

# THE CHAIN LETTER

Newsletter of the **CYCLE TOURING ASSOCIATION OF W.A. (INC.)**

July/August 1999

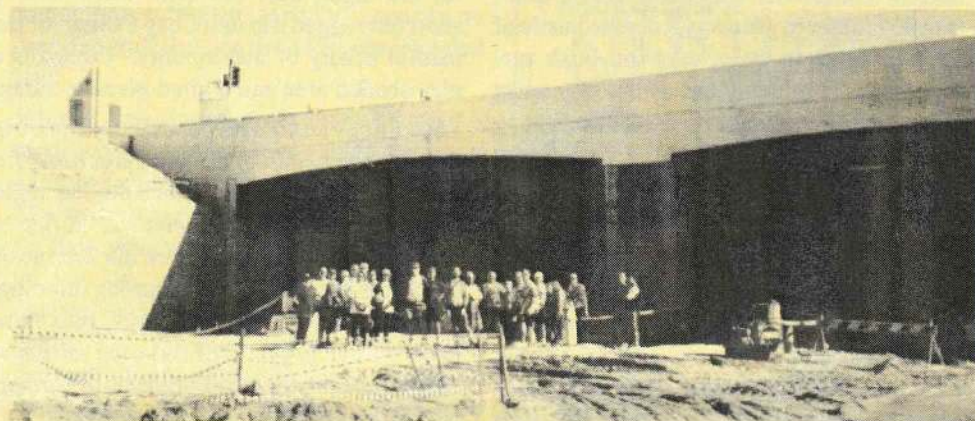
Issue 147

## Cyclists Get Dug In

On the Sunday of the June long weekend, while several CTA members were enjoying themselves down at Dunsborough for the weekend, myself and two dozen other tunnel-visioned cyclists headed off from the Causeway carpark. We meandered through Rivervale with glimpses of the new freeway works where they join Great Eastern Highway before heading back through Burswood and across the Goongoongup Bridge. From here we could see the progress of the new freeway bridge being launched across the river.

Tunnel Tour Guide turned up to hold our hands on our underground adventure. With an array of facts and figures about the new tunnel and freeway works spouting from his mouth, our Tunnel Tour Guide lead us on a brisk walk through the 1.6km long tunnel. Then, there it was...light at the end of the tunnel. No, my mistake, it was just Tony's camera flash.

After a quick photo shoot at the eastern end of the tunnel, we headed back down the other side for the return journey to the western end



We then headed through East Perth, crossing the freeway again at the East Parade interchange, then a quick stop next to the eastern ventilation building and the Perth Traffic Control Centre at the eastern end of the tunnel. From here we rode through Northbridge and finally arrived at the western end of the tunnel for the start of our tunnel tour.

At this point the ride leader mysteriously disappeared just as a surprisingly familiar

where our bikes were waiting in a heavily guarded compound.

Our ride leader having re-joined us, we headed off for lunch in Leederville before returning to the Causeway. At least most of us did. Some thought the 1km trip into Leederville was too far and headed back into Northbridge, while two others never made it out of the tunnel. Even more mysterious was that their bikes also disappeared!

For those of you that missed out, there may be an opportunity to RIDE through the tunnel later this year. So keep your eyes on the Chain Letter for more information.

Terry (A.K.A. Tunnel Tour Guide)

**Please send all articles and pictures for the next newsletter to the Editor no later than August 20.**

## CTA Silver Anniversary Dinner

It's finally arrived, the CTA is 25 years old and it's time to celebrate. The committee have organised a formal dinner for ALL past and present members on September 4 1999. It will be an affair to be remembered, with decorations, photos, slides, talks (short ones) and lots of good times remembered by all. The committee will endeavour to contact everyone, however if you know of anyone from the past who is not a current member, we would appreciate it if you could contact Desama on 9472 9887 with their details ASAP. We will be compiling a list and mailing out the invitations in August. So mark the date in your diary now and keep an eye on your letter box.

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### COMMITTEE

Patricia Whiteford 9249 1970 (H)

Lance Whiteford 9249 1970 (H)

Please contact the Treasurer for Membership details and send all correspondence to:

P.O. Box 174 Wembley 6014

## NEW MEMBERS

A hearty welcome is extended to the following new members who have joined since the last Newsletter.

