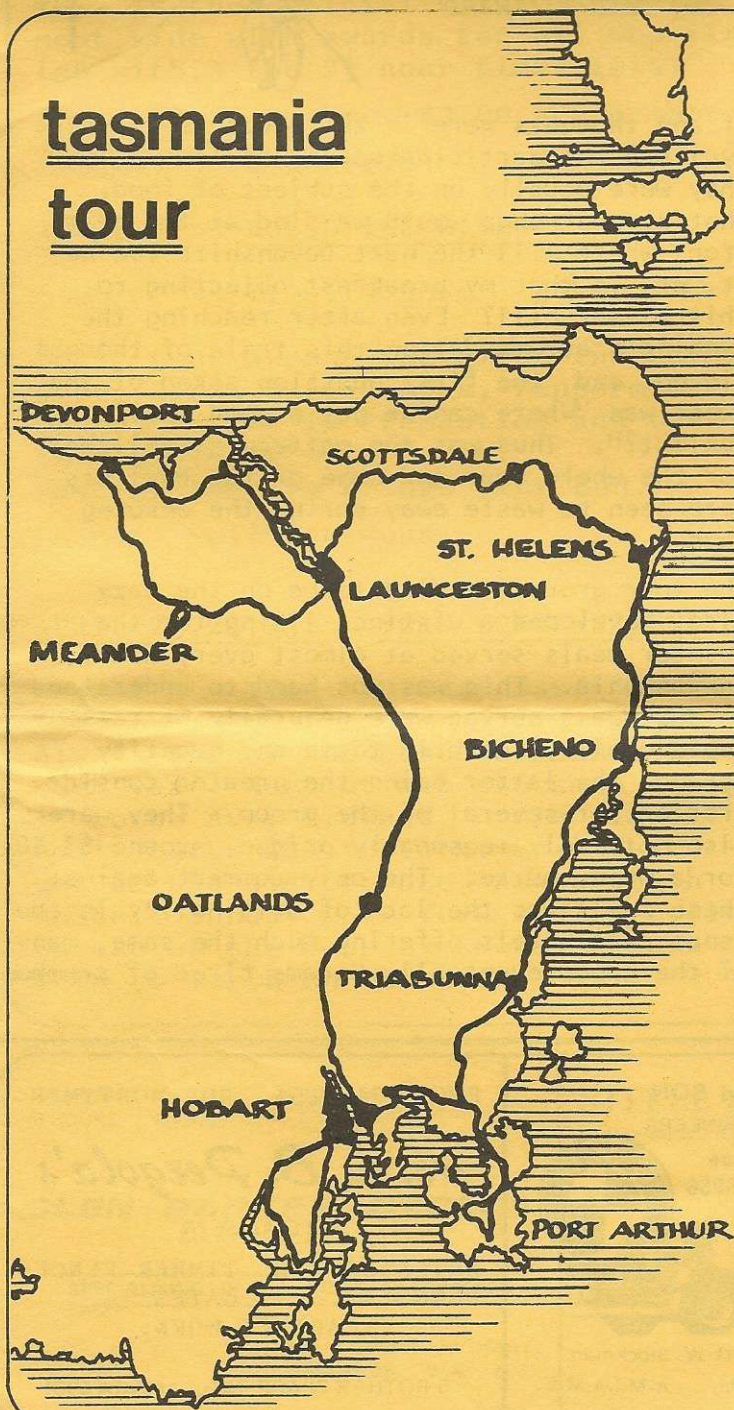


CYCLE TOURING ASSOCIATION OF W.A. (INC.)

PATRON: The Hon. R.J.O'Connor

 April/May 1983
 Issue Number 51

tasmania tour



tour notes

The C.T.A. has just completed its first, and a most successful, interstate tour. Nine cyclists left Perth on the 10th January for 21 days touring in Tasmania.

A circular route, starting in Launceston, was undertaken, covering the North Coast as far as Devonport then down the East Coast returning via the Central Midlands Plains.

The trip was planned to allow 3 - 4 days cycling followed by a rest day. Being in the height of the Tourist season all accommodation was pre-booked. Accommodation varied from Youth Hostels, on-site caravans, Hotels, Motels and Guest Houses.

The touring party departed Perth by air at 10.45 a.m. January 10 arriving Launceston 6.40 p.m. then cycled the 15 kms. to Launceston Youth Hostel. The return flight departed Launceston 5.05 p.m. February 1, arriving Perth 7.45 p.m.

