



Unchained

Queensland's Big Wheel News #6
14 June 2013

Merry midwinter one and all! As the world turns the sun from us and long nights peak at midwinter, rug up for riding or sit in the warmth and look over photos of good times and dream of exploits to come. There is much underway in planning for later in the year as the club finds its feet so be sure to check the calendar and see what entices you.

The Qld Penny Farthing and Historical Cycle Club will meet again this coming **Saturday 15th June at 11am**. Our fine hosts are members Lyle and Kaye who have offered a viewing of their collection after the meeting.

Address: 237 Junction Rd Karalee 4306

Riders meet at 9.30am to convoy to location (ride area is suitable for beginners, comprising two loops). Morning tea from 10.30 am (please feel welcome to bring something to share) Please note this meeting starts at 11am. If you can do so with no inconvenience please BYO chair.



Ipswich Festival April 2013 L-R Shane Rush, Lyle Paull, Kaye Vockenson, Jenny and Noel.

Your executive

President: Shane Rush
Treasurer: Max Robbie
Online Co-ordinator: Aaron Wray
Secretary: Janine Prince

Members

Thank you to those who have already joined. Our inaugural members currently total 22. Current memberships will become due for renewal from 30 June 2013. Membership fees and structure will be reviewed at the meeting on the 15 June 2013. If you have any suggestions or

Newsletter

Submissions accepted
This newsletter is published by the Qld Penny Farthing and Historical Cycle Club Inc. on an *ad hoc* basis.

Website

Coming soon to an internet near you!
www.QPFAHCC.com

News

- 🕒 Best wishes to members who are heading off to the northern summer for touring. We wish you sunny days and tail winds, and hope to hear from you in future issues.
- 🕒 Our six-month anniversary risks slipping by in the heads-down-tail-up busyness of mid year. We have achieved a lot in these first months with lots of official paperwork handled and the club now existing comfortably with a constitution and incorporation. Time to take a breath and reflect on what we have achieved already this year!
- 🕒 A small archive of material from the last incarnation of the club has been found during a clean-up and handed on to us. The question now is how best to preserve and share these old clippings and newsletters? Perhaps a point for discussion or an opportunity to add some historical matter to our website when it is ready.
- 🕒 Preparations are well under way for the “Pushies Galore” event at Holland Park in July. The event is held at the Holland Park Bowls Club grounds on one of the older greens. It is a fun day with a large ‘show and shine’ area to look around, a swap meet, and of course some information stands (where we will have a presence). Please do come by on the day and say hello. It is a great day for sharing stories and enjoying the range and creativity of bikes and their owners.
- 🕒 Club jerseys for retro riding are open for order – be quick we want to get them as soon as possible! All the info you need and an order form can be found at the back of this edition.



The logo of the previous incarnation on their (lycra) club jersey

Searching for a logo

It is a truth universally acknowledged that a sporting club with members must be in need of a logo.

Some of the inspirations



And some of the early responses



Terry Kay's museum 11 May 2013

After the club meeting and the pleasantries of a car-park gossip session we made our collective ways to Terry's place where a cornucopia of bike-ly delights awaited. It was exciting to enter his large and beautifully maintained showroom space and equally enticing was the dim and shrouded workshop nearby. Eyes ran lovingly over bikes of all ages, types and pedigrees. From the early vintage safety (1891/2), a Roadster from the 1920s, Terry's own personal favourite (the 1901 Redbird) to some of the fun and gimmicky bikes like the gaudy yellow swing bike, and the Allenax step mechanism it felt like every period and taste was provided for in some way. You can get some feel for the range from these pictures. Thankfully very few people ran out of disk space in their cameras although it must have run close.

Many thanks to Terry Kay for hosting our visit to his wonderful collection! Terry also very kindly donated a copy of a book to the club. How to make best use of it will be discussed in future, but perhaps a digital copy will be made for all members.





Events Calendar

June

Sunday 23rd "BikeFest" at Pratten Park in Broadbeach.

This free community event runs from 10am - 3pm

<http://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/thegoldcoast/bike-fest-gold-coast-15642.html>

Sunday 30th Mary Poppins Festival - Maryborough 10am to 4pm

Helen Lyndon Goff (or P L Travers as she became known) was born in Maryborough in Queensland in 1899. Her character Mary Poppins appeared in print in late 1934.

