

THE CHAIN LETTER

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

January/February 2003

Issue 168

Whale of a Tour ... Diary of a "Tour Virgin"!!

Bike to Work Breakfast 2002:

This was the day that changed my life forever. It was there, amongst a sea of lycra clad bottoms, that I was handed the flyer for the "Whale of a Tour". Thinking it was some sort of strange cult, I almost threw it away but something stopped me...perhaps it was that feeling that something was missing from my life. Could this be the answer I had been searching for? Could that missing "something" be cycling? So, I decided to boldly go where I hadn't been before in search of greater meaning...or, if not meaning, at least a bit of fun!

March to October:

To prepare for the great life changing cycling trek, I increased my riding efforts significantly. Whereas previously, at even a hint of inclement weather, I was easily swayed to take more comfortable forms of transport to work.... now I was out there, in the middle of winter, soaked to the bone, with icicles forming on the tip of my nose, almost blown off my trusty (or perhaps "rusty") steed into the river...all so I could keep up with my fellow cult members on our journey of discovery through the southern alps of Western Australia.

After months of fretting that I wasn't enough of a lean, mean cycling machine to be able to

survive a cycling tour, my fears were soon dispelled when I met some of my fellow "On Your Bikers" at the pre-tour ride. Despite fairly abysmal weather conditions, I met a wonderful group of fellow cyclists of all ages, shapes and sizes...with one particular thing in common...they all had great legs!! I was made to feel most welcome and my worries were allayed and I knew I was ready. Although I did still have a niggling doubt in the back corner of my mind, as the most challenging "hill" I had faced in my cycling career had been The Narrows Bridge!!!

The Tour:

Finally, the time had come for me to face my destiny.



Day 1: Kendenup to Mt Barker 25km

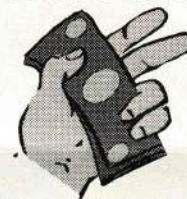
...a gentle introduction.

On arrival at Armadale train station, I again found myself amid a sea of lycra. I was promptly directed to a woman of small stature but large reputation...the infamous Ann. I was rather in awe of Ann as I'd heard she'd recently done the "300". I wasn't quite sure exactly 300 of what she'd done but it must have been good if everyone was talking about it.

Ann presented me with my name badge on

(continued on page 4)

Please send all articles and pictures for the next newsletter to the Editor no later than February 21.



Fees Please

Just a reminder that membership fees for 2003 are due now. You have until the end of January to pay and receive a \$5 discount (for adult membership only). After this date the full price applies. 2002 On Your Bike members please note that your complimentary membership extends to June 30, 2003.

Please use the membership form enclosed in this newsletter and send it together with your cheque to the Cycle Touring Association, PO Box 174, Wembley WA 6913.

Members who have not renewed by the end of February will not receive the next edition of the Chain Letter.

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

P.O. Box 174 Wembley 6913

CTA Email: cta_wa@yahoo.com

Web Site:

www.ctawa.asn.au



NEW MEMBERS

A hearty welcome is extended to the first-time "On Your Bikers" who receive a complimentary 6 month membership of the CTA.

Laurel Cross (welcome back)

Christina McCormack

Doug Munyard

Brian Smith

Here's hoping to see you "on ya bike" on a ride soon!

CYCLERAMA

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15% Discount for
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Tours and Weekends

What wonderful opportunities for new and experienced cycle tourists this next fifteen months will bring! Starting with the February 12 Social Night, a Trangia cooking demonstration and full pannier touring info. In the Main Events Calendar for 2003, apart from the popular Christmas in July, Toodyay and Mundaring Weir Weekends, the CTA Touring Committee has been working hard to bring you a greater range of tours. These include 2 long weekend pannier tours in March and May/June, a 7 day full pannier tour around Anzac Day in April, and a full pannier tour in Queensland in August!

These tours in 2003 will be a good preparation for the 16 day 30th Anniversary Full Pannier Tour scheduled for April 17 to May 2 2004.

Let's get the T back into CTA!

Meander to Mandurah

Long Weekend

March 1-3

Armed with all the information gained at the February social evening, come and try out your new touring equipment and skills. If you or your partner are unable to ride down with us on the Saturday, drive down instead (don't forget to bring your bikes down for the Sunday).

Itinerary:

Saturday March 1 - 80km

We will meet at the Raffles Hotel at 9.00 am for a gentle ride on the cycle paths to Leeming, then on quiet back roads to a side of the road morning tea (bring something along for morning tea). Lunch will be at Rockingham looking out over beautiful Mangles Bay, then we will meander down to the Lucky caravan park in Mandurah.

Tent sites, on-site vans or cottages are available for the two nights. Dining is optional i.e. Trangia, free barbecues or local cafes.

Sunday March 2 - zero to as many km you desire.

Today can be a rest or restless day. Bring a canoe, a fishing line, cossie, blonde or anything you want, as long as you enjoy it. There is a wide variety of shared use paths which allow you to see the attractions of Mandurah or ride to the Miami Bakery at Falcon to gorge on the variety of gourmet pies that take your fancy.

Monday March 3 - 80km

After a leisurely breakfast we will break camp and head North to the back roads of Baldivis and the start of the Kwinana freeway cycle path. A morning tea break will be at the Thomas Road service station, then we will continue along the cycle path back to the Raffles. Bookings and a \$10 deposit is required before February 23.

Organiser: Kleber ☎ 9354 7877

Easter in Quin nip

April 18 - April 21

Come spend Easter in the locality of Quin nip away for the hassle, hustle and bustle of the city.

Quin nip is located some 30km south of Manjimup. The campsite is at the location of the old mill that ceased operation in 1983. There are plenty to do - wander past mighty Karri trees, the lake on the edge of town, visit the old church (there are a number to walk trails to follow), or feed the kangaroos, chickens and other birds that you will find around the campsite.

