



**In this 2006, first edition: The President's report. Barb's report. A wet trip report. , Member's parking, Member profile, Branch notice board and a few other tidbits**

**From the Ed**

A terrific year for the Branch. Great rides, toy run and Christmas party. All down to the ride guru (Rob) and our tireless Branch secretary who shouldered most of the burden. A big "well-done" to Rob and especially Barb from all in the branch!

Am looking forward to participating in some of the 2006 Branch rides, especially the BMW rally at Frying Pan creek. Rob, Hans, Barb and I hope to see all you good folk on these rides as well, especially those I have not yet had the privilege of sharing a fine red plonk with around a smoky campfire or pub.

Finally, thanks to those members who have contributed to the newsletter over the last year or so. It really does make my job easier and it certainly makes this rag YOUR voice, so please keep them coming. The very best to all for the new year and beyond. Ed.

**THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Hi One All

Well we have had our Branch AGM and the same people were voted in again Barb Roberts is once again the Sectary /Treasurer, Rob Overdyk is Ride Coordinator and Ross Constable our Newsletter Editor, John Van Der Heul is still happy to look after our Web Page. It was decided that we needed to have a Social Committee and Dianne and Tony Pye 4473 7747, Ernie Baddeley 4476 7436 and Colin Black 44728016 all volunteered their time so it would not be left up to Barb to organise all the Social events and to hopefully give You the Members more chances to get together other than rides, I have included their Ph No's so If You come up with a idea for a Social Event give them a call and maybe if it is feasible it can be organised. I was as is obvious by the fact that I am writing this report am still President and will endeavour to do the best job I can to help where I can. It was also decided that we did not really need to ask for \$10 to cover costs of running the Branch so it was passed that we only charge \$5 and if necessary we will raise money for social events. Last but not Least I want to Give A Really Big Thank You To all the Committee members of this Last Year for All the Hard Work They have put in and Barb Ross and Rob all deserve a big but gentle pat on the back every time you see them. Well I 'm off to finish packing for to Tassie AGM and look forward to catching up with all of you that are going down there and the rest of you when Ann and I get back, Ride Safe and Enjoy Life as Only Ulyssian Can, Cheers, Hans.

**BARB'S TOY, PARTY & AGM REPORT**

A Great Big **THANK YOU** to all the members who turned out complete with decorated bike, toys and wallets on the December 2005 toy run. It was

a big success and you can all be proud of yourselves. We had a wonderful Police Escort all the way and Peter stopped the traffic in all the appropriate places so we could all stay together as one group – I have sent out a thank-you letter to Peter and have sent out Certificates of Appreciation to Super-toys (who generously donated toys without being asked), to Alan and Noreen Jeavons of Broulee who also donated toys without being asked, the manager of IGA Dalmeny who again donated toys without being asked and Rhonda Moore of Cobargo who when she heard about the toy run donated two large bags of stuffed toys. The two trucks from St. Vincent de Paul and the Salvation Army were full of some incredible soft toys, dolls, games, and toys of all types, shapes and sizes at the end of the run.

We raised \$474.20 on the day which is fantastic – well done. The Toys and the cash donations were split evenly between St. Vincent de Paul in Narooma and the Salvation Army from Batemans Bay.

Well, the 05 Christmas party went off successfully and a good time was had by all. The meat was just wonderful and I will certainly pass on those comments to the butcher who supplied it.

All in all a very good Christmas Party and the venue is just wonderful. (I've never seen so many Santa hats with flashing lights all in one place in my life). Just one small problem with the party – "flies" – they were just everywhere. Jenny the dog tried hard to snap the flies (coming dangerously close to causing damage to a few members at times) but the flies were just too numerous for her to deal with. Thanks to all of you who came, brought along food and drink to share, and joined in with the preparing, serving, washing up etc to make it so successful. See you all in the New Year.

The AGM Meeting was held on Sunday 5 February at the Gundry Clubhouse in Moruya. 30 members attended and apologies were received from 3 members. Hans Ottevanger was re-elected as President, Barbara Reynolds as Secretary/Treasurer, Ross Constable as Newsletter Editor, John Van Der Huel as Website Co-ordinator, Robert Overdyk as Ride Co-ordinator and a new social committee was formed. Any ideas for social events please contact Tony and Di Pye, Ernie Baddeley, John Van Der Huel or Colin Black. We look forward to many happy social occasions as we are sure these members will come up with some good ideas. For those unable to attend the meeting, the financial state of affairs is as follows:

Balance at the start of 2005 was \$475.71c. Incoming was \$850.00, giving a total income of \$1,325.71, outgoing was \$666.95, leaving a balance of \$658.76. Discussions were held on reducing the subscription fees for the branch to \$5 and a show of hands was called for. The motion was passed. So your fees for this year are now \$5.00 Any of you who have already paid \$10 for this year (some members paid at the Christmas party or just before) can see me for a refund. Hans then reminded all members that their fees were due and payable to the secretary.