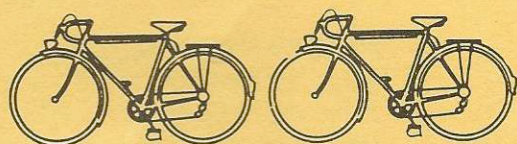
Basic costs for the tour were:

Super Apex Air Fares	\$405 return
Accommodation including breakfast	\$175
Daily Expenses	\$10 - \$20

The tour party consisted of:

Allan Booth	Dale Neill
John Martin	Margaret Neill
Dave Millward	Neil Porteous
Sheelagh Micheal	John Turley
	Ian Smith

CYCLE EQUIPMENT *by NEIL PORTEOUS*



The three-week 1400 Km long tour proved to be an excellent test for rider and cycle equipment. What better proving ground than the tortuous mountain roads, long steep climbs, breathtaking high speed descents, the ever-winding roads of the East Coast and the long dry Midlands Plains.

Cycles were of medium to high quality touring cycles which had been tested in W.A. We had all heeded the tall tales of Tasmanian Mountain roads and prepared accordingly. Most cycles had gearing in the mid-thirties to the nineties. Those riders with lower gears of thirties or less were grateful. Several cyclists found that the gaps between the lower gears too wide.

Most cycles were fitted with 14 plain gauge spokes, a type long favoured by the cycle tourist. The Michelin 27 x 1 1/4 inch Sports was the most popular tyre. The lighter Michelin Elan 27 x 1 inch tyre proved to be just as reliable, though giving a much harder ride. Half the bikes had mudguards which were a boon on the one and only wet day.

The heavy loads were carried in several different configurations, the most popular being two rear panniers and handle bar bag.

Allan Booth favoured the almost traditional English Practice, a large saddle bag resting on the rear carrier plus a handle bar bag. Dave Millward spoke highly of his setup which he claimed gave his bike an excellent weight distribution, two low mounted front panniers, two large rear panniers.

Each rider carried a good range of the usual tools and spares plus a few extra items, not normally carried on a weekend trip. These included a cluster remover and 8 inch shifting spanner for use with cluster remover.

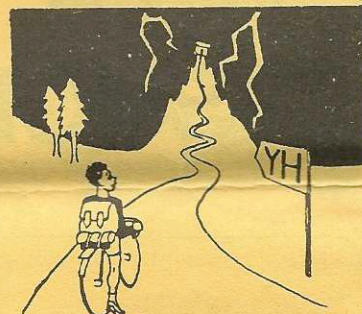
Very few unnecessary items were taken and most agreed they would take the same again. My own regret was that my cycle was not fitted with Matthäuser brake shoes which have a larger contact area and efficient cooling fins to dissipate heat. The brake fade I experienced on several long steep descents was quite unnerving.

Our nine cycles covered about 12,600 Kms and our total mechanical breakages were 4 spokes and a broken derailleur. Lucky we were, however meticulous care taken in preparing the bikes was very important. How many punctures did we have? Only one!

FOOD, ACCOMMODATION

AND CLOTHING

by DAVE MILLWARD



If any thoughts were in the minds of the nine cyclists who participated in the Tassie Tour they were usually on the subject of food, what sort of shop would we find at the next stop, where will the next Devonshire Tea be at, or, is that my breakfast objecting to this slight hill? Even after reaching the evening's accommodation this train of thought did not end, the first question asked of the owner was "Where can we get a good meal tonight?". Thus was the pattern established for the whole tour and none of the cyclists were seen to waste away during the ensuing days.

The tour group, tending to be on the lazy side, developed a distinct liking for the counter meals served at almost every hotel in Tasmania. This was not hard to understand as the meals served were generally of reasonable quality, both in taste and quantity served, the latter being the greater consideration for several of the group. They were also extremely reasonably priced, around \$3.50 for a main course. The only comment against these meals was the lack of originality in the menus, all hotels offering much the same, many of the group eventually became tired of crumbed



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scallops, flounder, and steak, served with salad and chips. Thus the group resorted back to home cooking in the form of a stew comprising of a vague assortment of items and giving the appearance of a highland broth. However this was quickly devoured, as was all food on the tour (by most of the riders), and just as quickly turned the group back on to counter meals.

Food carried by the group was kept to a bare minimum, sugar (carried by John Martin for the entire tour), bread (reluctantly given to Dave Millward), butter, jam, vegemite (of course), cereal, tea, and coffee. Generally breakfast foods as these were required on most mornings and provided no problem to the rider carrying the food (apart from the disappearance of slices of bread from time to time). All other food was purchased as required by the individual or by the group.

Second in the mind of the riders, only to food was the question of accommodation. This was usually answered by staying at a local Youth Hostel. However on some occasions the riders opted for the more luxurious surrounds of a hotel or motel for the night (generally at much higher cost than the hostel) or for the less elegant surroundings of an on-site caravan. The standard of Youth Hostels in Tasmania proved to be excellent, the city hostel in Launceston being able to provide at a cost, single serves of various types food and for the unfortunate cyclist, tyres, tubes and puncture repair kits. Other memorable nights at Hostels were at Port Arthur, overlooking the ruins of the convict settlement, and at Cygnet, where all riders partook of a meal at the tea rooms adjoining the Hostel.

