



RIDING ON TOO

NEWSLETTER OF THE ULYSSES CLUB

CANBERRA BRANCH

July 2010

Volume 25

Number 7

Newsletter 200

WWW.ULYSSESCLUB.ORG/BRANCHES/CANBERRA/

PO BOX 387 CURTIN ACT 2605

PRESIDENT

Peter Gibbins
Pgibbins@bigpond.com

G'day again.

TREASURER

Peter Higgs
phiggs@netspeed.com.au

SECRETARY

Ian Paterson
iansallypaterson@iinet.net.au

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ride Coordinator

Gordon White
gwhite@netspeed.com.au

BBQ Coordinator

Kim Gibbins
gibbinskim@hotmail.com

Social Secretary

Judy Perry
judyperry@netspeed.com.au

Trish Holdsworth

tonkatough10@hotmail.com

EDITOR

Vacant
RO2Editor@live.com

HISTORIAN

Peter Newark
pjnewark@ozemail.com.au

QUARTERMASTER

Jan Wills
janw@clicksrecruit.com.au

WEBMASTER

Gary McDonald
kurrajong@internode.on.net

A busy month for me engaging current as well as possible sponsors, committee meetings etc. and catching up with some of our long term members. The minutes from the last committee meeting are attached for your information. Following the last committee meeting Flip resigned and will no longer be editing the RO2. I would like to thank Flip for her efforts in the past and we now need to find a new editor. If you are interested in assisting in this area please let me know.

The committee has been looking at the responses to the survey that was issued recently. There are several issues and ideas that we will be investigating further and providing you with updates. One of our main focuses is that we are currently developing a more comprehensive ride calendar as well as looking at arranging more social activities. These details will be made available once they are finalised.

For those who visit the website, you will notice some changes taking place recently and there is more to come in future. We want to make this one of our main communication tools and keep this up to date and relevant. Thanks to Gary Mac for his efforts in this area.

Christmas in July is on the weekend of 24th & 25th and if it is like previous events this will sure be a lot of fun. The Tattersall's Hotel in West Wyalong is this year's venue. More details on this can be found in this months' RO2 or by getting in touch with Judy Perry. Some 34 people are booked in already and we have invited members from the MIA branch to join us on the night. This event will be held on the same weekend as our BBQ at CMCC, so if you are staying in town and interested in helping please let Kim know.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE ACT REGION: 700+

PRESIDENTS REPORT (CONT.)

Finally a quick reminder that the branch meeting commences at 7:30pm, however this meeting may run a little longer as Hal from TJ's Tyres will be on hand to answer your questions regarding tyres. We are arranging to have a guest speaker at future monthly branch meetings on various topics surrounding motorcycling.

Don't forget that if you have something of interest that you would like included in future RO2's, please let us know.

Anyway that's enough from me. Now to the rest of the RO2.

See you out and about.

Peter

Seeking Riders

On Tuesday 10th August, Denis Paulin - for those who don't know, he is the National President of the Ulysses Club - will be leading a ride to the Governor Generals residence in support of the Ride for Democracy. Denis will be bringing about 20 riders from Sydney, and we will need about 50 from Canberra.

We will follow the plan as outlined in the Event Brief and fit the flags as supplied, and set off for morning tea with the Governor General. We are scheduled to finish about 11.00am. The Sydney group will be lunching in Canberra so any of you who like, can join them.

If you are interested, please let me know by phone 0418 215 336 or email jenwoods@internode.on.net.

PS: The people who are organising the ride will provide fuel and accommodation for one rider to attend Broken Hill after the launch in Canberra and before the Launch in Broken Hill in early September. They will also provide fuel and accommodation for one rider to go to Perth.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Ulysses Canberra Branch General Meeting 15 June 2010

Meeting Opened: 7:35 pm.

Attendance: 41.

Apologies: Daryl & Caroline Palin, Evan Jones, Kim Gibbins, Maxine & Bryson Holden, Jen Woods, Peter Higgs, Flip Van Der Zwan.

Welcome New Members & Visitors: Barham Ferguson.

Minutes of Previous Meeting, President's Report, Treasurer's Report: As published in RO2. Carried.

Business arising from previous minutes: None.

Correspondence in:

Veteran Vintage & Classic MC ACT newsletter.

Ulysses Club MIA Branch newsletter.

Ulysses national office – minutes of Natcom meeting, Narellan, Apr 17.

Dept Health & Ageing – request for help with eye health articles.

Black Dog Ride invitation.

Correspondence out: None.

Business arising from correspondence: Ian Paterson asked the meeting if there was anyone who would fit the requirements for the eye health articles and would be willing to be interviewed and photographed. Two people came forward at the end of the meeting.

Ride Coordinator's Report:

Gordon White said 20 or so bikes turned up for the most recent ride, with some going to Gunning and some to the Illawarra Fly. He said some lessons are needed on corner marking.

A show of hands indicated substantial interest in overnight camping trips (i.e. staying in tents rather than cabins or our usual 7-star international hotels).

Peter Thomas suggested possible Sunday rides to regional and/or historic churches that would include attending the church service.

