



NEWSLETTER

1st Edition March 2005

President: Hans Ottevanger, Secretary/Treasurer: Barbara Reynolds, Ride Coordinator: Rober Overdijk
Publicity/Newsletter Editor: Ross Constable

I NEED YOU!.....

.....to send in any.... I repeat, **ANY** items for inclusion in this truly marvellous, ground breaking newsletter. It does not matter what it is, things like: Trip reports, digital photos with captions and names, short bike maintenance, repair and accessory techno blurbs, safe riding tips, jokes (sorry, but nasty sexist, obscene, and racist stuff will be relegated to the cat litter tray). Don't forget any yummy bike-camping food recipes, letters to the editor and of course, contributions from our female riders and/or pillion passengers will be considered essential reading. I will also be asking (insisting) those members who do longer runs to submit trip reports and those with certain characters, expertise or skills (morticians and sex therapists will be exempt) to contribute now and again, don't be shy, get involved! Remember, it is **YOUR NEWSLETTER!**

Contributions to: lucyross@acr.net.au. Ed.

FEB AGM FAREWELLS THE OLD GUARD AND WELCOMES THE NEW

The 2nd Branch AGM held at Bermagui on Sunday 6th February saw a great turnout of members and a partial change of guard by rigorous democratic process, skull-duggery, bribery and threat (see the new office bearer's profiles page 2 & 3).



Some of the intellent faces at the 2nd AGM held at Bermagui on Sunday 6th February, 2005

Barring accident, your worst day riding is still better than your best day at work!



Don't be alarmed! Its only your new Newsletter Editor, Ross Constable

John Van Der Heul- Past Secretary/Treasurer and continuing Web Master. Unfortunately, due to personal reasons John, who like Hans is a founding member is standing down as Secretary/Treasurer but will remain as our Web Master. All members would agree that without John's hard work in the past the Branch would not have got off the ground and be where it is today, so on behalf of all members, thankyou for your fantastic effort.

euroulysses@westnet.com.au

Hans Ottevanger- Branch President: Hans was deservedly and unanimously re-elected the Captain (president) of our ship at the AGM for a second year running, Hans, as we all know is the person responsible for the establishment of the branch from scratch. Well done Hans. hans_ann1@hotmail.com Ph. 44723543 (h) or 0412 017748

The President's Report

Hi One and All,
Well another year has come and gone, our second birthday and another branch AGM. Firstly, I want to thank and congratulate John Van Der Heul for a tremendous job as secretary/Treasurer who brought us a long way forward in the way he looked after matters (nothing was ever too much trouble for John when I asked something) and the way he set up the Branch website WOW!!! Is all I can say, thankfully he has offered to continue looking after it.

Food For Thought for us old farts?

"Few age related differences in crash patterns were found between riders aged above or below 25 years of age. However, overall casualty crash involvement has reduced by up to 50% for riders in NSW aged to 25 years between 1990 and 2000 while riders aged over 25 years have experienced a steady to increasing involvement (per km travelled)¹. Older riders tended to have crashes on larger capacity motorcycles, particularly those of European and US manufacture (eg Harley Davidson and BMW), and generate greater mean total cost claims than their younger counterparts. Indeed, mean total claim cost rose uniformly with motorcycle engine size. Mean total claims cost was also higher for pillions in the older age group."

Reference: Investigation of Motorcycle Crash Patterns For Riders Aged 17-25 In NSW and Development of Countermeasure Strategies. A Report to the Motor Accidents Authority. Christie and Harrison 2000.

So, fellow-farts! What are we going to do about these stats?

The other tremendous effort came from Tony and Dianne Pye for the way they stepped in and took over the job of ride co-ordinator at short notice and not only did they respond quickly to our ride calendar needs, but they also made them interesting and varied. A job really well done Tony and Dianne. Both positions are challenging at the best of times and John, Tony and Dianne have very big shoes to fill and we will dearly miss their contributions. In saying that, I am also confident of the “new guard”, as Ross puts it, and after the committee meeting held on Wednesday 16th Feb, I am more than impressed with the professional and enthusiastic approach that Barb, Rob and Ross all had towards this coming year. Now I’ll let Ross introduce you to the new team (committee) so bye for now and remember; it takes less muscles to smile than Frown. The very best to all. Hans.