All the best, Barb.

**HATE CAMPING OUT, SPECTACULAR SCENERY, NARROW WINDING, DIRT ROADS ? THEN, DON'T DO THIS RUN!**

Three of our branch "dirt" blokes (no prizes for guessing who) did this beaut run on the 2nd and 3rd December, 2005 on a BMW 1150 GS Adventure, BMW 1150 GS Australian and Triumph 950 Tiger, all loaded with camping gear and the intended 3 days of food and fine beverages.

The run began at Narooma, passed through Cobargo, Bemboka, Dalgety, Jindabyne turning south through Ingebyra stopping at the spectacular Wallace Craigie lookout. From there, it was a winding descent, 1,200 metres down into the spectacular Byadbo wilderness, along the mighty Snowy River, over the "Jacobs" to our camp on the beautiful Pinch River, Barry Way.

On arrival, GS bloke, official ride weather man, cast his knowledgeable, bug battered eye skyward and forecast a clear, crisp, mountain night. Twenty minutes later, three dirt-blokes were preventing bikes from disappearing into rising floodwater, dodging lightning bolts while trying to remain upright in a force 8 gale. For the next two hours, the three sat on a picnic table, under a leaking shelter, discussing the merits of accurate weather prediction while

small, furry native animals were swept to their watery deaths around us. Two hours later, the rain stopped, a fire was started using most of our stove fuel (or was it our plonk?) and a meal, fit for a king was prepared. The menu? Italian sausages garnished in a light, crisp batter of BBQ plate rust, complemented by a side serving of strained curried lamb and vegetables (the lamb being strained from the curry). This was followed by a light, delicate pasta dish known to Adventure-bloke as, "pasta-turnout", obviously named as it didn't turnout anything like the picture on the packet. To round-off this fine cuisine, the trio supped on exotic, aromatic instant coffees, condiments and a few tubs of date expired, two-fruits supplied by Tiger-bloke who got them on special at Wollies.

With full tummies and contented minds, the trio retired to the campfire for a stimulating evening of intellectual intercourse and eye watering wood smoke. The discussions, bolstered by a few mugs of fine red plonk (or was it our stove fuel?) seemed to enhance the tales of past motorcycle bravery, general daring-do and numerous, quite vulgar exploits with the fairer sex, which disgustingly included other men's wives and lovers. It was a very funny and enjoyable night at the Pinch River camp.

A 7.30 start saw three, bleary chaps continue south along the Snowy then climb up on to the high country via roo infested roads, carved into evil looking, rain shrouded cliffs. Stopped at the Benambra turnoff at Black Mountain., GS-bloke confidently predicted clear, fine weather for the remainder of the run. Looking west towards Benambra, the other two could see the perfect storm brewing so donning more wets, GS-bloke was told very nicely where to stick his weather forecasts and the three gave the Benambra road a miss.

Heading further south into heavy, un-forecast rain, the trio decided to cross the McKillops Bridge via Suggan Buggan. Although considered a two way road, the last 15kms down to the Bridge is steep, narrow, dirt, really only one-way and more suitable for bobsleds and Sherpas. The drop from the road to the Snowy is, in some places, vertical for a height the trio was too frightened to estimate. The scenery here is spectacular and they would have seen it too, except for the niggling worry associated with a very fatal and messy plunge off the track.

Arriving at the bridge safely, the trio found to their surprise the 70th anniversary of its opening in progress attended by the entire four members of the local CWA branch. In 1935, the McKillops bridge was the largest steel bridge in Australia and it washed away 8 days before its inaugural opening despite being 15 metres above the mean river level. This large, very remote and out of place bridge is really worth seeing.

After a fine meal of CWA supplied sandwiches at the bridge, the dirt-dudes headed for Tubbut, through Bonang, Goongerah and on to Orbost for a late lunch in cloudy, clearing, fine, wet, deteriorating weather, according to the atmospheric expert.

After a scrumptious lunch at Orbost, all agreed it was looking really nasty in the Mountain direction the three wanted to go. To compound matters, Tiger-dirt-bloke discovered his tent had departed from his bike, so was without accommodation. Some in the party thought he used it as a parachute brake on the way down to Mckillops. So, after lengthy deliberation, a fast, wet retreat home via the Princes was considered the best option which, at the very least, would give an excuse to come back and do the run again to its three or four day conclusion.

**Total distance covered :** 835kms, approximately 250kms of it dirt. **Trio's comments:** Spectacular, can not wait to redo the entire 3 or 4 day run in dry weather through to Benambra and the Victorian Alps beyond. Adventure-dirt-bloke is banned from all future ride activities that involves food preparation. GS-dirt-bloke will have any future weather predictions placed where only his family doctor probes. Tiger-dirt-bloke is to wear his tent as underwear on future rides so it does not fall off his bike.