If anyone has Tail-end Charlie high-visibility vests and/or first aid kits, could they please return them to Gordon.

Social Secretary's Report:

The Ten Pin Bowling night will be on Saturday August 21 at Belconnen Bowling Centre. It will cost \$25 a head which includes two games, shoe hire, a burger and a soft/hard drink. We need numbers (preferably with money) by July meeting.

Judy needs numbers by the July meeting for Christmas in July at West Wyalong on Saturday July 24.

The branch Christmas party will be held on Saturday November 27 on the train to Tarago and back and will cost \$79 per head for up to 40 people (cheaper per head if we have more people – if numbers can be accommodated). Judy booked for 30 and will have to pay a 50% deposit **real soon to secure our booking**. Numbers and money will be needed soon.

Judy has investigated a planned overnight ride to Nowra to celebrate the Canberra branch's 25th anniversary on February 12 next year. Given that there is no suitable resort in Nowra, Huskisson was confirmed as a suitable destination. Also given that Feb 12 is Nowra Show weekend, it was decided to have the ride on the weekend of Feb 19-20.

(see next page)

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Rider Development:

Gary Mac modelled his new battery-powered heated vest. It cost \$240 including a charger and will keep you warm for 6-8 hours. Unfortunately he couldn't demonstrate how well it worked because the batteries were flat. Gary is still running Rusty Rider training courses – put your name on his list and he will get in touch and let you know what's happening and when. Contact Gary on 0408 434 549 or kurrajong@internode.on.net.

Webmaster Report:

Ride reports are needed for both the branch website and RO2. Gary Mac asked members to send any material to both him (for the website) and Flip (for RO2). To cater for forgettees, an email to Gary will now automatically go to Flip as well and vice versa.

Quartermaster's Report:

The gear ordered last month didn't turn up in time for tonight's meeting but Jan has tracked it down and it will be here for the July meeting.

Buy Ulysses Club merchandise through Jan and save on shipping costs. Order anything that is in gear shop pages in Riding On and pay for the goods when you pick them up. You can also buy and sell second-hand gear at Jan's gear table. Tonight Mick's bike cover was for sale.

BBQ Report:

Volunteers were found to man the BBQ at CMC the following Saturday.

MRA Report:

Peter Major reported on discussions the MRA is having with the ACT Government on drug testing. The government wants random testing but the MRA believes people should be tested only after an accident in which alcohol was not a factor.

Peter said the MRA was lobbying for more motorcycle parking. He also urged members to ring 000 if they see a crappy road situation that could be life threatening (eg dead elephants on GDE killed by lions that are still there) or contact Canberra Connect if it's just a regular crappy road situation that needs fixing or clearing (eg boxing kangaroos).

Ian Paterson said he saw underrun barriers/rub rails being installed below the Armco on bends on the highway just north of Toowoomba. These ground-level solid barriers protect sliding motorcyclists from hitting the posts. Peter M said they are also being installed in Victoria.

Natcom Report:

Leo Farrelly said some caravan parks at Mildura were asking for a minimum five to seven night booking during the 2012 AGM.

RO2 Editor's Report:

The **deadline for each issue of RO2** is the Thursday before the branch monthly meeting. Ride reports and other contributions should be emailed (with photos if possible) to Flip for RO2 at RO2Editor@live.com and Gary for the branch website at kurrajong@internode.on.net.

General Business

President Pete has had about 20 emails bounce back from each mailing and these apparently incorrect or outdated email addresses will be deleted. If you are not getting branch emails or you have changed your email address, please let Peter know at pgibbins@bigpond.com.

Alan Munday has booked a group of Canberra members into the Coach Stop caravan park at Maitland for three nights during the Newcastle AGM next year. He said even though it is an hour out of Newcastle, there are regular train services. There is also a caravan park at Lake Macquarie.

(see over)

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

(cont. from page 4)

Stuart Shilton said the RTA is improving the road where Heather was killed, installing a concrete divider. They were courteous enough to let Stuart know so he could remove the memorial and rose bush ahead of time. He will replace them in a few weeks after the roadworks have been completed.

The guest speaker at the July meeting is TBA.

Tonight's winner: Stuart Shilton won the Lucky Door Prize, a \$100 voucher from CMC. Alex Sloots won the Joe's Motorcycles wine raffle.

Meeting closed: 8:50pm.

Next meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday July 20 at Italo-Australian Club, Forrest.

Now this is what happens when you can't count ...Half tonne Ute ... with over a 2 tonne load! DOH! BROKEN!
This was taken last week on Old Northern Road Albany Creek, but not sure who by. It has about 2 tonnes of concrete blend and 200kg bags of cement in the back. A very expensive exercise, as a Department of Transport vehicle also arrived at some stage ... probably to offload a hefty fine.

Not to mention the charges that could be laid against whoever loaded the ute!

Wouldn't have been a drama with a FORD!



