

## Unchained

#### Queensland's Big Wheel News #16 November 2014

The final edition of Unchained for 2014 brings you news of QPFHCC members' activities over the spring months plus a few stories from earlier in the year. The club's signature event, Pennies by the Sea, is fast approaching and we bring you news of the planning so far. As always, the success of this community event relies on members' participation and assistance. So roll up your sleeves, help out where you can, spread the word to your family and friends and enjoy the occasion.



#### Newsletter

#### Submissions accepted.

Contributions, articles, reviews, photos and news are welcomed and may be emailed to Kaye and Lyle at <a href="mailto:columbia1881@gmail.com">columbia1881@gmail.com</a>. Next edition of Unchained will be issued in early February 2015. Closing date for contributions will be 25th January 2015.

#### Club details

President: Aaron Wray <u>aaron\_wray@hotmail.com</u> Ph. 0418786074

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Club email address: <a href="mailto:qpfahcc@gmail.com">qpfahcc@gmail.com</a>
Club <a href="mailto:www.QPFAHCC.com">website</a>: <a href="mailto:www.QPFAHCC.com">www.QPFAHCC.com</a>

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/219184674781035/

#### Coming events:

② November - Next meeting of QPFHCC - Elanora Park, Wynnum 8.00am ride for a 10.00am meeting start, meet at the main car park, Elanora Park, off Granada Street, Wynnum.

#### 8 November - End of the Line Festival at Woolloongabba.

The QPFHCC is planning a demonstration ride at around 10am at the dead end section of Logan road, right near the Gabba sports ground on a flat course. The organisers are really pushing the historical aspects of the area and would like us to do a demonstration ride in formal wear. We have been offered a stand if we want it to show or store bikes or bits and pieces. A variety of bikes on show would be welcomed. One thing that may interest members is a swap meet run by the local antique shop.

### 15 November - Oamaru NZ National Penny Farthing and Veteran Cycle Championships

One for those heading across the ditch.

#### • 22/23 November - Pennies by the Sea - Sandgate

Andrew and Brett, our fabulous Kings of Logistics have been busy planning this club event. It is to be held at Einbunpin Lagoon again this year. Club members are encouraged to support as many of the activities in the program as possible.

In particular, the organisers need members to confirm their seats for the Saturday night dinner at the Full Moon Hotel by the second week in November.

The draft program for Pennies by the Sea is:

#### SATURDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER

TIME	ACTIVITY	DETAIL
6.45 - 7.00am	Meet at Einbunpin Lagoon at	Riders, bikes and support vehicles meet for
	Sandgate main car park	transporting all to Nundah Criterium track
8.00 <b>-</b> 9.00 am	Queensland Penny Farthing	2 lap race around the Nundah Criterium
	Championship race, Nundah	track, presentation of 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> prizes at
	Criterium Circuit, hosted by	the completion of the race
	HPRW	
9.00 <b>-</b> 12.15am	Penny Farthing & Historical	Leisurely pace, no rush - plenty of time for
	Bicycle ride from Nundah	breaks and photos along the way including
	Criterium track to Nudgee	Nudgee Beach. It is approximately 25 kms
	Beach, Boondall Wetlands	from the Nundah Criterium track to
	along bike ways where	Sandgate.
	available to Sandgate	
12.30 - 12.45 pm	Riders welcomed at Sandgate	o Ride end at Sandgate Town Hall
	Town Hall from ride	with photos
		<ul> <li>All club members/penny riders for</li> </ul>
		photo opportunity