Barbara Reynolds (alias Santa) you new Branch Secretary/Treasurer. Well done Barb! Love the beard!

Profile: Barbara Reynolds – New Branch Secretary/Treasurer

Due to a well run election process, (like the one in Iraq) Barbara got the job of Secretary/Treasurer without even making an appearance. Barb has been involved with motorcycles for the past 40 years (since her courting days) and loves her Suzuki GS 1100 and sidecar. She has a secretarial, personal assistant background and is semi-retired, now living in Dalmeny.

Likes- Reading, good red wine, dinner out and cross dressing (the latter is the editor’s observation only).

Dislikes- Anybody who does not believe in Santa. People who smoke while eating (catching fire while eating could be worst I suppose. Ed)

Ambitions- Obviously, enjoying life. Causing my children to be ashamed of me.

Profile: Robert Overdijk- our new Ride Co-ordinator Born 9th May, 1954 (a very good year). Came to Australia in 1975 in the last lot of paid boat people from Europe and has enjoyed this great country ever since. Has been a full Ulysses member for only a short time. Been riding since age 12. Started riding Mum’s Solex front wheel drive bike which proves that Yamaha was not the first to come up with this design. Rob thinks the Solex is a French bike which only frequented the flat parts of Holland (I though all of Holland was flat) due to its gutless nature. Rob then



Meet you new ride coordinator: Robert Overdijk. Like the news letter, the branch rides and associated activities are YOUR’S. So! get involved and get your suggestions in to Rob. Ed

progressed from a 50cc Zundapp through a list of bike makes that sound like roll-call at a United Nations assembly to his present and old faithful GTR. He is looking at something newer if he can sell (offload) it on to someone else.

His biggest bike trip was a 6 month, 14,000km trip around and through central Australia in 1977 on his old, go anywhere Honda 4.

Rob is married with 3 sons who ride also, but their main complaint is Rob’s slow riding which he puts down to the odd brush with the law in his younger years.

Likes- Riding with Ulysses members which he hopes to do for many years to come.

Dislikes- Must not have any as no information supplied on this point.

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Profile: Ross Constable (the strange looking finger pointing person) – Publicity & Newsletter Editor.

Born 1954. My working life has included, lift mechanic, greenkeeper’s assistant and commercial fisherman. Present occupation- Ranger, NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service. Worked and lived in many of the State’s National Parks involving deserts, snow and coast. Did a stint of firefighting in the U.S. and was paid to ride and fall off dirt bikes (mustering & patrol) during my career. Married, with one 20 year old going on 45 son. Owned about 7 bikes from a 70cc Suzuki step-thru, to the present BMW GS1150 and managed (by good luck only) to stay alive on all.

Likes – My wife, son, Santa, BMWs, flying, a comfortable camp and a fine red wine after a good run with friends.

Dislikes- Noisy Harleys, people who point fingers and those who don’t believe in Santa.

Ambitions: Staying alive a bit longer, further maritime studies, motorcycle touring and enjoying life in general.

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MEMBER'S PARKING

Neil Adams writes:

"Thanks for your information, Ross, and congratulations on your taking the position. I haven't been much of an attender at meetings, including the AGM (which I did have in my diary, but was stuck in Sydney for that weekend). I've been bikeless since last July, waiting for my Goldwing to be converted to a trike, with endless engineering delays. Just as well, because I had both knees completely replaced in October, and am only just fit to ride again. AND, CHEERS - the bike - correction - trike is now ready and I'm off to Taree tomorrow to collect it. SO, all being well, I should be in rides from next weekend on".

Neil (Doc) Adams

Hope all goes well Neil for both your knees and the trike. Ed.

From the pen of Evan Holt:

"I have sent my money off to Kawasaki to join in the "Kawasaki Roadtrip", 8 - 11 April 2005. Held to celebrate 30 years of Kwakas in Oz, it goes from Sydney via Narooma then up the Snowy Mountains Highway and down to Lakes Entrance before ending up at Phillip Island, where we have the option of a trackday on the Grand Prix circuit, on Kawasaki's new track and road models, or a cruiser's day around Wilsons Promontory. I think my arthritis will allow a cruising day, as I might make a mess of this ageing body, and some expensive machinery, if I venture out on a race track again.