Karen Date	Colleen Ward
David Longworth	David Ward
Terry Olesen	John Wilson
Lorraine Price	Jeanne Young

Hope to see you "on your bike" on one of the rides!



## SMOKEY CAR SPOTTER

Ever notice how difficult it is to breathe when smokey exhaust fumes are choking up the atmosphere? Well here's your chance to strike back! Report smokey vehicles by giving the registration number, make and colour of a smokey car, together with the time and place that you spotted it, to the Department of Environmental Protection by telephoning 9324 2835.

# Tours and Weekends

## ON YOUR BIKE

### SOUTHERN PEAKS TOUR

October 16 - 24

Have you ever been on a holiday where your gear is carried for you, you feed until you are full, you sleep under the stars and great company is provided?

Here is an invitation to come and join fellow cyclists for the annual On Your Bike Tour and enjoy the pleasures and experience of the Great Southern area of WA, known locally as the Rainbow Coast.

The Tour starts in Perth, where we take a trip by coach to Mount Barker. We will unwind and visit the splendours of the local region for the remainder of the day before tripping off to Denmark the following day. We will then cycle on to Albany with a chance en route for a dip in the Southern Ocean. In Albany we have a rest day where you can

explore the King George Sound or admire the view of the surrounding area from three of the peaks in the town. Next stop is the Porongurup Range where the really energetic ones can climb castle rock before camping the night. The following day will see us pass by the foot of Bluff Knoll en route to the feasting town of Borden. Gnowangerup is the next stop before dancing and singing on the stage at Cranbrook. The final day we head back to Mount Barker before heading home.

For more information contact:

Tony Humphreys ☎ 9728 3105 (H)

Marion ☎ 9271 9409 (H)

## STOP PRESS

### TOUR BOOKED OUT!

The Southern Perks Tour is now fully booked. You can add your name to the waiting list but you need to be able to go on short notice.

# Getting Back to Nature

Saturday, March 6 saw the end of another successful 8 day, Back to Nature Tour. It is hard to understand why more riders don't take advantage to get away from the bustle of life and relax in quiet, pleasant bush surroundings. The many out of the way spots around the Margaret River area, camping by quiet rivers around a campfire each night, cooking over an open fire. But for 7 nights and 8 days, that's what 3 riders and a back up lady enjoyed.

From Margaret River to Lane Break Pool, and getting away from the busy long weekend traffic, then to the serenity of Warner Glen. There Karen and I paddled a canoe 16km to Alexandra Bridge, while Gabrielle cycled down and camped in the luxury of the CWA surroundings and hall.

Gabrielle and I paddled the canoe back to Warner Glen the next day, then on our bikes to Sue's Bridge. Here we had all the campers round our fire for the evening, two Swiss touring cyclists (on a tandem) and two other couples from a camper home club, whom both Maxine and myself had met at the Boyup Brook Country Music Show a week earlier.

From there we cycled to Augusta and camped on the grass of the Caravan Park by the river mouth. There we watched the moon come up over the water while sitting round yet another campfire. Up early next morning to ride down to the lighthouse and water wheel

(that's Karen and myself, Gabrielle slept in). Breakfast over the fire and it's off to Contos for the night, near the Lake Cave, after a short but rugged trip into Cosy Corner for the natural beauty of that vicinity. Contos is a nice shaded area and a good place to camp.

Then Friday and it's off once again with a trip down to the mouth of the Margaret River for a cup of tea and a swim. Then our last night at the caravan park at Gracetown. A ride to the bay Friday evening before our last meals round the fire Friday and Saturday morning. Bacon, potatoes, corn and eggs, plus remnants we had to get rid of and even sweets of cheesecake and fruit (compliments of Maxine, our back up lady).

Then we (Karen, Gabrielle and myself) rode to Cowaramup and then along the cycleway and back to the start, where we had our final cup of tea and refreshments and it's back into another world. A trouble free ride that went very smoothly (except for the rough roads) and I'm sure everyone enjoyed the tour. That's my effort for now, see you all again one day.