12.45 - 3.00 pm	Time at Einbunpin Lagoon at Sandgate	Planned activities to involve the community & create an interest for
		the build up to the ride around the
		lagoon and the stack
	Activities in red are not yet	<ul><li>Club stall</li><li>Community stalls/sausage</li></ul>
	confirmed	o Community stalls/sausage sizzle/Historical Society, etc.
	Commined	<ul><li>Sizzle/Historical Society, etc.</li><li>Community band</li></ul>
		Max to provide <u>tag snaps</u> for this
		part of the day
		<ul> <li>Lyle to have his 56" Penny Farthing</li> </ul>
		on a stand with steps for people to
		have their photos taken sitting on a
		Penny, \$2.00 club donation per
		photo
		<ul> <li>Club members change into</li> </ul>
		traditional dress at latter part of this
		time ready for stack
3.00 – 3.30 pm	Ride around Lagoon	o Brighton road, Bowser Parade,
		Lagoon Street, Keogh Street
		o 1 lap in group ride, grouped/staged
		<ul><li>"photo finish race" at the end.</li><li>Penny farthing and penny farthing</li></ul>
		<ul> <li>Penny farthing and penny farthing trike bikes ridden</li> </ul>
3.30 – 3.45 pm	Town Crier - read out	Gather crowd in preparation for penny stack
3.30 – 3.43 pm	statement of PBTS 2014	Gainer crowd in preparation for penny stack
2.45	event	D 1 11 / 1
3.45 – 4.15 pm	Penny stack assembly/photos	Penny stack assembly/ photos
4.15 – 4.30 pm	Town crier	Presentation of awards:
		o am race QPF Champions
		o Penny bike & rider awards
4.20 6.00 nm	Ride along Flinders Parade	Option to
4.30 – 6.00 pm	Muc along runders rarade	Ride penny's along Flinders Parade
		o Mingle/photos at lagoon
		<ul><li>Change for dinner</li></ul>
6.30 – 7.00 pm	Assemble at Full Moon	o 150 metres away from lagoon/stack
7.00 pm	Hotel, Eagle Terrace,	o Drive, walk or ride to Hotel from
	Sandgate, group photos out	stack
	the front of the Hotel	
7.00 – 9.00 pm	Penny stack dinner -	Our own function room with bar
·	bookings required.	o Dinner is 2 x course meal
		<ul> <li>\$30.00 per person</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Special diets catered for - prior</li> </ul>
		notice required

## SUNDAY 23<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER

TIME	ACTIVITY
6.45 - 7.00 am	Assemble at historic triangle church/corner of Flinders Parade & Cliff Street Sandgate
7.00 - 9.30 am	Group ride to Woody point with coffee break at Crave Café, Kate Street, Woody Point

#### 28 November Pedal Brisbane

Pedal Brisbane 6.00pm-12.00pm Queensland Museum and Science Centre. The organisers have asked if we'd like to have a stall with Pennies on display, photographs, club information and someone to ride around on a penny occasionally to show the crowds. Most who went last year raved about it.



#### 2015 Date claimers

## 



The 33rd annual Evandale Village Fair and National Penny Farthing Championships will be held in the streets of Evandale on Saturday, February 21st, 2015. Meet up with old friends, make new contacts from throughout the veteran cycling world, and completely indulge yourself in our shared passion for penny farthing bicycles. The races and associated events are open to all penny farthing bicycle enthusiasts. For more information, and details of past events, visit the web page: www.evandalevillagefair.com, or find them on facebook at Evandale Village Fair. If you have any further queries, please contact Di Sullivan at: Phone +61 3 6391 8223, Email: info@evandalevillagefair.

6-9 March 2015 Melbourne - Dates flagged as potential visit to Farren collection to coincide with Moomba Festival and return from Evandale.

#### News and Events

#### 5 2014-15 memberships are open.

Membership is \$40 individual and \$80 family. We'd appreciate if all members could complete a membership form available from the website at <a href="http://www.qpfahcc.com/join-qpfahcc/">http://www.qpfahcc.com/join-qpfahcc/</a> and return with payment to the club Treasurer. Payment details are on the form. Make sure you include your current email address and phone numbers. Event organisers have found they need to contact people by phone on occasions particularly when attending events.

#### • Club Jerseys - Lycra now available

Just in time for summer, orders are open for lycra/light weight club jerseys. They will be of the same colour and design as the woollen version. Cost \$50, in both long and short sleeves with ¾ zip. Contact Aaron by emailing <a href="mailto:qpfahcc@gmail.com">qpfahcc@gmail.com</a> to place your orders providing size and sleeve type for each jersey.