Itinerary:

Friday

Arrive, unwind and check out the town. The General Store, Café and Tavern all a short walk from camp.

Saturday and Sunday

This is up to you. You can ride to and explore Northcliffe, Pemberton or Manjimup. If it's hot, take a dip at Moon's Crossing.

Monday

Pack up at your leisure and return to Perth. Or come on the Warren River Wander and return to Perth on April 17!

(continued on page 6)



Albert Einstein

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The A(ffleck), B(ailey) and See of the 2002 AGM

CYCLE TOURISTS OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Marion Affleck and Terry Bailey, who were awarded jointly the Cycle Tourist of the Year award for 2002. They both receive a small commemorative trophy, free CTA membership for 2003, and they "time share" the Cycle Tourist of the Year Perpetual Trophy between their living rooms.

RIDE OF THE YEAR

The Ride of the Year was "Cycling Instead Lazing by the Lovely Lake Leschenaultia", held on March 24. Congratulations to Terry Bailey and Lorraine Price for a well organised and enjoyable ride. They received a \$20 gift voucher from Wards Cycles.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE OF THE YEAR

The Newsletter Article of the Year was awarded to Tim Reid [*he won last year too! Maybe he should have my job! - Ed*] for his article "Zippin' Round the Speed Dome", printed in the March/April Newsletter (Issue 163). He wins a \$20 gift voucher Cyclorama.

THE 2003 CTA COMMITTEE

The new CTA Committee for 2003 is as follows:

President	Terry Bailey
Vice President	Michael Hook
Secretary	Tom Wall
Treasurer	Ann Wilson
Editor	Simon Koek
Rides Co-ordinator	Teresa Liddiard
Committee	Mark Boulton
Committee	Rosalie Brittain
Committee	Tim Reid
Committee	Kate Smith

Welcome to the new committee and thank you to the outgoing committee for 2002.

Challenge Series

Congratulations to Mark Corbett, Norman Lip (not in photo) and Tim Reid who successfully completed the Challenge Series. They each completed a 50km, 100km, Century (100 miles), 200km and the 10,000 in 8 ride.



Terry Bailey (left) and Marion Affleck (right) are the deserving joint winners of the 2002 Cycle Tourist of the Year Award

ACHIEVEMENT SERIES AWARDS

Super Achiever Series

Congratulations to Kleber Claux, Mark Elliott, Dennis Kelly, Devo and Ann Wilson who successfully completed the Super Achiever Series. They each completed a 50km, 100km, 200km, 300km and the 10,000 in 8 ride.



Merit Series

Congratulations to Mark Boulton, Dennis Braddon, Mike Holland (not in photo), Hooky, Teresa Liddiard, Colin Pearce and Kate Smith who successfully completed the Merit Series. They each completed a 50km, 100km and the 5,000 in 4 ride.



Whale of a Tour . . .

(continued from page 1)

which I noticed there was a big yellow dot. I was later informed, to my great delight, that it indicated that I was a "tour virgin" (i.e. never been on an "On Your Bike" tour) and that being the case, I was entitled to special treatment which included having my tent set up and packed away everyday, being tucked in and kissed goodnight every night and being brought breakfast in bed every morning. HA!

After all our bikes were loaded (with the utmost of care for which I must thank those who had this job) onto what I think was a big livestock transport truck and cyclists loaded onto a big coach we set off to Kendenup. There we met up with those who had driven down and had a lovely lunch provided by some of the locals. We then set off on a gentle ride to Mt Barker where we camped for the night and where, I discovered, I had been horribly misled about the supposed privileges my yellow dot entitled me to!!!!

Upon arrival in Mt Barker, there was no assistance with my tent, no kisses at bedtime (well...none that I will confess to!) and, despite staying in my bed as long as possible the next morning, no breakfast in bed!

Day 2: Mt Barker to Albany 75km

Not only did I NOT get breakfast in bed this morning, but I actually had to ride about 1km (on an empty stomach!) to get my breakfast!!! Fortunately, it was worth the ride. Big pots of steaming porridge complete with blowflies (sultanas). Actually, I did hear a rumour about one sultana that wasn't actually a sultana...but we won't go into that.

The ride to Albany through the Porongurups was lovely. The hills were fairly gentle and enough downhills to recover from the uphill. So I was feeling pretty cocky about my riding fitness as I'd thought that today's ride was going to be the most challenging because, according to the little tour booklet, it was the longest. However, I was to discover that today was, in fact, one of the easier rides!

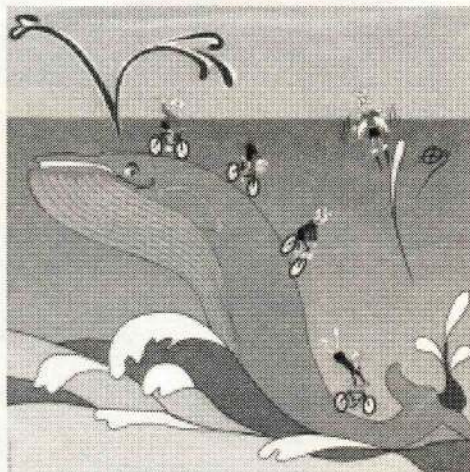
Upon arrival in Albany we set up camp at the

Leisure Centre where, later that evening, we were serenaded by the gentle strains of Midnight Oil. A delicious meal, provided by the locals, was enjoyed with entertainment provided by our rather charismatic Tour Leader, John Meakin. All I can say is, heaven help anybody who had been fool enough to lose personal items because if they turned up in lost property you had to undergo a rather public humiliation to retrieve those items!

Day 3: Rest Day in Albany 58km!!

