



Rev'd n Rollin'

Official newsletter of the Mackay Branch
Edition: 29 – February 2008

Editor – Audra Allan (Naughty Audy)

audraallan@austarnet.com.au

Paul “Fluffy” Smith hangs up pen.

I would like to take the opportunity to say thankyou to Paul “Fluffy” Smith for his time as the editor and handing the reins over to me. Bare with me on my first official newsletter ever written.

I hope I can fulfil all your expectations and continue with an outstanding newsletter, so please if you have anything to contribute, photos or constructive criticism for the newsletter please feel free to pass it on to myself by the email address above or hand it directly to myself or Jim Mac Donald.

I have plans of covering your personal trips and places, stops and comments on the accommodations and roads to take or avoid.

Another section would be getting to know our old and new members, so please be accommodating and allow us to take a photo and answer a simple non intrusive questionnaire so we can get to know and put a face to the name.

If you have any other suggestions please feel free to let me know, as this is your newsletter too.

Thank for your support.
Naughty Audy aka Ed.

New Years Eve Party a real hit!!!

Welcoming in the 2008 year at Kevy ‘Care Bears’ place went off really well. Not only were there camel rides and kisses to be had but excellent camping grounds over looking the in ground pool (dam) with back to nature amenities.

As the night drew on the party tended to bring out many hidden talents. Did I fail to mention there was a talent scout in the audience and wanted to sign up few people like Brad sing “Black Betty” Bam Ba Lam, Allan Jung for the air Fiddle in “The Devil went down to Georgia”, Neil Craig as back up singer (after a hell of a lot of drinks), and these people are now requested to sing at next News Eve Party.



Many thanks to the club for the hire of the karaoke machine which was a wonderful. A good time was had by all. See the next few pages for more photos of the night.





Back to Bowen 2008 Australia Day Weekend



Approximately 75 people attended the annual “Back to Bowen” Australia Day weekend from as far as Cairns, Townsville, Burdekin and Mackay came to enjoy the socialising event.

On Aussie Day we had our thong throwing competition (the ones you wear on your feet), winners from the ladies where Lou Galea who gave an almighty throw and beat Audra in the tie breaker and the men’s was Jeff aka Bushy who put all the men to shame, when he threw the thong clean over the caravan park fence onto the bitumen road.

After many drinks and a long hot afternoon Kevy was all worn out...He didn’t know that the evil twin made me do this to him.



Just gorgeous isn’t he!!!

We then went out for tea at the RSL then down to the Dennison where we enjoyed karaoke, of course we Ulysses members got involved with our own hit singer Lou and Marita and the back up dancers to “Waterloo”, I reckon we took some beating.



Gathering before the ride

Sunday all Ulysses groups gathered at the Coral Coast Caravan Park for a ride through the township of Bowen up to Flagstaff Hill then back to the park next to the Coral Coast Caravan Park.



Later through the day the Kevy “Care Bear” Allan organised some more entertainment with the “egg and spoon race”, “catching and throwing a raw egg” and cricket. Later that night the van park put an outdoor movie for us and of course it was “Wild Hogs”.

I’m sure the members of Cairns, Townsville and Burdekin thoroughly enjoyed themselves and will return again next year.

The weekend went very well but way too short of course and hopefully next year it will be bigger with more fun and games.

More photos of the weekend on next page.





PRESIDENTS REPORT

Well the 2008 Mackay branch AGM has come and gone and after a bit of a shaky start the 40 or so members and visitors got down to the business of electing a new committee.

Those elected are: -

President: Jim MacDonald.
 Secretary: Swampy (Ron Waters-Marsh)
 Treasurer: Bryce Bathe.
 Member: Kev Allan.
 Member: Audra Allan.
 Member: Mike Jetson.

Ride Committee: Dennis Nixon
 Henk Botcher
 Marita Harvey.

Quarter Master: Bernadette Botcher.

News Letter: Audra Allan and others.

The Ride Calendar will be out soon, I apologise for it's lateness but the wet weather has stopped us meeting to finalise it.

I welcome all the new members of the committee and say farewell and thanks for a job well done to Paul Smith, Greg Walton and Wobbly Bob.

It was a shame to see Bernadette withdraw from her nomination for treasurer; and the circumstances leading up to it. Bernadette; there will be another opportunity in February 2009 and I do hope you have another go.

The problems with the dead club laptop have been ironed out. (We don't have one anymore) and the books have been balanced.

We started the Year with	\$1,837.41	in the working account
Income was	\$3944.06	
Expenses were	\$4192.72	
Closing balance was	\$1588.75	in the account.

A bit of a loss, but we all had fun doing it.

I look forward to seeing you all on rides throughout the coming year.

Keep the rubber side down people.

