

## Llewellyn Family Newsletter #9

**G'day Gladdies**, a few of the Llewellyn family have been onto me lately about my infrequent out put of news letter and I must explain that the start of year has been eventful for me. I am starting this news letter off with a fair bit of sad news, but please be assured, I am in good health and good spirits and these things are what we all must deal with, and I am no exception.

Firstly my father who started my love of the bicycle passed away suddenly on a peaceful Sunday night in January. Most of us have to pass through this time in one's life when we have to deal with the death of a parent and so maybe what follows is for me part of this process and if I can be permitted I would like to share this with my fellow cycling friends.

My first real memory of Dad was a significant event that set the course for my life's direction, and expression. I cannot tell you how old I was, but I suppose nearly 4 years old. Dad came home one evening after work through the back door carrying a GREAT BIG BOX.

I **must** have known what was inside, because I well remember kicking up an almighty stink, and fuss when he took away the big box, up to the backyard laundry, repeating something about "Not until tomorrow". I continued my protests with such vigor, to overcome Dad's probable desire to eat dinner in peace, till he gave in to my demands, and returned the box inside - to the back room.

And out of the box **IT** emerged. Apparently, I was pretty excited by this time. **It** had streamers, at the end of the hand grips, and a tray at the back.

But most importantly, it had **two pedals**, and **handle bars**.

A brand new blue Cyclops Tricycle.

From that moment began my love affair with pedal power. Incidentally, I left many a black skid mark on the Lino floor at #12 Harding Street, while doing laps around the house on the trike, all the time trying to go faster, and was rewarded with a few swift smarting caresses around the back side! Not deterred, I tried to go faster next time. It seems that even at that early age I had pinned a race number on.

Most of you will know that bicycles and our family go together. Dad's daily ride to work, to the Library for another load of books, as reading was one of Dad's passions.

Dad doubled me down to Soccer training on his trusty Malvern Star, with me sitting on the top tube. How cool is that! Much better than getting carted around in a car! I would not have had it any other way!

And from the day that box arrived I was carried into my youth with bicycles as the norm. My racing and building bicycles has given me many great experiences and travels. I can thank Mum and Dad for this.

Bye Dad.

Errol McCulloch 7/1/1928- 28/1/2007



*That is me, wiping my trike down after washing and oiling. Circa 1967 { I did not have workstands available then}*

*I was also very upset to hear of one of the Llewellyn Family tragic passing in the Indonesian plane crash.*

*Brice Steel. Not sure what to say, how ever pics of his bike are here*

*<http://www.llewellynbikes.com/thegallery/album36>*

*Brice would regularly keep in contact and expressed his joy with the bike I made for him and he sent me pictures of him with his Llewellyn in China where he was working at the time.*

*Then last Sunday I was informed that one of the national team riders riders who I lived with for the best part of two years while with the A.I.S road cycling program perished in the tunnel accident in Melbourne. Damian McDonald was a talented rider, I was his mechanic with the Aussie team during some of his best racing years and was with him at the Atlanta Olympic games. A cycling team is a family on the road and becomes a close knit group with the adversity of the season's racing. It was a shock to learn of Damian's tragic accident. Tragic, as he has a lovely wife and young son. Not much more I can say about this.*

*<http://www.cyclingnews.com/news.php?id=news/2007/mar07/mar25news>*

### ***Now the bad news is done with, onto other things.***

*Grab a bottle of red wine, sit down, put on some Vilvaldi.*

*Slide show your way through links of the lovely hand made work on show here*

*<http://www.cyclofiend.com/nahbs/show2007/>*

*Please go through the links of photos and absorb the metal work on display.*

*Beats the same old funky, wonky black and red coloured carbon shapes from the marketing department.*

***What do you think?***

***Let me know what grabs you?***

*I am sure you will appreciate the skill and creativity of these builders.*

*I could not get to the show due to recent events but I am going next year.*

*By all accounts Portland appears to have a super cool bike culture*

*<http://bikeportland.org/about/>*

### ***Horton Collection project***

*I recently finished off a special frame that was commissioned by Brett Horton for his sample collection of select builder's from around the world. I have a PDF slide show I can send if you anyone desires to see the Llewellyn and the other bikes from Richard Sachs, Dario Pegoretti, Sacha White {Vanilla}, Ron Cooper.*

*Brett Horton's Llewellyn on show at the North American Handbuilt show.*



*Due to demand from the Gladdies I will adding socks to the Llewellyn Clothing range soon, something in a cotton mix with the Celtic Knoting and heart around the top of the ankle. Stay tuned.*

*If any one is trying to contact me some time in July and August I will be away in France working with one of the Aussie national teams. Going back to Brittany and Normandy area which is my old hunting grounds when I was living and racing in France many moons ago. I working break and one that I will enjoy, crepes, cider. Attempting not to put back on some of the 12 kilograms I have shed. {I will take my running shoes}*

*Every one take care, have fun and many happy hours of pedalling  
Cheers Dazza*