Other accommodation on the tour was found at the home of past president of the club, Wayne Lally. Here the tour group spent two nights in the peace of a small town rural setting found at the base of the mountains leading up to the central plateau. This break from cycling enabled the cyclists to partake of the more enjoyable aspects of rural life, ringing bull calves, sleeping on a firm mattress and climbing small mountains.

Before the beginning of the tour the question of clothing was an important issue, not hav-

ing been on a tour through Tasmania before the question of how much clothing and what type of clothing frequently arose. The belief that Tasmania would be warm, being the middle of summer, was soon shattered when the riders arrived in ten degree heat and realized that the extra track suit they left at home might have been useful after all. In general however the weather proved to be very kind towards the group and after acclimatizing to the conditions clothing was shed down to normal levels of riding shorts and a jersey or tee-shirt. Even at night most found that the closeness of a Hostel or Caravan provided enough warmth not to require extra clothing at night time.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FROM - TO</u>
Jan 10	Perth - Launceston
11	Launceston - Beauty Point
12	Beauty Point - Devonport
13	Devonport - Meander
14	'Rest' Day - Meander
15	Meander - Launceston
16	Launceston - Scottsdale
17	Scottsdale - St. Helens
18	'Rest' Day - St. Helens
19	St. Helens - Bicheno
20	Bicheno - Triabunna
21	'Rest' Day - Triabunna
22	Triabunna - Dunalley
23	Dunalley - Port Arthur
24	Port Arthur - 'Rest' Day
25	Port Arthur - Hobart
26	'Rest' Day - Hobart
27	Hobart - Cygnet
28	Cygnet - Hobart
29	Hobart - Oatlands
30	Oatlands - Launceston
31	'Rest' Day - Launceston
Feb 1	Launceston - Perth

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THE TOUR *by DALE NEILL - Tour Organizer*

This was indeed a memorable tour. A tour such as this reminds me that cycling is a great escape for those still young at heart. It is not every day that grown men (and women) can act like young lads whooping as they descend Wellborough Pass at 70 k.p.h., or sit on the footpath munching a meat pie without the slightest thought of embarrassment.

But most of all it is the indefinable feeling of achievement that we have now all been there, seen it, done it.



KMS. CYCLED

WEATHER

FEATURE

15	Cold, fine
60	Cool, fine 7° - 18°C
100	Cool, fine 4° 17°C
90	Cool, fine 2° - 17°C
-	Cool, fine 2° - 14°C
90	Warm 8° - 23°C
71	Cool - One shower - 2°C
103	Fine 8° - 18°C
-	Fine, sunny
81	Sunny 6° - 22°C
100	Sultry 10° - 26°
-	Warm 8° - 26°
94	Warm, windy 6° - 24°C
55	Fine, sunny 7° - 24°C
-	Fine, sunny
100	Warm 8° - 25°C
-	Wet
99	o/cast, windy
59	Fine, Sunny 9° - 26°C
83	Warm, Windy 8° - 26°C
118	Hot. 10° - 30°C
-	Hot 15° - 28°C
15	Hot 16° - 33°C

Great Flight across.
Lunch at Rosevears.
Large trucks! Community Chicken dinner
Magnificent country. Turley's tooth ache.
Mountaineering - Haberley's Hut.
Tail winds. Entally House.
First big hills. Barden Hagene Store
Descent - Weldborough Pass!!
Artnor Lodge and Scallops.
St. Mary's Pass. Elephant Pass.
Met Geoff and Cheryl Dwyer.
'Tassie' Stew and Yahtze
'Bust-me-Gall' Hill. No water
Tasman's Arch. Devil Park
Old Convict ruins.
Ian Smith has a ball in Hobart.
Lunch at 'Bear' Essentials
Gusty winds push Allan off road.
Mt. Wellington 1270 metres!
Watched cricket at Kempton.
Flat roads. Tail winds.
Dinner at the Old Butter Factory.
Wayne and Thelma bid us farewell.

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APRIL 3 EASTER BUNNY RIDE

Grade * Time: 2.30pm 10kms

Easter Bunny, Easter eggs and fun for all the family. Meet at the Adventure Playground Kings Park.

Limited to C.T.A. members and their children.

Leader: Matt King

APRIL 10 50km ACHIEVEMENT RIDE

Grade ** Time: 9.00am

Meet at Mullaloo Beach Car Park. This is the official C.T.A. Achievement ride with awards for all who finish within the 2½ hour time limit.

COST: \$2.00 members \$3.00 non-member

Leader: Mark Bettell

APRIL 17 ROUND THE RIVER RIDE

Grade: ** Time: 9.00am 50kms

Senic tour around the river including Kings Park, Uni. Campus, Peppermint Grove, Coffee in Fremantle, and the best cycle ways in Perth.