The author with a few new friends

Thinking that the hardest day of riding was already neatly tucked under my belt and feeling fabulous, I, in all the wisdom of a tour virgin, decided that I hardly needed to rest today. So I set off with some fellow tourers to explore the local sights. First it was off to Middleton Beach for a rather refreshing dip in the southern waters which had obviously just



melted off the icebergs a little further south!! Actually, once I could finally take a breath and my entire body went numb, it was really quite lovely! Then we headed to the Natural Bridge, The Gap and The Blowholes – all rather spectacular displays of the wonders that Mother Nature has provided for our enjoyment.

Day 4: Albany to Denmark 89.5km!

...so much for Day 2 being the longest ride!!

We clocked up a few extra km's today by detouring to a few more sight along the way. First it was the Wind Farm, the road to which was all gravel and rather steep. I must confess that I had to get off and walk at one stage. However, the road was lined with beautiful displays of wild flowers of all different colours that made it all worth it and the Wind Farm itself was most impressive. Apparently some people have commented that they are visual pollution but I found them to be more like Gentle Giants and not offensive at all...especially when you think of how much power they generate in such a clean and quiet manner.

Another charming little spot we visited was Cosy Corner Beach which certainly lived up to its name. We stopped for lunch and went for another rather chilly dip which was actually quite refreshing and energised us ready for the rest of the cycle into Denmark. There we camped at McLean Park Recreation Centre and enjoyed another delicious feast provided by some local high school girls (under the watchful eye of the "grown-ups") who were raising funds for a trip, so it was good to be able to help out the locals and get a good feed at the same time!

Day 5: Denmark to Walpole 80km

...headwind and hills all the way!!!!

If I'd thought I'd died and gone to Heaven with all the beauty around me and the fabulous time I was having on this tour, I now strongly suspected that The Big Boss had discovered his mistake and returned me, if not to Hell, then certainly back to Earth with a resounding

... Diary of a "Tour Virgin"!!

thud!! This day was the hardest day's ride I have ever done....there was hill after hill after hill...and if that wasn't enough...there was wind...and more wind...and it wasn't caused by last night's dinner either! I found the support of my fellow riders a huge encouragement to keep my peddling when all I wanted to do was get off the bike and stop the next passing car.

There wasn't much sight seeing today as it was all I could do to make it straight from A to B!! However, we did detour off to the Tree Top walk, the road to which was more hills but the thought of the nice down hill run on the way back spurred me on. The trees in this area are magnificent and I tried hugging a few to see whether I could take in some of their energy to help me get to Walpole...but I think they were keeping all their energy to themselves that day...they probably needed it to stay standing in that terrible wind!

It was with a huge sense of achievement that I finally rolled into Walpole (last and just in time for dinner). That feeling was only slightly dampened by the fact that I had to put my tent up (all by myself!!!!) in the dark and there was no hot water left for my shower...these are the pitfalls of being last in every night. I have never been so exhausted in my entire life. I was so tired I couldn't even eat dessert!!

Day 6: Rest Day in Walpole 2.5km

...so tired I can barely move.

Today was spent moving as little as possible! In the morning I was to be found in the local coffee shop and the afternoon...in my tent asleep! I did, however, find myself a perfect mascot for this tour...a turtle.

Other tourers (who were obviously on drugs!) had far more energy than I and enjoyed the local sights. A particular highlight was the river cruise where a local character, Gary, entertained the group with his rather colourful stories about Walpole.

That evening's entertainment included antics with a rather pretty purple bra which nobody was brave enough to claim from lost property and a game of hide and seek with my new mascot. A special thanks to those who found it amusing to taunt me by repeatedly stealing my turtle!!

Day 7: Walpole to Denmark 92km

Having suitably recovered from my episode of complete physical breakdown, I was now ready to get back on the bike and face those hills again. Today's ride retraced in reverse the horror ride from Day 5, but it was much

more enjoyable this time around. Without that headwind, I was actually able to take in the scenery and enjoy the ride. It really is beautiful here...maybe The Big Boss took pity and returned me to Heaven.

We stopped in at Green's Pool at William Bay...another little piece of Heaven. There are huge granite rocks, beyond which waves are crashing, but, in the bay, the water is calm and clear...and yes, still cold...but we braved them for another invigorating dip!!

We camped again in Denmark where, this time, the high school boys provided our dinner. The boys had a whole different style to the girls but both did very well and were to be congratulated on their effort.

Day 8: Denmark to Mt Barker 58km

We took a different route back to Mt Barker than we had on Day 2 and I had been warned that today's ride would be a tough one with loooooong, sloooooowwwww hills. So I took a moment to prepare myself psychologically for another spirit breaking day! However, now that I had learned a little better how to pace myself I found the ride not as bad as I was expecting. In fact, dare I say, I actually enjoyed it...except perhaps for the few km's through the bushfire!!

That evening, back in Mt Barker, I became all too aware that this tour was coming to an end...a thought that dampened my spirits

somewhat because I was having such a fabulous time. However, the time-honoured "Tour Concert" was soon to lift my spirits high as fellow tourers made complete fools of themselves...me included!

There was the expected, but surprisingly entertaining, rendition of "There's a Hole in My Bucket", a very careful recital of "The Pheasant Plucker", a very dodgy "Jake the Peg" and a couple of rather talented guys who sang some songs they had written.

And this tour virgin deemed it fitting, on this last night, to declare her true love through song for our intrepid tour leader, John. So, after drinking several glasses of fortitudinal wine, I dragged an unsuspecting John onto the stage and sang "I Honestly Love You" to him...for which I apologise profusely to all those who had to witness such a display!...and Kleber...I'm sorry, but now you'll have to share!!

Day 9: Mt Barker to Kendenup 22km

Kendenup to Reality!!

So, to sum it up, this tour was the best holiday I've had in my entire life. Being a relative newcomer to WA, I had never seen this part of the state and I found cycling a great way to enjoy all that this region has to offer. On a bike, you see, hear and smell things that you would never notice in a car.