Don't forget our woollen jerseys - the club is awaiting sufficient numbers before a reorder of the club woollen jerseys. We need 16 to get a run. Cost \$170 short sleeve and \$179 long sleeve. Described as a lightweight merino jersey in retro styled maroon and cream, it is manufactured in NZ by Soigneur and the first batch received rave reviews. <a href="http://www.qpfahcc.com/for-sale/">http://www.qpfahcc.com/for-sale/</a>



#### Build your own Penny Farthing course

Hot off the press is the news that TAFE Skills Tech at Bracken Ridge will run this course twice in 2015. First class commencing June 1. Second class commencing November 9. The Part time class will commence 17 February 2015. Details at <a href="http://tafeskillstech.edu.au/course/engineering-related-trades/10987/penny-farthing-course#.VE6z2GNW2gI">http://tafeskillstech.edu.au/course/engineering-related-trades/10987/penny-farthing-course#.VE6z2GNW2gI</a>

#### James Macdonald Memorial Garden 19th October

James Macdonald, a renowned Toowoomba bicycle collector who sadly passed away on 4th February this year, was posthumously honoured with the opening of a memorial garden at the Highfields Pioneer Village. James was well known at the Pioneer Village where he would arrive in his Bedford truck, loaded with antique bicycles for static and riding displays. A group of the Pioneer Village members, fellow bicycle enthusiasts, friends and family attended the opening of the garden which surrounded a model penny farthing and plaque. Fittingly, James' son Jack and close friend Geoff Buttfield had fun trying to master riding Geoff's Rucker Tandem around James' garden with hilarious results.







#### Replica Penny Farthing hub lamps

As genuine penny farthing hub lamps are rarer than the bicycles themselves, some Club members and enthusiasts have been discussing the production of replica hub lamps. While they will be loosely styled on the original design, the plan is to use modern LED illumination. Watch this space.

Lucas King of the Road hub lamp - circa 1885



#### Brisbane Valley Rail Trail (BVRT)

Some riders explored the performance limits of their historic cycles on the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail network. The Trail follows the disused Brisbane Valley rail line that commenced construction at Wulkuraka near Ipswich in 1884 and was completed at Yarraman in 1913. Shane and Lyle, riding a 1910 styled double top tube Avon and 1908 fixed wheel model (BSA fittings) respectively joined 3 other riders. The group set off on the Yarraman to Linville section (45km) and found the trail well suited to old single speed bicycles, with kind gradients and no need for super efficient brakes. The surface ranged from grass to fine compacted gravel and the rural views were spectacular on the Blackbutt Range descent.







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## When one good turn deserves another.

QPFHCC received a request from a member of the public to provide a penny farthing ride as a token of gratitude for her friend's act of kindness. Daryl van Cooten was happy to oblige, providing his penny for this lucky gentleman to fulfill a wish on his bucket list. Everyone involved had a great day out at the Nundah Criterium Track.



#### Dave Preece - Lands End to John O'Groats

The current British Penny Farthing Champion, Dave Preece, will attempt the Lands End to John O'Groats route on his penny farthing in April, 2015. Dave has set a target of 14 days for the ride, averaging 70 miles each day. He dismissed the idea of going for the ride record of five days and one hour claiming there aren't enough performance enhancing drugs on the market to allow him to achieve this! Dave has fitted his bike with a Joff Summerfield - inspired dynamo hub on the rear wheel, so that he can recharge his phone and update ride details to Strava. Dave's ride will be raising funds for the National Deaf Children's Society, a charity close to his heart as his wife Ann has been deaf since birth. (Courtesy *The Velocipedist*).



#### Tour de Tally 29 June

Several of our club riders answered the call to support the Tour De Tally, a family orientated bicycle ride to raise funds for the restoration of the iconic "Man on the Bike" statue following an arson attack. The ride started at the Tallebudgera Village Shopping Centre, where the statue has stood as a local landmark in since 1970. Leading the ride along the 3.5km route were five of our penny riders, finishing up at the Tallebudgera Valley Indoor Sports Centre, where there were further fundraising efforts. Good news is that the restoration is well underway and "Man on the Bike" will return to his post.