Nannies race each other pushing prams in the great Nanny Challenge; chimney sweeps compete in the Chimney Sweep Dash while Mary Poppins characters come to life from the pages of books and mingle with the crowd.

The entertainment includes professional street theatre performers, sidewalk artists, jugglers, roving Penny Farthing, grand costume parade, kite display, vintage cars, carnival rides and old fashioned games and workshops.



July

Sunday 14th Pushies Galore
10am to 2pm Holland Park

Club information and membership stall and bikes entered into the show and shine – no ride component. Small entry fee of \$2 for the event. Holland Park Bowls Club, Abbotsleigh Street, Holland Park.

<http://www.pushiesgalore.com/events/pushies-galore-2013/>



20 & 21st Burrum coal discovery festival

This festival is celebrating the sesquicentenary of coal discovery in the Howard/Torbanlea area of Howard in the Fraser Coast. A street closure (The Old Bruce Highway) with a parade, period costumes, entertainment, events, etc. (which day not yet clear) with much historical fun to be had.

Some billeting accommodation may be available for those interested in attending (and room for camping/vans).

See Mark Pearce at a monthly meeting, call on 07 4129 4889 or email via markgpearce@yahoo.com.au for more details.



27 & 28th the 32nd Annual Pioneer Rally and Craft Display

9am to 3pm both days, 193 Rifle Range Rd, Pimpama Qld, 4209 (exit 49 off the M1). Hosted by the South Coast Restoration Society, the club has been invited to attend this event.

September

28th & 29th Gold Coast Festival of Cycling

Not a very Penny-friendly event, but a major date for safety cyclists due largely to the “Robbie McEwan’s Grand Fondo” on Sunday 29th. The Grand Fondo is a 117km cycling tour for the enthusiast (not a race) across the Gold Coast Hinterland. There is also the 50km Piccolo Fondo or 25km Tourist Course.

November

23rd & 24th Qld Penny Farthing and Historical Cycle Carnival (proposed – all elements are under discussion)

Saturday

Morning street parade- Vintage bikes and riders in period dress. Pedestrians in period dress. Local vintage car and motor cycle enthusiasts’ may also fit the occasion.

Afternoon (or at conclusion of parade) penny stack followed by photography and presentation of awards for “best presented rider and bike”.

Sunday

Race day and recreational rides! Options include:

- 🚲 Hall to Hall ride/race. Brisbane- Sandgate. Lord Mayor to start, Victoria Newtown to greet finishing riders. (Brisbane to Sandgate was a well-worn track in the 1800's)
- 🚲 Sunday peninsular loop road ride
- 🚲 Century ride. Sandgate to Landsborough and return (Old Gympie Road)
- 🚲 A series of races on the streets of Sandgate.

As road closures are the main expense, routes under consideration for the first year work on minimal road closures and the use of volunteer marshals. This event does not need to be a huge blockbuster right out of the gate. It might be best to start with a single day and a simple parade and stack. Over time as the club grows and the profile of the event is able to draw more sponsorship, it will be possible to build complexity and add elements. Better to do something a bit bigger than the stack and do it well.



Have you thought about holding office in the club?

Borrowed and amended, with many thanks, from Brian Rough based on his years of service and experience.

Many of us have served on a number of management committees, some effective, others less so. Generally, management committees have traditionally been formed from those interested enough to turn up on the day, who sometimes enthusiastically (and sometimes reluctantly) accepts nomination for office. Maybe it is time we, as members of a large and interesting fraternity, widened the base from which we select our executive. Maybe it's up to you to help make that change.

Being an office bearer involves having a shared sense of purpose regarding our aims and objectives; providing direction and leadership; taking collective responsibility; dealing with compliance issues; and being accountable to members and stakeholders. It's not any easy task.

A club that works as a group of individuals may well cease to function efficiently. It must operate as a team, drawing on the skills and talents of each member, and work toward common goals that will ensure the organisation's success. There should be a commitment to the aims and objectives of the organisation, a basic common philosophy that is supported by all office bearers. This can give a club a sense of purpose, which in turn may translate into leadership.



Many people choose to get involved because they want to give something back to their community, support the cause, or even because they recognise that the work can bring benefits to themselves. The executive must have the right mixture of skills, abilities and experience. It needs people who are able to understand their role and to meet their responsibilities.

