

THE CHAIN LETTER

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

November/December 2001

Issue 161

Devo's First 300

Picture this scene at the car park behind the Midland Police Station at 4:30am. Under the dim car park light squatted a lone figure with a push bike nearby. Smoking a joint and dressed in psychedelic colours with wrist pads, knee and shin guards, a riot whistle and flashing red lights hanging on any spare space. Just as the local police patrol was about to swoop in on this poor creature, an official from the Cycle Touring Association drove into the car park and saved the day.

Just in case you were not aware, it was Devo waiting for the rest of us to arrive for the 300km achievement ride on Saturday September 1. "Phantom Dan" had left earlier, also on his first 300, as he was concerned that he might hold back the support vehicle. So it was Ann, Mark, Devo and myself who set off in the cool of the early morning with Max in support.

Heading along the back road to Muchea it was time to use all that dynamic Devo drive and teach him the skills needed to lead the pack. It was an interesting few kilometres. After a few nibbles on the move, the Pocket Rocket needed a weeee stop. The only privacy on this section of road was a school bus shelter, so when the kids are waiting for the bus next week they will wonder what the dead patch on the grass was caused by.

We arrived at Gingin in good spirits with Max having everything prepared and ready as usual. Max announced that he had not seen "Phantom Dan" and was concerned that he may not have enough to eat. After some delicious homemade soup and other goodies, it was time to top up water, remove excess clothing and tyre check... oops, guess who had a flat tyre?

After a tube replacement it was off to Bindoon and the first of the serious hills, which everyone seemed to handle without too much discomfort. Devo's empathy with the cattle and sheep, as we approached them, seems to be failing as they scatter and run as he bellows out to them. The rider with the psychedelic clothes was showing distinct discomfort of the derri'ere as we headed for Calingiri. Rule number one Devo, don't make major changes to your set up i.e. saddle, before a long ride.

We still had not caught up to "Phantom Dan" as we arrived at Calingiri to be informed by Max that he "supposedly" had left for Toodyay 50 minutes before. After a good feed it was time to visit the loo (the President of the CTA who will remain nameless had to use the ladies, as all the others were in use).

It was a hard grind to Toodyay with a con-

stant head wind which sapped our energy, but still we could enjoy the feeling of riding along with good company. Devo was beginning to feel the effects of the long distance rider with sore feet, hands and bum.

(continued on page 5...)

Fees Please



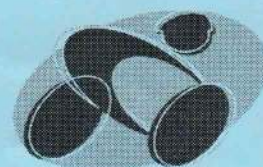
Just a reminder that membership fees for 2002 are due now. You have until the end of January to pay and receive a \$5 discount (for adult membership only). After this date the full price applies. 2001 On Your Bike members please note that your complimentary membership extends to June 30 2002.

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.

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

Bikewest



cycle instead

In this issue...

Tours and Weekends	2
Mind Teaser	2
Annual General Meeting	3
The Mystery Advert	3
An OYB Tour Leader's Reflections	4
Devo's First 300 (cont.)	5
"Exciting" Mountain Bike ..	5
G'Day from the UK	6
A Circus On Your Bike	8
Mark's Meanderings	10
CTA Achievement Series .	11
Rides Calendar	12
Reporting Cycling Hazards	13

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Simon 9271 2959 (H)

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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 following new member who has joined since the last Newsletter.

John Wood

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

Tours and Weekends

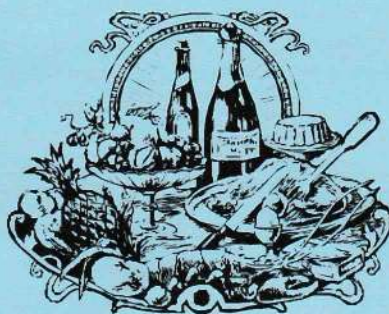
PROGRESSIVE DINNER

17 November 2001

The annual CTA Progressive Dinner is here again. This time the event will be held south of the river and the theme for the evening will be "B". Everyone must come dressed as something starting with "B" (and a bicyclist does not count!).

This is a fun evening where we cycle from house to house and devour a four course meal along the way. The cost will be \$20 and payment in FULL before the date is required. Numbers are limited so book early.

Organiser: Terry ☎ 9472 9887 (H)

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TOUR**

8-24 March 2002

Preliminary planning is under way for a 17 day unsupported pannier tour to South Australia taking in Adelaide, the Clare Valley, the Barossa Valley, McLaren Vale, the Fleurieu Peninsula and the Adelaide Hills. Accommodation will be a mixture of tenting and cabins. Anyone interested should contact the organiser. Further details to follow in the next newsletter.

Organiser: Simon ☎ 9271 2959 (H)

SWEDEN & DENMARK TOUR

July 2003

Peter Lundy and Tom Wall are together working on a prospective tour through Sweden and Denmark in July 2003 covering 4 weeks.

The plan is to start from Copenhagen then go via the south eastern coast of Sweden to Oskarshamn where we plan to take the ferry to the lovely island of Gotland. On Gotland we travel the southern part, visiting notable Viking graves and other historic sites. We then travel back to the mainland to Nynäshamn where we can reach Stockholm easily by train or bike or a combination of both. We then travel south again and across eastern Sweden following a famous canal with it's locks to the large inland lake Vättern. From there we ride to Gothenburg and follow the west coast down a short while until we take the northern ferry across to Denmark. We then ride, possibly via Hans Christian Andersen's birthplace, back to Copenhagen.

The tour will be mainly following the clearly marked bike routes, most of them are either specific bike roads (!) or small back roads with hardly any traffic. Accommodation will be mainly in tents but not necessarily in camping grounds as, subject to certain conditions, one may camp virtually anywhere. Or we may stay in one of the many hostels (cheap!). Cost of food bought and prepared from supermarkets are similar in costs to here, whilst restaurant food and alcohol is very expensive.