Thanks again to the riders who came and Maxine our back up driver, who joined us on short notice. Karen and I rode with panniers during the trip. Thanks to Karen Date and Gabrielle Kelly who made the tour worthwhile. Where are all the other hardy souls?

Your tour leader

Brian Gale

# President's Piece

## TOURING BY BICYCLE:

One aspect of the Cycle Touring Association is touring by bicycle - funny that. Not everyone who is a member knows what is involved, so perhaps a little discussion and a few opinions is in order, in light of my own experience.

An important decision to make is the type of touring you would like to undertake. This can vary from day tours, to weekends away, to extended tours with or without camping gear. The mode of travel and any accommodation arrangements will influence the type of bicycle that you need (to a degree) and the amount of stuff that you will have to carry.

The bicycle is the most important piece of equipment, naturally. The traditionalists insist on a proper touring bike, which has particular characteristics which set it apart from racing or sport bikes. However, they are hard to come by in Australia and if so, tend to be expensive. A number of CTA members have TREK 520's, which have almost a cult following among American tourists. The most important factors are that the bike is comfortable to ride, it has low enough gears to cope with the terrain you intend to cover and it has sufficient carrying capacity to carry the stuff that you need for your intended tour.

When I first started cycle touring I used a modified Indy Hawk. It originally came as a 12 speed with racing gearing. With the use of a wide range gear cluster, it was suitable for light weight touring, such as Youth Hostel touring. Later I replaced the double chainwheel with a triple to give myself lower gears. The bike itself was suitable for long distance riding, especially when fitted with wider tyres. However, it always felt a little flimsy, especially with a heavy load, so wasn't all that good for long distance, loaded tour-

ing, even though it was used for that.

I have also toured using a mountain bike fitted with slicks. This was the older style, very robust and strong. Under load it had a stable ride, but was a little slow in comparison to the road bike. It has the advantage of being easily rideable on rough or unsealed roads. Bar-ends are a necessity, I believe, because with the straight bars there is little variation available in hand position. I found without bar-ends that my wrists became quite sore after several days of riding. Mountain bikes with front suspension present a difficulty if you want to use front pannier bags, but with a little creative engineering, it is possible to fit them.

Hybrids are also available and appear to be suitable. They often have triple chainwheels and are fairly robust. They can be fitted with pannier racks and wide tyres, and appear to be suitable for moderately loaded touring. Not having tried one myself, I can't comment

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on their dynamics. However, I know of several that have been used very successfully in this role.

What sort of other stuff do you need? The answer is - as little as possible! Having had experience with touring, I am well aware of the need to travel light. You will need pannier bags, especially rear ones. Front pannier bags can also be recommended, as it balances the bike and helps its stability. When starting out, it is best to make do with what you already have. If you want to do independent touring, lightweight tents and sleeping bags are expensive, so equipment is best replaced as and when required. It may be possible to borrow or hire equipment to see if it's suitable for your requirements. I met a cycle tourist who had made his pannier bags out of small canvas rucksacks from Army

## ROCKINGHAM CYCLE CITY

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surplus, lined with bin liners. These were very cheap and effective.

If you decide to tour via hostels and motels (the classic bank card tour), little carrying capacity is required, as you need very little equipment. In summary, the amount of carrying capacity and stuff you need is influenced by how independent you wish to be and whether you want to take your accommodation with you.

Other questions you will need to ask include:

What is my adventure quotient? How much risk am I prepared to take to visit the places I wish to cycle in? Do I want to travel alone or in company? Do I want to make and be responsible for my own decisions, or would I rather have someone else do this for me (and probably relish the opportunity!)? Do I want to travel and explore locally. Or travel overseas? Note that travelling locally is good practice for going overseas!

I hope that this will give you a few ideas and promote some discussion. Every now and again the CTA holds social nights where people come and discuss their touring experiences, with a general touring theme.

Safe cycling, Mark

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## Going Dutch

These days, going Dutch means more than splitting the bar tab. When it comes to settling the high cost of a car/bike crash, the Netherlands are tipping the scales of justice in favour of cyclists. In November 1998 the Dutch government began drafting a law giving cyclists legal right of way on city roads. Motorists will automatically be at fault and liable for all damages in a collision with a bike.