Meet at Narrows Bridge City End.

Leader: Neil Porteous.

APRIL 23,24,25, YORK LONG WEEKEND

Grade: H Time: 10.00am Sat. 300kms

Always one of the best weekend tours each year. Meet at Bob Stockman & Son 15 Loton Ave. Midland, cycle via the hills backroads to York. Stay overnight at the old convent, now a youth hostel. Sunday tour York and or cycle to one of the near by towns. Return trip to Perth on Monday.

YORK LONG WEEKEND CONTINUED

BOOK BY: MONEY BY: April 10

COST: \$12 Sen. member. \$10 Jun. memb.

Leader: D. Braddon Ph. H. 3379796

MAY 1 RAMBLE THROUGH CRAWLEY

Grade: * Time: 9.30am 15km

Leisurely cycle through the back streets to arrive in Claremont for morning tea. Meet at the Uni of W.A. Stirling Hwy. Tunnel.

Leader: Matt King.

MAY 8 GIDGEGANNUP "ELEVENSES"

Grade: H Distance: 110kms

Dual start, 8.30am at Perth Railway Station, 10.00am at Midland Town Hall.

A very popular ride up Red Hill to 'Gidgie' for some of the best fruit cake in the country.

Leaders: Mark Bettell
Bob Stockman

MAY 14 SOUTH WEST TOUR

Once again the club will be organising a week long tour of the south west. All members interested in cycling through this very beautiful part of our state please contact Bob Stockman for further details. Ph. H.2935278

MAY 15 AFTERNOON TEA RIDE

Grade: * Time: 2.00pm 25kms

Meet at the log in Kings Park for a pleasant ride followed by afternoon tea.

Leader: Ian Hore

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RIDES PROGRAMME CONTINUED

MAY 22

100km ACHIEVEMENT RIDE

Grade: H

Time: 9.00am

This year the achievement ride will be over a new course through the hills providing a scenic, as well as testing course. Awards to all who finish within the time limit. Meet at Kelmscott Railway Station.

COST: \$2.00 member \$4.00 non-member

TOOL KIT, BIDON necessary

Leader: Neil Porteous
John Martin

MAY 29 FREMANTLE COFFEE SHOP RIDE

Grade: **

Time: 9.00am

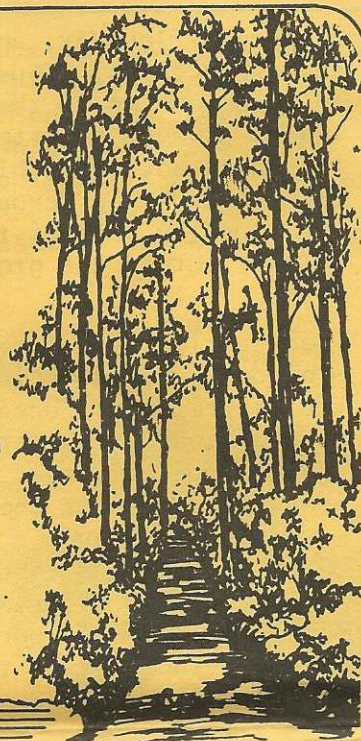
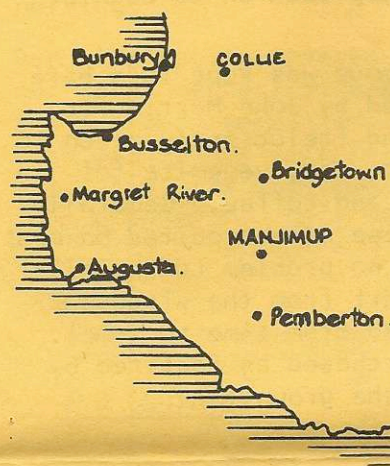
25kms

Meet at the log in Kings Park for a pleasant ride to Fremantle. Excellent coffee, cake and ice cream at Papa Luigi's.

Leader: Matt King

south west tour

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* easy ** medium *** medium/hard
H hard XH extra hard.

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Cost \$7.00

MEMBERSHIP 1983

Membership fees for 1983 are now due

People wishing to join the club can contact any of the committee for further information.

YOUR C.T.A. COMMITTEE FOR 1983

PRESIDENT: Bob Stockman
62 Valencia Rd. H.2935278
CARMEL 6076 W.2744779

V./PRESIDENT: Neil Porteous
11 Hermes Street
RIVERTON 6155 W.4253186

SECRETARY: Dennis Braddon
3 Dalston Cres. H.3379796
KARDINYA 6163 W.3356833

TREASURER: John Martin
9 Whittle Place
OSBORNE PARK 6017 H.3492310

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4/86 Mill POINT Rd.
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INSURANCE: Dave Millward
12 "Mala"
13 Kathleen Ave. W.3865555
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