



July 2011

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Bicycle Wagga Wagga
PO Box 5789
Wagga Wagga 2650
www.bww.org.au

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- When: **Wednesday, 21st September 2011**
- Time: **To be confirmed. See Notice of AGM.**
- Where: **To be confirmed. See Notice of AGM.**

All members and any prospective members are invited to attend.
Any questions or further information required?
Contact **Eric Armstrong 02 6926 2768**

The President Ponders ...

Winter ... cold frosty mornings, wet foggy conditions, shorter days and poorer visibility ... extra challenges for cyclists ... So rug up, keep dry, be seen, keep those lights charged and flashing, AND keep spinning! Spring will be here before you know it!

Bicycle Wagga Wagga has reached a new milestone and a new level of maturity - the end of its first year as an incorporated body. It has really come along way over the past 14 years since its inception in July 1997. This has kept the committee on its toes as well as generating huge amounts of paperwork. While all the committee have to be acknowledged for their enthusiasm and great work during this period, we really need to especially thank secretary Kerrie Burkett for her tireless hours spent shuffling all these emails, correspondence, committee minutes and dealing with requests and general enquiries, and in general, keeping you all up-to-date!

AND speaking of great club support, thanks to all our ride leaders for organising our regular weekly rides, and for the special weekend rides earlier this year - "The Hills", Young and the Easter rides – great work guys!

Speaking of the end of a year and the Committee, it's time for all members to put on their thinking caps and consider who YOU would like to run the club for the next 12 months. This will be decided at the AGM on Wednesday 21 September. Remember, under the Constitution, nominations of candidates must be made in writing, signed by two members of BWW with the written consent of the candidate and delivered to the secretary before the AGM.

Membership of BWW runs by calendar year from January to December and we currently have around 120 ordinary members, must be close to a record! I encourage you all not only to continue

your membership of BWW, but to put serious thought into joining Bicycle NSW. By joining BNSW you will be supporting cycling in our region as well as NSW, in addition to receiving bi-monthly copies of Australian Cyclist, BNSW insurance and discounts on merchandise and priority on their rides.

On a sad note, Bicycle Wagga Wagga has lost a long-time valued member, ride leader and friend in John Lehmann, or more affectionately known as "Junee John". I personally got to know John on the recent "Great WA Bike Ride" in the Margaret River region. John was a quiet, unassuming, trusted, determined, adventurous, frugal, reliable and caring person, and a pleasure to ride with. We will all miss him and we offer our sincere condolences to Alison and the Lehmann family. In John's honour, we have decided to dedicate our annual End of Winter ride to Junee on the 28 August to him – to be affectionately called the "Junee John" End of Winter Ride. So note this in your diary, rummage around for an old pair of footy socks and join us on the ride and for lunch at the Liquorice Factory.

Finally a couple of other reminders - see later for details.

- **The Lake to the Lagoon Fun Run** on Sunday 11 September. BWW will be escorting the large number of cyclists safely to the finish!!
- David and Lisa Glastonburys' "**Gourmet Gambol**" on 17 & 18 September.
- **Bike Week** on 17 to 25 Sept. BWW will be involved in promotional activities.
- **Fat Tyred Rides** – a new BWW activity organised by David Neil.

Keep informed by following the website www.bww.org.au.

Bye for now, happy and safe cycling.

Eric Armstrong

“Junee John” Lehmann Our Great Loss

As you have already read in the President's Ponders Bicycle Wagga Wagga has lost a valued member, ride leader and friend. The man we knew affectionately as “Junee John” is no longer with us.

Junee John has been a member of our group for over a decade. The Sunday Rides will not be the same now. John was a regular and will be missed enormously. We will miss seeing John, always wearing his footy socks, with a smile on his face unloading his bike from the back of his ute.

John must have really enjoyed these rides as he'd drive across from the farm pretty much every Sunday. I think that the rides he most enjoyed though were the ones when his son-in-law Hugh Donaldson came along with him. The

photograph on this page show John and Hugh lined up for the start of one of this year's Easter Rides.

When John first started riding with us he rode an old, heavy mountain bike. I jokingly told him several times that he needed to have a hydraulic hoist fitted in the back of his ute just so he could get his bike out without injuring himself. John was on top of the world when the family presented him with a flash new flat-bar road bike at Christmas one year.

