

Peter Allen Memb. Form
137/22 Windelya Rd, Mundack 6150

AUDAX NEWSLETTER

Perth Region
January 2009

Happenings

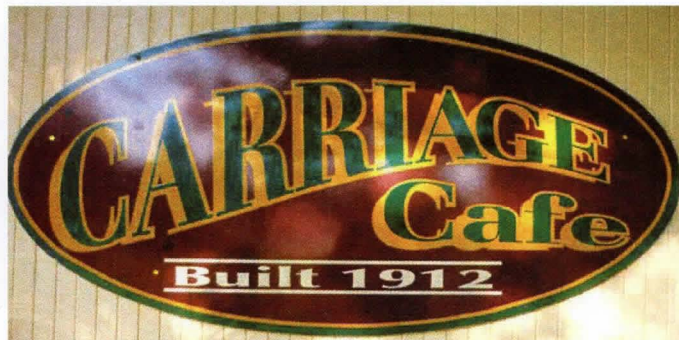
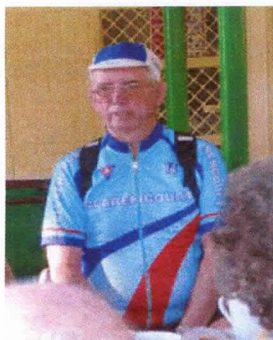
The Christmas barbecue was held in Kings Park and well attended on the first really hot day of the summer. It was great that Bjorn and Mary Blasse were able to attend.

Thanks for all the ride reports you send in. They enable me to make "past rides" much more interesting for everyone.

Ross Cussons recently took part in a seven day tour in the Margaret River area organised by the CTA. About 100 riders, with wonderful hospitality at the overnight stops, by service and sports clubs.

Kel Smith, the genial proprietor of the Carriage Café Fremantle, continues his fight to keep his café open despite the council's park section wanting to move him.

We can be found there any Saturday morning from 8.00am. A real group of Gunners (gunner do this, gunner do that) whilst the younger Audax element are over the hills and far away actually doing rides.



If you haven't done it yet (like me) remember that membership fees were due on November 1st. You don't want a knock on the door in the middle of the night, by someone from Audax Melbourne do you?

A new member! Peter Allan has in his wisdom joined us. Welcome. Peter has returned to the peleton after a break of a few years. He rode in the UK with the West Lancashire road club; and the CTC.

My thanks once again to my "editor's assistant" (Tony Gillespie) for the terrific job he has done in upgrading the newsletter.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE

RALPH MORGAN

Ride Reports

MORE MIDLAND MADNESS	04/10/08	600km
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Over the hills and far away with 2 starters and 1 finisher – Nick Dale – well done.

SPINAL FUSION	18/10/08	150/300km
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7 starters – 6 finishers. A scenic ride in perfect conditions. Having two distances was a good idea and hopefully will encourage more riders. Andrew Bragg got lost once again, then blew a tyre 50km from Perth and ended up hitching a lift to Armadale railway station.

THE CLASSIC	25/10/08	
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Very wet and windy with a demon of a head wind on the way home. Almost a SHOCKING incident with power lines down across the Chittering Valley Rd at head height. Adrian Giacci and his brother Nathan did a sterling job as support, especially as they were very stretched dealing with the two distance riders. Do we need to advertise this event more widely? Does the Bullsbrook start put those South of the River off? One thing I would not want to do again, is ride from Toodyay to Midland on route 50 in the late afternoon as in previous years (See photos last page).

10,000 IN 8	08/11/08	50/116km
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10,000 feet of climbing in 8 hours. Not a ride for the faint hearted. 11 riders. A very cool start but all riders very warm by the time they reached the top of Patterson Rd. Congratulations to everyone who did this very hard ride – on a fantastic sunny day.

DWELLINGUP CAMP	21-23/11/08	
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See separate report and photos by Rod Marston.