Most of this Tour will be on relatively flat ground, some day's distances may be around 120 km. Climate at this time of the year is Summer - it can be wet and it can be either cold or even hot - however it is not very windy. The tour itinerary will be quite flexible and the overall distance will be approximately 1500 km with a good number of rest days.

Currently, we are seeking only expressions of interest. If there are not enough interested persons, we will not pursue this tour.

There are already a number of Swedish Touring Cyclists (all speak English) who wish to join this tour, if it goes ahead. We may be fortunate to be able to include a couple of Farm stays.

We have the Tour agenda and route already pretty much planned.

Organiser: Tom Wall

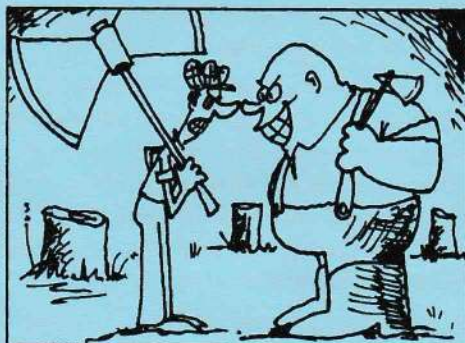
☎ 9414 8717 (7pm-9pm) or

email: tomwall@iinet.net.au

Mind Teaser

THE LUMBERJACKS

Tim and Joe are two lumberjacks who work at the same rate of speed. One morning Tim works steadily from 8 o'clock to noon without taking a break. Joe starts and finishes at the same times, but he takes a five-minute break every half-hour. At the end of the period Joe has felled considerably more trees than Tim. How come?

**ISSUE 160 ANSWER**

Fair Deal - No man was arrested or charged because the dealer was a woman and the police arrested and charged her with murder.

Annual General Meeting

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25 2001

Venue: The Loftus Community Centre, Loftus Street, Leederville (see map below)
Time: Morning Tea at 10:00am, Meeting at 10:30am

AGENDA

- ◇ Minutes of the 2000 Annual General Meeting
- ◇ Reports from the President, Treasurer, Rides Coordinator, Editor, 2001 On Your Bike sub-committee
- ◇ Super Achiever, Challenge and Merit Award Recipients
- ◇ Cycle Tourist of the Year Award
- ◇ Ride of the Year Award
- ◇ Newsletter Article of the Year Award
- ◇ Election of Office Bearers for 2002
- ◇ General Business

CYCLE TOURIST OF THE YEAR

Nominations are called for the 2001 Cycle Tourist of the Year. The award is made by the CTA to the member who, in the opinion of the membership, has contributed the most to cycle touring and the CTA throughout the year. Criteria to assist in selecting the Cycle Tourist of the Year have been prepared and are printed on the back of the nomination forms. Note that if you believe no member has suitably demonstrated the qualities required for this award, you may nominate "No Award". If the number of "No Award" nominations exceed the total number of member nominations, then no award is made that year. The previous recipients of the award are:

1978 Nicole Harrison	1986 Ron Bowyer	1994 Stan Wiechecki
1979 Wayne Lally	1987 John Sherwood	1995 Peter Lundy
1980 Neil Porteous	1988 Martin Bunney	1996 Ross Cussons
1981 Mark Bettell	1989 Kleber Claux	1997 Janet Devrill
1982 Dale Neill	1990 Arie Lemson	1998 Tom Wall
1983 John Martin	1991 Brett Rutherford	1999 Desama Bailey
1984 Ian Hore	1992 Simon Koek	2000 Ann Wilson
1985 Bob Stockman	1993 Mark Nilan	2001 ?.....

RIDE OF THE YEAR

This is an opportunity for you to nominate your favourite ride, weekend away or tour. It is an opportunity for you to show your appreciation to a ride organiser, and for the club to recognise and reward their effort. Note that the On Your Bike Tour can not be nominated.

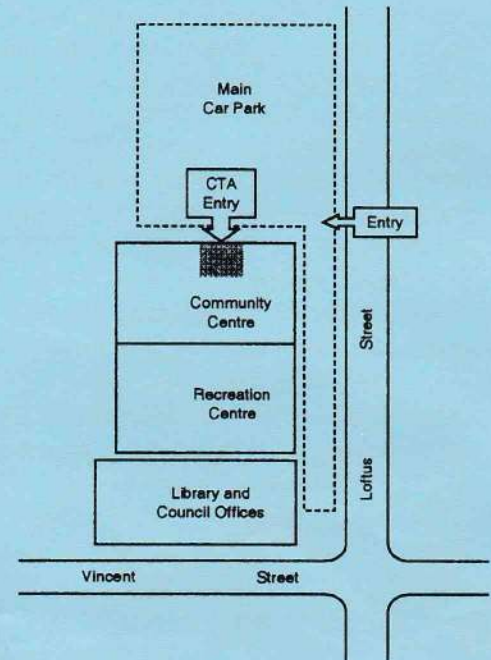
ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2002

Nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and six (6) Committee members can be received up to and on the day of the AGM. All nominations shall have a proposer and a seconder, and shall be announced at the AGM. Nominees, proposers and seconds must all be voting members of the CTA.

The Mystery Advert...

Those of you that were paying attention would have noticed a mysterious advertisement in the last newsletter (issue 160, page 4) with nothing more than a telephone number. How many people rang the number just to find out what it was?

Well, the mystery is solved! The advertisement was for **MOUNT CYCLES** and it seems those pesky little computer gremlins were at work again.





