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Before you read this column three gents from the Rossland-Trail area will be flying off to take part in a bike ride along the east and south coasts of Australia and up the length of the North and South Islands of New Zealand.

Two of these gents, Jack Hook of Rossland and Gino Pagnan of Trail, could almost be called veterans of this sort of thing as they both participated in the Cross-Canada ride last year and both came through with flying colors.

This time they will be joined by Renato Colbachini, whom I remember as something of a boxer during my early

years in the Trail district. It seems to me that Renato does not belong in the retired category, but then I could easily be mistaken. Anyway, he is going along and I certainly wish him well as he tackles this challenge.

According to word form Jack Hook, they will land at the coastal town of Cairns in Queensland and for the first part of their journey south they will be bused as the roads for a ways are not compatible with bike riding. I think Jack said the name of the place the real road work begins is called Innisfail, from there they head south for Canberra, the Aussie

capital city and then go cross-country to Melbourne and on to Adelaide where that part of the ride ends.

Then its on to New Zealand, and, starting in the extreme south of the South Island between Invercargli and Dunedin, they proceed north to Cook Strait, cross over to Wellington and north to Auckland on the northern tip of the North Island. This will terminate the riding and the boys will head for home sometime in late November or early December.

When you think about this for awhile you have to realize that for fellows in these chaps' age category this is a rather awesome

undertaking, when they did that monumental ride across Canada they were in a part of the world they understood. Probably both Jack and Gino had travelled a lot of the roads they were riding on previous occasions; in this one they have no idea what they are in for. I'm not sure, but I believe that the Aussies, like the British, drive on the wrong side of the road.

There's not much doubt but that they will make a success of the venture they are embarking on and add another page to the annals of Canadian bike-riding history.

We wish them all the luck in the world.

Another day of perfect weather for the retirees' weekly round at the upper course and 53 golfers participated. Keep coming, you guys, it sure is lots of fun. Joe Bielli and Davy Nicol were in command this past week and their program changed slightly from their proposed one. Joe said he forgot to put out the marker for the long putt on number nine so they substituted a hidden hole for it, you don't hear many complaints from these guys on minor items such as this.

Anyway, in the low gross category it was Bill Batiuk, with a 40, who took the prize. In the low net area there is a little story to be told: Chris Christiansen, who came in with a net 33, best of the day, suffered from arthritis for years, lost many hours from work because of it, now is beginning to swing those

clubs with the best of them and enjoying every minute of it. Chris was followed by Archie McCannel's 34 and Reg White's 35, two others were in at 35 but in a draw Reg won the ball. Joe Bielli and Bill Dobbs were the unlucky ones in the draw.

In the closest to the pin on numbers three and five, Bill Limacher put one within seven feet on number three and Bob Walley's tee shot on number five stopped five feet short of a hole-in-one, it was right on line.

Number eight was the hidden hole high, and Willy Scott had the misfortune to chalk up a nine on that particular hole. Maybe Willy had tree trouble, I know when I try to go that way I have a terrible time.

And next week we are hoping to recruit Romeo DeBiasio to dream up a program and run things. He claims to have some revolutionary ideas to brighten things up so we shall have to give him a chance.

This seems like a good way to end up, with an election in the offing, it seems since Pierre Trudeau lost his good job he no longer has his private pool. One day he took his sons to swim in a public pool and one of the boys was having a problem. When he failed to surface, Trudeau asked the lifeguard to help him. The man said he was sorry but he couldn't swim. When Trudeau asked how he came to have a lifeguard's job when he couldn't swim he said "I'm bilingual."

Till next week, then!