WATEROUS LOOP	22/11/08	35/70km MTB
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Two distances catered for all inclinations, plus Nick Dale who did a 100km road ride in the morning prior to the dirt ride. Wayne Hickman managed to fall off and get a bloody nose and some bark off his shin (Photo of Mike last page. What is he up to? You have three guesses.)

THE CLEANSKIN	22/23/11/08	100km
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Held over 2 days. A really nice ride in good conditions, especially the section from Waroona back through Nanga to Dwellingup.

6 DAMS	06/12/08	200km
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Very windy day, everyone finished this very hilly ride – Colin Law had no less than 4 punctures.

HICKMAN'S HOT HELL	27/12/08	100km
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8 Riders on a beautiful hot 30C day. A ute wagon with a staw bale in the back almost "got" Wayne. An ugly scene ensued. The bunch stayed together for 84km then the "speedys" decided to take off. Brad and Lisa Cleary, both on their first Audax ride, were left behind with Wayne. They both finished but this is not the way to encourage new members, guys!

DAWN TILL DUSK	20/12/08	300km
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No report received for this ride.

GARDEN OF EDEN	03/01/09	50/100km
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A very hot day with 10 riders. Appropriately for the Garden of Eden ride, they were confronted by a seven foot dugite in the middle of the road at 25km. Despite this all finished safely.

SOUTHERN SUNRISE	10/01/09	100/200/400km
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13 starters, all finished (5 x 100, 7 x 200, 1 x 400). Having multiple ride options was popular. Riders enjoyed the blend of lumpy and smooth. Better than all hills or all flat. Congratulations to new riders Grant Crowe and Caroline Williams who finished with their respective groups. Suggestion for 2010: offer 100/200/300km options if scheduled in January. Too hot for a 400.



It was still smiles all 'round at Jarrahdale. This changed as the day warmed up.

Club Camp Report

THE GREAT AUDAX CYCLE FEST WEEKEND AT DWELLINGUP CAMP

21-23 November 2008

Once again we ventured to the forests 100km south of Perth and occupied four comfortable chalets at the Caravan Park, but a contrast in the weather from the hot fly-ridden visit last year to wet and cool conditions with many sunny breaks.



Everyone staying gathered at the Community Hotel for a pub meal on Friday night, with the addition of Brian Hughes who was camped at Lane Poole Reserve. No bad behaviour that I saw!

Master ride organiser (and rider) Colin Law then gave us a cavalcade of brevet MTB and road rides to be in. This was a new concept judged to be very popular given the number of day trippers who came along to ride with the campers and members.



Saturday morning saw 3 riders do a short 35km Watrous Loop mainly on Nanga gravel road and the wonderful Munda Biddi trail down the watery Murray valley, and 5 riders take on the longer 70km Watrous loop in the clockwise direction from Nanga Mill. Wayne had an argument with some rocks and won but was still able to fix David's derailleur (with a wrench) after it got bent by fallen timber. 2 riders (Brian Hawes and Brian Hughes) also took the "traditional" 50km road ride down the hill to the Pinjarra bakery and back.

While all this was going on 3 riders, including President Nick, starting in Pinjarra were on roadies doing a 100km loop back through Waroona and Nanga, and came across the 3 short loop riders who had got back to Nanga Mill. The afternoon was wet but 2 MTB riders ventured east of town along the old rail line, "raced" the vintage tourist train back, and found a good winery and cidery to warm up in after the clothing drips stopped. If Colin had not had enough riding he got coaxed back



by Nick to do the 70km Watrous MTB loop again in the afternoon!

No, the riding did not end on Sunday, as 4 riders set off from the Camp to do the 100km Pinjarra-Waroona-Nanga loop in still damp conditions as it rained all Saturday night. The irrepressible Colin Law was in there again too.



