

# cycle touring association of w.a.(inc.)

**PATRON:**

The Hon.R.J.O'Connor  
Deputy Premier of W.A.

the cyclists' association  
fostering cycle touring and  
protecting the interests of cyclists.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Box 174,Wembley  
Western Australia 6014



## HISTORY TURNS A FULL WEEK

## THE 1980 KALGOORLIE TOUR

Following in the muddy wheel ruts of early gold seekers and adventurers, nine seasoned cyclists set out on Sunday, 18 May, for a week-long tour from Perth to Kalgoorlie.

## A WINDY TOUR

For 2½ days, the group battled against a nagging head wind and relished the relief provided by close formation riding. Between the third and fourth days, the wind gradually swung to the side, and finally, as we tackled our longest riding day, we were delighted to discover that it was now behind us. We enjoyed sunny days until Coolgardie, and by then our spirits were undampened by the light drizzly conditions which had developed. To our surprise, heavy rains in Kalgoorlie flooded roads and made our arrival somewhat muddy.

## WARM COUNTRY HOSPITALITY

At all stops, the reception given to the group was warm and friendly, even slightly overwhelming. Hoteliers were always pleased to see us and helped in all ways, even in providing covered locked shelter for our cycles. Southern Cross Club Hotel was kind enough to allow us the use of the hotel kitchen for lunch preparations. Imagine our surprise the following morning when Neil and Nicole's lunches had disappeared from the hotel fridge ..... apparently mistaken by two other residents for their own cut lunches (*poor souls!*). Another good intention that went astray: Nicole's early morning attempt to wash accumulated dishes at Coolgardie Youth Hostel, which resulted in a general inundation

of cupboards, and an impromptu washing of the kitchen floor.

It was worth noting that the courtesy and friendliness of motorists increased as did the distance from the metropolitan area. The few exceptions along the way were invariably vehicles carrying city plates.

### *32 km AVERAGE SPEED*

The longest leg of the journey was the 188 km stretch between Southern Cross and Coolgardie. After 40 km of early morning cycling, five riders went on ahead and, with the assistance of the following wind, covered the remaining 150 km at speeds ranging from 30 to 34 km/h .... a creditable effort in view of the average weight of 10 kg of luggage per rider. On that day as well as throughout the tour, a keen competition developed as to who would carry off the title of '*KING OF THE FLATS*'; the unfortunate winner was finally Bob (*with 7 punctures*), closely followed by David. These punctures, along with one broken spoke, were the only mechanical problems of the entire trip.

### *HIGHLIGHTS AND NIGHTLIGHTS*

A definite high point of the tour was 1500 feet above Wyalkatchem in a Cessna Skyhawk piloted by Dale's cousin Kim Lawrence. This was followed by a delightful morning tea prepared by Kim's wife Sue. The 'lowest' point was definitely during the visit to Boulder where several members donned hard hats and followed a guide along the underground labyrinths of the Hainault Tourist Mine. Kalgoorlie of course provided the expected '*divertissement*' of good food, bright lights and night life.

In conclusion, it can be said that the Kalgoorlie tour has been both an enjoyment and an education for participants. The route provided a gradually changing landscape, from the lush green hills of the



Avon Valley, through the drought-sticken farmlands of the central wheatbelt to the red earthy colours of the Goldfields. The importance of the Goldfields in the historical development of W.A. and the hardships endured by early pioneers became apparent with visits to Coolgardie Museums, mines and abandoned buildings.

The return rail trip on the Prospector gave all riders the opportunity to reflect on the benefit of their one-week journey: history, changing panoramas, country hospitality and a great group rapport. Where else in the world can one ride in the glory of the early sunrise, into miles and miles of uninterrupted horizons, with kangaroos hopping only a few metres away?

#### *PARTICIPANTS IN THE KALGOORLIE TOUR*

Allan Booth

Tony Pettit

Mike Brant

Neil Porteous

Nicole Harrison

Bob Stockman

David Millward

Mal White

Dale Neill

#### *TOTAL DISTANCE COVERED*

703 km



## EUROPE-ASIA CYCLE TOURING

*Recently, C.T.A. President, Dale Neill, met a young Swiss couple nearing the completion of a long cycle touring trip. Here are a few impressions and technical notes about their journey.*

Hello fellow cyclists!

