

AUDAX NEWSLETTER

October 2008

Perth Region

Happenings

Bjorn Blasse has made a little more progress but is still in a coma. Hang in there Bjorn.

Great to see our Opperman 1 team with a ride of 622km was the top team in all of Australia. A terrific effort. Very well done Nick Dale, Ross Stevens, Colin Law, Eamonn McCloskey and Duncan Faux.

Nick Dale featured on page 34 of the latest Checkpoint magazine, whilst riding in the '07 PBP. Incidentally the Checkpoint has been given quite an impressive facelift don't you think.

Good to see Geoff Helliwell back in the saddle after his Achilles tendon problems.

Congratulations to Ken Dupuy, who has just become Grandfather for the second time. Isabelle Joy joins 1st grandchild Eve Lily.

Next year a seven day ride is planned in the Margret River area which could be a lot of fun. It is called the "2009 Great Escapade Ride", starting Saturday 28th March from Margret River and returning there Sunday 5th April. There is also a shorter two day option 28/29th March. For details phone 1800 639 634 or online at <http://www.bv.com.au/great-rides/30589/>.

With the world energy crisis, it could be that by 2060 politicians may be elected on their ability to cycle interstate to various meetings. Alas Sir Hubert Opperman was born before his time.



A few weeks ago I was obliged to walk from Fremantle to Bicton. Not one cyclist (on a Saturday morning) offered any assistance at all. Where have all the good Samaritans gone?

It seems that the wise men in the East have decided that we can have "Permanent" rides at any time of the year and be homologated in Australia. Also we can have group rides at specific speeds. A wise move. For full sordid details contact Nick Dale (Ph:92850083).

After a winter of particularly cold mornings

It's spring, spring, spring!
The lambs they all are bleating,
They will soon be ready for eating
The magpies they are flighting
Your heads they will soon be biting
It's Spring, Spring, Spring!

Cycle well and safely

Ralph Morgan



Ride Reports

Hickman's Hot Hell	27/07/08	100km
Wet, wet and wet – lots of hills – but at least a Guinness at the finish, courtesy of Wayne. Two starters and finishers, Colin Law and John Eden.		
One Dam	03/08/08	50/100km
Beautiful winter day. Three starters all finished.		
Gasman's Giro	09/08/08	300km
Four riders. Highlight of the ride was Colin falling off his bike. Thankfully no injuries.		
Webmaster's Wander	23/08/08	400km
No report received. Are they all still out there or have they all disappeared into the Australian Bermuda Triangle?		
The Sick Puppy	07/09/08	50/100km
Beautiful day in the Kalamunda area. Six riders all finished. Well done.		
Dambusters	14/09/08	160km
Horrible windy day with rain. Comments on the ride: HARI "You wouldn't want to do it every week" COLIN "About the hardest Audax ride I've ever done" PERRY "An experience I'll never forget" Good character building stuff I'm told.		
The Long Flat One	20/09/08	400km
Nice during the day with some favorable breezes, a cold evening with some rain and gusty winds. Fortunately was held on Saturday, as Sunday turned out to be a brute of a wet day. Five started, four finished. Andrew Bragg pulled out at Bunbury when he got "an offer he could not refuse".		

Special request

Do you own a mini digital camera? Do you take happy snaps while out on rides?

Help us bring more life to our great quarterly newsletter. Photos of the starting group at sunrise, the smiling face of a new rider upon completion of their first Audax ride or a shot of Nick scoffing pies on the steps of Pinjarra Bakery would all add to this great bulletin.

If you have a few snaps that deserve sharing with your fellow club members please pass them on to the editors assistant (Tony Gillespie rgi70696@bigpond.net.au). If you have good old fashioned hard copy photos they will gratefully be accepted, scanned and returned to you intact.

We would like a photo that is relevant to the next installment of the Perth Region Audax history for inclusion in our next newsletter. See what you can find.

SUMMARY HISTORY OF PERTH REGION AUDAX AUSTRALIA

Compiled by Rod Marston from the Perth Audax Club records

PART 2

Growth in the 1990s

In 1991 157 brevets were completed for 56,663km, but this dropped to 111 brevets and 30,844km in 1992 due to some extent to a large number of non-finishers, partly because of adverse weather and getting left behind by faster riders. In April of 1991 a 1500km ride was inaugurated starting from York, but only attracted 2 entries, Phil Giddins and John Martin. John Martin then retired from riding randonnees, although he remained active in Audax. A second 1500 km randonnee was held in May 1992, starting from Kelmscott, and travelling on a hilly course through the south-west of WA. Again there were only 2 starters, Phil Giddins and Justin Garvin. Justin unfortunately retired ill during the first 100 kms, and there was only one finisher. Phil completed 3800km of Audax rides in 1991 and was the "most meritorious rider" in 1992.

More shorter rides were added to the 1992 programme, and a 50 to 200km ride on a weekend based in Albany was introduced but it never became popular and was eventually discontinued. A 200km ride based at Donnelly River cottages near Nannup for the weekend was started in Autumn of 1991 (with the CTA invited to participate), and a similar weekend social-riding camp has continued ever since.

