fetching Lady, the most Dapper Chap and Most Breathtaking Hair. WAHCC members/partners scoped the pool here with Carissa Clark winning the first and third categories and Collyn Gawned the second.

Approximately 20 bikes were displayed featuring the history of the bike and local newspaper ads featuring the agencies that sold bicycles. The bike racks and display panels that were funded by the Lotterywest grant resulted in a very professional looking display. A big thanks also to David Clark who supplied a fully restored 5 star Swansea for the display.

Hats off to WAHCC member Glenn Huffer who liaised with the City of Albany to organise the event.

Murray Gomm

Left, Murray Gomm starting the Tweed Ride, and below, the Bell family and their penny farthings made front page news - Mal Bell with a copy of The Great Southern Weekender.



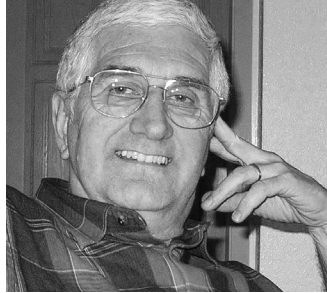
Author Jim Fitzpatrick

Historian and author Jim Fitzpatrick's long awaited visit to the west is finally on! And we're going to be treated to not one, but two talks - the second being in Albany.

Jim's books are renowned for their impeccable research and readable style. His interest is in the social, cultural and sporting history of the bicycle in Australia.

His first book "The Bicycle in the Bush" was written while he was living in WA. It has been followed by three other cycling titles; "The Bicycle in War-time", "Major Taylor in Australia" and "Wheeling Matilda".

This an evening not to be missed. Check the club calendar or webpage for details.



WAHCC April 2015 Meeting Minutes

Opened

7:30pm Monday, 20 April, 2015

Present

Mal & Myrene Bell, Viv Cull, Rob Frith, Dennis v. Gool, Tony Hall, Phil Harris, Robert Hunt, Kym Murray, Harold & Judy Perry, Merv & Dawn Thompson

Apologies

Tim Eastwood, Peter Wells.

Visitors

Ashley Hortle, Viv Cull

Next Meeting

Monday 18th, May 2015

Announcements:

Nil

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Robert Frith moved for acceptance of February & March minutes, Robert Hunt seconded.

Treasurers Report:

Balance at hand, Statement dated 20th April 2015 \$6,185

Matters Arising:

Treasurer Mal Bell reporting stalled progress with shared club office bearer access to Club online account services with the Police & Nurses Credit Society.

Robert Frith moved that the P&N account be closed and a new account opened with Bendigo Bank with new account signatories to be nominated as

Mal Bell (Treas.), Rob Frith (Pres.) & Merv Thompson (Vice Pres.)

Kym Murray seconded

Correspondence Inward:

Arthur Grady Day, Fremantle 9th May information from from

organisers.

Collie Cycle Club e-mail received from Evan Strudwick for the 90th Anniversary Collie-Donnybrook Race event Aug 15th.

Murray Hall e-mail in re: Midvale Speed Dome Winter Gran Prix event. 28th June. (Phil Harris to contact Murray Hall to address some concerns about prominence of Club display position to attending crowd foot traffic)

Two separate bicycle donation queries. One from Gwelup and Vic Park. (Robert Hunt & Kym Murray to pursue respectively)

Renewal of online "Squarespace" web site hosting service subscription.

Correspondence Outward:

Nil

Events

Recent Events Attended or Held:

Guildford Heritage Festival - 29th March.

Robert Hunt provided a brief verbal report on the event, which was attended by a number present. 27 bicycles in attendance at the display rotunda. Positive comments from those in attendance and agreement that the Club's presence as the Festival has grown from year to year can only be a good thing.

Upcoming Events:

Kent St. Weir Social Ride, 26th April.

Club contact Phil Harris. Meet 0900 at Phil's home in Thornlie for a leisurely ride along the Canning River banks via Mason's Landing to the Kent St. Weir and return via the south bank's parks and paths.

Moodyne Festival Display, Toodyay. 3rd May.

Club contact Merv Thompson. Cars and trailers to be at site, in situ before main road closes at 0800

Arthur Grady Day Display, Fremantle. 9th May

Club contact Rob Frith. Setup from 9-10am. Trailer parking available on Freo Oval, car parking in Queensgate.

Vancouver St Festival Ride & Display - Albany. May 9th

Club contact Murray Gomm 0431 846412

Annual General Meeting - 15th June, Applecross Clubroom.