As we (*that's us, Wim and Yvonne*) were cycling through Perth we met Dale Neill, who was very interested in our story. He asked us to write a short article for your newsletter, and here it is. Wim and I are making a cycling tour through different countries. Wim started in September 1978. He cycled from Holland, through Europe up to India and from there through Indonesia to Australia. I joined in, in Sri-Lanka.

Sri-Lanka is a very nice country to cycle through, and quite flat. Just in the centre of the island there are some mountains (*and they are steep!*) but the scenery is very beautiful and the people are nice and friendly. From Sri-Lanka we flew to Thailand. (*Taking the bikes on the plane has never been a problem!*).

Thailand is very nice too, but in the southern part, at the border with Malaysia, it is a little dangerous, because of organised bandit groups. We took the train through that part. In Malaysia we took the plane to fly from Penang to Medan, the capital of Sumatra.

Sumatra is the loveliest country that I have ever seen. Nature is still very rough and nearly nothing is touched by men's hands. It is really beautiful. It is a hard country to cycle through: the roads (*if there are any at all*) are very bad,



with big parts unsealed, and where it is sealed, it is full of pot holes. We had a lot of punctures, and our bikes suffered a lot, but it was worth it. The mountains were hard to climb, but you could manage, and when you went down again you forgot all about the climbing!! Lake Joba in the centre of Sumatra is really worth a visit.

We stayed 7 days at Samosir Island, in the middle of the lake. You couldn't cycle here, so we hired a motor cycle to explore the island, and that made a nice change!

From Lake Joba, we cycled down to Padang. Going further south than that with a push bike is impossible because of the road conditions. We took the boat to Jakarta. From Jakarta we flew to Perth.

As our trip is coming to the end, our time is getting limited. We have about 5 weeks for Australia. That is not much for a country as big as this, so we had to choose. We have decided to make a good tour through Tasmania and if we have time left, see as much as possible of the Australian mainland.

Tasmania is beautiful and if you haven't been here yet, be sure you do and don't forget your bike. If you're a little experienced it is easy to cycle and it is much nicer for cycling than the rest of Australia.

So, hope you have a nice time on your bike, and believe me, it is a nice way to spend your holiday.

Good luck,

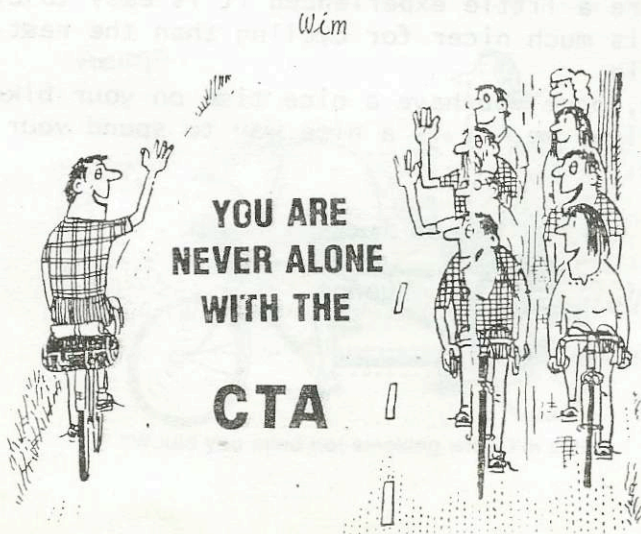
*Yvonne*

## TECHNICAL DETAILS:

WEIGHT OF CYCLES:	12 kg
GEARS:	52-42 FRONT; 14-28 BACK
CARRIERS/BAGS:	Karrimor
LUGGAGE WEIGHT:	25 kg
EQUIPMENT:	In Europe, tent and cooking equipment In Asia, stoves and pans only
DAILY COST:	\$5 in Asia

The hooks from the Karrimor bags are not sufficient, and we had to replace them. Europe is excellent for cycling between May and October; you can put your tent up everywhere and people are very helpful. Asia is tough cycling: bad road conditions and tropical heat.