Original statue



L-R Shane Rush, Ross West, Geoff Buttfield, Noel Ross



L-R Shane Rush, Geoff Buttfield, Aaron Wray, Noel Ross

#### (b) 2014 Brisbane to the Gold Coast Cycle Challenge



Starting grid at the Brisbane to Gold Coast Cycle Challenge L-R Aaron Wray, Sam Tully (Townsville), Sally Dillon

Four penny farthing riders, Aaron Wray, Sally Dillon, Mitchell Hale and Sam Tully (Townsville), took on the 100km Brisbane to the Gold Coast Cycle Challenge this year. They reportedly had a lot of fun, with perfect weather and none of the scary crowd riding that Sally had anticipated.



Finishers: Sam Tully (Townsville), Sally Dillon, Aaron Wray, Mitchell Hale

They set off in the gap between the go-fast riders and the go-almost-as-fast riders at 6.45am on Sunday and arrived on the Gold Coast at 12.15pm after plenty of rest stops, lots of encouragement from other riders and a howling cross wind for the last 10km. Sally reported that her training had been tapering since February, so she was lucky that the beast Aaron was recovering from a fall off his regular bike and was taking it easy (and had canned plans to make it a double century and ride home).

While there were the usual wise cracks like "How's the weather up there?", Sally awarded the standout comment to the rider who cut in front of their group as they were slowing down for a red traffic light, who offered, "Oh I didn't realise you had to get off to stop"





Aaron, Mitchell and Sally

#### NSW Penny-Farthing Community Facebook Group.

A new Facebook group has been created to provide a forum aimed at bringing the NSW and wider penny farthing community together. QPFHCC members may wish to send a request to join. We look forward to learning more about Penny Farthing news and events south of the border.

#### Noosa Strade Bianche 2014 by Hamish Lamb

L'Eroica rides are gaining popularity around the world celebrating the golden age of lugged, steel-frame road bikes with down-tube shifters. The Noosa Strade Bianche is a wonderful weekend of celebrating this style of cycling with three different rides, the Piccolo Fondo (30km), Medio Fondo (90km) and the Grand Fondo (130km). They are not races and the routes take cyclists throughout the Noosa hinterland. A swap meet, favourite bike vote and dinner also add to the celebration. There are some serious jewellery bicycles displayed as well as excellent examples of traditional bikes. I participated on my 1915 single-speed coaster- brake 'Q15'. It was not an easy ride and by the end of 90k's of hills and mountains the finishing line was welcome! I was able to amuse the gathered crowd at one of the refreshment points at the bottom of a particular descent, arriving with smoke billowing from my poor overworked coaster brake-hub!



'Next time take a fire extinguisher for that hub and save the water for drinking!'

Other noteworthy events were, Janine took a tumble resulting in 4 stitches to the knee, and the doctor who stitched Janine's knee was also a cyclist participating in the following days ride on his untouched, well-worn 80's University bike, complete with a batted old Bell helmet held together with tape and cable ties...got to love that!



A delightful drink station along the way

So if this style of event appeals to you dust off that old roadie, and stretch the legs as I can recommend pencilling this event into your calendar for next August.



#### Style Over Speed Ride, Brisbane 3 October

Shane, Hamish and Janine participated in the Style Over Speed Ride to celebrate the re-opening of the New Farm Riverwalk. They set off for a ride along the Brisbane River in the evening finishing up at the Powerhouse for drinks and presentations.



Congratulations to Hamish who won the male category.

#### Lawn Mower Ride 4 October 2014

The October meeting of the QPFHCC was followed by a ride to support the Logan City Council Ride On For Charity, a community event incorporating a ride to various city landmarks. The aim was to raise \$15,000 for Mater Little Miracles and Logan Hospital's new children's inpatient unit. Our riders joined about 20 racing ride-on mowers and enjoyed the other high powered machines on display.