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An 'On Your Bike' Tour Leader's Reflections

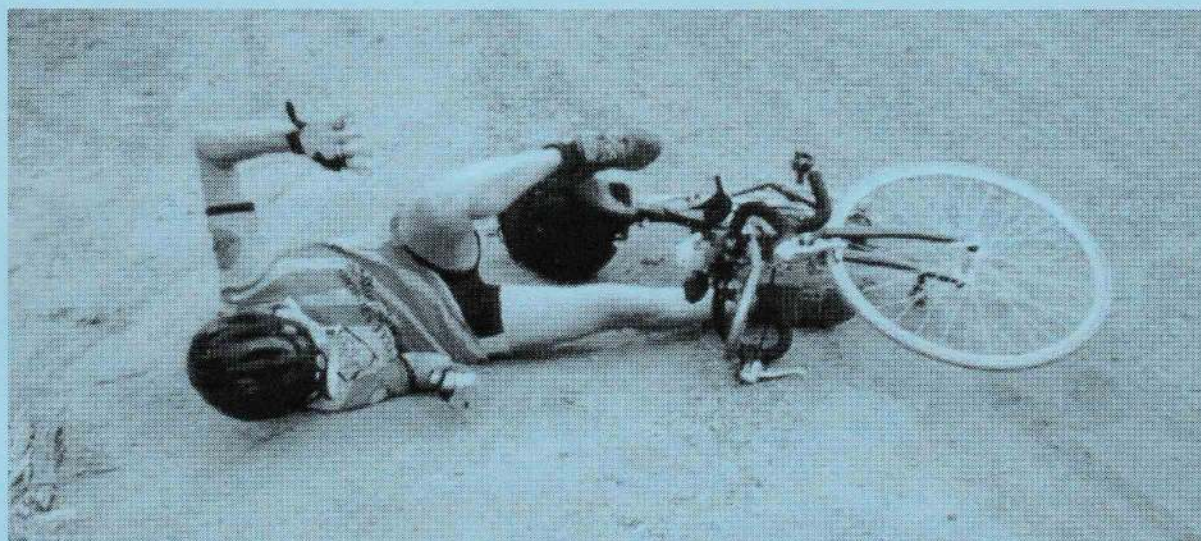
Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought nine years ago that I would be reflecting on my second year as tour leader for 'On Your Bike'. It is nine years ago, literally more or less to the day, when I joined the CTA. I remember it well as it was just before the start of the "Tour de Capes" of which I would love to have gone on but unfortunately having just started a new job it was not possible to do so. There were even places still available - how the popularity and demand has changed since then.

Right from the start of my membership I was pretty active with the club participating on most of the Sunday rides. Then came my first overnight trip away with the club. Easter

ment rides, weekends and tours away with the club I was approached (or was that conned?) into joining the CTA committee! "Umm...not sure about this?" Anyway, after having my arm twisted (Ouch) I succumbed at the 1996 AGM and accepted the position as Treasurer. The role was not as daunting as I imagined and I have been doing the job ever since. (I only have about another #^%@ 12 years to go if I am to keep with tradition from my father who was treasurer of his gardening club for seventeen years!!) It was/is good to get involved behind the scenes (so to speak) as it made me realise how much hard work is involved in keeping the club activities going for its members.

"Who was going to be tour leader for the following year?" I seem to remember a little voice in the back of my mind saying "Maybe I could possibly have a go" but there were a lot of unknowns and so it took a persuasive Kleber to convince me I could do it. (Kleber - Remember a "Formal" Progressive Dinner which started at Simon's?) With most things (maybe all) the first time is always a learning curve and so I said I would lead the tour for two years!!

It has been a lot of hard work over the last two years but more importantly it has been enjoyable and very rewarding, especially when I see everyone having such a good time. It is also a huge thank you from me to be able



Ann - Always in control, but not always on her bike.

long weekend at the Stirlings. Those that went on that trip will probably remember it well as it was a fantastic weekend with great company and activities. Not just riding but climbing mountains (well, scrambling in some places), walking and not forgetting the "How to Host a Murder" game!

The next major cycling event with the club for me was my first 'On Your Bike', the "Wandering Star" tour. Needless to say that I thoroughly enjoyed myself. The highlight (amongst many) on that tour had to be the four course banquet we had at Wagin - those country towns certainly looked after us well!

I had now made a lot of very good friends within the club and so continued to be actively involved from a cycling point of view. I even started to lead rides, which as ride leaders may know or experience, can be quite nerve racking the first time round. After a few more years of many Sunday rides, achieve-

ment rides, weekends and tours away with the club I was approached (or was that conned?) into joining the CTA committee! In 1997 it was the "Spring On Your Bike" tour lead by the infamous Kleber. It was he who initiated the idea of having part time volunteers to help out on tour and thereby alleviate the workload for the main committee. I volunteered and helped out at breakfast time and also cleaning up and other odd jobs where necessary. It was a great way of helping out without intruding on the enjoyment of being on holiday and on tour.

After helping out in the 1998 tour I progressed (if that's the right word!) to joining the OYB committee for the "Southern Peaks" tour. I was responsible for the breakfast catering. There was a lot more work involved doing the job but it still didn't take away the enjoyment of being on tour. So the BIG question was then raised (as it always is)

to give something back to the CTA as in my earlier days as a member I was only participating as a cyclist in the various events and not contributing anything back to the club. Now that I have gone full circle, I hope this reflection will give you some inspiration to become involved in the club's activities as it certainly isn't as daunting as you might think. There are plenty of members with the knowledge and experience who can help you out so I encourage you all to become involved with your club. Give It A Go.

Ann

"Retired" OYB
Tour Leader



Devo's First 300 (continued from page 1)

It took a bit of encouragement to convince him that he could complete the remaining 89 kilometres sitting on his bum.