The Sunday Rides were not the only rides that John went on. He also went on weekend rides. An enduring memory I will have of John occurred on the return trip from an overnight stay in Ganmain. Just near Brushwood there was an enormous BANG when John suffered a rear wheel puncture. I was driving a support vehicle and assisted him in changing the wheel.

After doing so I had a hard job of removing the grease from my hands

from the running gear on John's bike. John had lubricated it with grease from a tin he had back at the farm, the thick, heavy grease used on farming machinery.

I respectfully suggested to John that he needed to clean his drive train and use a lighter lubricant. Well, John did as I advised and the next Sunday Ride there was John with a clean drive train. I said to John that he'd done such a great job it looked like new. John told me it was new, because once he'd removed the grease and gunk the chain skipped all over the place and he had to replace it. I never advised John to clean his running gear again.

John also participated in what are known as Big Rides, rides conducted over nine days or more, in NSW and interstate. John came on these rides a part of a contingent of BWW members and was also an independent traveller when no-one else could go.

John recently went to The Great WA Bike Ride making all the arrangements himself. John told us the story of how he'd planned to reduce the chance of having to pay excess baggage charges by putting some of the heavier items like tent pegs and his hammer in his carry-on luggage. The plan was working perfectly up until the time he had to pass through the metal detectors at the airport security. Luckily for John he was that well organised that there was plenty of time left for him to have it checked through as baggage.

Many members remember with great fondness how, at the end of a day's riding, John would like a share a bottle of wine with new friends or old at dinner under the stars. I'm sure that John's cousin, Wayne Lehmann from Temora, who was also on some of these rides will remember these good times too.

Another of the things we will miss about John is the times when he brought along some food to share with the group. Alison's delectable delights helped fuel many cycling kilometres. Thank you Alison for supporting John so well in his cycling endeavours.

John was one of a band of cyclists in our group that are inspiring. People with, let's say, years of life experience. John gave us all hope of a fit and active lifestyle into our later years.

Sometimes I would fall back to ride with John. Invariably he'd tell me not to wait. I'm not sure that he understood that I



wanted to ride with him because he was good company. It was always interesting to find out what was happening on the farm, or to talk about his cars, and he was just such a positive man.

John was not only a valuable and generous member of BWW. John shared himself around and was heavily involved in many other activities. John was a great worker in the Junee community and further abroad. We are indeed fortunate to have been able to share him with his family and the community.

John was a humble, unassuming and caring man. John was a true gentleman. "Junee John" will be missed greatly by us.

We offer our heartfelt condolences to Alison and the Lehmann family in this distressing time.

-Ray Stenhouse

Fat Tyred Rides

An addition to our menu of regular rides is the Fat Tyred Ride.

David Neil has spotted a gap in our offerings and has volunteered to lead a ride with a difference at least once a month for those interested.

The first Sunday of the month has been selected by David to conduct a ride where a road bike is not the most suitable bicycle to ride.

The ride is run in conjunction with the Regular Sunday Ride. It is held mainly on tracks and cycleways so there is little interaction with traffic however some of the terrain requires that you use a bike with fat tyres. A mountain bike is ideal however a hybrid or touring bike with fat tyres would do the job but it's definitely not a ride to take a road bike on.

Fat Tyred Rides may be run on other Sundays too depending on Ride leader availability.. Confirmation of this may be made by calling **David Neil** on **02 6971 7778**.

If you'd like to help David increase the regularity of this ride by being a Ride Leader then don't hesitate to contact him to arrange this.

The "Junee John" End of Winter Ride 28 August 2011

Our annual ride conducted to farewell winter has been renamed in honour of BWW stalwart, "Junee John" Lehmann.

"Junee John" was famous for wearing footy socks when he rode. As a tribute to John participants are requested to find themselves a pair of footy socks and wear these on this ride.

Eric Armstrong has arranged for lunch at the famous Junee Licorice and Chocolate Factory.

As in previous years there is the option of two ways to get to Junee. The shorter option means a total ride of about 82km and is via Overdale and back through Bomen.

The longer route takes you to Wantabadgery and is about 100km. There will be a support vehicle available on the short route only.

An event flyer will be published closer to the date which will give starting time details.

If you have further enquiries please contact **Eric Armstrong** on **02 6926 2768**

Lake to the Lagoon Fun Run 11 September 2011

The Event Director for this year's Wagga Wagga Lake to the Lagoon Fun Run is none other than our member Petrina Quinn.