"The idea behind the law is that if you drive a car you present more of a threat than someone who is non-motorised," says Dutch Ministry of Justice spokesman Wijnand Stevens. "And because drivers must be insured, it made sense to put liability for damages with the driver. This is not determining responsibility for an accident, just liability." Of the 1,300 people who died on Dutch roads in 1996, 400 were pedestrians or cyclists.

Up until now, Stevens says, an injured cyclist would have to take the case to court to

establish liability - a long and costly process for the uninsured cyclist. Under the new law, drivers are automatically liable and can only get off the hook in a case "where a conscious, deliberate action by the cyclist caused the accident, like being drunk or cycling through red lights during rush hour."

Automobile organisations condemn the legislation saying guilt, not mode of transport, should determine liability. They argue that the proposed law will mean an increase in car insurance rates. Some voice concern that the changes could lead to more cyclists breaking traffic rules. But Stevens says this hasn't been the case in France where a similar law was introduced in 1985.

The Dutch government hopes the new law will draw even more of the nation's 16 million bikes (for a population of 16 million!) onto the roads.

Bruce Thorson



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## Letter to the Editor

Congratulations on your recent article concerning the name change of the CTA which obviously had a few people very uptight. However, I would like to point out that the stated abbreviation of the new name is not in fact an anagram as stated by various members and families, but an acronym.

An anagram is a rearrangement of letters of a word or phrase to spell another word or phrase, e.g ACT is an anagram of CAT or RECITAL is an anagram of ARTICLE.

An acronym is when you take the initial letters of a phrase to spell out a word, e.g Together Everyone Achieves More, spells TEAM! Perhaps these two acronyms might be relevant to CTA members -

"Travelling Over Undulating Roads Is Not Good" or "Kindly Leader Earns Bicyclists Enduring Respect".

Yours sincerely

Bruce Beecham

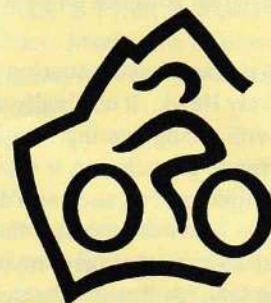
*(Oops! Anagrams and acronyms... We knew what the correct term was, but when writing the article do you think we could remember it? No! But as soon as we picked up the printed newsletters from the printers and read a few pages... Yep, we knew.*

*Anyway, when did Bruce find enough time to read the newsletter, let alone devise a couple of clever little acronyms? I thought doing the 10 000 in 8 would have kept him busy. Ed)*

## CTA Clothing Available Now

A large range of clothing stocks, in all sizes and colours is coming in. So get your order in now.

See back page for sizes and ordering information.



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# The CTA Achievement and Challenge Series

Once again we are running a series of rides that will allow you to qualify as a receiver of the Super Achiever or Challenge Award for 1999. Each ride of the series must be completed in a set time limit but is otherwise non-competitive in nature.

## The Achievement Series

To become a Super Achiever you must complete a 50km, 100km, 200km, 300km and the 10,000 in 8 brevet or official ride.

## The Challenge Series

The Challenge Award will be obtained with a 50km, 100km, 100 mile, 200km and 10,000 in 8 brevet or official ride.

## Using Brevets and Audax Rides

The brevets can be either CTA or Audax rides which have been approved by a member of the CTA Committee (preferably the Rides Co-ordinator for CTA brevets - see below). Note that this year we have included two separate series in the calendar to allow the maximum number of riders to participate in either of the rides programmes.

Any person intending to use a CTA brevet card for a ride must contact the Rides Co-ordinator to select one of the approved routes at least one week prior to the ride (you do not need to book for an official CTA ride of the series). After completing a brevet, the member must deliver the card to the Rides Co-ordinator to record the ride and ensure that the ride is officially recognised at a Committee Meeting. If you require further details please contact Steve on 9313 2814 (H).

## AUDAX FOR CTA RIDES SERIES

From now on if you want to take part in an Audax ride you **MUST** complete an entry form and get it to the ride organiser **BEFORE** the day of the ride.