Members with skills in a range of areas including project management, community engagement, advocacy and networking, financial management, fundraising, negotiation, communication, event organisation, to name just a few, should consider nominating for an office in the next election.

Ideally you would commit to preparing for and attending meetings; have a good understanding of the organisation, what it does and how it does it; are not afraid to ask

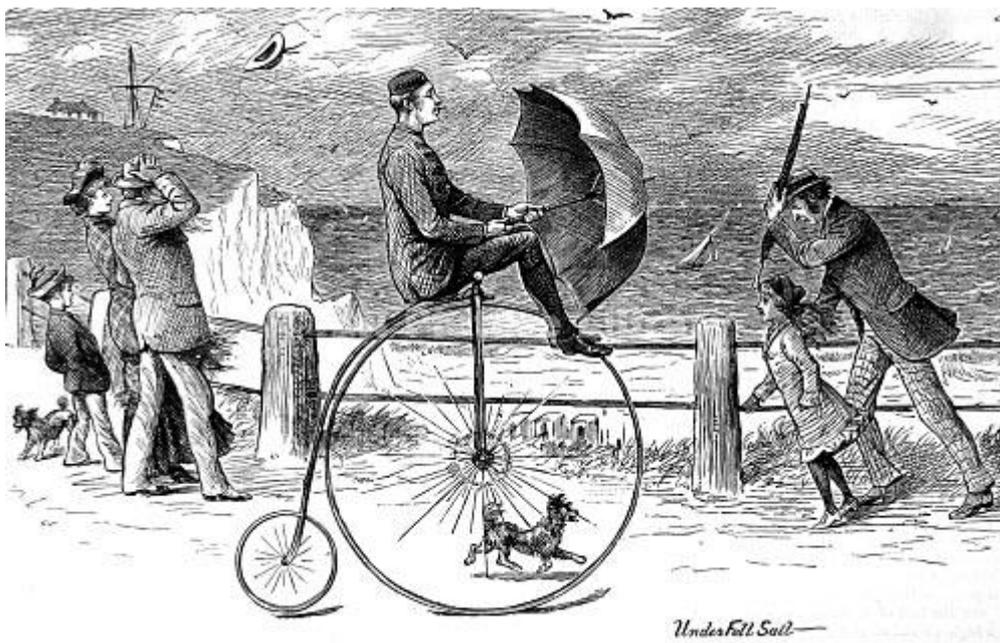
questions; agree to stick to the majority decision; support your fellow office bearers; and act as an advocate for the club.

Individual committee members should have a sense of what they are trying to achieve throughout the year as a group rather than just 'muddling through' from one committee meeting to the next. A good committee will need to be able to make decisions about a wide range of issues that may include policy, market research, planning, event organisation, managing staff or volunteers, budgeting and sponsorship. There are also expectations that a committee should be proactive in respect to any legislation (proposed or existing) that impacts on our members.

Any management committee needs to be able to:

Lead

Be enthusiastic and work from an informed and well-researched knowledge base which includes a subcommittee or working group structure, clear and concise reports and wide representation of stakeholder opinions. Regularly communicate both the vision and the detail to members and other relevant stakeholders.



Plan

Examine alternatives for action and decide on appropriate directions according to the purpose, philosophy, culture and budget of the organisation. Determine relevant policies to guide the implementation of organisational plans.

Organise

Ensure that plans are implemented, achievable objectives are agreed to, suitable strategies are designed to ensure satisfactory progress, and operational stages are

implemented and evaluated. Ensure that resources (people, equipment, money) needed for these to be achieved are provided.

Control

Be responsible for defining expectations and requirements, and taking appropriate action to ensure that the outcomes are achieved.

Short descriptions of the roles of the executive positions

The President (or Chair or Public officer) chairs the management committee and will also play a major role in the club's meetings. Under the model rules, the President is required to chair all meetings they attend. If the President cannot attend a meeting for any given reason, another member of the management committee can be nominated as chair.

The Secretary is primarily responsible for managing the records of the club. The Secretary will also:

- take and keep of minutes for the club's meetings
- keep the register of members
- take nominations for the management committee
- provide appropriate notice to members for meetings
- call and convene special general meetings
- arrange the meeting venue and prepare the agenda
- coordinate any correspondence or reports to be presented at meetings
- circulate the minutes of meetings to members
- complete any actions arising from meetings that require correspondence
- receive all incorporated association correspondence and bringing urgent matters to the attention of the President or Treasurer if necessary.