After one and a half year cycling, I would not have missed a single day of the trip.





## ON REFLECTORS AND LIGHTING SYSTEMS

Alas, it's winter again! And along with the cold rainy weather, cyclists have to put up with less daylight hours in which to enjoy their favourite sport. For those of us who cycle our way through the late winter afternoons, the problem becomes one of seeing and, more importantly, being seen while riding in the dark.

Reflectors are perhaps the most effective means of providing rider visibility, particularly from the rear or the sides. Since anything that moves is more likely to catch the eye, pedal reflectors have proven to be very effective. Similarly, reflectors in the wheels help for vehicles approaching from the sides. Reflectors or reflectorised strips on mudguards or on seat stays add to rider visibility from the rear.

Cyclists can and should increase their visibility by wearing bright-coloured clothing, yellow or white being best for night-time. Reflective ankle bands have become quite popular and are available from many cycle dealers. Use your imagination when decking yourself out for night riding, and remember, there are no prizes for subtlety!

Of course, mere reflectorisation is not by any means sufficient for safe riding at night, and cyclists should also be equipped with an adequate lighting system. Riders seldom travelling at night may be happier with battery lights, and there are many models of good quality plastic sets which are convenient for their ease of installation and removal. Be sure to choose back lights with particular care: it is from the back that you must be seen.

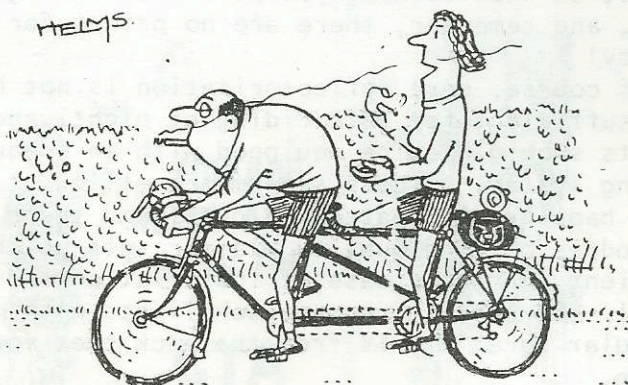
For those who ride at night on a regular basis, a dynamo set is undoubtedly the best solution. It



has the dual advantage of being permanently mounted on the bike (*you can't forget it at home*) and of being always ready for use (*no batteries to run flat*). Of course dynamos do not work when the bike is stationary (*a plus for battery lights here!*) — hence the importance of good reflectors. Another disadvantage of dynamo sets is the amount of noise and friction they generate; a new revolutionary type of unit has been introduced on the market, which attaches to the chainstays behind the bottom bracket and runs on the centre, rather than on the side of the tyre. This set-up eliminates noise entirely, and greatly reduces tyre wear and drag.

One tip about dynamos: always carry spare bulbs and the tools you need to replace burnt out bulbs. Do it immediately on burn out or you risk burning out your other light as well.

The importance of visibility cannot be stressed enough at this time of year, with early darkness and frequent dull light conditions. Accidents occur too often because motorists DID NOT SEE the cyclist. Make sure that doesn't happen to you.



"Would you mind not smoking while I'm eating."

## ODDS AND ENDS

### AUGUST TOUR

The August South West Tour is definitely a viable proposition again for 1980, with already a core of interested riders filling up a large portion of the available spaces. This year's tour will be led by Geoff and Sheryl Dwyer, and will again run for 10 days out of the August holidays; it will visit the South-West towns of Bunbury, Augusta, Nannup, Pemberton and Bridgetown.

If you would like to join the C.T.A.'s most popular long tour, ring Dale Neill on 447-8168.

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### RECORD ATTENDANCE

One of the recent C.T.A. Sunday outings, the '*CANNING RIVER CIRCUIT*', attracted a record attendance of 43 cyclists, the same as this year's Bunny ride. Many of these were new riders with the club and we were pleased to welcome them along. Young Jody Pettit also must have established another C.T.A. record: at 6½, she is without a doubt the youngest rider to complete such a distance (30 km) unassisted. Congratulations, Jody!