Jim MacDonald



The Long Wet Trip Down And Back

By Kev and Audra Allan

After the fun filled weekend at Bowen, Kev and I started our planned holidays. We rode directly to Rockhampton for the night and beating the rising flood waters predicted to arrive on Tuesday.

Departing Rockhampton we ventured west at the south roundabout towards Gracemere then through Westward, about 8 km's past Westward there's a turn off towards Dululu.



The view along the New England Highway near Westward.

The road along here is excellent with very little traffic and nice easy scenic ride to Dululu. It is 19 km's longer but actually 20 mins shorter than going through Mount Morgan and not as rough.

Through Biloela (no titties in site this time Swampy), Monto and made it to Mundubbera where we pulled up for the night at the Big 4 Three Rivers Caravan Park. It's the second van park on the way into Mundubbera.

We found it to be relatively new with clean amenities and \$25/night on a powered site. The Billabong Motel has a restaurant is just down the road and has lovely meals as well. Both places are worthy to consider when travelling through here.

Yesterday was the end of our sunny days. We ventured off dry only to run into rain 16 km's north of Goomeri, we turned towards Kilkivan out to Gympie, refuelled then rode down the Mary Valley passed Imbil to Kenilworth.

Here we turned left towards Eumundi but turned off again about 2 km's up the road towards Mapleton. **The road this way is not recommended if you are towing a trailer of any sort to go. Nor is the going down as from the top it is dirt road to halfway down.**

The Goldwing made it and in places it was first gear with the temperature gauge rising rapidly. No chance starting again if you stop.

Once on top the view to the Sunshine Coast is spectacular and well worth seeing. On to Montville and this is like a mini Airlie Beach in the ranges with lots of fine food restaurants, B&B's, cafes and galleries.



Coming into Montville

We stopped at the Ocean View Caravan Park at Maleny, it not a place for campers or tenting. We stayed in a Cabin which are simple, clean and air conditioned of course it rained all night. About \$70/night here, I would probably try the Landsborough Caravan Park next time down the bottom of the range. Next day we went to Brisbane for three days to see Kristy (Kev's daughter).

Goldwing gets exhaust made louder and is it loud!!

After Brisbane we head of out towards Ipswich and turn towards Warwick and pull up in Stanthorpe. Here we put up our camper at the Top of the Hill Caravan Park, only to have the biggest storm come through and rain all night again. Very clean and friendly. It costs \$23/ night on a powered site. This van park has a bistro, motel, camping grounds and cabins.



Packed up the camper in the rain and went to the muffler shop to quieten the Goldwing, only to have the sun come out. Then rode over the border passed Tenterfield, Glenn Innes, Armidale, turn off at Uralla towards Walcha. Where we stopped for the night....the rain was following us so another cabin. Rain all night again and when it was time to ride the Thunderbolt Way was closed because Little Manning Creek was over so we detoured to Tamworth, Scone, Muswellbrook, Singleton, Maitland it was bucketing down rain that hard that the helmet visors had water coming inside the helmet. Then through Newcastle (thank goodness for the GPS) to Swansea. Got the UHF fixed that day and ready to leave again tomorrow.

We decided not to go the putty road into Wiseman Ferry as the flooding and road conditions where too dangerous.

Woke up to a beautiful sunny day and it was great not having to put our wet weather gear and enjoy the ride back north to Nabitac. While in Nabitac we took the opportunity to look at the Motorcycle Museum, I know a lot of the members have been there but for those who haven't, do it! It's far better than the Powerhouse in Tamworth.



Lea you touch on this one Leaving Nabitac we went towards Gloucester which is part of the "Bucketts Way". Close to Nabitac the road is rough from patching and don't forget to turn off about 8km's up the road or you will ride 24 km's to a dirt road and have to turn back. We took the right turn the lady informed us at the museum about the road.



The Bucketts Way road near Nabitac

Where the upgrade has occurred it is really good, with gentle corners, wonderful sweeping roads and beautiful countryside. We ended the "Bucketts Way" at Gloucester and entered the "Thunderbolts Way" heading towards Walcha. This was the way we were supposed to ride yesterday but in reverse direction.

This is a road very popular with motorbike enthusiast with plenty of twists and turns.



As you get to the top of the ranges there's Carson's Pioneer Lookout to stop at. The view is fantastic.



Carson's Pioneer Lookout along Thunderbolts Way

Down the other side through to Walcha, then onto Uralla again. This was absolutely tranquil ride through the ranges and a ride well worth doing.

Light rain found us again so we pulled up at Uralla for the night and stayed at "The Bushrangers Motel" in the middle of town. We received a discount for the room of \$99 for the spa bath suit. The room was excellent and comfortable; Kevy enjoyed the spa bath immensely. The motel had a restaurant at restaurant prices so we walked two doors down and got a good meal at the pub. It poured rain all night again.