The Treasurer is responsible for the financial management of the incorporated association. The Treasurer will:

- keep and maintain an asset register for the incorporated association
- manage the petty cash balance and ensure the petty cash book is kept up-to-date
- keep all documentation for payments made including receipts, invoices and statements
- keep and maintain the club's deposit and cheque books
- ensure that all payments are approved or ratified by the management committee and that they are recorded in the minutes
- keep all financial records in Queensland
- keep either a receipt book of consecutively numbered receipts, or computer system records of them.

Biking through books

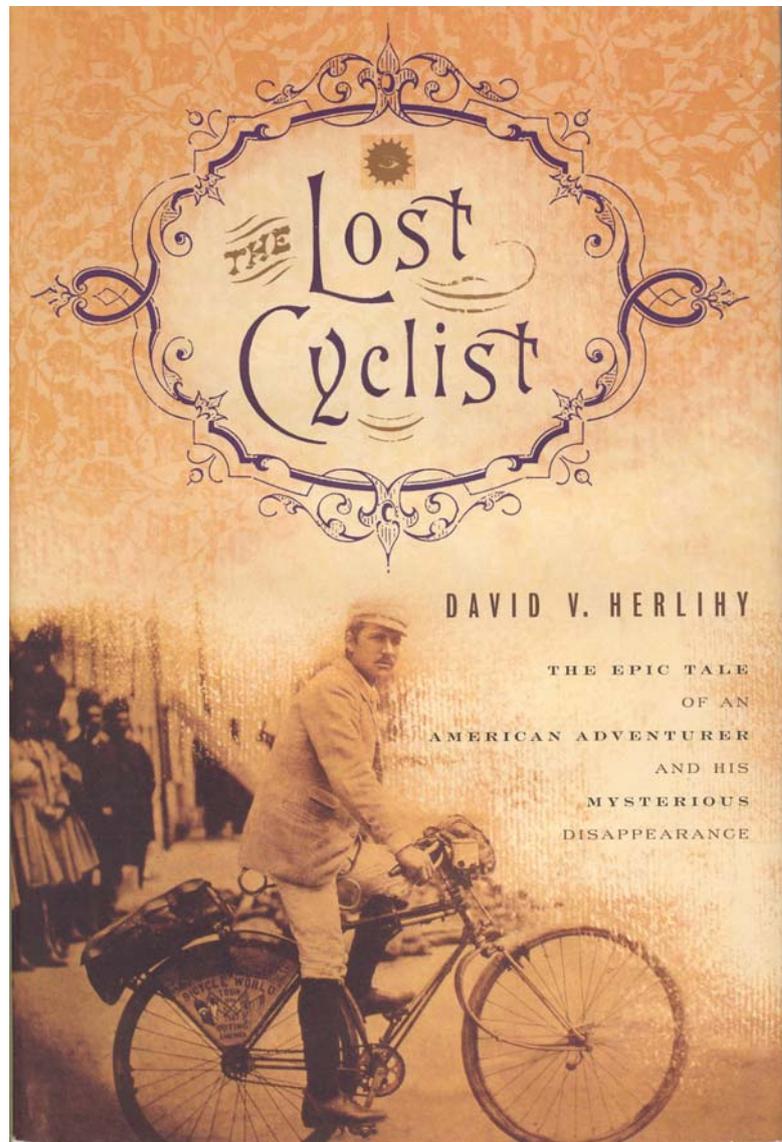
Reviewer *Hamish Lamb*

As we enjoy our cycling and the activities around this wonderful pastime may I suggest some reading of various areas of cycling. A few selections this time offer some historical accounts that illuminate our shared cycle history from the adventure angle. Experiencing these stories adds to our experience of building bicycles, riding them and engaging in the social gatherings that unite us.

'The Lost Cyclist' by David Herlihy gives the epic tale of an American Adventurer and his mysterious disappearance. In the late 1880's, Frank Lenz of Pittsburgh, a renowned high-wheel racer and long-distance tourist, dreamed of cycling around the world. He finally got his chance by recasting himself as a champion of the downsized 'safety bicycle', with inflatable tyres, the forerunner to the modern road bike that was about to become wildly popular. In the spring of 1892 he quit his accounting job and gamely set out west to cover twenty thousand miles over three continents as a correspondent for *Outing* magazine. Two years later, after surviving countless near disasters and unimaginable hardships, he approached Europe for the final leg. He never made it.