**Bike/road comment:** Could be completed on sensibly ridden touring road bikes in dry or wet weather. All dirt sections were easy 2WD vehicle negotiable. Thanks Adventure and Tiger bloke for another great run. (Apologies to readers for the lack of pics in this report but silly GS-bloke forgot to pack his camera.... didn't he! (OK, so I'll get then on the next run) Ed.

## Member's Parking

### EVAN'S BEAUT GROUP RIDE WITH HIMSELF TO BERMAGUI

A great ride was had by me. Got to the Bermagui pub at 1200, and at 1300 I left the pub and rode home to Batemans Bay. Here are two photos taken of everyone who went on the ride; one photo taken by me at the Visitors Info Centre at Batemans Bay at 1000, and the other, also taken by me, shows the whole group assembled outside of the Bermagui pub at 1200. Evan Holt #14924"



Above: Evan's photographic evidence of himself and the whole group at Batemans Bay and Bermagui, proving beyond reasonable doubt that he and the group did complete the ride. What are you implying here Evan? Ed.



### MEMBER PROFILE: Gary & Karen Erfurth

Karen & Gary Erfurth at the Feb 06 AGM looking very happy about their pending around-Australia trip.

These two members were interviewed (ambushed) at the Feb 06 AGM by the Ed. Both live in Narooma and have two kids and love riding their trike. One (daughter) is an inspector in the Victorian Police, the son is a mine manager at Mt. Isa. Gary and Karen have seven grand children. What they hate the most: Running out of Coke and Bourbon, especially the latter first.

What they like the most: Their trike, bourbon and sex. Gary was quick to qualify this by saying: "not in that particular order". It was interesting that Karen didn't say anything regarding Gary's qualification.

Karen's likes: Good times and fun which included sex and rock and roll. Again, Karen did not provide the order she preferred these things (ah huh!). Worst thing that has happened to them on the trike: Gary falling to sleep which required a sharp blow to the side of his helmet from Karen to wake him up. Both are looking forward to their round Australia trip which they plan to commence in late March, early April this year. So.... I am sure all members would look forward to seeing a few reports and pics of the trip in the newsletter on their return

Hope you both have a safe and enjoyable trip which does not require any more helmet bashing. Ed.

In the next (June) edition: A Dungog BMW rally trip report special featuring..... "The Terrific Ten & Fantastic Five".

## FROM OUR PAIR OF PYE'S

### Reply to Members Letter (Bob Edwards)

I will not continue the debate on Hans Report with reference to "retired or semi-retired Members: but close it by saying I too was 'miffed' by the report and probably had more reason for being so in that I have 'retired' (because of ill health) AND, having been actively involved in our Club and organisation of the 2004 Toy Ride, felt Hans comments 'strange' .... "that the only people getting involved in the club activities are all working normal jobs.." - a double whammy I felt was particularly directed at me for not taking on the toy Ride again (again because of ill health). However, the purpose of this letter is to correct a few comments made by Bob Edwards re the Committee for the Toy Ride - (which was never formed...so who exactly are these comments directed to, Bob ?) First the legal issues - (bear with me as I quote the 2004 Toy Ride as these relate to 2005 - the following protocols were undertaken:

1. Council permission WAS sought and given for use of the carpark meeting place at Batemans Bay.
2. The necessary "Confirmation of Insurance Arrangements" (Wagland & Salter & Assoc) fo Public Liability as requested by Council, was sent by the Ulysses Club Inc. (we come under their umbrella) and picked up and delivered by myself, and other forms signed as necessary.
3. Police permission WAS sought and given for the route the bikes were to take, and they (Wollongong HQ Traffic Patrols) were notified of possible road delays, stops etc., and also that Local Fire Brigades would be 'leading' us at different intervals along the way etc. (This was also organised 'legally' with Fire Brigade permission)
4. Permission WAS sought and given from various shop-owners re selling raffle tickets and putting up a display (of Eurobodalla Club) on/or near their premises, also a "Street Vending Approval" from Council was issued.
5. Information WAS sought re 'Gaming & Betting' (Raffles) through the Police re selling Raffle tickets, and due to the limited size of the raffle, the nature of the fund-raising the fact that MEMBERS were asked to buy tickets and only a limited number to the public, and the time constraints (tickets were sold for 2 weeks) - "turning a blind eye" was the response. When the 2005 Ride was first mooted and a Committee called for, it was with the above duties in mind to be taken care of. When no members were forthcoming to help on the committee, last years committee members suggested that rather than let the Toy run lapse, the format be altered. Rather than have a raffle - and this was suggested last year only because local charities let it be known that they could do so much more with cash and really had oodles of stuffed toys at Christmas (Tony and I hated doing raffles and I were not prepared to do it again) - why not ask members for \$10 entry fee for the ride which would be donated (similar to the Snowy Ride) - this again was discussed and dismissed as it is true we are 'not a service club, but a social club'....and there should be no obligation to 'pay to ride'....however, it could be left to members discretion - if they wished to donate \$10 and/or toys, great! but definitely optional. For the (Pseudo) Committee (Barb & Dave) this negated approaching Gaming & Licencing and Council for approvals, and also left locals and local businesses free from members 'begging' them to buy tickets and donate prizes - another embarrassing issue for 2004 Committee members as the public presentation of funds and resultant publicity NEGLECTED TO THANK ALL THESE PEOPLE WHO DONATED! (the final amount being \$4300, not \$1500 as stated in News item) As her first chore for 2005, our hadworking Secretary Barbara, undertook to write to all donors thanking them for their donations. The 2005 Toy Run isn't a "don't worry, just let's do it" thing, Barbara HAS approached the relevant authorities on the "Legal Issues" that Bob Edwards takes issue with. she has notified Council and Police of the Toy Run but because this is not classified as an "Event" on Public Grounds - it is merely a group of riders meeting to ride from one place to another (similar to regular sunday rides meeting at the Information Centre) then no formal protocols are required here either. So in closing, Bob....I really don't think it is Committee Members who would have our club "known as another bunch of dumb bikies"!! The "Toy Ride" has become an institution for many

branches of the Ulysses Club (and indeed other bike organisations). It was first suggested by John Allen in 2003 for Eurobodalla Branch to have it's own Toy Ride, not only to donate toys to children at Christmas, but enhance the reputation of 'bikers' and detract from the perceived reputation that has been held for many years on 'bikies and bikie gangs' and let locals know that Eurobodalla branch exists for 'mature' social minded motorcyclists who enjoy life and respect other people and the community. Let's show our maturity - make the Toy ride an Annual Event our Branch can be proud of and we as members can work together and be proud to help our club enhance its reputation by helping others. Dianne Pye. Ulysses Member #8782

### Dear Editor,

I too am one of the 'retired community' although in retirement I find there are not enough hours in the week for me. Building a house, looking after my 130 acres and cattle, fencing, weeds, etc. does not leave me much time for much else. Regarding the Toy Run and raffles: I do agree with Frank Hopkins about approaching local businesses - they do get hit hard.. especially at Christmas Time. Last Christmas (2004), Dianne and myself over two weekends selling raffle tickets (and it was a hard up-hill battle) raised \$1200 out of the \$4300 total raised by our Branch, and I would say the majority of the people who gave were the ones who could least afford it. It seems to be the same in the club .... the ones that do the most bitching in the club, are the ones that can least afford to do so! Why can't we just accept the way things are, and the way people are ? ...and just enjoy ourselves and the love of motorcycling!. Tony Pye Ulysses Member #878

### Editor, Eurobodalla Branch Ulysses club.

10<sup>th</sup> December 2005.

In response to Dianne Pye's letter of 5<sup>th</sup> December 2005, where she asked who my comments were directed to. I thought it was quite clear. My response was to Hann's report and the legalities of the Christmas raffle, which was discussed at the meeting at which she was present. If the legal facts were known at the time the meeting would have been the place to present the information. All my comments were made on the basis of discussions at that meeting. I hope this clears the matter up. Bob Edwards.

*Improbable as it might be for an editor to not like feedback, controversy or juicy gossip (yeah right!). BUT! this "horse" has surely been flogged to death and boiled down for glue. Time to bury the poor old bugger eh folks? R.I.P. Ed.*

## Branch Notice Board

### FROM THE RIDE GURU

We have just received an invitation of the St George Sutherland Ulysses Branch to join them on their Easter run. We can join them at Mogo during their lunch stop on Good Friday, then onto Bega, next day through the snowy area to Gundagai and return on Sunday. More details on their website [www.stgeorgesutherlandulysses.org](http://www.stgeorgesutherlandulysses.org) and I will provide details in the next ride calendar. Rob.

### Congratulations....

.....or is it commiserations to our re-elected President Hans, Secretary (Barb), Ride coordinator (Rob) Newsletter editor (Ross) Webmaster (John). Not to mention our new social committee members: Tony and Diane Pye, John Van Der Heul, Ernie Baddeley and Colin Black.

OJay's Coffee Shop on the flat in Narooma has an offer to Ulysses Club Members. 10% discount off any purchase to any Ulysses member on showing of their membership card. Good idea!! *Dave and Barb*

A popular manufacturer's new, very appropriate motorcycle and quad-bike safety slogan:  
**"STUPID HURTS"!**