There were about 120 people on this tour and every one of them just fabulous and made this tour virgin feel most welcome. I met some wonderful people who share my passion for cycling and fun and whom I have since kept in contact with...despite them changing their names, addresses and phone numbers!!

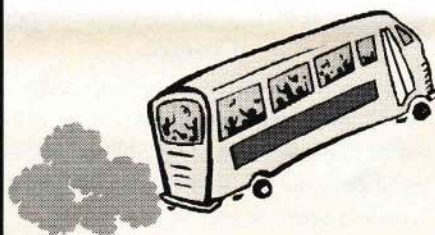
So...did I find that missing "something"? Well, I don't know about that but I certainly found fun and friendship and a renewed passion for cycling and a fabulous way to see our beautiful country.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all those on the "On Your Bike" and "CTA" Committee's who organised this tour. There is an enormous amount of work that goes into such an event, so a big THANKYOU to you and also all the volunteers who helped out during the tour to make sure we had a place to lay our heads, food in our stomachs and that we arrive at our destination safely. You did a fabulous job!

And to all those who have never been on a cycling tour but have thought about it...JUST DO IT!!!

Rosie Brittain

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 ☎ 9324 2835.

Tours and Weekends (continued from page 2)

Easter in Quinninup

(continued from page 2)

Accommodation:

2 Fully contained cabins have been booked. They sleep 5 to 7 people. Cost is \$75 per person per night (\$225 for the 3 nights). Test sites are \$10.00 per person per night (\$30 for the 3 nights).

What you need to bring:

Details to follow in next edition of Chain Letter.

Bookings with a deposit of \$20 is required. Carpooling is also encouraged. For bookings, deposit, and carpooling arrangements, please contact:

Rosie ☎ 04 1712 6094 (M)

✉ rosieposie@bigpond.com

Organiser: Tony ☎ 9728 3105 (H)

✉ tony.humphreys@mainroads.wa.gov.au

Warren River Wander Full Pannier Tour

Monday April 21 - Sunday April 27

Come and explore parts of the Warren and Blackwood River catchments. Passing through this diverse area, you will see the land change from: dairy farms to forests to olive groves, and vineyards in the most unlikely of places. See wheat and sheep farms transform into tree farms and vineyards. Visit old mills and towns that are no more, and pass by huge inland lakes.

This is a full pannier tour, which means all the gear that you require for the tour is carried on your bike (or if your are lucky on someone else's bike.). There are NO cars during the tour to take your gear. Some of the days you will need to carry supplies for more than one day, as there are no places to pickup supplies for on route.

Warren River Wander

(continued)

Itinerary:

Monday	
Quinninup to Strachan	37km
Tuesday	
Strachan to Frankland	74km
Wednesday	
Frankland to Tonebridge	44km
Thursday	
Tonebridge to Bridgetown	78km
Friday	
Rest day in Bridgetown	
Saturday	
Bridgetown to Manjimup	66km
Sunday	
Manjimup to Quinninup	34km

Accommodation:

We will camp mainly in caravan parks, except for Strachan (cabin); and Tonebridge ("wild camp"). The total cost for accommodation is \$50.00.

What you need to bring:

Details to follow in next edition of Chain Letter.

Bookings with a deposit of \$20 is required. Carpooling is also encouraged. For bookings, deposit, and carpooling arrangements, please contact:

Rosie ☎ 04 1712 6094 (M)

✉ rosieposie@bigpond.com

Organiser: Tony ☎ 9728 3105 (H)

✉ tony.humphreys@mainroads.wa.gov.au

Queensland Tour

Update

The current thinking regarding the Queensland Tour is for a 2 week tour in August. It will encompass the areas of Southern Queensland and Northern New South Wales, visiting towns like Sprinkbrook and Tweed Heads.

Organiser: Tony ☎ 9728 3105 (H)

✉ tony.humphreys@mainroads.wa.gov.au

The 30th Anniversary Pannier Tour 2004

April 17 - May 2

The CTA is celebrating its 30th birthday in 2004, so come and join in the party on a 16 day cycle trek from Albany to Perth from Saturday, April 17 to Sunday May 2, 2004. This will be a full pannier, unsupported tour i.e. tents,

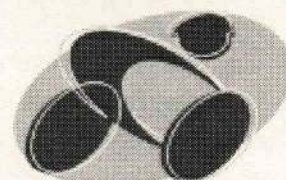
The 30th Anniversary Pannier Tour 2004

(continued)

sleeping, bags etc, with some YHA accommodation thrown in for good measure. As with the 20th Anniversary Tour [*it should've been the Bidecennial tour - Ed*], it is proposed to offer the first or second week for those who are unable to be with us for the full 16 days. The first week of the tour will fall on the last full week of the school holidays, allowing the educated ones to come along. The route will take in most of the best scenery travelled on other CTA and On Your Bike tours via quiet country roads where possible. So book your holidays, get your touring gear together and save your money, because this will be one hell of a tour! More news to follow in subsequent Chain Letters.

Organiser: Kleber ☎ 9354 7877 (H)

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Keep up with the latest breaking news on all cycle related matters - whether your interest is in MTBs, Touring, Time Trials, Road Racing, or gizmos and gear. Listen to the experts (and occasional CTA dumbos) as they bring you what is happening in WA and the world.

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Terry's Tales

As we recover from another Christmas and enter 2003, I still can't believe I agreed to take on this job. After six years as the newsletter editor I was starting to feel quite comfortable. The quick talking Simon then talked me into a trade, and before I knew it, I am the new CTA President! It seems that Simon has some hidden talents as a salesman and auctioneer as those attending the recent Progressive Christmas would attest to.

The AGM also gave me a pleasant surprise with the CTA members getting behind their club and a full complement of 10 committee members being voted into office, with five of them being first time committee members. This is a very satisfying feeling and I look forward to working with the new committee in 2003.