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# ① 21st April to 26th April The Shearers' Ride Broken Hill to Bourke, NSW: Part 2 By Lyle Paull and Kaye Vockenson

The notion of cycling beside the Darling River on 100 year old bicycles was inspired by a road trip from Adelaide to Brisbane when Lyle decided that retracing the route travelled by shearers from the early 1890's through to the 1920's would be a fun thing to do. And so was born the great Broken Hill to Bourke Shearers Ride. This is part 2 of the adventure.



Shearers leaving Tolarno, River Darling

From Wilcannia, the group decision saw us driving to Tilpa along the more popular western side of the Darling River to outrun the predicted showers. The road conditions improved with the odd drainage gutter to dodge and cattle grid crossing to negotiate. The Tilpa Pub was a highlight in this tiny riverside outback town, managed by two Irish backpackers. Our group enjoyed the rustic surrounds and treats to be had from behind the counter. Not far up the road we settled in for the night at a campsite on a wide bend in the river at Kallara Station. While relaxing around the campfire under the river gums, we "shearers" gazed at a sky unbelievably full of stars.



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Riverside camp at Kallara Station

We started our 6<sup>th</sup> day back on our bikes and riding the 5 km back out to the main western road from Kallara Station. Terry and Sheryl left us at this point due to car clutch problems. The remaining cyclists ran smack into a mean headwind. This was not in the brochure!! Some of us formed a pace line drafting turn about, Lyle dropped his Kelly handlebars – whatever it took to plough ahead for the next 60km. At one point a light plane piloted by a local station owner did a low fly past, dipping his wings in a friendly greeting.



Brendan Dillon as ease



Trilby Station

Our destination this night was Trilby Station where a comfortable soft grassy site was a welcome resting place to lay our "swags". A couple of our party members chose the roomy shearers quarters for their overnight digs. Richard, Lyle and I made use of the idle kayaks and ventured off for a paddle along the steep sided river we had been following. This is a working station so we watched the comings and goings of the workers as we sat back to enjoy a fine red or ale. By dinner time, the three sided corrugated iron camp kitchen was a hive of activity.



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Only a short 30km run into Louth the next day. We were enamoured of the little town of Louth. To begin with, its typical Aussie pub displays a fully laden shearer's bike, a sure bet attraction for our group (pictured left).

The grassy campsite and cabins were well appointed and situated right by the river. Poultry of various shapes and

sizes waddled around the grounds while Monty the sleepy-eyed corgi kept watch on these new visitors on amusing two wheeled machines. In search of an authentic shearing shed, we were directed to Johnny Mac's shed, down a sandy track just behind the barren red earth golf links, which was located just behind the barren red earth racecourse. We were not disappointed – the shed and its woolly bits and bobs provided a perfect backdrop for a photo session – Jude behind the camera.





Johnny Mac's Shearing Shed, Louth

Louth, bush In the telegraph well was underway and we found ourselves accepting an invitation from the local school teacher/principle to make an educational classroom presentation about our trip to the four pupils of Louth Primary the next morning. In appreciation, the kiddies presented with us souvenir tea towels featuring their drawings depicting life in Louth.



Brendan, Hamish and Lyle at Louth State Primary School

Onwards to Yanda Campground in Gundabooka National Park, with the help of a tailwind. At this, our last riverside camp, a campfire provided a focus for our musings and reminiscences.



Yanda Campground in Gundabooka National Park

Sealed sections of road marked our final leg into Bourke. The local press from the Western Herald met us along the way to collect information (*why are you doing this ride??*) and take photos. All riders felt some level of special achievement once we pulled into Bourke, our end of trip destination. Lyle recorded an interview on Outback Radio with a local presenter and a few of the group visited the local Men's Shed. While enjoying a feast in Grubby Mick's Cafe we reflected on our adventures and great experiences. Thanks and accolades go to Lyle for dreaming up this ride and bringing it to life. Plans are underway to return to this region with our bicycles in 2015.

