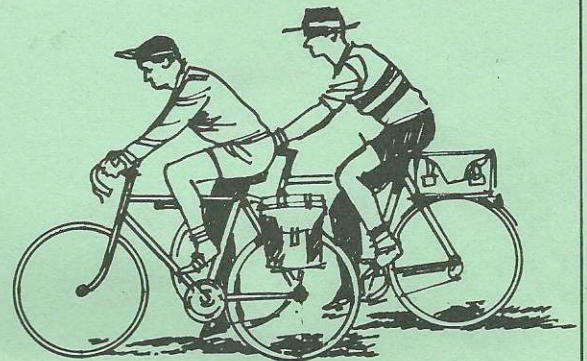


# CYCLE TOURING ASSOCIATION OF W.A. (INC.)



EDITOR: Ron Bowyer

January February 1987  
Issue Number 74

## The 400km Audax

Dateline: 12th July 1986

Perth: Minimum temperature 6° at 5.30 a.m.  
Chittering Valley: Minimum 'teeth chattering'

Midland: 4.50 a.m. — 7 cyclists gathered at Bob Stockman's to prepare for the 400 Audax ride under the fatherly eye of Ron Masterman, assisted by Wendy and Stephen Booth (sisterly and brotherly?) and others making up personal support teams for individual riders.

The next three hours or so required the laying of a deposit on what became a beautiful day offering very enjoyable cycling. But first the price had to be paid as we rode into a frost-laden Chittering Valley and met the first welcome rays of sunshine.

Hot soup and tea/coffee at the control point at Bindoon topped off the thawing process as we rode off to Toodyay where some took the opportunity of more warming refreshments before checking in at the secret control just outside the town.

The route then took us to the Clackline Road, through Clackline, Spencers Brook and on to Northam. Here we checked in at the YHA Hostel where Pam had come back for the day just to carry out this role. Another friendly face greeted us on arrival — Dale Neill had expressly stayed on an extra night in order to see us (a much appreciated gesture, thanks Dale!)

York was reached by way of a scenic diversion(?) by first setting off towards Goomalling then on to the Southern Brook Road before turning down through Grass Valley and eventually back to the Northam/York road about 13km south of Northam. It was 42km in all of hilly but attractive countryside.

The next control was at the Dale Road turnoff just south of Beverley. The leading riders were through here in daylight with the last group arriving at 8 p.m. after stopping for tea at York. "Guided" in to a warming fire, this group took a 90 minute break and enjoyed the ministrations of their support crew.

The rain came about half an hour before we reached the Brookton Highway at Dale and it continued showery for the rest of the ride.

Through Karragullen I had a close encounter with a fox. Too weary to react, I was saved by the wet road as he slid sideways while passing a foot in front of me!

Thick pea soup fog required a very cautious descent of Kalamunda Road before the final few kilometres back to Stockman's where we were greeted by Bob, bleary-eyed but as cheerful as ever.

Thanks to Bob, Wendy, Stephen and all other supporters and

especially to Ron Masterman for all his organising and encouragement.

Riders and finishing times from a 5 a.m. start were:

Riders	Finish	Elapsed
Stewart Stockdale	11.59 p.m.	18h 59m
Aileen and John Martin	12.40 a.m.	19h 40m
Robert Minoo	1.15 a.m.	20h 15m
Neil Porteous	6.05 a.m.	25h 5m
David Doust	6.05 a.m.	25h 5m
John Turley	6.05 a.m.	25h 5m

John Turley

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Fostering Cycle Touring and Protecting  
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