

President's report 2017

Membership

Our total membership couldn't quite manage to reach last year's record and is a handful less than the most recent 5-year running average. In those terms it's less than a 2% loss. Most memberships are renewed before the end of the Early-bird series. See *Table A*

Events

Fortunately only one event was compromised this year – the *Serpentine 40* in January was abandoned midway because of a police car-chase incident on Karnup Road – another 'first' for us.

The number of riders/event dropped from 90.8 in the 2016 summer season to 81.8 in 2017 (the *EB* decrease and the overall fall was exactly the same: 9 riders/event); the reserves list feature of our events management was used less frequently. The feeling last year that the *Hillies'* participation was waning was confirmed by a noticeably large drop in participation this season. Will the new *Hilly* style of shirts revive interest in the series? We look forward to getting some feedback after the presentations at the AGM. The number of series qualifiers for this year's series was similar to the 2016 series: 24 *cf* 27.

However, it was good to see the proportion of women riders in events being sustained; even in the *Hillies*. And the *Early-bird* participation was up to 35% (eb4), only once falling below 30%. Registrations for the series were unusually slow to arrive and there was quite a large drop-off of riders in the second half of the series – many 'no-shows'.

Other cycling events seemed to be well supported, both Masters' (WCMCC) and CycleSport WA. Has the interest in TTs waned or are we failing to deliver something? Currently, however we have again seen quite a few new faces at the first two of the winter events.

Courses

Neerabup will be abandoned; Wandi, using Wandi drive has a bit of life left in it. Bibra Lake: 'Rowe-8' plans have been abandoned by the new State government but the increase in traffic density was still a problem even when we tried an earlier (6:30am) start for the 'Season Opener' in November. We had problems with Gidge B and have decided that we certainly need to avoid using it during Easter. The move of the finish on the *Mark Webb* course was only a partial success – we need to move further away from the shops. Each of the last two events have resulted in complaints from a motorist travelling on Toodyay Road. But generally we see a diminishing level of toleration of cycling from the motoring public.

So there is a bit of work to do before the 2017-18 season can be published in full.

The use of flashing rear lights has been well-accepted by riders. We maintain a small number of loan units.

Table A

	Membership	Participation (Summer season rides)	<i>Hillies</i>
Year		Total Women	Total Women

2008	185	1643	302 (18.4%)	271	29
2009	196	2050	382 (18.6%)	420	54
2010	244	2169	458 (21.1%)	451	80
2011	237	2138	371 (17.3%)	450	54
2012	287	2714	444 (16.3%)	512	62
2013	318	2432	424 (17.4%)	527	66
2014	315	2518	462 (18.3%)	525	73
2015	313	2351	484 (20.6%)	464	76
2016	331	2542	653 (25.6%)	465	110
2017	306	2208	574 (25.9%)	368	69

Administration and Race management

Since last July we function under a new State Act – The Associations Incorporation Act 2015. This required some minor *Rules* (constitution) updates to ensure compliance. This went smoothly.

Our succession planning: Jeff is currently getting hands-on experience of the timing procedures at events enlivened by the assistance of M. Murphy (Sod).

Dave Equid is now looking after much of the event permission detail.

Troy gets a bit of respite from trailer duties with help from Kim VanA, DavidE and, possibly Craig again.

The facility for card payments at events is being quietly introduced.

Tech-bits

- New timing software that now handles TTs has been released by MyLaps but we're continuing to update *attaTime*. I have always emphasised the need for the availability of alternative approaches regardless of the continuing development of our own tightly integrated race management system; our membership records are also maintained within this system. Our finances are managed independently.
- Back-up timing at events is now using *WebScorer* running on an iPad. This is still being trialled but offers the advantage of complete hardware separation from the lap-top although the TAG/*attaTime* combo is simple and efficient; now, at the race start we're using the TAG as a replacement for the ageing Palm units (one of which has already died). *WebScorer* could also be used for the start.
- We're doing some of our own Tx refurbishments (battery replacement).
- New medals, refreshed design.
- Web hosting: servers now Oz-based; one or two concerns surfaced in the transition due to increased security requirements.

Acknowledgments

Last year, Alex Mahony had replaced Jeff as co-ordinator of helpers at events but Jeff returned at just the right time when Alex had to quit due to health problems. Jeff had continued to look after 'treasury' matters even when he was not actively part of the management committee. Also 'lost' to the committee this year was Frank Norton (to Busselton) and Craig Beeching but Frank, nevertheless, managed a couple of rides back up in Perth. Craig needed to move to Melbourne for a while but has returned and will resume his seat on the Committee.

Lorraine is still a constant support; Troy has continued quietly to set up courses on a regular basis but, as mentioned above, Kim has been able to weigh in on the occasions Troy has been unavailable. They also spread the TT word beyond our immediate sphere. Sue Challen and Lorraine have managed the delivery of new ATTA riding kit to members; thanks are also due to the professional help from Karl McIntyre with the design. Nobody on the committee is not deserving gratitude from anyone involved with ATTA.

Peter Meyer
July 2017