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### T-SHIRTS

A large number of C.T.A. T-shirts have already been sold, and an order has just been placed for additional stock. Have you ordered yours yet? C.T.A. groups are starting to look quite distinctive with their safety-conscious bright coloured T-shirts. Order one while present stocks last.



## NEW NATIONAL CYCLING BODY

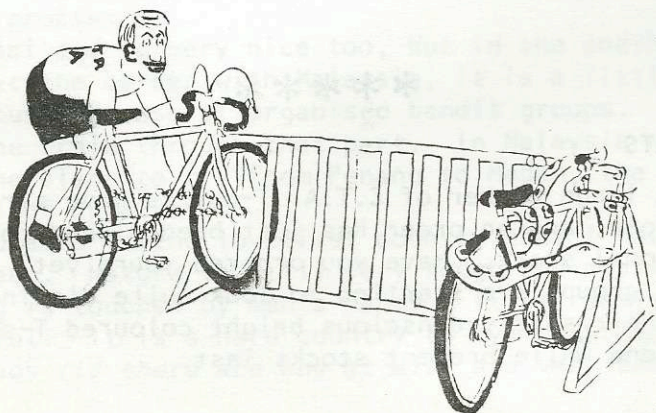
In June, 1979, in Melbourne, a national cycling body, the '*BICYCLE FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA*', came into existence. Groups represented at the meeting were the Cyclists' Protection Association of S.A. Inc., Pedal Power A.C.T. Inc., Bicycle Institute of N.S.W. and the Newcastle Cycleways Movement. The Cycle Touring Association of W.A. was unable to be present. However, it did send a written submission to the meeting.

The B.F.A. is an ongoing concern with its second nation-wide meeting being held this winter.

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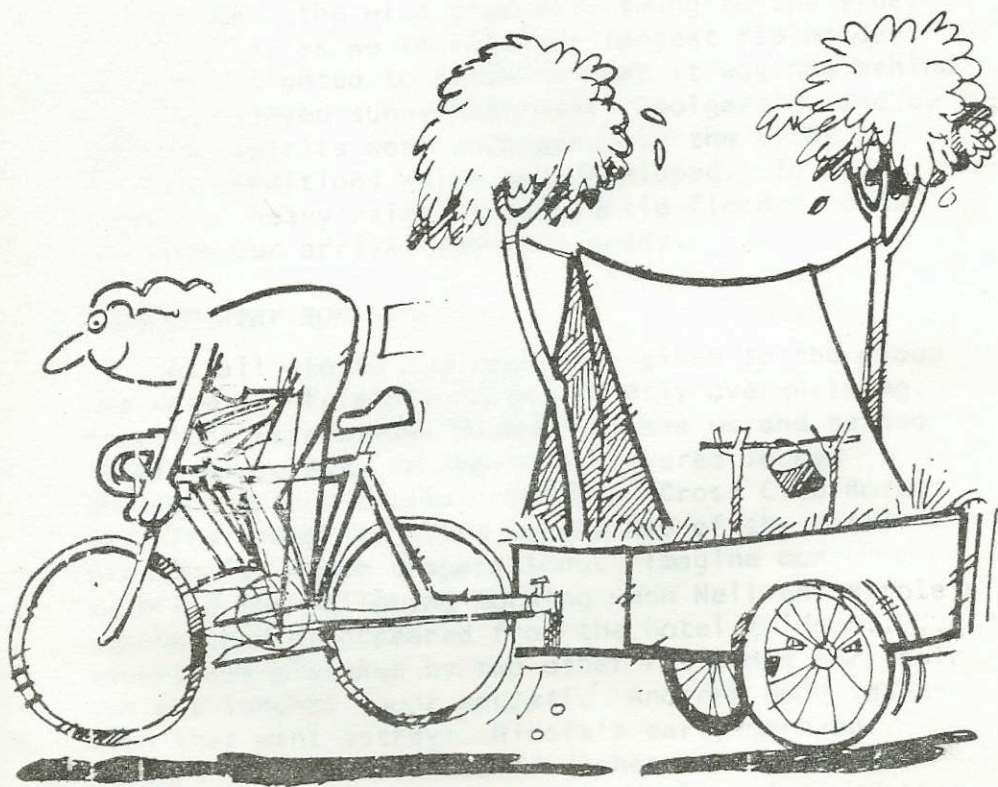
## HALF-YEARLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Recently a group of regular C.T.A. members joined the committee in planning a 6-month slate of C.T.A. rides. The centre page of this newsletter is the result of this meeting. Keep it handy, and use it to plan your Sundays between now and December. It will, of course, be repeated in the next newsletter.