Still no "Phantom Dan" as we arrived at Toodyay with Max informing us that this was the end of the road for our support. Max's near new Subaru wagon had jammed in neutral and he could not select any gears. Panic, as we contemplated carrying the gear we needed to complete the ride. "Why not try rocking the car backwards and forwards" was suggested by all. This did the trick and when Max's daughter and son-in-law arrived from Perth in response to an SOS from Max, he had to explain that it was actually April 1st and not September 1st as we all thought.

So it was with relief that we all set out from Toodyay still chasing "Phantom Dan" who Max had "informed" us was only 30 minutes ahead. The country to Clackline was as beautiful as always with the traffic on the highway to Wundowie as busy as always.

Max was waiting for us at the turn off to Wundowie to allow us to fit lights, vests, etc. We arrived at Chidlow just on dark for the last top up before the finish at Midland. Still no "Phantom Dan" who Max "assured" us had only just left 20 minutes before we arrived. Those who have visited Chidlow are aware of the lack of toilet facilities there. It was with surprise that I noticed Devo turning on all of his flashing red lights, the whole time being observed by a group of teenagers at the take-away. He then proceeded to a nearby tree with very little cover and with the red lights not the only thing flashing he proceeded to water the flowers.

After a good laugh it was off on the last leg to Midland with Max, the always there when you need him support, waiting with rain coats as we experienced our first rain of the day. Max drove slowly behind us as we rode along the Great Eastern Highway, this certainly made it a lot safer for us as we approached the top of Greenmount. It is inter-

esting how riders come good at different times during a long ride with most finishing strongly. The sprint down Greenmount was sustained all the way to Midland with Devo taking line honours. Still no "Phantom Dan", was the strain of supporting four cyclists too much for Max or did he need to have a "Phantom Cyclist" to make us keep up the pace?

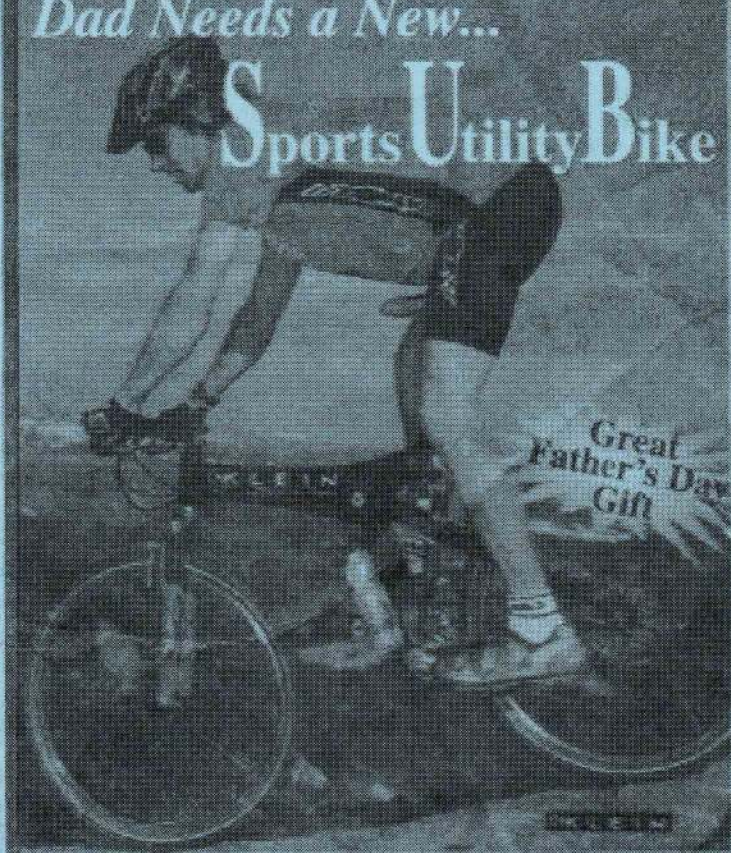
With hugs and congrats all round it was time for me to ride home the last 20 kilometres, unfortunately in the rain. Apparently "Dan" does exist and he did complete the 300 just ahead of us.

Congratulations to Devo and Dan for completing their first 300 and thank you to Ann and Mark for their company during the ride. Most importantly a big thank you to Max for the excellent support which made all the difference on the day.

Kleber Claux

Dad Needs a New...

Sports Utility Bike



Great Father's Day Gift

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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.

"Exciting" Mountain Bike

The ad to the left appeared in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. The unfortunate photographic illusion was quickly noticed (look at the bike seat). Action was taken to correct the advertisement, but not before the image made it to the news stand.

G'Day from the UK

Here I am in "Sunny" England for a 10 week stint at the head office in Westhoughton - which is north west of Manchester near the West Coast. People are short on the ground over here at the moment so I have come over to help them out with support and training, and also to pass on some of the information I have gained from developing the Malaysian and Chinese hospitals. Initially I was staying in a local hotel (accommodation type, not boozy type!) but it got a tad expensive, so I have moved to a flat in Bolton which is very salubrious - and subsidised by the company! For the first couple of days transport was by private taxi - but it didn't take too long to work out that I needed something cheaper and healthier... so I bought myself a bike!

I was going to buy a cheapie and flog it before I left but I got a reasonable deal on a new Giant OCR (bright yellow and black aluminium and carbon fibre) compact road bike which I will bring home with me. This has been ideal for my daily work commute and also weekend touring with lightweight backpack. I have discovered the beauty of taking myself and bike via train to the area I am interested in and then spending the weekend touring the district. Bed and breakfasts

and local pubs are ideal for summer touring with minimal baggage and limited budget - although some areas can be booked out very quickly if the weather is kind!