I would also like to thank the outgoing Committee from 2002 for a sterling job in 2002. I think that we would all agree that the club

is now in a very strong position with an increasing membership, a sound financial record and an increasing demand for club events, especially the On Your Bike Tour and weekends away.

But that wasn't the end of the surprises at the AGM. For the first time in the 25 year history of the Cycle Tourist of the Year Award, there

were two winners of the club's highest award as you will see on page 3 of the newsletter. This just goes to prove more than ever that there are many people that put a lot of time and effort into the club for the benefit of the rest of the members. This year we plan to introduce a new initiative to help recognise the efforts of the membership and raise the profile of the Cycle Tourist of the Year Award. Stay tuned for further details in upcoming newsletters.

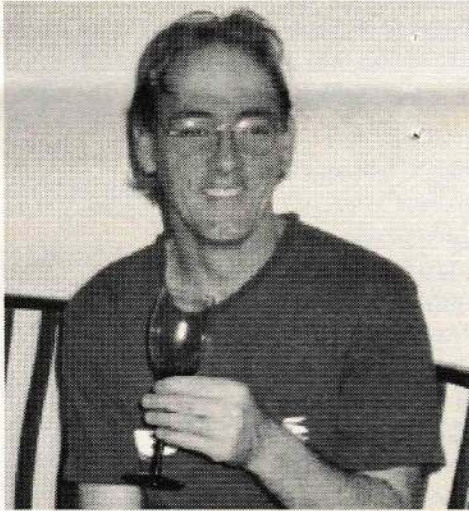
Talking about upcoming events, the Committee have planned a busy 2003 for the club with an action-packed Main Events Calendar. As

you will see, we have quite a few weekends away and tours planned giving everyone an opportunity to experience the unique pleasures of cycle touring for themselves. Several of the weekends will also offer the opportunity to try pannier touring with two extended pannier tours being planned this year including the Easter Weekend which flows into the ANZAC Day Tour in April and the Queensland Tour in

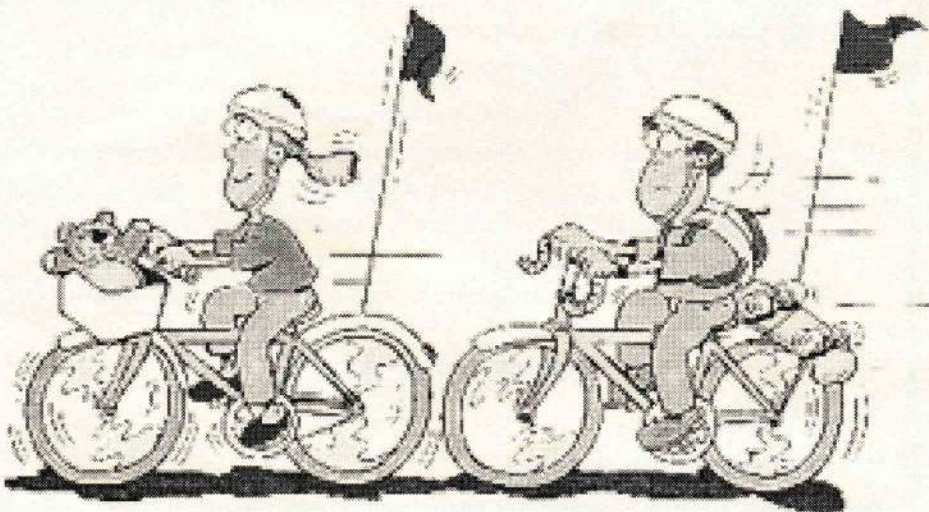
August. All of this is just a lead up to 2004 when the CTA celebrates its 30th Anniversary with a 2 week full pannier tour through the South West.

I am looking forward to the year ahead and hope to see as many members as possible out on their bikes enjoying the fine cycling weather. Until next time, ride safely and enjoy yourselves.

Terry



Viva El Presidenté!



Tired of crowded city living? Do you want a place with room to move, really live, and where you can bring up a family and start a dynasty with space to grow?

We'll come on over to Column 3 of Page 7, where there's lots of empty space!

Ample parking too!

Editor's Effusions

Greetings to you all out there in Readerland! After many years of being on the Committee and assisting with the Newsletter (although some Editors said I should *desist!*), I have decided to try my hand at being the Editor. Terry has done a tremendous job with the Newsletter over the last 6 years, and I feel I have some very big shoes to fill (but Desama would know more about that!). I hope my first offering comes up to scratch (but not in a "race horse" sense).

As with most things, I like to leave my stamp on them (I've stamped on many things in my life!), and this newsletter is no exception (i.e. not exceptional in having my stamp on it, but hopefully exceptional in other ways. I just hope no one takes exception with it!). I do like symbolic notation systems, as anyone who has seen my ride descriptions would attest to (some call them "bollocks notational systems"). As such (but please don't call me "Such"), I have endeavoured to extend the little telephone number symbol '☎' with an email equivalent '✉'. I feel it's useful, as most email addresses and the identifying tag "email" don't fit on the same line in a print column, and also I do like the universality of symbols and their language independence. Just think, if this newsletter found its way to China, they would recognise the little computer '☎'. Unfortunately, they wouldn't know what it meant, as they couldn't read this article that told them what it meant. Still, we shouldn't not attempt things simply because we think that they're too hard. We *should* not attempt things if we might get blamed and beaten up for later!