## TIME-TRIAL RIDES

These two events are being conducted this year for the first time, and are modelled on similar events run by Great Britain's C.T.C. They are not races, and people of varying ages and abilities are able to participate. C.T.A. officials will be on hand to monitor your distance over a set time (6 or 12 hours), and this distance will be recorded on a certificate. Cyclists may choose their speed as well as the number and length of their rest stops. These events will be run at regular intervals, so that riders can try them again to improve their total distances.





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Please contact any of the following for assistance or suggestions:

PRESIDENT:	Dale Neill 29 Garland Way TRIGG 6020 (447-8168)	V/PRESIDENT:	Walter King 136 Victoria Ave DALKEITH 6009 (386-3463)
SECRETARY:	Nicole Harrison PO Box 174 WEMBLEY 6014	TREASURER:	Geoff Dwyer 5 Anerley Street HAMERSLEY 6022
COMMITTEE:	Matthew King 269 Churchill Ave SUBIACO 6009		David Millward 7 Boscastle Ave CITY BEACH 6015 (385-8371)
	Neil Porteous 11 Hermes Street RIVERTON 6155		Bob Stockman Valencia Road CARMEL 6076 (274 1164)

၀၆ ၀၆ ၀၆ RIDE CLASSIFICATION ၀၆ ၀၆ ၀၆

- \* **EASY.** For any healthy person. Distance less than 25 km. Speeds average 10 - 15 kph with frequent stops.
- \*\* **MEDIUM.** For riders who have some cycling experience and 5 or 10 speed bicycles. Distances from 25 to 60 km with as few difficult hills as possible. Speeds average 15 - 20 kph with stops as needed.
- \*\*\* **MEDIUM-HARD.** For cyclists with experience in group riding. Distances from 60 - 100 km. Speeds average 15 - 25 kph through moderately difficult terrain.
- H **HARD.** For experienced riders of above average ability. Distances are in excess of 100 km and/or speeds averaging 20 - 30 kph. Terrain may be very difficult.
- XH **DIFFICULT.** Denotes rides with speeds averaging 25 - 35 kph and/or considerable distances and/or extremely rough or mountainous roads.

PLEASE GAUGE YOUR OWN RIDING ABILITY AND CHOOSE RIDES WHICH ARE SUITED TO YOU.

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Registered for postage as a publication - Cat. B