I spent a long weekend in North Wales (very hilly - and I really appreciated the OCR's triple chain ring!) which has magnificent scenery, castles, long rolling hills and both busy motorways and quiet roads. A very fast ride downhill from where I was staying near Mold took me to the English town of Chester - a tourist-friendly, Roman walled city. The central "business district" is all black and white Tudor architecture - with a most unusual 2-story shopping mall design originating hundreds of years ago. The streets are cobbled (as are many of the streets around Bolton unfortunately) and you have to get off the bike every quarter of an hour and stand still for a couple of minutes to get your testicles to regain their rightful place!

I soon locked my bike up and walked around town doing the tourist thing and also enjoying hot chocolate and eccles cakes. When it was time to head back to the hotel I was glad to see my bike still there - but where the bike that had been locked next to mine was, there was just the frame and the chain. Someone had boldly taken wheels, seat, bottom bracket, handlebars, brakes etc while hundreds of people walked by! I thanked the local Roman gods that I had used a long security cable to thread through frame, wheels and seat.

I needed all the eccles cakes on board to get back up the hills that had seemed so enjoyable on the way into town. A couple of locals gave me directions to get back via quieter roads and paths - which was much appreciated since the A55 was like the Freeway at top speed with small rocks and discarded car parts being flipped up at me as I struggled up

the emergency stopping lane. The smaller villages that I went through were the English and Welsh countryside sites that I had come to expect, with thatched cottages, local brewery pubs and manicured parks and ponds in the centre of the village.

Olivers

Cycle and Tackle Mart

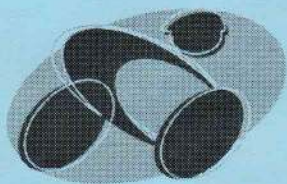


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All too soon I had run out of road and started on the bridal paths which were twin gravel tracks in areas of heath - pretty interesting on the narrow tyres I was using! The beautiful green surroundings were very rapidly being resolved into blackberry vines, brambles, thistles and other bitey, scratchy, stinging, blood-thirsty, human-eating plants. If I tried staying on the bike the nettles would scour my lower legs, but if I walked next to the bike on the parallel track the blackberry and raspberry vines would try and attack with huge lengths of thorny shoots. This back-to-nature business is not what it's cracked up to be!

The approach of using a train to get the bike and rider to an area worth touring around is highly recommended, especially if you have limited time. If anyone is interested in touring through England, Scotland, Wales or Ireland I can provide some useful informa-



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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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Steve's new
"cheapie" bike
asleep in his hotel
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tion on travel and routes. Whilst over here I joined the CTC which not only provided free insurance but also information on routes and rides available throughout the UK. The CTC is also associated with L'Alliance Internationale de Tourisme and the European Cyclists Federation and can therefore assist with any touring questions throughout most of Europe. There are a number of maps, which are all cyclist friendly, available for moderate cost from CTC for most areas that cyclists would want to tour through. I can advise on some of the areas but there are people like our Prez and others that have toured through the UK that may be able to give details of more southern routes.

I have bought a bike bag to be able to travel on planes - unfortunately, I don't fly straight back to Perth but have to work in a couple of more countries before heading home in mid October. I will find out how the Manchester, Amsterdam, Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur airports treat cyclists and bike bags - especially with the security scare at all airports after the American disaster! Hopefully I can let you know my findings from airport travel around the world.

Cheers

Steve

The entrance to the Roman walled city of Chester.



The quaint black and white Tudor architecture in the CBD of Chester.

The bone-shaking cobblestone roads around Bolton - Steve will never complain about rough roads in WA again.



Steve hard at work with his new bike in his UK office - that's one way of keeping your bike secure.



A Circus On Your Bike

The year 2001 and what a motley band of cyclists. My last OYB was in '95 and wasn't as diverse as this lot. There were many people on the waiting list (including me) and I think we all made it to the tour, as there is a set number. I attempted to ride to the start but Colin noticed me struggling against the wind and thankfully picked me up in his luxury vehicle; thanks mate. All riders were tired on the first day and some of us had to dodge a hungry Blue Heeler into camp.

During the evening meal, Ann (the tour organiser) introduced herself and her devout team of hard workers; it is a lot of work and requires a big effort. Well done everyone!! We were informed there would be different things happening during this tour and sometime during the evening meal at Pingelly we had our first 'group hug' getting to know everyone.

When we had our meal at the Narrogin Agricultural College it was 'Formal Night'. "Oh, I don't have anything like that, so I'll wear my jester hat." Our rest at Naarogin was great: lush grass, away from town and quiet; but we must soldier on the next day.

The Wickepin run was challenging; 7-8km to the town as the fresh wind ambushed us and with the winds, the last group of cyclists brought the rain with them. The rain was turned on and off for the remainder of the day and evening; one or two tents were casualties. Riders were advised to order their lunches at the local deli for collection the next day as there is nowhere to stop and buy anything on this tour; and if you forgot, you survived on cuppas, fruit and willpower.

On the long trek to Corrigin, I was cycling with young Nick (the youngest rider) riding his Avanti road bike. I hope he doesn't fall off because it became interesting after our morning tea stop at Lake Yealeering. Cycling on was a bit vague as to where we should go, so I cycled with others and hoped I was going the right way. Young Nick got lost but was

rescued by Simon. At Bullaring, as good a place as any to have our lunch, young Nick's mum, Mary, seemed worried where her son was. Eventually the OYB powers that be arrived to allay her fears. Young Nick had cycled too far and he had done his dash.

