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From The Editor – Pete Heal

Hello Bent Folks

Getting towards the end of another busy bent year.

Through the year there have been some significant achievements and then there have been instances of lethargy and seemingly a lack of interest in OzHPV.

Anyway, the OzHPV Annual General meeting held on 12 December 2010 generated the same enthusiastic discussion – let's see if this can be converted into forward progress.

Details of the AGM are elsewhere in the newsletter but welcome to Steve Nurse as the new El'Presidente.



OzHPV Speed Challenge – Canberra – 22nd to 24th October 2010

The Canberra Mob are organised a weekend of HPV and recumbent racing between Friday 2nd and Sunday 24th October 2010 on the fantastic Stromlo Forest Park Criterium Circuit located just out of Canberra.



Organisation was purposely kept flexible as the initial interest in attending seemed to wane towards the date of the event.

Its difficult promoting a big event and seeking sponsorship when you know that attendance will not be great, but then you can't attract lots of participants unless you have a big event to offer.



Anyway, the weekend went off very well. We had good weather and in all about 12 riders took part with probably that number again coming along for a look and a sniff.



Thanks to Jeff, Ken and William making the big drive / trip and especially Ken for bring a Big Bright Yellow Roto Velo for test rides. and the Aquilla Race Trike



There are many photos and videos from the weekend at this web link:

<http://tinyurl.com/OzHPVSpeedChallenge>



Melbourne – Come and Try Recumbents – Robert Waryszak

It all started a few years ago when the OZHPV Canberra group commenced Come and Try Recumbent days on an irregular basis. Having heard this, Steve Nurse - the founder of VICHPV - persuaded me to do something similar in Melbourne.

A small group of us started our regular C&TRD's on the first Sunday of each month between 10-11am in the car park just behind Luna Park in St. Kilda, a suburb of Melbourne near Port Phillip Bay. This is a very popular place for tourists and holidaymakers as well as local Melbournians. We joined together with a group of Dragster-bike enthusiasts who hold regular monthly swap meets. We aimed to attract the attention of onlookers and had distributed OZHPV information brochures that we downloaded from <http://www.ozhvp.com.au>. Our group averaged from five to twenty recumbent riders - depending on the weather forecast. After we had finished showing off, we invited 'uprights' to join us for a 45km return ride along The Bay to Williamstown, another tourist-trap suburb along the foreshore. There during lunchtime we had additional onlookers and people who were very interested in our 'bents'.



Initially the interest was slow coming. I have posted details of the event on <http://www.bv.com.au/find/community-ride/>. Over time I got a few phone and e-mail enquiries. The inclusion of C&TRD on the Bicycle Victoria website made a huge difference. There were all sorts of interested people - from youngsters to the elderly and the disabled. A few newcomers with their new recumbents started to join us, some regularly and some sporadically. We have also slowly increased the presence of 'upright' riders on our weekly 'BE SPON' rides.

The Dragster group slowly disappeared as they had difficulty attracting buyers to their stuff. We decided to move our C&TRDays to a more prominent place near the entrance to St. Kilda Pier. This made some difference as there is a lot more foot traffic there. We have attracted a lot of tourists from all over the world including China (guys watch out for a clone of your newly built 'bent produced en mass!). A lot of photos, posed and unposed have been taken over time.

It is so much fun to show off our 'unusual' bikes and explain the differences between 'conventional' and 'unconventional'. Of course, we strongly emphasize the many benefits of owning and riding recumbents and of belonging to OZHPV. We have even helped some riders to build their own home made 'bents'.



Is the event a success? Who knows? It is fun for us but new members are few and far between. Australian cyclists seem to be a conservative bunch - is it 'Tall Poppy Syndrome'? On my recent trip to the USA I encountered many more recumbents on their bike paths. Come on Aussies!



Nevertheless we enjoy the get-togethers once a month and to us this is what matters most. It keeps the enthusiasm alive and showing off your 'bent' is oh-so-satisfying. If you are in Melbourne, join us for a good show and a ride along its beautiful bike paths. Hope to see you soon!



Roto Velo – The World's First Plastic Velomobile

For those of you who have wondered about the newly released Roto (moulded) Velo (mobile) from Trisled, I thought I might give you a little more info. Firstly, Ben Goodall at Trisled has been planning this trike for many years. I was asked about 12 months ago, along with a few other of Ben's friends, if we were interested in 'investing' in one of the pre-production prototypes, in effect to guarantee he could cover the rather significant tooling costs for the 3 part metal mould. So, naturally after approval from my gorgeous wife, I said "I'd love to".

Ben outlined the trike: Head out, robust, a little extra ground clearance, acceptable aero. He commissioned a set of moulds based on his CAD drawing, and in May this year, the first couple of fairings appeared, allowing Ben to give us 'proto-typers' a chance to ride, assess & comment on his creation. 2 variations were made: a fixed frame & a full suspension frame. The full suspension relied heavily on the structure of the fairing, which was found to be too flexible, and that idea has been dropped for the moment. So, Ben made a few more frame variations, primarily to determine the boom angle, and finally settled on his chassis design. Meanwhile, his partners in the project were working on creating consistent fairings. Apparently there is a fine art in controlling the heat, cooling & spin speeds when roto-moulding polyethylene, and several fairings were tested during this time to get those parameters perfect.