It was still raining and cold, on with the rain gear and heat seats and hand

grips for us. As the day went on the skies cleared thank goodness, we crossed over the border back to Queensland through Warwick, Toowoomba then pulled up at the Crows Nest Caravan Park. **This is the best kept secret van park in Queensland.** It was a 4 star park, \$18/night powered site it has cabins as well as powered ensuite sites it has a restaurant for \$12.50 all you can eat plus dessert included, it's licensed as well. (The owner is an ex station cook who cooks all the meals) and it was absolutely delicious. Everything was homemade including the ice cream.

The amenities are very clean and the owners friendly however they're soon planning to sell the park and travel around Australia in the rig below.



Brand new Kenilworth and 5th Wheeler.

From Crows Nest to Rocky for the night then we made it home behind the storm the next day. Although it rained most of the way we still like true Ulysses enjoyed the trip.

Full House

By Mike Boss-Walker

The following incident occurred on one of my first Ulysses rides in the mid nineties. My recollections are a little hazy but I'll do my best.

We set off from Burnie on a ride to Low Head on the Tamar where we were to have a barbeque. We stopped to re-group at Exeter for the final forty minute run to Low Head.

When we arrived half of our number was missing. So after sending one of our members back to investigate and stamping our feet in the cold for about an hour those of us who were left had our barby.

Suddenly the rest of our riders turned up and what a story they had to tell! A vehicle towing a trailer loaded with hay bales pulled over to the left as if to stop and our entourage started to overtake it. Suddenly the vehicle swung to the right in a good attempt at massacring our crew. Most avoided it but one member, Max, riding a lovingly restored British bike (Norton I think) flipped over the trailer.

Luckily he was not seriously hurt but his bike was unrideable. The woman towing the trailer stopped, was very apologetic and offered to assist by putting the bike on her trailer. This she did after having fed the hay to her horses.

When the bike was loaded one of our members had phoned the police and requested the lady remain until they turned up. At this she said "I'm not waiting for no f'ing police", and jumped in the car and disappeared complete with Max's bike! No one had helmets on and all the bikes were pointing the wrong way so her

disappearing act was a complete success!

A policeman duly arrived and with Max in his car they set off checking out local farms. Before long they discovered, behind a house, a car and a trailer complete with motorbike. Some checking revealed that the car and trailer were uninsured and that the driver was disqualified. The now red faced lady finally appeared.

The policemen pulled out his note book and by the time he finished I think he had written tickets for:-

- Driving whilst disqualified
- Driving an unregistered vehicle
- Towing an unregistered trailer
- Having a faulty indicator
- Dangerous driving
- Leaving the scene of an accident
- Theft of a motorcycle

It was a full house! I believe that later as part a bargaining process some of the charges were dropped and that Max did get some compensation, but he was without a bike for some time.

Mike Boss-Walker

PS. Max will probably read this and will, in his very loud voice, correct me on the detail. But I think it is pretty close to the truth!



FOR SALE



2003 VT750DC Honda Shadow Spirit

27,000km's, 01/09 rego, new sprockets and chain, new battery, serviced regularly, comes with 3 seats (original, met cruize gun fighter and met cruize touring seat, K-Drive saddlebags, windscreen, also included original Drag bar handlebars, cables and original exhausts. Well looked after and always garaged. \$9,500 ono. Ph: 49591446 or email Audra audraallan@austarnet.com.au

For Sale

Trailer & Black Wolf Tent.

Aluminium box with steel frame, 90Kgs dry weight, tent is water proof and best you can buy on the market, both in excellent condition. \$1,200. Contact Neil or Lyn Craig Ph:49541238 or 0428541238

Next Edition to come...

- **Getting to know old and new members.**
- **Ride calendar**

Motorbike Trailer

Steel frame and aluminium box, lockable, 11 mths rego, spare wheel, cargo pod with roof racks on top. \$1100 ono. Camping gear available if required. Ph: Allan Jung 49595926

Contacts: -

- President:** Jim MacDonald.
Ph: 49425046 or 0431840460
- Secretary:** Ron Waters-Marsh
Ph: 49421254 or 0415762476
- Treasurer:** Bryce Bathe.
Ph: 0419764458
- Member:** Kev Allan.
Ph: 49591446
- Member:** Audra Allan.
Ph: 49591446 or 0417326668
- Member:** Mike Jetson.
Ph: 0407054452
- Ride Committee:** Dennis Nixon
Ph: 0749590335
Henk Botcher
Ph: 49548886
Marita Harvey
Ph: 0417633000
- Quarter Master:** Bernadette Botcher
Ph: 49548886 or 0402946031
- News Letter:** Audra Allan
Ph: 49591446 or 0417326668
email: audraallan@austarnet.com.au