His mysterious disappearance in eastern Turkey sparked an international outcry and compelled *Outing* to send another cyclist, William Sachtleben, on Lenz's trail. Bringing to light a wealth of information, Herlihy's gripping narrative captures the soaring joys and constant dangers accompanying the bicycle adventurer in an era before paved roads and automobiles.

I purchased my copy from Amazon, it helped to have read **'Across Asia on a Bicycle'** by Thomas Gaskell Allen and William Lewis Sachtleben 1894 which is available from Project Gutenberg as an ebook. Enjoy!



The Evandale Experience from the Sidelines

Story and photography By Vernia Bullivant

Early in 2012 my partner, Noel Ross, finally bit the bullet and sold his business after prolonged prompting and cajoling from myself. Noel absolutely loved his little business, and all his customers were his friends, and it was with great trepidation that he joined the ranks of the retired saying “Now what am I going to do with myself?”

He had always been a keen cyclist and it didn't take him long to discover an advertisement regarding a class in Brisbane where he could learn to build a penny farthing bicycle.

“Why?” people would ask him.

“Because I can,” Noel would reply.



Noel attended the three week course during November 2012 and, along with ten other guys (of equally questionable intelligence and disposition) made himself a penny farthing bicycle. In the early stages of construction he was told that the bigger the wheel on a penny farthing, the faster the bike would go. “Right” said Noel and his two mates, “we'll go for a big 52” wheel”. What Noel didn't realize at the time was that the bigger the wheel, the harder it is to get onto the bike and, worse still, Noel was a few inches shorter than the other fellows!! Bad move.

Once the bike was completed, Noel had a couple of major mishaps with lots of lost skin and resulting infections. He was unable to ride the bike for several weeks and this was meant to be his “training period” for the forthcoming Australian National Penny Farthing Champion-ships in Evandale, Tasmania on February 23rd of 2013. In my naivety I had not realized that the penny was not just a “show and tell” item, nor was it for an occasional little ride in the park. This was to be a racing machine! Groan!



I relented, and we left the Gold Coast in Noel's ute on Feb 19th and took three days to drive to Melbourne and then caught the overnight ferry to Devonport in Tasmania. We drove into the historic town of Evandale late morning on 22nd and just loved it from the moment we arrived. For the past 30 years Evandale has had its Village Fair and Penny Farthing Championships the last weekend in February and the whole village was right into the spirit of the occasion. Our choice of accommodation was a charming *olde worlde* cottage with a modern kitchen and bathroom but a magnificent 4-poster bed and a lounge and hallway that were straight out of the history books with their old fashioned sofas, fireplace, hall stands etc. – and it was situated right on the main straight leading to/from the Start/Finish line of the weekend's activities.

We popped into the organiser's residence to register and were immediately informed of the "open door" policy – ie. pop in any time ... and when we left their house we were given a bag of luscious nectarines off the tree in the backyard! Di Sullivan, the main organizer, was recognized in the 2013 Australia Day awards for her contribution to the local community and the running of this Village Fair for so many years – and boy, did she have everything down-pat. The whole show ran like clockwork.



She informed us that the local school would be expecting the fellows with their bikes to go up around lunchtime so about twenty chaps and their penny farthings headed up to the school – with Noel managing another fall off his bike in the process and hence arrived at the school with blood pouring down the back of his leg. (I was so fed up with all his injuries that I had struck a deal with Noel before we headed south, I was NOT going on holiday to be his nursemaid and therefore he had to agree to get some shin guards to protect his legs when he fell. Needless to say, this first major fall caused a big gash on the BACK of his leg. No shin guards there! Bugger..... and no time to fix it before heading to the school.)



The guys gave most of the school kids a ride on the bikes – just pushing them around the school yard. Even a couple of the teachers got up and had a go as well. All the students had participated in a drawing competition and created pictures of penny farthings, or things relevant to the penny farthing championships, and a panel of the

competitors had to judge place-getters for every class in the school. Lots of drawings!!

That night, and the next, the 60 competitors plus partners were supplied with a wonderful home cooked meal at the Memorial Hall. The first night, parents of the local school supplied the meal and the children served up the food then cleared away, and washed the plates afterwards. The following night it was the Football Club and on the Sunday night the Fire Brigade put on a barbecue; lunchtime Sunday was a picnic at historic Clarendon House, put on by another organization. It was a wonderful feeling of community spirit. On the Saturday a lot of the local community were out and about wearing period costumes; there was a big street parade about 1.00 p.m. when there was a break in the racing programme.