YOUR JULY - DECEMBER 1980 EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	KM (approx)	GRADE	TIME	START POINT	LEADER	COMMENT
JULY 6	SUBIACO TOUR	10	*	2.00PM	SUBIACO LIBRARY	Matt KING	
JULY 13	SERPENTINE FALLS	120	H	8.30AM	GARDEN CITY SHOPPING CENTRE	Neil PORTEOUS	
JULY 20	ROLEYSTONE - KALAMUNDA	100	H	8.30AM	PERTH RAILWAY STATION	Nick PAYNE	Possible gravel.
JULY 27	PERTH - FREMANTLE - PERRY LAKES	40	***	8.00AM	PERTH RAILWAY STATION	Dave MILLWARD	BBQ with Floreat Park Amateur Cycle Club.
JULY 28	S.W. TOUR MEETING	-	-	7.00PM	5 ANERLEY STREET, HAMERSLEY	Geoff DWYER	For those interested in August/September S.W. Tour.
AUG. 3	TREASURE HUNT	50	***	9.30AM	PERTH RAILWAY STATION	Ian STANILAND	Bring pencil.
AUG. 9-10	HARVEY WEEK-END	280	H	8.30AM	CAROUSEL SHOPPING CENTRE	John & Jayne CHEYNE	COST: \$14.50 B & B \$11.00 ROOM ONLY BOOK BY 20 JULY (4441666)
AUG. 17	CYCLOCROSS	50	H	8.30AM	MIDLAND TOWN HALL	Bob STOCKMAN	Strong bikes and heavy tyres.
AUG. 24	RAILWAY MUSEUM	10	*	2.00PM	GUILDFORD POST OFFICE	Walter KING	Admission fee
AUG. 31	SOUTH OF THE SWAN TOUR	40	*	9.00AM	CANNING BRIDGE ROWING CLUB	Neil PORTEOUS	
SEPT. 7	CHURCHMAN'S BROOK - CANNING DAM	100 50	H	9.30AM 11.00AM	PERTH RAILWAY STATION ARMADALE RAILWAY STATION	Ian STANILAND	Morning tea at Armadale; Lunch at Araluen.
SEPT. 14	200 km ACHIEVEMENT	200	XH	7.00AM	CITY BEACH SURF CLUB	Dave MILLWARD	\$2 (\$3 non-members) 12 hour limit. Badges awarded.
SEPT. 21	OBSERVATORY RIDE	50	***	12.00NN	HARTFIELD PARK, FORRESTFIELD	Nick PAYNE	Lights for getting home; walking shoes for observatory.



DATE	EVENT	KM (approx)	GRADE	TIME	START POINT	LEADER	COMMENT
SEPT. 28	COHUNU WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	50	***	9.00AM 10.00AM	CAUSEWAY CAR PARK GOSNELLS RAILWAY STATION	Ross McNAUGHT	Hilly. \$2 Admission Fee.
OCT. 5	6 HOUR TIME TRIAL	-	***	9.00AM	JANDAKOT HALL (Cnr Hammond-Forrest Roads)	Dave MILLWARD	Certificates Awarded.
OCT. 11-13	FREMANTLE - PINJARRA CYCLE/CANOE WEEK-END	150	H	8.00AM	SHOPPING CENTRE (Cnr Stock Road-Canning Hwy)	Tony PETTIT	See SEPT/OCT Newsletter.
OCT. 19	CHITTERING VALLEY	120	XH	8.00AM	MIDLAND HUNGRY JACK	Geoff DWYER	
OCT. 26	AVIATION MUSEUM	40	**	1.00PM	BARRACK STREET JETTY	Neil PORTEOUS	Admission Fee.
NOV. 2	BREAKFAST AT HASKIN'S RIDE	50	***	7.30AM	HOWTREE PL & BOULEVARD	Tony PETTIT	Max. 20 Book by 20 OCTOBER on 387-4324 Approx. COST: \$3 - \$6
		25	**	9.00AM	ESPLANADE & FORREST ST (PEPPERMINT GROVE)		
		10	*	9.30AM	PARKING LOT, HACKETT DR & MOUNTS BAY RD, CRAWLEY		
NOV. 9	12 HOUR TIME TRIAL	-	H	6.00AM	JANDAKOT HALL (Cnr Hammond-Forrest Roads)	Dave MILLWARD	Certificates Awarded.
NOV. 16	BEACH RIDE	15	*	10.30AM	CITY BEACH SURF CLUB	Walter KING	Bring bathers
NOV. 22	SWAN VALLEY RESTAURANT - BBQ	25	**	5.00PM	SWAN VALLEY RESTAURANT BENARA ROAD	Nicole HARRISON	BBQ provided (approx. \$7); bookings by 16 NOVEMBER.
NOV. 24	A.G.M.	-	-	7.30PM	FLOREAT PARK SCHOOL (Chandler Avenue)		BE THERE!!
DEC. 7	PADDLE BOAT RIDE	10	*	11.00AM	GROVE SHOPPING CENTRE	Matt KING	Picnic lunch; boat rides.
DEC. 14	KINGS' PARK BBQ	10	*	7.00AM	ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND	Nicole HARRISON	BBQ Breakfast
DEC. 21	CITY LIGHTS	10	*	6.00PM	KARRILOG, KINGS' PARK	Matt KING	Bring lights