



2013: A REASON TO CELEBRATE

It seems that every time I turn up at the Carriage Café of late the talk is about one of our member's special achievements. Throughout the summer and autumn several members have reached significant milestones or added to their already impressive tallies. Let me list a few:

- Alison McLernon debut 600km at the GSR, Victoria.
- Danny Rock and Wayne Hickman, 1200km GSR.
- Alison McLernon debut 1200km, Wangaratta Wahine, Victoria.
- Lone Pallister debut 400km, Southern Sunset.
- Kym Murray debut 400km, Southern Sunset.
- Claudia Gadowski debut 300km, Lazy Lancelin.
- Dug Andrusiek debut Aussie 300km, Lazy Lancelin.

In making up this brief list I know that I have missed out many equally courageous efforts. If you have completed your first 200km brevet, or indeed your debut 100km, then chapeau to you too.

*"ordinary people
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Our numbers are healthy though it is unlikely that we will ever be a big club. More important than that is the fact that we foster and encourage goal setting and striving for improvement

in each member's personal Audax journey.

Not only is it cause for personal celebration when someone achieves a milestone of note, there is often a sense of satisfaction that can be shared by other members. The chats at the café, the advice about nutrition, and the encouragement offered when things get tough, inspirational stories about past achievements, advice about setting your own pace – all little pieces of a jigsaw. When the picture comes together we get ordinary people doing extraordinary things and that is wonderful to be a part of.

UAF Geoff

The April 20, UAF 200 Yanchep Chittering ride was a delight. Great weather conditions, a compatible group with similar riding abilities and outstanding coordination by Geoff Mercks. I think we've found the perfect person for leading these rides. Geoff's steady pace setting and consideration for all participants contributed to a successful UAF Brevet. We also managed to dispel the myth that UAF rides are slower than other brevets. Well done Geoff.



AUDAX WA NEWS

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On the national front

As regional president it was my privilege to attend the bi-annual National Committee conference in Victoria recently. The weekend conference is a great opportunity for delegates to exchange ideas and strengthen relationships between regions; and renew acquaintances. With Perth Albany Perth 1200 approximately 18 months away it was an opportune time for me to present our plans for the 5th Edition of PAP and to secure support from various national stakeholders. In this regard it was a particularly fruitful exercise.

Other interesting topics covered over the weekend included: Strategic planning and marketing of Audax; review of our constitution; membership information and database development; governance issues relating to major events (including PAP); and financial management of Audax Australia CC.

If you have an interest in any of these topics please stay closely tuned to Checkpoint magazine. National President, Peter Matthews, will no doubt elaborate in future issues.

Changing FACE of Audax WA

You don't need me to tell you that the way people communicate is rapidly evolving. These days if you don't find something out the day it happens (or even as it happens) you are "behind the times". Me sitting down and writing a newsletter every three months may seem a little archaic, especially when I start off by celebrating peoples' achievements that may have occurred several months ago. Our membership deserves more immediate information about events and achievements.

To this end we have set up a Facebook group which you may like to join. If you are an Audax member and a Facebook user this will give you another avenue to share your stories and photos with other members.

Continued



If you are not a Facebook user (and can't find a 12 year old to show you how) don't worry, we'll still be publishing a quarterly newsletter and keeping you up to date on organisational matters.

Once we've fine-tuned the process you'll receive a message advising how you can join the Facebook group if you wish.

So it seems that for the foreseeable future your info will come to you via four streams, some old, some new:

1. **Checkpoint magazine**, still a quarterly journal covering items of national interest. This is where you should keep sending your lengthy stories about your most significant Audax adventures.
2. **www.audax.org.au**, for all current calendar info and organisational and administrative items including forms, ride rules and much more.
3. **Audax WA Newsletter**, published quarterly to give local members vital info about goings on within our club. Member's contributions are also very welcome.
4. **Audax WA Facebook group**, for sharing up to date info about brevets and events as they happen.



Have your say

You will have received a recent email seeking your thoughts on the 2013/14 calendar. If you've got any ideas about how we can improve our offerings - whether it be about brevet distances, social occasions or other services to members - your input is more than welcome. The calendar is being formulated over the next few weeks. Please forward ideas via email to wa.president@audax.org.au for consideration by the committee.

On the subject of email, please let me know if you'd like to be removed from the mailing list for newsletters and the like (I won't be offended).

On a similar note: regarding the use of your personal details, we have taken a very stringent interpretation of privacy laws and resorted to blind circulation when sending out emails to the membership. This has been done to protect your personal details but is causing problems for ride organisers and other members when they want to send out information about upcoming events, etc. In future the committee would like to use the normal approach to group emails and use more open circulation methods, showing all recipients' email addresses at the top of the message. If you would prefer your address not be circulated then please send me a message to that effect at wa.president@audax.org.au.

Brevet Permanents

During our April committee meeting there was much discussion about brevet permanents. We explored the reasons why they have suddenly become popular and how we can expand our offerings to ensure that we are satisfying the needs of our membership and of the club as a whole.

The list of rides available can be found at www.audax.org.au and now includes four 200km brevets, two 300km, one 400km and a 600km brevet for you to choose from.

The new contact person is Kym Murray (see website for details).

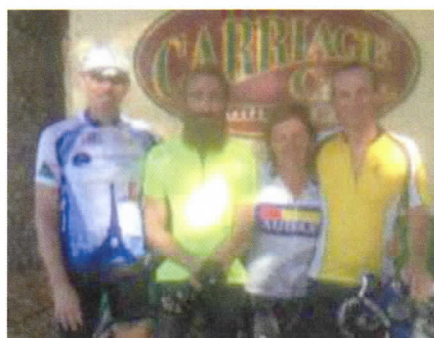
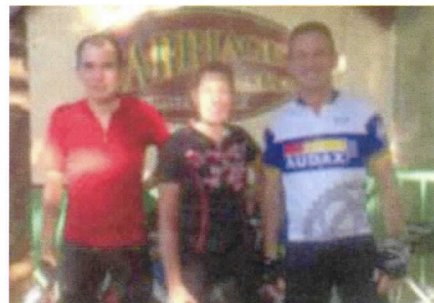
2013 Oppy: a breeze

While there were no 600 + km heroics or crazy gravel road randonnees during this year's edition of the Opperman All Day Trial, the weary bodies that rolled in to the café on the Sunday morning proved that this edition was every bit a trial.

A howling easterly breeze that blows all day and all night is bound to keep any band of bike riders honest. You know you're up against it when you have to pedal to get down a hill.



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May the wind be with you.
Happy riding
Tony Gillespie
President, Audax WA