Something for everyone at Dwellingup, as we had biker/paddler Keith down on the Murray after he did the short MTB loop, as well as visits to the Forest Products centre, a cherry farm, and wineries for those with other interests. Seems a good idea to repeat, especially if more will stay at the camp, perhaps right at the start of the Audax year (early November),

**Audax
History
Part 3 of 3**

**SUMMARY HISTORY OF
PERTH REGION AUDAX AUSTRALIA**

Compiled by Rod Marston from the Perth Audax Club records

PART 3

Riding into the next Millenium

The advent of the PAP2000 saw a jump back to 68,545km ridden (1895km being for the Opperman and 26,400 km for the PAP) for the 2000 year. The second PAP was run with a sub-committee, with Don Briggs again being the key organiser. There were 22 finishers including six from Audax Perth and 13 from overseas.

Ken Jones was elected President for 2000 and remained in that office until December 2002 supported by Ken Dupuy (Treasurer since 1996), Rod Marston (Secretary since 1998), and Brian Hawes (Rides Co-ordinator succeeding Don Briggs). Insurance remained an issue in 2000-03, and the requirement for non-members to become temporary members for the ride concerned was introduced, so that insurance cover could be provided. However, new ride rules were not enacted until 1st November 2002, which caused the cancellation of several rides in the 2002/03 year as the cost of renewal insurance for Audax Australia with the usual insurer had become prohibitive.

In 2001, 30,002 km were completed on brevet rides (drop from a PAP year), with a slight rise to 32,170km in 2002, but with still little support for the longer rides. Alan Tolcher took over from Brian Hawes as Rides Co-ordinator in early 2003. This trend of fewer long rides continued in 2003 (21,550km), even though this was a PBP year, in 2004 (18,990km) and 2005 (26,701km). Brian Hawes was the sole entrant and finisher for 600km and 1000km rides in 2004.

Ken Ward was presented with a special plaque for his long services to the Audax Perth committee in 2004. Not only had he long been the Membership Secretary, but he also knows more about cycling history in Australia than anyone else I know, and he still ably rides a flash road bike, when well into his eighties! Our first Perth Region club jerseys arrived from the Italian makers in 2005, with the hope that it would grow our identity as a Club. They have proved popular enough to warrant a re-order for bigger sizes: a growing membership?

New longer distance riders joined the Club from 2002 onwards, giving a boost to annual riding kilometers and culminating in the running of the second PAP 1200km event (and the necessary qualifying rides) in October 2006. This event was largely organised by two key participants and club riders, Nick Dale and Bjorn Blasse (Rides Co-ordinator from start of 2006). Eight WA riders entered the event and the Perth Region amassed 58,950km in brevet rides for the year. An understandable drop to 34,650km occurred in 2007, but six gallant WA riders still completed the PBP in August 2007, a local entrant record.

Glenn Mitton designed and launched a website for the Perth Region in 2006-07, so we fully entered the cyber age, for those with email & internet access that is! He also converted our Newsletter from hard mail only to an email version with help from long term editor Ralph Morgan and Tony Gillespie.

WA Riders in the Paris-Brest-Paris 1200km Audax Events

Supplied by Colin Farmer

1987 Aileen Martin, the first Australian woman to complete a PBP, John Martin, Stewart Stockdale.

1991: Colin Farmer, Kevin Norris.

1995: Don Briggs, Barbara Farmer, Colin Farmer, Phil Giddins, Chris O'Brien.

1999: Phil Giddins, Graham Thornton.

2003: Chris Antoniou, Bjorn Blasse, Phil Giddins.

2007: Bjorn Blasse, Nick Dale, Hari Goonatillake, Wayne Hickman, Eamonn McCloskey, Ross Stevens.

WA Riders in the Perth-Albany-Perth 1200km Audax Events

1997: Brian Hughes, Brian Hawes, Duncan Faux, Colin Farmer, Nicky Armstrong and Paul Dransfield.

2000: Duncan Faux, Colin Farmer, Brian Hawes, Geoff Helliwell, Rod Marston, and Graham Thornton.

2006: Nick Dale, Bjorn Blasse, Wayne Hickman, Colin Law, Rob Godkin, Chris Antoniou, Eamon McCloskey, and Duncan Faux.