Forms are available from the CTA Rides Coordinator. I would suggest you fill out this form with your details in the Rider section and then **PHOTOCOPY** the form to give yourself the opportunity to enter multiple rides. If you don't put down an Audax membership number, you will be charged \$2 extra as a non-member.

Then:

1. Fill in the Ride details with the distance and date of the ride.

2. Determine the ride fee as follows:

all unsupported rides - \$5

supported: 200km - \$8

300km - \$12

3. Sign the form and send the form and correct money to the ride organiser (make cheques payable to Audax Australia) before the day of the ride. Also note that if your form does not reach the ride organiser by the Tuesday before the ride, there will be a \$2 late fee.
4. Maps and route notes can be collected from the ride organiser 2 weeks before the ride. If you want it mailed to you, send a stamped self-addressed envelope with your entry form. Otherwise you will get a map and route notes with your brevet at the start.

## THE WINNER'S CIRCLE

Steve started the gun on the first two rides of the series for the year - he just didn't start his bike! However, he did note the following people were successful in their endeavours:

### 300km

Kleber Claux  
Mark Elliott  
Michael Hook

Carol Jackson  
Ann Wilson

### 10 000 in 8

Bruce Beecham  
Dennis Braddon  
Kleber Claux  
Janet Deverill  
Michael Hook

Carol Jackson  
Liz Wheib  
Lance Whiteford  
Patricia Whiteford  
Ann Wilson

If you have any queries about the series, please contact Steve Blackbourn on 9313 2814.



WELL DONE!

## APOLOGY

I would like to apologise for not turning up to organise the 10 000 in 8 ride on June 20. I can only say that having moved house on the Friday and having the flu, that I clean forgot. Congratulations to everyone who successfully completed the course and I hope you all had an enjoyable ride.

Graham

# Audax Australia

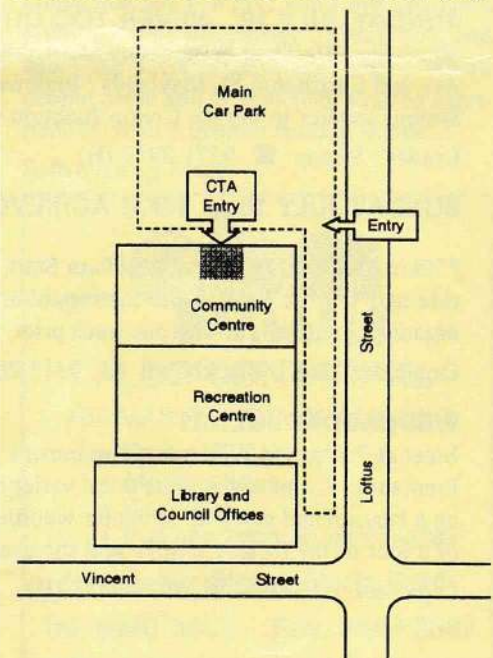
Audax is an international long distance cycling club. The first club originated in France in 1904. The name is a loose translation from the latin and means "courage". All rides are non-competitive and conducted over specified routes and distances within set time periods.

At the successful completion of each event, the rider is eligible for a certificate and a patch or medallion. Rides range from 50km to 1500km in length and are open to all CTA members, though membership of Audax Australia Club is encouraged if you envisage participating regularly. Very generous personal injury and income protection cover are afforded from such membership.

PLEASE NOTE - Notification of participation is required at least one week prior to the event and there is a cost to enter dependent on the distance to be travelled. Further information and a program of events is available by contacting the CTA Rides Co-ordinator, Steve Blackbourn, on 9313 2814 or by checking the Rides Calendar.

## CTA Social Evenings

The Social Nights are usually (but not always) held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Loftus Community Centre on the corner of Loftus Street and Vincent Street, Leederville. Enter from the main carpark on the north side of the complex (see map below). For further details contact Desama on 9472 9887 (H).



# Rides Calendar — July to August 1999

For any cyclist coming on a ride for the first time, it would be wise to start with an 'Easy' ride. If you are unsure of your suitability for a particular ride, please telephone the Ride Leader. You will need to wear a helmet and bring a spare tube, puncture repair kit, tyre levers, pump and a spanner (to fit the axle nuts if your bike is not fitted with quick release hubs). Most importantly, bring water!