I like to think too (don't we all, at least sometime!) that I am a generous and accomodating person. If you have any suggestions as to how to improve the newsletter, or ways in which it can be improved, please don't hesitate to contact me. Apart from the ☎, I can be contacted at ✉ skoeck@inet.net.au . Of course, although I

like to think of myself as generous and accomodating, I'm not. Actually I'm a pathological control freak with paranoid fantasies and homicidal tendencies brought on by a hypersensitive inferiority complex! If you do send me ANY criticisms, I will use Caller ID to obtain your ☎ number, and ring you at inconvenient times, using threatening and/or obnoxious language!! If you try ✉ing me, I will not only send you a multitude of damaging and nefarious computer viruses, but also target your internet connection, so that it will be constantly inundated with low-level protocol requests which will essentially prevent you accessing the internet from that computer, or any other that connects to the internet using that user-ID and domain name!! So you have been warned!!!

Harsher penalties apply for subsequent offences.

Of course, the last 2 paragraphs are only 1 side of my personality (it's just that they're not well integrated). My other aspects are only too happy to listen to your comments, and provided they're constructive and I take my medication, and are not left for too long by myself on the hospital ward's computer, I will try to implement your suggestions. Otherwise, I won't.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. I know I didn't.

'Til we meet again (on the next visitor's day)...

Simon



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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 Brian Hawes ✉ 9398 4724 (H)



Things can be a little crowded on the ward

Brain Teaser

NOT QUITE A SQUARE DEAL

A female teacher wrote on the blackboard the series "1, 3, 8.", and told her students that the numbers were special. She gave them the rhyme:

"The product of any pair,

"Is one short of a square."

She then challenged them to find the next number of the sequence. Can you figure it out?

[I couldn't do it algebraically, and attempted something graphical, but to no avail. I finally ended up writing a computer program. If someone finds an elegant way to do it, let me know! - Ed]

As a further test, there is another number that can be added to the series and satisfies the criterion.

ISSUE 167 ANSWER

Simple Maths

The digit is 1 i.e. $11 + 1 = 12$.

The CTA Achievement Ride Series

The CTA conducts a series of Achievement Rides each year that will allow you to qualify for an award. A cloth badge is also available for each of the individual rides at a cost of \$5 each.

The three series available are: the Super Achiever, the Challenge Series and the Merit Series. Each ride of the series must be completed within the set time limit, but is otherwise noncompetitive in nature. A member can only nominate for one award per year. The three series are:

Super Achiever Series

To become a Super Achiever you must complete the following five rides in the specified time limits:

50km	3 hrs
100km	6 hrs
200km	13½ hrs
300km	20 hrs
10,000 in 8 (10,000 feet of hills in)	8 hrs

Challenge Series

To receive the Challenge Award you must complete the following five rides in the specified time limits:

50km	3 hrs
100km	6 hrs
Century (100miles)	10 hrs
200km	13½ hrs
10,000 in 8 (10,000 feet of hills in)	8 hrs

Merit Series

To receive the Merit Award you must complete the following three rides in the specified time limits:

50km	3 hrs
100km	6 hrs
5,000 in 4 (5,000 feet of hills in)	4 hrs

Using Brevets and Audax Rides

Each Achievement Ride will be held twice during the year to provide the maximum opportunity for members to complete one of the series. However, if you are unable to attend one of the official CTA rides, then a CTA brevet card can be used to complete the ride. To obtain your brevet card and route description, contact the Achievement Rides Administrator (i.e. Vice President Hooky). After completing the brevet, it must be returned to the Achievement Rides Administrator to record the ride and ensure that it is officially notarised by the CTA Committee.

In addition to brevet cards, official Audax rides can also be used to complete the 200km and 300km rides (refer below for additional information on using Audax rides).

To qualify for an award, all brevets for that series must be completed and notarised by the CTA Committee **two weeks before the AGM**.

If you require further details please contact Hooky ☎ 9375 5246 (H).

AUDAX FOR CTA RIDE 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 at least one week **BEFORE** the ride.

Forms are available from Audax (contact Brian Hawes ☎ 9398 4724 (H)). There is an extra \$2 fee for non-Audax members. 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) at least one week before the ride.
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.

If you have any queries, please contact Hooky ☎ 9375 5246 (H).

The Winner's Circle

This area usually contains the names of people who have successfully completed any Achievement Ride since the last newsletter. Owing to the fact that **all rides must be completed 2 weeks before the AGM** (so they can be notarised and used to qualify for a Ride Series in that year), and since everybody did that (yah!), there have been no Achievement Rides completed in that time.

However, I believe that the recipients deserve more recognition than just their names in the AGM Report and a photo (hmmm, perhaps they don't need any more. Anyway). Here they are again, because they are true achievers, and I need to fill some space in the newsletter.

Super Achiever Award

Kleber Claux, Mark Elliott, Dennis Kelly, Devo and Ann Wilson

Challenge Award

Mark Corbett, Norman Lip and Tim Reid

Merit Award

Mark Boulton, Dennis Braddon, Mike Holland, Hooky, Teresa Liddiard, Colin Pearce and Kate Smith

See page 3 for photos!

Well done to all those who have qualified for one of the series. However, no is not the time to let the grass grow under your tyres. A New Year has come, and now it's time to go out, achieve your cycling goals, and become a hero in the Winner's Circle!



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Rides Calendar – January to February 2003

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

Moderate - fit with geared bikes

Moderately 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.

**WISHING YOU ALL A VERY
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

Sunday January 5

Trek 520

40-50km Easy, 9:00am start. Meet at Charles Paterson Park (near the children's playground near Burswood Casino) with your Trek 520 to go for a ride together. Those without a Trek 520 will be permitted to ride along in admiration.

Leader: Tony ☎ 9728 3105 (H)

Friday January 10

Evening Dinner Ride

20km Easy, 6:30pm start. Meet at the Causeway Car Park to decide on where to cycle and where to eat afterwards. We will vote on what we will do on the night. Note: small change is handy when paying the bill. *Lights essential and reflective vests recommended.*

Leader: Lorraine ☎ 9271 1540 (H)

Sunday January 12

Hooked on Family Rides

20km Easy, 9:00am start. Meet at Charles Paterson Park (near the children's playground near Burwood Casino) for a family ride around Perth stopping at a park for a play and coffee before returning.