As I ate lunch, I contemplated what was written on the white-board the previous evening: "You will know your true self $\frac{3}{4}$ the way up a very long hill." Hmm, I wonder how long it is? Better check the map. It couldn't be more than 8km long. On the way to Corrigin, past the 'Pet Cemetery' we had a tail wind and it was a fast run into town, when Richard Stallard joined the tour. It was a long ride but we had a rest day coming up.

On the rest day many went to Wave Rock and others and I just relaxed and visited the town, the Museum, ordered lunch, etc, etc. During the afternoon, Kleber gave a bike workshop with the assistance of Max, Ross and Colin (he was a pro racer, believe it or not!). In the late afternoon, it was time for the group photo wearing the new OYB long sleeve shirts. David Stobie was our mechanic on this tour in which he had a big job that day with a tandem with a broken rear spoke; he finished just in time.

That evening, it was 'silly hat night' for a prize of bubbly. Beverley (spider web) and Charlie (chimes) shared the prize. Laurel won a Gardenia plant, and Liz guessed the correct number of sweets in a jar. Before we retired, we thanked the catering staff for their efforts (as it has become tradition to do so) and the Mayor and his mates thanked us for visiting their town.

At breakfast, I woke up late, missed the porridge and left with the end group. Weary of the swooping Magpies I couldn't avoid them as I passed the odd-looking cyclists with their strange attire. Poor Bernard, it gets quite hot in that prince outfit. Finally arriving at Quairading, I went to the shire office to buy a cloth badge, when a lady asks

me "Are you with that BIKIE group?" I chuckle and reply "Err...I'm with the cycling group, we're not bikies." "That's what I call them. Anyway, is Ross coming?" "He'll be here shortly."

As we arrive into York, it appears that this town is getting very busy, very crowded and had a "welcoming party" of the local lads, at 3am Saturday morning - some of us didn't get much sleep. It's time to get out - to Beverley.

The top Beverley road is quite long and again I had to outpace another dog, assisting me to arrive in Beverley a little too early. Hmm...I remember this place from a few months earlier when we were staying at Bill and Maree's place for the weekend. One or two cyclists went for a ride in a glider but I couldn't afford it.

Being Saturday, we didn't want another episode like the previous night, so the OYB powers-that-be tightened the security as many of us did our last minute rehearsing for the big show. It was a bonza performance and most enjoyed it immensely (even I had a go!). Then the night was getting cold as we tried to keep warm throughout the night.

On the final day some tourers had commitments and had to go early, while most of us burst our energies to reach the end at St John's in the Wilderness for tea and sandwiches. We lamented the end of the tour but all good things come to an end. Have a coupla weeks rest and conemplate.

Well done to all "Yellow Jersey" cyclists - they were the most deserving, not the first into town. Simon got one and he hammed it up too!

Three cheers to Ann and the OYB Committee for making this tour a success. And thank you to all 2001 tour volunteers, you did a fantastic job. Every society needs volunteers to function efficiently.

Devo

The way most people set up their tents...



The way Devo sets up his tent (I guess there are no flies on him!)



Mark's Meanderings

ON YOUR BIKE

As you will realise, the annual On Your Bike event is over for another year. As is now usual, it was very well attended, and we had close to the maximum number of participants. This included the "regulars", plus a significant number of new people who were ready to take on the challenges and rewards of cycling in country areas.

The weather was relatively kind to us, although we did have some quite windy days. We had one inclement day, with forecast local thunderstorms. The forecast was realised and we had a torrential downpour late in the afternoon at Wickopin. Luckily, most people made it to the destination before the rain. Some even managed to get their tents up before the rain, albeit that they risked getting them blown down or blown away!

This year we had a Formal Committee, which oversaw the introduction of some new "events" to add some fun and variety. This had its origins in Year 2000 On Your Bike, but with an expanded charter. These included things such as the Yellow Jersey, a silly hat competition and a formal night. Everyone rose to these occasions, which resulted in much merriment. Very importantly for cyclists, the food was good and plentiful. Those who were on the trip will not forget the hospitality and meals from Corrigin on our rest day. Complete with silver service too!

As a showcase for the CTA, the On Your Bike has been and continues to be very successful. It seems to me that each one is "The best one yet!" Congratulations to Ann and all those on the organising committee who made it such a success.

Hopefully, those of you who were new to the event will have come away with a positive experience of cycling and will go on to

become regular members of the CTA and participate in other CTA activities.

GROUP RIDING AND CYCLE TECHNIQUE

During the On Your Bike, an item which came up for discussion was cycling technique. In response to queries from several participants on the ride, a short meeting was held where some of the more experienced riders of the CTA shared their thoughts with the group who attended. In a nutshell, the talk involved how to go about preparing for a long ride and the techniques involved in cycling in an efficient manner. The discussion was reasonably well attended. Given the apparent interest at the time, it seems that it may be worth-

while conducting a similar event for the CTA membership.

In addition to individual cycling technique, there is the aspect of riding in a group. As club members come from a variety of cycling backgrounds, they may have had little experience at riding in groups and may not be aware of the techniques and etiquette involved. It is all very well to write lengthy and detailed articles on how to go about it, but the proof comes in the practice. I am proposing that the CTA conduct a workshop on group riding and cycle technique. However, this does depend on the amount of interest shown by members. If you are interested in participating in such a workshop or discussion, please contact me either by phone or by CTA email. Contact details are in the committee contact information on page 2.



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YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU

The time is fast approaching for the 2001 Annual General Meeting. The date, time and venue of this important event will be advised elsewhere in the Newsletter. This will be a time where those who are present at the meeting will elect a new committee. Often, it is simply musical chairs, where previous committee members swap roles amongst themselves. This need not be the case. The situation can arise where there are simply not enough people to fill the roles in the committee. If you would like to be involved in the running of the club, please approach any of the current committee members to discuss what options are available for you to make a contribution. In addition, you may have an idea for a special project which you would like to undertake for the club. You do not need to be involved directly in the committee to do this, but may be able to undertake it and have access to club resources.