## RIDE GRADINGS

**Easy** - anyone

**Medium** - fit with geared bikes

**Medium Hard** - fit and experienced. Distances < 100km

**Hard** - fit, experienced and strong. Distances > 100km over hard terrain

*If you are interested in doing a particular ride, but you feel it may be too long for you, don't be put off. Contact the ride leader to see if you can do part of the route.*

*\* Indicates ride suitable for Achievement/Challenge series.*

### SUNDAY JULY 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY RIDE

20km Easy, 9:00am Start. Meet at the Causeway carpark for an easy beginners ride to a coffee shop and return.

Leader: Steve Blackbourn ☎ 9313 2814 (H)

### SUNDAY JULY 4 INTRODUCING MOUNTAIN BIKES

3hrs Medium, 9:00am Start. Meet at the Mundaring Weir Hotel for a good introductory ride to mountain biking. If you've ever wondered what the fascination is in getting down and dirty, then join Noel for an experience you're bound to enjoy.

Leader: Noel Eddington ☎ 9355 2745 (H)

*Contact organiser for 50km Achievement/Challenge Ride*

### SUNDAY JULY 11 BACK ROADS TO MUNDIJONG

40km Easy/Medium, 8:45am for a 9:00am Start. Meet at the Kelmscott Railway Station for a short ride into the "country", before returning to the starting place.

Leader: Dennis Braddon ☎ 9497 4786 (H)

*Contact organiser for 200km Achievement/Challenge Ride*

### SUNDAY JULY 18 NEVER TOO COLD FOR ICE CREAM

40km Easy, 10:00am Start. Meet at Shearn Park (corner of Central Ave and Carrington St, Maylands / Inglewood), for one of Simon's famous toodles to the Ice Cream Junction in Midland.

Leader: Simon ☎ 9271 2959 (H)

### SUNDAY JULY 18 50KM ACHIEVEMENT/CHALLENGE (TAKE 2)

\*50km Medium, 8:30am for 9:00am Start. This is an unsupported ride and will be held in the metropolitan area. Contact the ride organiser for details at least one week prior, to be eligible for the ride.

Organiser: Steve Blackbourn ☎ 9313 2814 (H)

### WEDNESDAY JULY 21 SOCIAL NIGHT

Meet at 7:30pm at Wilderness Equipment - 29 Jewel Parade North Fremantle. Come and see the latest variety and styles in stock, pick up a bargain and stock up in winter woollies. There is a possibility of a tour of the factory tonight and the usual nibbles and cuppa.

Organiser: Desama ☎ 9472 9887 (H)

### SAT JULY 24 200KM ACHIEVEMENT/CHALLENGE (TAKE 2)

\*200km Hard, 5:30am for 6:00am Start. This is an unsupported ride and will follow a Southern route and return. Contact the ride organiser for details at least one week prior, to be eligible for the ride.

Organiser: Steve Blackbourn ☎ 9313 2814 (H)

*Contact leaders for Mint Tour*

### SUNDAY JULY 25 KRAIG'S KARRINYUP KAPER

40km Medium, 9:00am Start. Meet at the Causeway carpark for a ride to Karrinyup with a Leederville coffee stop along the way.

Leader: Craig Abernethie ☎ 9361 0292 (H)

### SUNDAY AUGUST 1 A MINT DAY

40km Easy/Medium, 8:45am for a 9:00am Start. Meet at the Causeway carpark for a short ride through East Perth before touring the Perth Mint at 10:30am. There's bound to be a refresh-mint stop somewhere before returning to the Causeway. Entry cost to the Mint is \$4 each if there is a group of 10 or more people going, otherwise it will be \$5). Please register your interest in going by contacting the ride leaders by Wednesday July 28 to assist with booking the tour.

Leaders: Patricia and Lance ☎ 9249 1970 (H)

*Contact organiser for 100km Achievement/Challenge Ride*

### SUNDAY AUGUST 8 POCKET'S PINK & PURPLE PEDAL

30km Easy/Medium, 9:15am Start. Meet at the causeway carpark in your lairiest pink and purple gear, to wear for a ride to a secret destination (read: as-yet-unknown).