General Business:

Robert Frith presented samples of new proposed logo and branding for the club after initial revisions made to those presented to the Committee in Dec. 2014.

General consensus that the new work still did not represent Western Australia in colouring and/or symbolism and secondly the winged wheel motif did not immediately suggest bicycles as distinct from other earlier 20th century wheeled or motorsports.

Show and Tell:

Visitor Ashley Hortle presenting a very early Swansea (ca. 1934) track racer frame. Ashley now has claimed the honour of the earliest bike on the Club Swansea Register at Frame # 2104! Notable also for the early, diamond shaped head badge and sans any brazed Swan shapes on the head tube or fork crowns the marque is otherwise known for.

Phil Harris presenting a number of different vintage cycle themed cushions recently acquired from Target and Op shops.

Meeting Closed: 8:30pm

WAHCC May 2015 Meeting Minutes

Opened

7:35pm Monday, 18 May, 2015

Present

Robert Frith, Mal Bell, Myrene Bell, Viv Cull, Merv Thompson, Dawn Thompson, Judy Perry, Harold Perry, Robert Hunt, Tony Hall, Alan Hind, Tim Eastwood, Cameron Smith, Mavis Jones

Apologies

Phil Harris, Dennis van Gool, Peter Wells, David Clark

Visitors

none

Next Meeting

AGM Monday 15th, June 2015

Announcements:

Ken Ward's death at age 90. The WAHCC was very well represented at Ken's funeral and it was wonderful to hear stories that spoke to a life well lived. It was evident that Ken had been enthusiastically dedicated to family, bikes and adventure of all kinds. Peter Wells will be asked to write an obituary for the club newsletter.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Merv Thompson moved April's minutes be passed. Seconded by Myrene Bell.

Treasurers Report:

Mal Bell's financial report to May 18th 2015 is attached. Mal mentioned that the Great Southern chapter have been responsible significant income to the club this year.

Matters Arising:

1. Nil

Correspondence Inward:

2. Jim Fitzpatrick regarding his upcoming visit to WA
3. Wayne Pratt enquiring about origins of a The West bike he's acquired
4. Rosemary Madácsi, Secretary Toodyay Festivals Inc. requesting feedback on Moondyne display
5. Peter Bartholomei re bike donation
6. Letter of thanks for our participation in Giro d'Perth from organiser Toby Hodgson
7. Letter of thanks for our participation in Arthur Grady day from Fremantle Mayor Brad Pettitt

Correspondence Outward:

1. Invoices for displays at Guildford, Toodyay and Albany

Events Reports

Recent Events Attended or Held:

1. Apr 26 Kent St Weir ride. Robert Hunt reported that 8 members rode in perfect conditions.
2. May 9 Arthur Grady Day. Rob Frith said that just three members turned up to display this year but that our presence generated a lot of conversation during the course of the day. One visitor to the display told of two unused Flash bikes that had been race prizes by his grandfather (riding a black Swansea) in the 50's. The Flash's are apparently in pieces indoors in country WA! Another visitor has a collection in Donnybrook and would be happy to open it to the club as a group.
3. May 9 Vancouver St Festival Albany. The Bells attended in force and had a ball. New member Viv Cull were

also there. The Albany Tweed Ride was attended by over 50 riders including no fewer than eight penny farthings. Four Bells made the cover of the Great Southern Weekender. At only 2 km Viv mentioned the course was a bit short, something that Murray Gomm is hoping to address in the future. Alan Hind mentioned the successful workshop nights that the GS crew have been holding.

Upcoming Events:

1. June 15 AGM and pencil auction of donated bikes. Both President and Treasurer will be absent
2. July 20 General meeting and talk by bike historian and author Jim Fitzpatrick. Rob F organising.
3. July 26 Bibra Lake social ride.
4. Aug 15 Collie to Donnybrook Return Classic - Display, Robert F, Robert H and Alan H committed to go. Rob F to call Evan Strudwick about contributing to display. Rob Frith organising
5. Sept 27 Bus Trip. Donnybrook private collection of Stewart Donetta, Collie Museum John Johnston - Robert Hunt organising
6. Nov 11 Have A Go Day - Merv Thompson organising
7. Oct TBC Tour de Ruste, need to find some fresh destinations
8. Dec TBC Christmas Party daytime Kings Park

General Business:

1. Tim Eastwood advised new, reworked logo is close to finalised. Rob Frith is keen to get the Lotterywest Grant acquittal finished in the next few weeks.

