

## **TURKEY AWARD**

The Over 55 Cycling Club annual **Turkey Award** had its inception in 2004 following the sad passing of **Ian Gawne**, an enthusiastic club and committee member. Ian joined the Club in 2001 and served on the committee in 2002-2003. He passed away on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2003.

Ian's wife Celia thought that she would like to commemorate her husband's connection with the Over 55's as Ian had thoroughly enjoyed his time as a member, even though it was cut tragically short. To this end, she organised a **Perpetual Trophy** for the club that Ian enjoyed so much.

Ian was originally from New Zealand and Celia's first thoughts were to have a Kiwi on the trophy but, as no suitable design was readily available, the **Turkey Award** was finally decided upon. To acknowledge Ian's Kiwi heritage and his inherent larrikin nature, the inscription on the base of the trophy reads "**Turkey Award, Kiwi Klanger**" which, reflects Ian's personality.

The initial Turkey Award Trophy was presented to the club, on the Twentieth Anniversary Celebration Day, November 2004, at the Hockey Pavilion, Perry Lakes. Celia subsequently presented the award at each Xmas Fn until 2008. Celia herself sadly passed away the following year on the 18th September 2009.

John Uyen, a close friend of Ian's had been asked to act as a caretaker to ensure presentations continued. In this capacity John invited Ian's daughters to present the award in 2009 and 2010. However, since December 2010, the responsibility for the Award has been John's. He has organised this presentation each year at the Xmas Fn and has also met the cost of engraving the winners' names and relevant dates. Thank you John.

The **Turkey Award** is now such an integral part of the Over 55 Cycling Club folk law that I firmly believe the practice of seeking out worthy recipients throughout the year should become firmly entrenched within the Club and the Award continue to be presented at the annual Christmas function.

John Yeats