The celebration dinner on Monday 11th April at the Conti at Phillip Island should be a beauty! The whole shebang is sponsored by Kawasaki, Draggin Jeans, Ugly Fish Riderz, Sirromet, Berri and Michelin. Like Peter Cundall says, "This means you don't miss it!"

Anyone who wants more info can look up

www.kawasakiroadtrip.com.au, email info@kawasakiroadtrip.com.au, or phone 1800 600 589. Or give me a call on 4472 4740. I intend to join in the Roadtrip at Nowra, where we RV at the Air Museum. Best wishes.

Evan Holt 14924

Give the race track a go Evan, we can tour anytime! Thanks for the contribution. Ed.

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Will be a quarterly publication appearing in March, June, September and December each year. It is formatted in MS Publisher (Ver.3) and converted to PDF format.

In order to keep the PDF newsletter file to a reasonable size, it may be restricted to 3 pages and under and only a few photographs in each edition. Otherwise, people like me who are still running dial-up, steam powered computers will take ages to download the PDF file. So! Do not despair if your contribution does not appear in the next edition as I will include them in the order I receive them, pending space.

Contributions and feedback to the Newsletter Editor can only be made my email with attachments to: lucyross@acr.net.au Would appreciate all large text contributions to be MS Word files and digital photos in .JPG format.

It is anticipated that Rob will get out a quarterly ride calendar which will be distributed the same time as this newsletter as a separate PDF file.

AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT, GET YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS IN NOW!

Safe riding (don't become an "ol-fart" stat)
Ed.

Picture Perfect Cop

(7th August 2003, Hartville Wyoming)

Like a true country child, Jim Pond was born to be wild.....even though he had grown into the 47-year-old sheriff of Albany County. Watch him riding to the motorcycle rally in South Dakota, in the company of another cop and friend. See the wild one riding without a helmet - after all, an experienced Harley rider can control his bike.

Who needs a helmet? But Jim needed something else - a photograph, a pictorial commemoration of the road trip to Sturgis, South Dakota. With the wind streaming through the riders' hair at 65 mph, the conditions seemed right. Jim took his camera and turned around to snap a shot of the rider behind him.

As state trooper David Cunningham later described it, the motorcycle drifted to the right and headed for a telephone pole. Jim lost control trying to wrestle the bike back on the highway and went sailing through the air, probably wishing for his helmet. When he landed he broke his skull, four ribs and a shoulder bone and also suffered other head injuries and road rash but managed through incredible luck, to survive.

His camera was not so lucky. There is no report that the photograph survived.

An extract from:
DarwinAwards.com

Associated Press, Casper Star Tribune, submitted by Grayson McNeese.

If you want to see true natural selection at work, have a look at this site. Ed.

Branch Notice Board

- The NSW BMW Touring Club Rally that was held at Dungog, 12th -13th March 2005. Stay tuned for Robert's (or somebody's) exciting trip report on this beaut run.
- The National AGM Canberra 7th - 13th March 2005. Contact Hans for the mass ride details and also, how you can assistance to organise our charity run this year. So! Once again, feel free to get involved.
- Special thanks to:
 - ⇒ **Capital Coast Cycles (Honda)**, Batemans Bay who have offered Ulysses members 10% discount on just about every thing in the Shop.
 - ⇒ **Motorsport Motorcycles**, Batemans Bay who are under very friendly, new management and offer 10% off to members on servicing, accessories and most tyre brands.
 - ⇒ **Narooma Camping and Office Supplies** (our ex-treasurer, John) who offers the same discount to members on camping gear.
- The Branch has received a flyer from The Port Stephens Ulysses group regarding their "Meet-and-Greet" weekend 21st & 22nd May 2005. Great rides & entertainment for all. Contact Barb for more details.
- Keep your eyes peeled for Rob's new trip calendar which should appear around the same time as this news letter.