Show and Tell:

2. Merv Thompson brought a basket full of fancy painter's stencils made especially for cycle painting. Regarding pinstriping Merv believed the pinstripers charged by the yard.
3. Robert Frith showed a mid century Lytaloy CO2 inflator.
4. Robert Hunt brought in two of the recently donated bikes; a Miyata One Thousand in good condition and a near original prewar Swansea 2 Swan.

Meeting Closed: 20:30



Western Australian Historical Cycle Club Inc.
PO Box 224, Applecross, WA, 6153 email info.wahcc@gmail.com
President: Robert Frith
Vice President: Merv Thompson
Treasurer: Malcolm Bell
Secretary: Kym Murray
Committee Members: Alan Hind, Tim Eastwood

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.

Club Calendar

Meeting - Monday Jun 8th 6.30pm

Great Southern Meeting in Albany contact Murray Gomm 0431846412

Meeting - Monday Jun 15th 7.30pm

Annual General Meeting and Auction Night
Applecross clubroom

Display - Sunday 28th Jun 10am

Winter Grand Prix - Midland Velodrome
club contact Phil Harris 9459 7146

Meeting and Talk - Jul 20th

Author and historian Jim Fitzpatrick will be speaking at our July meeting.
Applecross clubroom

Talk - Jul 22st tbc

Author and historian Jim Fitzpatrick will be speaking in Albany Civic Centre. Club contact Murray Gomm 0431846412

Ride - Sunday Jul 26th 10am

Bibra Lake - meet at the carpark,
corner of Gwillian and Progress Drives
- contact Judy Perry 93647253

Meeting - Monday Aug 17th 7.30pm

Applecross clubroom

Display - Collie 15th Aug

To coincide with the 90th anniversary of the Collie Donnybrook and Return Race. Club contact Rob Frith 0411555607

Meeting - Monday Sep 21th 7.30pm

Applecross clubroom

Bus Trip - September 27th

Donnybrook and environs
Club contact Robert Hunt 94440071

Meeting - Monday Oct 19th 7.30pm

Applecross clubroom

Tour de Ruste - Oct tbc

Meeting - Monday Nov 16th 7.30pm

Applecross clubroom

Display - Wed Nov 11th

Burswood Park contact Merv Thompson

Christmas Party Dec tbc

Arthur Grady Day Display

Overcast conditions cleared to fine and warm later. A disappointing display attendance with only 4 members present (Rob Frith, Robert Hunt and Judy and Harold Perry) and a total of just eight bikes on display.

Many members were away, Mal and Myrene Bell amongst them, having decamped to Albany to participate in the Vancouver St Festival. Marc Fellman visited the stand after working Saturday morning.

There was a surprising amount of interest from the public though, genuine bike riders and owners of old bikes kept us busy all day. One visitor told of being taken to the Swansea shop across from the Fremantle Town Hall with her sister by their father in 1957 to buy their first bikes.

She went on to tell of the Raleigh she bought in more recent years - she rode it once and it's been hanging up in the shed ever since!

Drew Walker of Captain Walker Cycles in Fremantle brought down a Swansea that he had recently restored for a customer.

Apart from us there were displays of old cars ranging from a turn of the century DeDion Bouton to a Renault Alpine. We were stationed near the Bus Preservation Society's display and were treated to the Machinery Preservation Club's steam traction engine rumbling up and down the street periodically.

Judy Perry



Moodyne Festival Toodyay Display

The Moodyne Festival display went well – a clear, sunny day and lots of people trooping past the 20 exhibits, although part of that might have been because of the Jarrah Celtic Band opposite.

The Club was in the New Colonial Village between the Art Gallery and the cafe along with the bushmen cooking in camp ovens, the blacksmith, the band and a couple of other “colonial” displays.

Hay bales for people to sit on during the band's performances of colonial music lined the front of the display area so people wanting to walk through had to go through the bikes – and they stopped for a squiz.

Mal and Myrene Bell's penny farthings, velocipede, and Columbia tricycle got their usual interest and questions, Phil's woman's bike with the baby seat and tennis racket prompted comments about splinters in bub's behind. Merv's toy car and child's tricycle got remarks like “I had one of those”. The more conventional bikes also got a fair audience, particularly the Club's newly-donated Miyata.

I took four of Phil Harris's bikes and three of mine.

It was a good turnout; Mal and Myrene, Merv and Dawn, Harold and Judy and me.

Robert Hunt