John Martin was succeeded as President by Lin Hambleton at the AGM held in March 1993. In 1993 161 brevets appear recorded for 41,400km. Brian Hawes was elected President at the AGM held in March 1994 and again in 1995 and 1996. The 200km annual spring Classic 200km ride from Midland to Toodyay and return, with vehicle support, was started in August 1994 and thrown open to non-members in 1995. In 1994 244 brevets were signed off for 68,798km including two 1500km brevets by Colin Farmer and Ian Duckham, and a 1000km done by Barbara Farmer. This was a lead up to a PBP year in 1995 completed by 5 WA riders: Colin & Barbara Farmer, Phil Giddins, Chris O'Brien and Don Briggs.

The Trailer was upgraded in 1995 and ownership finally transferred from the CTA to Audax. Brian Hughes did a great job for many years in storing and maintaining it. Audax jerseys were made available at a discount to members. John Lee managed the Audax "clothing store" for many years and served on the "Rides [sub-] Committee".

More shorter rides again in evidence in 1996 with 50/100/200km rides being prominent. Ken Ward (Treasurer), Mark Nilan (Rides), Don Briggs (Secretary and Rides), Brian Hawes (Promotion), and Brian Hughes (Trailer maintenance) were key contributors to the committee in the mid 1990's. The inaugural Perth-Albany-Perth

(PAP) 1200km ride was organised for October 1997 after a route survey in 1996, with Don Briggs being the key organiser. Sponsorship was obtained from Bikewest and bike shops. The top riders in distance terms for 1996 were: Brian Hughes (5435km), Brian Hawes (3950km), Nicky Armstrong (3800km), John Lee (3185km), Colin Farmer (2900km), Don Briggs (2650km), Jerry Clarkson (2585km) and Brett Rutherford (2350km). Four Opperman teams completed courses ranging from 385 to 550km. Total brevets were 259 for 57,705km.

Nicky Armstrong joined the Committee as Secretary in 1997 (Brian Hawes was still President) and immediately got the older Club meeting records, Checkpoint journals, and route maps for rides to hand and organised. Brevets in 1997 surpassed all of the previous years with 10 WA riders completing the first PAP 1200km giving 268 brevets for 69,100km. Nicky became President for 1998. After a drop in kilometres ridden in 1998 to 55,264km (there was only one Opperman team of 5 riders that year), and a further drop to 46,845km in 1999, despite this being a PBP year (2 WA riders completed the event).

In May of 1999 Jean Kendall an Audax rider in a 600km event near Tamworth NSW was fatally injured when hit by a vehicle at night. This caused major ramifications for Audax ride rules from the modus operandi and insurance points of view. In particular checking of rider and bike lighting/reflective equipment for night rides became mandatory for ride organisers, and the entry forms were modified twice to get entrants to sign off their on full compliance thereto.

See next
Newsletter for
Part 3



Audax Perth Region annual general meeting 6th December 1997

Calendar

Sat 18/10/08 Fremantle 7.00am	Spinal Fusion Eamonn McClosky 9370 5991	300km Fremantle - Boddington - Pinjarra - Fremantle
Sat 25/10/08 Bullsbrook 7.00am	The Classic Adrian Giacci 9328 8808	200km Supported ride Bullsbrook - Toodyay - Toodyay - Bullsbrook
08/11/08 Deep Water Point 7.00am	Dog Leg Loop Nick Dale 9285 0083	100km 22.5kph group ride
15/11/08 Kelmscott 7.00am	10,000 in 8 Colin Law 9397 7739	120km Kelmscott, lots of hills, Kelmscott
AUDAX ANNUAL CAMP (see more info in previous newsletter) Friday 21/11/08 to Sunday 23/11/08		
Choice of rides to suit all comers Rod Marston 0413984771 (SMS pref.) Ken Dupuy 9457 7280		
22/11/08 or 23/11/08 Dwellingup 8.00am	Waterous Loop Colin Law 9397 7739	35/70km Dirt ride
23/11/08 or 22/11/08 Dwellingup 8.00am	The Cleanskin Colin Law 9397 7739	50/100km Dwellingup - Pinjarra - Waroona - Dwellingup
06/12/08 Deep Water Point 7.00am	6 Dams Nick Dale 9285 0083	200km Hilly ride, going past Bickley, Canning, Churchman's Brook, Mundaring, Serpentine & Wungong Dams
20/12/08 Midland 5.07am	Dawn 'til Dusk Nick Dale 9285 0083	300km Midland-Guilderton-Gingin- Toodyay-Midland. Riders must finish before sunset (19:21) to qualify for Dawn-till-Dusk series award.
28/12/08 Kelmscott 8.00am	Hickman's Hot Hell Wayne Hickman 9454 3689	50/100km Kelmscott - ZZ - Kalamunda - Armadale - Kelmscott
03/01/09 Kalamunda 7.00am	Garden of Eden John Eden 9291 9849	100km Kalamunda - Pickering Brook - Kalamunda
10/01/09 Deep Water Point 7.00am	Southern Sunrise Tony Gillespie 9537 1428	400km DWP - Dwellingup - Waroona - Harvey - Pinjarra - DWP
NOTE: This is a provisional program - contact for further details: Nick Dale 9285 0083 or Colin Law 9397 7739		