Leader: Ann ☎ 944 5160 (H)

### WEDNESDAY AUGUST 11 SOCIAL NIGHT

Meet at 7:30pm at the Loftus Community Centre in Leederville (refer to map page 5). There's a first time for everything. Join in the fun of new experiences, awkward moments and embarrassing noises as ten people tell us all about their first time with On Your Bike. Refreshments supplied.

Organiser: Desama ☎ 9472 9887 (H)

### SUNDAY AUGUST 15 UP THE CANNING RIVER

30km Easy, 9:00am Start. Meet at the Raffles Hotel carpark for a ride (presumably) up the Canning River, where you will be able to grab a bite before returning.

Leader: Graham ☎ 9450 3545 (H)

### SUN AUGUST 15 100KM ACHIEVEMENT/CHALLENGE (TAKE 2)

100km Hard, 8:15am for 8:30am Start. This is an unsupported ride and you will need to contact the ride organiser for details, at least one week prior, to be eligible for the ride.

Organiser: Steve Blackbourn ☎ 9313 2814 (H)

**SUNDAY AUGUST 22****RIDE THE RAFFLES  
TO FREMANTLE**

40km Easy/Medium, 10:00am for a 10:15am Start. Meet at the Raffles Hotel carpark for a ride through the suburbs to Fremantle, check out a coffee shop and return to the Raffles along the river.

Leader: Karin ☎ 9316 3846 (H)

**SUNDAY AUGUST 29 SWANNING AROUND THE VALLEY**

50km Medium, 8:15am for an 8:30am Start. Meet at the Lone Star Restaurant (outside Myer) at the Morley Galleria Shopping Centre. [To get to the start by train, get off at the Bayswater station]. Enjoy a scenic ride through the charming Swan Valley. Take in a winery or two and some morning tea or other refreshments. You might find some interesting places that you haven't been to yet! Return to the Galleria in the early afternoon.

Leaders: Lance and Patricia ☎ 9249 1970 (H)

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 4**  
**CTA SILVER ANNIVERSARY DINNER**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 5****INFORMAL RIDE**

9:00am Start. Meet at the Causeway carpark with other lone cyclists and decide where to go and how far, you never know where you may end up?

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 8****SOCIAL NIGHT**

Meet at 7:30pm at the Loftus Community Centre in Leederville (refer to map page 5). Find out about your local Bicycle User Group and how you can improve cycling facilities in your local area. Does your shopping centre lack bicycle parking? Is there a U rail dangerously placed? Would on-road lines make your trip home safer? Is the neighbouring council going to rip up your bike path to work? Don't get angry, get ACTIVE... BUG groups in Perth have been effective in making changes happen.

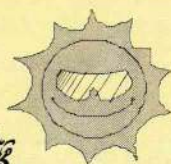
Organiser: Desama ☎ 9472 9887 (H)

**If you are interested in leading a ride, or you have a suggestion for a ride that you would like to do, please contact the Rides Co-ordinator by August 15.**

**ANNUAL ON YOUR BIKE TOUR**  
**OCTOBER 16 - 24**  
**SOUTHERN PEAKS TOUR '99**

This year's tour starts with the participants being coached down to Mount Barker from Perth. Then it's 'On Your Bike' to Denmark, Albany, Porongorup Range, Borden, Gnowangerup, Cranbrook and then back to Mount Barker before being coached back to Perth. For further information or a tour brochure and entry form contact:

Tony Humphreys ☎ 9728 3105 or Marion ☎ 9271 9409



# Ancient Problems

**TRANSLATED FROM LATIN SCROLL****DATED 1BC**

Dear Cassius:

Are you still working on the Y zero K problem? This change from BC to AD is giving us a lot of headaches and we haven't much time left. I don't know how people will cope with working the wrong way around. Having been working happily downwards forever, now we have to start thinking upwards. You would think that someone would have thought of it earlier and not left it to us to sort it all out at this last minute.

I spoke to Caesar the other evening. He was livid that Julius hadn't done something about it when he was sorting out the calendar. He said he could see why Brutus turned nasty. We called in Consultus, but he simply said that continuing downwards using minus BC won't work and as usual charged a fortune for doing nothing useful. Surely we will not have to throw out all our hardware and start again? Macrohard will make yet another fortune out of this I suppose.