For those people that aren't aware of the Fun Run, and wondering why this article is in the Newsletter, the Fun Run has for many years now had a Wheelies section. This section has been dominated by cyclists.

In the past BWW has been involved with marshalling the Wheelies participants at the finish of the event. This year though, at Petrina Quinn's invitation, BWW has a higher profile role.

BWW has been asked to provide an escort from the start to the finish. Petrina would like to see as many cyclists from BWW as we can muster to

participate this year wearing BWW jerseys.

At the front of the Wheelies Petrina hopes to see a flood of yellow jerseys with black crows to lead the participants along the route.

Ray Loiterton has taken on the role of co-ordinator and can be contacted on **02 6922 4040** if you are available to assist on the day.

Glastonburys' Gourmet Gambol 17 & 18 September 2011

This is definitely a weekend not to be missed. David and Lisa Glastonbury are well known for leading rides that give you just the right amount of exercise mixed with some great food and wine with a large sprinkling of social activities.

Mark this weekend on the calendar now. If you've already got something on that weekend then you've still got time to change your plans.

More details will be available closer to the event.

Contact **David and Lisa Glastonbury** on **02 6926 2354**.

Bike Week 17 - 25 September 2011

Once again Bike Week will be celebrated in NSW in September.

In recent years BWW has been instrumental in running events locally to encourage more people to ride more often. This year is no exception.

For some months BWW have been meeting with Wagga Wagga City Council, the Wagga Wagga Cycling Club, MTB Wagga and other interested parties to put together a program of events. These meetings led to a submission to the NSW Government for funding to promote these activities which was successful.

BWW will conduct an event where we will ask each member to invite a person along for a short ride.

More details will be available closer to the event.

BWW Jerseys

At long last BWW now has some jerseys in stock.

The jerseys have once again been manufactured by Netti although the design has been slightly altered to incorporate BWW's website address.

There are a limited number of short and long sleeved jerseys available. It will be literally "First In, Best Dressed".

The short sleeved version will set you back \$90 and if you want to have the long sleeved version then you will have to fork out \$100.

The secretary, **Kerrie Burkett**, is the custodian of the jersey stock. Please contact Kerrie on **0412 788 154** for available sizes.

Committee Meeting Minutes

Recently some BWW members have expressed an interest in receiving a copy of the minutes of the monthly Committee Meetings.

If you would like to receive a copy of the minutes too then please contact the secretary, **Kerrie Burkett** using email: secretary@bww.org.au or call Kerrie on **0412 788 154**.

If you would like to attend a Committee Meeting you are more than welcome to.

Visit by Bicycle NSW CEO and COO

In May BWW had the privilege of hosting two senior members of Bicycle NSW.

Chief Executive Officer, Omar Khalifa, and Chief Operations Officer, Elizabeth Hole, were our invited guests at our Club Night at Romano's Hotel on 18th May.

About 30 of our members heard Omar give an enthralling presentation on how Australia was built on the back of a bicycle seat. Another interesting point made by Omar was that there were cycleways in place long before motorised traffic came along and took over.

Elizabeth's discussion largely revolved around our Bicycle User Group affiliating with Bicycle NSW. Various benefits and opportunities were explored and these issues are currently being examined by the Committee.

We had hoped that both these guests could have ridden with us earlier with the Wednesday morning Coffee Grinds but both had prior commitments.

Fortunately Omar did ride with several BWW members the following morning who were able to show him some of the countryside we often take for granted.

On a brisk but sunny day the group

made their way out Pattersons Road to "Kalanda", the home of Craig Alexander.

Craig was the perfect host providing a very yummy cake on offer that was washed down with a warm beverage.

There was some reluctance to get back outside and remount our trusty steeds but alas, some of us had to work later that day. Also Omar had to travel back to the big smoke to continue his good work promoting cycling in NSW.

The photo displayed at the bottom of this page shows Omar with his new BWW friends.

Both these social interactions cemented a stronger working relationship between the BNSW executive and BWW members. Omar made it clear BNSW continually lobbies and works towards increasing cycling facilities in this region.

As Eric Armstrong suggested in his Ponderings on the front page of this Newsletter, if you are not already a member of BNSW please give it some serious thought.

There are substantial benefits that you gain from your BNSW membership. For details of these please see their website www.bicyclensw.org.au.

Equally important though is that by joining BNSW your support gives them a stronger voice with which they can try to influence the decision makers in various levels of government.