And so it was in early October that Mick Donovan & I headed to Dromana to collect our very own RotoVelos. I was like a kid again... My big green toy was ready to play with. Initial ride was fantastic... it all worked, it stopped, started & turned, and it was easy! I went out onto an open road, and really cranked her up, and she flew. Actually, she was a bit skittish for my liking. I was braking on the downhills! After a bit, I relaxed my grip on the steering & I found the trike ran more smoothly... maybe I'd created the problem myself.

For me, the speed difference is about 10-15% in favour of the RV. I've yet to be passed on Beach Rd, and have passed my fair share of packs. I have to say, as you'd expect, that uphill are not quite so much fun, but anything remotely flat or downhill, and you really take off.

In terms of the running gear, I have the standard setup, which is a triple chainring (61/52/4x) linked to an 11-32 rear cassette. Gears are Deore with thumb shifters on the steering bars. Brakes are mechanical disks, which are more than satisfactory to stop me very swiftly. The boom is adjustable, and is done so readily via the foot holes in the base of the fairing. My son, Jack, at 195cm can ride the RV happily, though he is at the end of the extension. I increased the hole in the rear direction, so my other son, Bryce, can also ride it happily, & he is only 160cm. I've added 2 quicklinks to the chain, so I can move the boom & shorten/lengthen the chain very easily & quickly.

Lastly, and this is the really fun bit. I've never been photographed (or should that be iPhoned?) so much... People driving past slow down, and roll down the window, yell Woo Hoo & take a pic. Riding these things is fun, and it makes people smile, both in & out of it. The ultimate in this was the maiden RV group ride, where 8 of these sensational trikes converged on Albert Park Lake. The group then

rode to Black Rock & back, and were the cause of many, many smiles, toots & hollers. A truly memorable ride.



I'll keep Huff updated with RV rides, and I invite any of you interested in taking one for a ride to come along & try one. But, be prepared to be photographed & tooted at!
Tim M



World Future Cycle Challenge 2011



This event is organised by Bicycle SA and takes place 19 to 27 November 2011. Starting in Renmark SA and finishing in downtown Adelaide. The event is described as: **A unique event that mixes cutting edge technology and cycling.** It is basically a stage race for various classes of vehicles ranging from solar powered fully faired racers to streamlined pedal power vehicles. The event is set up for teams of riders and there is the usual requirement for following vehicles, flashing lights, etc.

Some OzHPV members have already expressed some interest in participating as either individuals or as part of a team.

More information, entry packs and regulations can be found at the event website.
www.bikesa.asn.au/wfcc



New Members

Welcome to the following new members to OzHPV.

Mark & Gina Boddy	- Belconnen ACT
Paul Bertolino	- Grays Point NSW
John Armstrong	- Yeoval NSW
Sascha Sarahov	- Nightcliff NT
Stephen Crandell	- Slacks Creek QLD

Current membership for OzHPV sits at 76 including a few Family Memberships.



Membership Renewals for 2011

Generally, all memberships are due for renewal at 1 January 2011.

There are a couple of members who have joined during the year and the Treasurer or Secretary will contact them as needed to arrange an adjustment.

If you would like to renew your membership, please use the form attached to the newsletter.

Membership fees remain as:

Single \$25

Family \$35

An additional \$15 is applicable if you would like to receive your newsletters and correspondence by Australia Post Mail.



Annual General Meeting – 12th December 2010

The 13th Annual General meeting for OzHPV was held on 12 December 2010. 10 members attended via a Skype link between Melbourne and Canberra. There was the usual lively discussion about planned events and other issues. The retiring President's and Treasurer's financial report is attached to this HUFF. The new elected committee for the 2010 – 2011 period is as follows:

President – Steve Nurse,	president@ozhpn.org.au
Secretary – Pete Heal,	secretary@ozhpn.org.au
Treasurer – Tim Marquardt	treasurer@ozhpn.org.au
Committee – Eric Ball	eric@ozhpn.org.au
Public Officer – Andrew Stewart	publicofficer@ozhpn.org.au
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Coming Events

There was much discussion at the AGM about coming events including the following proposals:
HPV 6 Hour Race at new Geelong Criterium Track
Maryborough Time Trial
Weekend Challenge style event at Wodonga Kart Track
Canberra Summer and Winter race series at Stromlo

In addition to the Big Events, OzHPV continues to run social rides in Melbourne and Canberra on a regular basis. In 2011 there will be social rides organised in the Sydney area and there is a plan for a Social Rally weekend and even a touring trip.



Next Newsletter

The next HUFF will be produced February 2011.
Please send your contributions to huff@ozhpn.org.au