The money lenders are paranoid of course! They have been told that all usury rates will invert and they will have to pay their clients to take out loans. It's an ill wind.

As for myself, I just can't see the sand in an hourglass flowing upwards. We have heard that there are three wise men in the East who have been working on the problem, but unfortunately they won't arrive until it's all over.

I have heard that there are plans to stable all horses at midnight at the turn of the year as there are fears that they will stop and try to run backwards, causing immense damage to chariots and possible loss of life. Some say the world will cease to exist at the moment of transition. Anyway, we are still continuing to work on this blasted Y zero K problem. I will send a parchment to you if anything further develops.

If you have any ideas please let me know.

Plutonium



## A Point to Ponder

Last year, somewhere on the leaves of a forgotten sugar-cane plant, a bit of sunlight ended its eight-minute dash to earth. Somehow that sugar got into my morning tea.

I sipped last year's sunshine at breakfast. Now it starts to feed these muscles. It's dark now, and I start for home on my bicycle. The muscled sunlight becomes pedal-power, then chain-pull, wheel-spin, generator-whine, filament-heat, and finally - from the headlamp - light again!

Author: Malcolm Wells

Source: Environmental Action Bulletin

## 1999 MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees for 1999 have been set as indicated below:

1. Individual membership \$35.00
2. New members \$30.00
3. Full-time Students/Pensioners \$18.00
4. Dependants under 18 no charge

Existing members should note that there is a \$5 discount on fees (resulting in a \$30 fee) if they pay before the end of January. *Note that this does not apply to the student/pensioner membership fees.* Part year memberships are available after June.

The CTA is a non-Government organisation relying on membership fees, donations and volunteer labour to achieve our aims and objectives. These monies help to provide each member with six Newsletters per year, a social evening venue and tea and coffee making facilities, weekend trips and tours "at cost", a library, an indemnity to cover property to name a few of the obvious benefits.

## EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

The CTA has some equipment (as listed below) which is available for members to hire for \$5 for 2 weeks or \$10 per month plus a bond. This is a great way to try out cycle touring without having to layout a large amount of money to equip yourself with the right gear.

- Rear Panniers (pair)
- Small Rack Bag (sits on top of pannier rack)
- Trangia

Please contact a committee member if you are interested in using this equipment.

## CTA CLOTHING

The CTA has its own clothing available in two colour schemes - yellow with red stripes, or turquoise with green stripes. The design is available in short and long sleeved Coolmax tops, and black lycra knicks with a coloured side panel. The clothing is available in a range of sizes from XS, S, M, L, XL and XXL and costs \$55 for knicks, \$65 for short sleeve tops and \$75 for long sleeve tops (note that long sleeve tops have white sleeves).

Please enclose a cheque with your order made payable to "CTA Clothing" and send to:

Lance Whiteford  
6 Hakea Close  
Ballajura WA 6066.

If you require any further information you can contact Lance on 9249 1970.



## WHERE ARE YOU?

If you are lucky enough to move to a bright sparkling new place of abode, please share your good news with us. All members are asked to confirm their current address and phone numbers with Committee members.

## CTA LIBRARY

The CTA has a small library of books and magazines relating to all facets of cycling and cycle touring. These are available for all members to borrow or just read at each of the social evenings. The books may only be borrowed for 4 weeks by contacting a committee member on the night. Contributions to the library would be greatly appreciated, so do not dispose of any cycling literature which you feel may be relevant.

## POLICE BICYCLE REPORTS

The Police Bicycle Section would like to hear your reports of harassment, abuse or other serious incidents involving motor vehicles.

In order for the police to investigate an incident, you must be able to provide the registration number of the vehicle involved and the time and place of the incident. A description of the motor vehicle and the age and sex of the driver are also useful. You should always carry a pen and paper on your bike to record important details should you become involved in an incident. If the offense is serious, you should try to obtain the names of other witnesses who can verify your account. You can contact Officer in Charge at the Police Bicycle Section on 9222 1923 during working hours.

If undelivered please return to  
PO Box 174 Wembley 6014  
Western Australia