Another significant event is that we honour a club member as Cycle Tourist of the Year.

Before the meeting, have a think about who, in your opinion, has made the best contribution to the club and cycle touring during the last year or several years.

We also honour those who have undertaken Achievement rides during the year. This year we have the new Merit series and there are a significant number of people who are eligible for that award. There are also a number of people who will be eligible for the Super Achiever and Challenge awards.

Lastly, and very importantly, there is morning tea. As mentioned previously, food is very important to cyclists and this event is no exception.

I hope to meet you there!

Safe cycling.

Mark

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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 and cost \$5 each.

Three series are available: the Super Achiever, Challenge and the new Merit Series. Each ride of the series must be completed in a set time limit but is otherwise non-competitive in nature. A member can only nominate for one award per year. The three series are detailed below:

Super Achiever Series

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

- 50 km (3 hours)
- 100 km (6 hours)
- 200 km (13½ hours)
- 300 km (20 hours)
- 10,000 in 8 (10,000 vertical feet in 8 hours)

Challenge Series

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

- 50 km (3 hours)
- 100 km (6 hours)
- 100 mile (10 hours)
- 200 km (13½ hours)
- 10,000 in 8 (10,000 vertical feet in 8 hours)

Merit Series

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

- 50 km (3 hours)
- 100 km (6 hours)
- 5,000 in 4 (5,000 vertical feet in 4 hours)

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. Contact the Rides Co-ordinator to get your brevet card and route description. After completing a brevet, the card must be returned to the Rides Co-ordinator to record the ride and ensure that the ride is officially verified 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 rides for a series must be completed and verified by the CTA Committee two weeks before the AGM.

If you require further details please contact Simon on 9271 2959 (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 on 9398 4724). 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 Simon on 9271 2959 (H).

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 on 9398 4724.

THE WINNER'S CIRCLE

Congratulations to the following people who were successful in completing the following achievement rides.

50km

Norman Lip Tim Reid

100km

Alison Bradshaw Tim Reid
Ron Kruijer Kate Smith
Norman Lip

200km

Liz Wheib Phil Giddins

5 000 in 4

Tim Reid

10 000 in 8

Norman Lip

Well done to all those who have qualified for one of the series. Time has now run out for the 2001 Achievement Ride series with only two weeks to go to the AGM. The list of riders who have successfully completed one of the three achievement series is being compiled and commemorative badges and mugs will be presented at the AGM on November 25 (see page 3 for details).



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Rides Calendar — November to December 2001

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.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11

POST-OYB REUNION DINNER RIDE

60-80km Moderately Hard, 9:00am Start. Meet at the Kelmscott railway station for a ride to anywhere your condition from the night before will allow. The ride can be hilly or flat, moderate or hard but will guarantee a good lunch stop on the way.

Leader: Kleber ☎ 9458 7519 (H)

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17

THE BEE'S BNEE'S PROGRESSIVE DINNER

20km Easy, 5:30pm Start. Bookings and deposit are required for a bountiful banquet, beset with blissful bicycling. Please see page 2 or ring Terry for more details. *Lights essential and reflective vests recommended.*

Organiser: Terry ☎ 9472 9887 (H)

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18

SWELTERING IN THE SUN AT SOUTH BEACH

30km Easy, 9:00am Start. Meet at the Raffles carpark for a ridiculously late ride (but it's the earliest I want to get up after the Progressive Dinner!) to South Beach for morning tea and a possible swim.

Leader: Simon ☎ 9271 2959 (H)

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25

CTA AGM RIDE

20km Easy, 8:50am for a 9:00am Sharp Start. Meet at the Loftus Community Centre (cnr Loftus and Vincent St, Leederville) for a short ride, arriving back in time for morning tea and the AGM.

Leader: Mark ☎ 9382 1961 (H)

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26

CTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10:00am for morning tea, 10:30am Start.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 30

FROM PARK TO PAVAROTTI

25km Easy, 6:30pm Start. Meet at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital main visitor carpark on Hospital Avenue (road with emergency department) for a ride to enjoy Kings Park at sunset, and afterwards enjoy Italian cuisine (prices start at \$13 for pasta dishes). Note: small change is handy when paying the bill. *Lights essential and reflective vests recommended.*

Leader: Helen ☎ 9313 6523 (H) or 040 167 0139 on the day

SUNDAY DECEMBER 2

A1 WAY POCKET ROCKET

60km Moderate, 9:00am Start. Meet at Fremantle railway station for a one way scenic coastal ride to the northern highlights. We will stop for refreshments en route. Bring some change for the train ride home.

Leader: Ann ☎ 9444 5160 (H)

SUNDAY DECEMBER 9

FINDING THE RIGHT KEY

50km Moderate, 8:30am Start. Meet at Warwick railway station for a "tan-damn" good ride to Mindarie Keys for morning tea before returning.

Leader(s): Lance and Patricia ☎ 9249 1970 (H)

SUNDAY DECEMBER 16

LIFE'S A BEACH RIDE

60km Moderate, 8:00am Start. Meet at Kings Park where the ol' karri tree log used to be (off Fraser Avenue) for a meandering ride to a beach to welcome the summer with a swim. Bring your bathers and perhaps your own morning tea. Depending on the riders, the return journey may include a lunch stop.