Unfortunately when Noel set off on the Saturday morning, “just to have a little practice run”, he didn’t quite make it onto the seat, his foot slipped between the spokes and he went over the handlebars. Despite wearing long sleeves he skinned his upper and lower right arm – plus more, and he bruised his other shoulder. As he lay there on the street, Martin O’Brian came along.

“Oh no – you’ve buckled your back wheel. I’ll take your bike around to Mike Sullivan’s place and we’ll try and fix it up for you.”

Then John Bennett came along and said “Noel, that bike is far too big for you. I have a spare 48” I can lend you, if you still want to compete you may as well use that.”

Hmm – that was all very well, but in the meantime the blood is still pouring from Noel’s arm. I ushered him over to the little park by the Start/Finish line and we got the organisers to call for medical help. St John’s Ambulance hadn’t yet arrived. A young fellow said his girlfriend was the First Aid Officer for the Fire Brigade – he would run around to her place and get her (which he did. She had a first aid kit there but not her “official” one). Another guy turned up with a kit – he did a first aid course a few years ago but to date had never had the need to put his knowledge into practice.

As Noel was sitting there in the park being fixed up, I could see blood oozing through his ¾ length knicks. The fellow with the first aid kit decided he would attend to Noel’s leg while the girl fixed his arm. “That’s all very well”, I said, with more than a little consternation, “but these cyclists don’t wear undies beneath their riding pants. If you pull Noel’s pants down to fix his bleeding leg,



he'll be flashing all his worldly goodies to one and all. What can we do to give him a bit of modesty?" (remember we're sitting in a public park, near the Start line, so there were dozens of curious spectators milling around!) I decided I would rush back across the road to our accommodation and bring back a beach towel to help save the day!) Ha.

By this stage the racing had started, Noel's bike had disappeared for the rest of the weekend, and St John's Ambulance arrived but too late to do anything; but with a promise to re-dress Noel's wounds at the end of the day.



Despite all his aches and pains Noel was determined to compete in the various appropriate events – e.g. the Novice race for first-timers at Evandale, the over 60s, and one other. He started right at the back of the field each time in case he lost balance and crashed into anyone else, but his main aim was to take part and to complete the race each time. Noel achieved his wish and ended the day grinning like a Cheshire cat.

He had an absolute ball and loved every minute of it. He also appreciated the compliments he received from several of the younger competitors who acknowledged

Noel's "give it a go" attitude and the way he would get up from a bad fall, brush himself off, and go back for more of the same. My hero!



Sunday was a different story. Noel had hardly slept a wink all night, he was so sore and he admitted he wasn't up to doing the 32 km race around past the Launceston Airport, Perth and another couple of little villages. He would just do the direct ride which was "only" ten kilometres, and would enjoy the scenery and camaraderie along the way. I drove there in the ute and was able to give Noel and the bike a ride back to Evandale afterwards.

It really was a fun few days, lots of lovely people, and we even had some neighbours from The Inlet (our home here on the Gold Coast) who saw Noel packing up for the trip and they thought it sounded like fun so they jumped on a plane and flew down for a few days to have a look; some other friends of mine I'd met on a cruise a few years ago, also turned up. What a buzz.

As we said our farewells on Monday morning Di Sullivan suggested that I should take Noel to the Emergency Dept at Launceston Hospital to get his dressings looked at. That was a smart move – they really went to a lot of trouble to get his wounds tidied up, gave him antibiotics and also assured him that he had an undetermined number of broken/cracked ribs!! No wonder he was so sore – couldn't laugh, sneeze etc. but at the same time was doing his darndest to give the impression that he wasn't in pain.

We left there with a big bag of dressings, bandages and cold packs so that I could re-do Noel's dressings in a few days' time (we were off to Freycinet Lodge for a few days R & R), and were also advised to return to the hospital to have the dressings done again properly when we headed back north.



From there we flew out to King Island for five days – which was another magical experience. Great scenery, fabulous food (of course lots of King Island specialties – cheeses, crayfish, beef etc etc) and the owner of our accommodation had an OKA 4WD vehicle and took us out each day to see every corner of King Island. They sat Noel in the front to try and protect him a bit from the rough terrain – but bush bashing where there were no roads was never going to be a smooth ride. Noel just kept smiling and refusing to admit to any pain!! Of course we also had to pay a visit to the King Island Hospital Emergency Dept for more dressings on our final day!!