Leader: Hooky ☎ 9375 5246 (H)

Sunday January 19 Trust Me; I Know Where I'm Going

50-60km Moderate 9:00am start. Meet at Raffles Hotel for a moderate paced ride in the direction of Fremantle stopping somewhere along the way for refreshments then returning to the Raffles.

Leader: Tim ☎ 9457 2073 (H)

Sunday January 26

Fireworks Ride

20km Easy, 5:30pm start. Meet at the East Perth Train Station (in the car park off East Perth) for a short ride to find a reasonable spot from which to view the fireworks. BYO dinner, drinks and blankets. *Lights essential and reflective vests recommended.*

Leader: Terry ☎ 9472 9887 (H)

Sunday February 2

Jandakot Jaunt

45km Easy to Moderate, 8:00am start. Meet at Deb & Colin's place (11 Orleans St, Spearwood - right behind Phoenix Shopping Centre) for a ride south east towards Jandakot. Refreshments at Deb & Colin's at the end of ride.

Leader: Deb ☎ 04 2169 7453 (M)

Sunday February 2

It Will All End in Sorrows

10km Easy, 5:00pm start. Meet at Charles Paterson Park (near the children's playground near Burwood Casino) to ride to Sir James Mitchell Park, to watch the Joe Camilleri & the Black Sorrows Concert, part of the South Perth Fiesta. BYO food, picnic rug, drinks, etc. *Lights essential and reflective vests recommended.*

Leader: Teresa ☎ 9443 4687

Wednesday February 5

Rosie's Moonlight Serenade

25km Easy, 7:00pm start. Meet at Raffle's Hotel for a leisurely ride ending up in Applecross for a meal or just a snack. Warning: Rosie may serenade you as you ride!! *Lights essential and reflective vests recommended.*

Leader: Rosie ☎ 04 1712 6094 (M)

Sunday February 9

Dot's Bikies

60 or 100km Moderate to Hard, 8:00am for an 8:11 and 30 seconds sharp start. Meet at the Armadale Train Station (train gets in at 8:09am). Tea & Bickiesor is that bikies?....at Dot's Tea Room during the ride.

Leader: Colin ☎ 04 2169 7453

Wednesday February 12

Trangia Cooking & Pannier Packing

Social Night

Meet at 7:30 pm at the Loftus Community Centre in Leederville (refer to map on page 9). For all the new chums and even the experienced cycle tourists, this is the evening you need to attend. With the wonderful choice of tours and weekend rides featured on the Main Events Calendar, this social night will be invaluable. At great expense to the CTA, we have invited two Cordon Bleu Trangia chefs who will demonstrate their craft and pass on their camp cooking skills, which up till now have been withheld. Also, a number of our experienced cycle tourists will demonstrate pannier packing and the evening will cover all aspects of pannier touring. Tea, coffee and Milo will be available along with a light supper. Devo, you are invited to judge the food prepared by the chefs.

Organiser: Kleber ☎ 9354 7877 (H)

Sunday February 16

Meander From Midland

60km Moderate, 8:30am start. Meet at the Midland Train Station for a moderate paced, relatively flat (relative to the Swiss Alps!!) ride through Swan Valley returning to Midland for indulgences at the Ice-Creamery!!

Leader: Mark ☎ 9294 2625 (H)

Sunday February 23

Coastal Saunter

41km Easy, 8:30am start. Meet at the north end (opposite the blue loo block) of the car park at the Rendezvous Hotel at Scarborough Beach for a leisurely saunter to Burns Beach for coffee & nibbles then returning to Scarborough Beach. Bring your bathers, towel & sunscreen as we will stop for a refreshing dip along the way.

Leader: Mike ☎ 9448 1978 (H)

March 1-3 Meander to Mandurah Long Weekend

160km over 3 days Moderate. Come and join us for the first pannier tour of the season. About 80km on the first and third day on quiet back roads and cycle paths at a genuine touring pace. The rest day you can catch a wave, catch a fish or catch a glimpse of all the fine attractions Mandurah has to offer. See page 2 for more details. Booking and a \$10 deposit is required before February 23.

Organiser: Kleber ☎ 9354 7877 (H)

Sunday March 9 50km Achievement Ride

50km Moderate, 9:00am for a 9:30am sharp start. Meet at the corner of Great Northern Highway and Chittering Road. The time limit of 3 hours (17km/h average) should ensure that everyone has a chance of completing the distance. Note there is a \$10 fee for non-members.

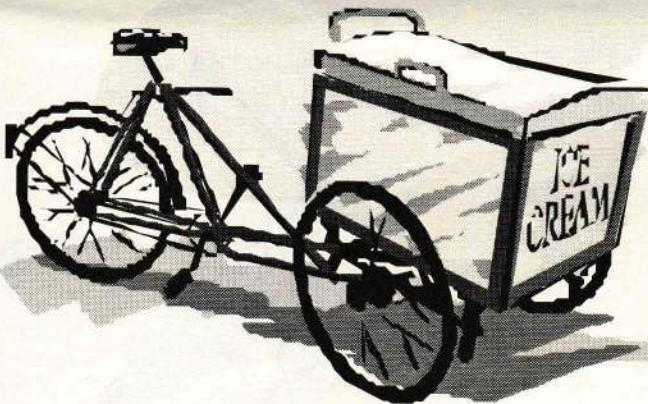
Organiser: Hooky ☎ 9375 5246 (H)

COMING EVENTS

Bike Week 2003 - March 14 - 23

Friday March 14	Bike To Work Breakfast
Sunday March 16	Lake Leschenaultia
Wednesday March 19	Bike Week Barbecue Ride
Sunday March 23	Bike Week Sunday Ride

