

Handicapper headaches



acing round-up

with Robbie Dewar

BETWEEN now and April 18, one of the hardest jobs in the WA harness racing industry will be that of RWWA harness handicapper Warren Wishart, his assistant Nathan Scott and their panel.

In that period of time, they have to finalise no less than five three-year-old metropolitan-class fields leading up to and including the \$175,000 Sky Channel WA Derby.

Normally that would be a straightforward task that the competent Wishart and Scott would take in their stride, but such is the quality and depth of three-year-olds going around in WA at the moment there will be some disappointed connections.

That depth was emphasised last week by strong wins by no less than eight horses, headlined by the courageous performance of Trunkey Daydream in the \$30,000 Hankook Tyres Country Pacing Derby (2536m) at Gloucester Park on Friday night.

Lively Royce, another of the Graham trained three-year-olds, defeated Argent Treasure six days earlier at the Gloucester Park country penalty Saturday meeting.

On Monday, Phlying Pharaoh put his name into the mix when winning over 1670m at Pinjarra when having his second WA start since coming from New Zealand.

The following night at a Gloucester Park midweek, Total Defiance, Gransagenic, Thirtytwo Volts and Its Karma were all three-year-olds that won.

Friday night at Gloucester Park, two hours before the Country Derby, Mister Odds On won a 2130m mobile event to place his name among the contenders.



Oldie but a goodie... Terry Lack dusted off his 1952 bike to compete in the West Coast Age Group Cycling Championships.

Picture: Bruce Hunt

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Latest not the greatest

KALAMUNDA cycling enthusiast Terry Lack has shown that you don't need the latest model bike to compete in modern cycling races.

Racing in the West Coast Age Group Cycling Championships at Rockingham in the 70-74 category earlier this month, the 71-year-old came third in his race despite riding on a bike that was more than 50 years old. Mr Lack pulled his 1952 Italian-made Bianchi bike out of the shed to commemo-

rate his win in the RAF Road Race in then West Germany 50 years ago in 1958.

He said the bike performed well in its return race despite being a couple of kilos heavier than the modern bikes.

"The bike was a bit sluggish so I had to push it harder," he said.

"Downhill, it was probably faster than the lighter bikes."

Mr Lack said the bike's history involved being smuggled from the UK to West Ger-

many when he was posted to West Germany by the air force.

"I dismantled it and put it in a bag," he said.

"When I was asked what was in the bag, I had to think quickly because rules did not permit me to take my bike across so I said it was a harp and they believed me."

The West Coast Masters Cycling Council's website is at www.wcmasterscycling.com.au.