Leader: (One nite) Stan ☎ 9444 4207 (H)

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 19

ISADORA'S CAFÉ RIDE

30km Easy, 6:30pm Start. Meet at Charles Paterson Park (near the children's playground near Burswood Casino) for a scenic evening ride along parts of the Swan River to Isadora's Café in Guildford. The café is both BYO and licensed. Please RSVP by the 15th to Stan. Note: small change is handy when paying the bill. *Lights essential and reflective vests recommended.*

Leader: (One nite) Stan ☎ 9444 4207 (H)

TUESDAY DECEMBER 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 2

NUM NUMS AT NUM TONG

10km Easy, 6:30pm Start. Meet at Maylands railway station (Whatley Crescent side) for a marvellous Maylands meander, making sure we're not too Thai-ed for dinner. Note: small change is handy when paying the bill. *Lights essential and reflective vests recommended.*

Leader: Simon ☎ 9271 2959 (H)

SUNDAY JANUARY 6**WHAT POINT?**

30km Easy, 8:00am for an 8:15am Sharp Start. Starting from Fremantle railway station, through Fremantle back streets taking in some pleasant sights at a leisurely pace. Bring bathers, if you like. Bring morning tea, if you like. Bring picnic gear, if you like. Bring a friend, if you like.

Leader: Tom ☎ 9414 8717 (H)

SUNDAY JANUARY 13 A 'SLOW HER' POCKET ROCKET

70km Moderate, 8:30am Start. Meet where the Big Log used to be in Kings Park (off Fraser Avenue) for a westward bound pedal to the ocean and then northward bound. We shall stop for caffeine and muffin fix or even a DT for those that desire.

Leader: Ann ☎ 9444 5160 (H)

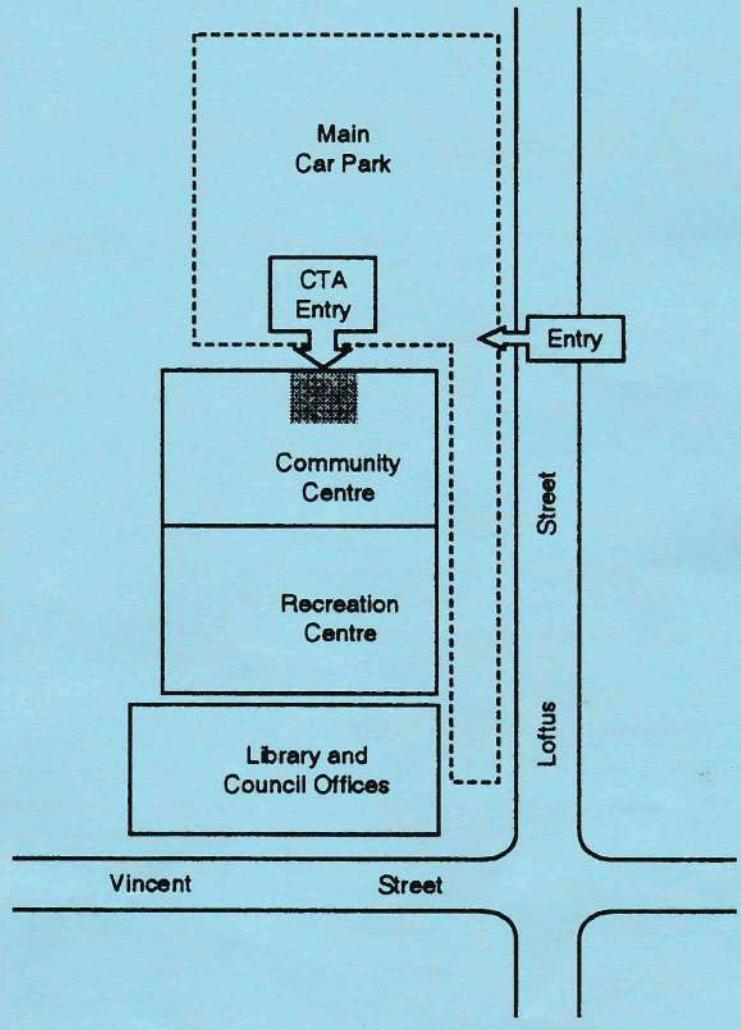
TUESDAY JANUARY 15 GOOD FOR WHAT ALES YOU

20km Easy, 6:30pm Start. Meet at the Loftus Community Centre (cnr Loftus and Vincent St, Leederville) outside the social night venue for a leisurely ride before enjoying a meal at the Paddington Ale House. Note: small change is handy when paying the bill. *Lights essential and reflective vests recommended.*

Leader: Simon ☎ 9271 2959 (H)

CTA Social Evenings

The Social Nights are usually (but not always) 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 Janet on 9319 9526 (H).



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 e-mail address is bikewest@transport.wa.gov.au with a copy to the BTA at bta_wa@hotmail.com please.

SUNDAY JANUARY 20**SOUTH PERTH FIESTA**

15km Easy, 5:00pm Start. Meet at the South Perth Esplanade car park adjacent to Sir James Mitchell Park for a pleasant ride around the Swan River foreshore prior to the first concert in the Free Family Concert Series featuring Wendy Matthews.

This is the first of two "family" rides the CTA is leading as part of the South Perth Fiesta that will finish with a leisurely BYO picnic before the opening and closing concerts in the Free Family Concert Series.

This is a great opportunity to recruit new members, raise the profile of the CTA and enjoy some great free entertainment.

Volunteers are needed to help lead the ride. If you are able to help please contact Simon as soon as possible.

Organiser: Simon ☎ 9271 2959 (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 December 15.



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2001 MEMBERSHIP FEES

The CTA Membership is from January 1 to December 31 each year. Membership fees for 2001 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 available in two colour schemes - yellow with red stripes, or turquoise with green stripes.

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 \$65 for knicks and \$70 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 Officer in Charge at the Police Bicycle Section on 9384 7666 during working hours.

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