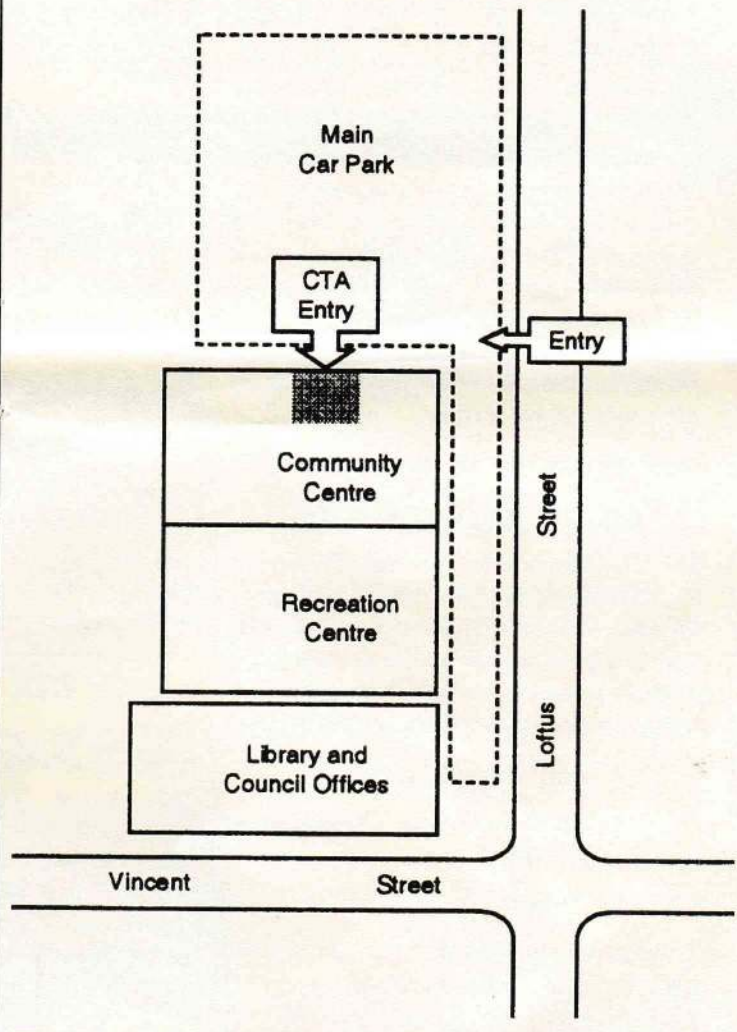
If you are interested in leading a ride, or you have a suggestion for a ride that you would like to do, please contact the Rides Co-ordinator by February 21 on 9443 4687 or email: rosieposie@bigpond.com



This might be good on the Meander From Midland!

CTA Social Nights

The social nights are usually (but not always -- it's a key issue!) held 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 Tim on 9457 2073



Reporting Cycling Hazards

All riders are encouraged to make a note of hazards observed during rides on roads and paths, especially newly installed ones, and to submit a hazard report to Bikewest. Nearly all ride routes are likely to include hazards, even if minor ones, like centre-mounted grab rails on paths, lips on kerb ramps and drive entrances from roads, or drainage grates with gaps to trap skinny tyres. The aim is to get these fixed, and more importantly, to stop new hazards being installed.

About 80% of hospitalised cyclist crashes did not involve a motor vehicle. Most were "loss-of-control" crashes, and an unknown proportion of these were due to hazards on paths and roads.

The hazard reports should be submitted to Bikewest, either using the freepost cards provided by Bikewest or by e-mail. Sending an e-mail is an easy way of submitting a hazard report with HAZARD REPORT in the subject and a good description of the location and the hazard. The address is bikewest@transport.wa.gov.au with a copy to the BTA bta_wa@hotmail.com please.

2003 MEMBERSHIP FEES

The CTA Membership is from January 1 to December 31 each year. Membership fees for 2003 have been set as indicated below:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Adult membership | \$40.00 |
| 2. New members | \$35.00 |
| 3. Full-time Students/Pensioners | \$23.00 |
| 4. Dependants under 18 | no charge |

Note that part year memberships apply after June 30 and the above fees should be halved.

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 that is highly visible being yellow with red stripes (some tops and knicks in turquoise and green are still available).

The design is available in short sleeved Coolmax tops and black lycra knicks with a coloured side panel.

Some stocks are available in a range of sizes from S, M, L, XL and XXL and costs \$70 for knicks and \$75 for tops.

Please contact Mark or Melanie on 9351 9260 if you require any further information.

Cheques should be made payable to "CTA Clothing".



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 the Officer in Charge of Cycling at the Cottesloe Police Station ☎ 9284 5058 during working hours.

If undelivered please return to
PO Box 174 Wembley 6913
Western Australia



Main Events Calendar 2003

Tours and Rides

January 26	Australia Day Fireworks Ride
March 1-3	Meander to Mandurah Long Weekend
March 14-26	Bikeweek
April 18 - 21	Easter in Quinninup
April 21-27	Warren River Wander Tour
May 31-June 2	Foundation Day Long Weekend Tour
July 19-20	Christmas in July
September 13-14	Toodyay Tour Weekend
October 4-12	On Your Bike Tour
November 1-2	Mundaring Weir Weekend
November 30	Annual General Meeting
December 13	Progressive Dinner

Social Evenings

February 12
April 9
July 9
September 17

Achievement Rides

March 9	50km
March 30	100km
April 12	Century
April 13	5 000 in 4
May 3	200km
May 17	300km
June 7	10 000 in 8
June 29	50km
July 13	5 000 in 4
July 27	100km
August 9	Century
August 23	10 000 in 8
September 6	200km
September 20	300km
August 31	300km