It is now five weeks* since race day at Evandale, Noel still has a dressing on one of the wounds; the ribs are slowly mending and Noel has started another part-time course to build a smaller penny!

Will we be back at Evandale next year? You betcha. We have booked our accommodation already.

(* Ed's note: it was 5 weeks when Vernia first submitted this article – many apologies for the delayed publication.)



The Jersey Design





Queensland Penny Farthing and Historical Cycle Club - Jersey

With excitement we announce the first of our new club's kit! A lightweight merino jersey in retro styled maroon and cream (refer to the jersey design on page 3)! Kit has long been a topic of conversation at club meetings and at the May 2013 Club meeting in Gympie it was decided to organise a club jersey. Two times "Best Presented Bicycle and Rider" winner, Hamish Lamb researched the topic and found an elegant solution in the products of Soigneur (<http://www.soigneur.co.nz/retro-wool-cycling-jerseys.html>). They are a New Zealand company manufacturing retro woollen cycle jerseys. As a minimum order is required, we are asking for full payment up front with orders and in the event that the minimum order is not reached full refunds will be made within the week. Soigneur have advised approximately 5 to 6 week manufacture and delivery time.

Jersey information

The jersey has 3 pockets in back, and a quality YKK band zip at the front neck. Unlike most other wool jerseys, there is an elastic hem which is firm enough to keep the jersey from moving around and help maintain its shape. Like the hem, the sleeves and collar are substantially constructed without being bulky.

There are two styles offered, short sleeve and long sleeve. Prices are **\$150 for Short Sleeve and \$160 for the long Sleeve.**

All jerseys are 1/4 zip, and there is no separate style for men or women.

The fabric is a medium weight.

The shoulder and chest width is generous, and the sleeve length is a bit shorter than on similar jerseys from other vendors.

To achieve more of a race fit, order one size down.

Sizes range from Extra-Small to Double Extra Large. Chest sizes are given in centimeters on the Soigneur website. These translate as follows:

- XS – < 88cm = < 34.6 inches
- S – 88 - 93cm = 34.6 - 36.6 inches
- M – 94 - 99cm = 37 - 39 inches
- L – 100 - 105cm = 39.4 - 41.3 inches
- XL – 106 - 111cm = 41.7 - 43.7 inches
- XXL – 112 - 117cm = 44.1 - 46.1 inches

Additionally, we have some actual jersey measurements for those interested in more than the chest measurement. Note that the chest measurement above is not the jersey measurement, but rather the chest size to best fit the relevant size of jersey.



Actual jersey measurements

	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large
Elastic bottom	84cm (33.0")	90cm (35.4")	96cm (37.8")	102cm (40.2")
Top of neck to bottom of jersey	58cm (22.8")	60cm (23.6")	62cm (24.4")	64cm (25.2")
Long sleeve armpit to end	45cm (17.7")	46cm (18.1")	47cm (18.5")	48cm (18.9")

Women may like to order jerseys without the elastic hem, as they then fit better at the hip.

Please refer to website: <http://www.soigneur.co.nz/soigneur-merino-wool-cycling-jerseys.html>

Order form

Your Name/s: _____

Short Sleeve \$150.00 each Size _____ Number of _____ \$ _____ .00

Short Sleeve \$150.00 each Size _____ Number of _____ \$ _____ .00

Long Sleeve \$160.00 each Size _____ Number of _____ \$ _____ .00

Long Sleeve \$160.00 each Size _____ Number of _____ \$ _____ .00

Postage (prefer people to collect at meeting) \$10 per order (express post satchel).

Total # of jerseys _____ Total cost \$ _____ .00

Please return your completed order form to Club Secretary Janine Prince (janine.e.r.prince@gmail.com) by **Sunday 2nd EXTENDED to 17th June 2013.** Funds will need to be cleared by Monday 3rd-19th June in order for the Club to place Order on the Wednesday.

Payment: Please make payment by direct deposit to:

BSB: 633 000

Account: 147968572

Account name: Queensland Penny Farthing and Historical Cycle Club

Note: in the event not enough orders are received, a full refund will be issued.