* Plainly carrying Yamaha's has weakened the suspension :-)

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING

Ulysses Club Canberra Branch Committee Meeting

7 - 8pm 10 June 2010

Draft Minutes

Present: Gordon White (Ride Coordinator), Flip Van Der Zwan (RO2 Editor), Peter Higgs (Treasurer), Trish Holdsworth (Member)

Apologies: Peter Gibbons (President), Kim Gibbons (BBQ Coordinator), Ian Patterson (Secretary), Judy Perry (Social Organiser)

Guest: Gary McDonald, (Web Master)

The Committee welcomed and thanked Gary McDonald for coming to the meeting and expressed its appreciation of the time and effort which went into developing and maintaining the club's website.

Due to the limited availability of Gary McDonald, it was agreed that the meeting would only discuss identified web issues.

The Committee discussed the current status of the club's website with Gary and it was agreed by the Committee that the delivery and content could be improved.

Gary informed the Committee that the club's national website was currently being upgraded and that had a roll-on effect to the Branch's website.

The Committee raised a number of initiatives with Gary which it wanted to implement.

One of the initiatives discussed was how the website can be configured to be more mobile phone friendly. Gary did not consider that this was possible.

Decision:

The Committee will revisit the option of providing a mobile friendly website once the club's national website upgrade was completed.

The Committee then discussed the layout of the front page and the current location of the Branch's ride and social calendar.

The Committee agreed that the ride and social calendar should be combined into a single list and that it should be put on the front page of the web site.

Options on how to present the ride and social calendar were discussed and Gary agreed to move it to the front page of the Branch's website.

Action:

- 1 The Ride Coordinator, Gordon White, and the Social Organiser, Judy Perry, will meet and compile a joint ride and social calendar and forward to Gary McDonald once approved by the Committee
- 2 Gary McDonald will put the combined ride and social calendar on the front page of the Branch's website

Gary raised the issue of ride reports and other information not being sent to both the RO2 Editor and himself as Web Master.

Action: Gary McDonald will create a new email address for all information would be available to both the RO2 Editor and the Web Master.

Meeting Closed 8pm.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING

Ulysses Canberra Branch Committee Meeting 6 July 2010

Meeting Opened: 6:55pm.

Attendance: Peter Gibbins (President), Ian Paterson (Secretary), Peter Higgs (Treasurer), Flip Van Der Zwan, Judy Perry, Gordon White, Trish Holdsworth

Apologies: Kim Gibbins

Sponsorship: Mick Owen, Gecko and John McGrath (Moto Guzzi dealer) have all agreed to provide sponsorship. Peter G suggested \$500 each and in return we will put their ad in RO2 and guarantee them a guest speaker spot at a branch meeting once a year.

We need to invoice them. *ACTION: Peter H (consult Leo Farrelly if needed).*

Peter G is yet to approach TJ's Tyres, Tuggeranong Motorcycles and Eurotune but will do so soon. *ACTION: Peter G.* Vouchers from CMC are in hand.

Wine and vouchers from Joe's Motorcycles are in hand.

Guest Speaker: Trish has agreed to coordinate guest speakers for our monthly branch meetings. She will approach and confirm speakers and pass the info on to the RO2 editor, Gary Mac for the website and Ian for emailing to members. *ACTION: Trish.*

Hal Caston from TJ's Tyres is confirmed as the guest speaker at the July branch meeting.

Heather Shilton Award: Judy has talked to Kyla Harvey et al and they are working on designing a plaque and getting it made. The branch AGM would be the most appropriate time to award it each year. The award will be announced and displayed at a branch meeting as soon as it has been made.

Website: The layout of the branch website, particularly the front page, was discussed. Gary Mac has already made some changes and these are to be considered and discussed at the next committee meeting. In any case, the branch website, and the way it is managed, will be very different after the national website is upgraded in a couple of weeks.

Ride Calendar: MRA Family Rides and Peter Thomas's proposal for rides to country church services were both discussed. It was decided to schedule the church rides on the same weekends as the Family Rides and see how this works. It was also decided that the church rides also have an alternative attraction for non-churchgoers (e.g. a country pub or Disneyland). *ACTION: Gordon.*

Gordon explained how Decide and Rides work and said they are not being run every month but are on certain dates for certain reasons.

Insurance: Peter H asked about our insurance cover, for example are we covered by insurance if a ride is not listed on the national website.

ACTION: Ian to find out.

Membership: Peter H asked if it is possible to access a list of branch member names and membership numbers. Peter G said this could be possible through head office.

ACTION: Ian to find out.

Social: Judy reported that Xmas in July is looking good, publicity has been done for the 10 Pin Bowling night, and the Tarago Christmas Party train trip has been booked and paid for.

Nothing has been done yet re the South Coast Meet & Greet on September 4-5. *ACTION: Gordon and Judy.*

Branch meetings: The results of the membership survey were discussed. In an attempt to arrest the decline in attendance at the monthly branch meetings, Peter G will tighten up the running time of the formal part of the

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING

(continued from previous page)

meeting to 30-40 minutes and door prizes, raffles, etc will be done at the conclusion of the program. *ACTION: Peter G.*

We will trial horseshoe seating arrangements at the July meeting. Judy volunteered to arrange the chairs but will need help. *ACTION: Judy and helpers.*

It was decided to see if the Italo Australian Club has a microphone we could use at the branch meetings. *ACTION: Trish.*

Emails: The role of emails in committee business was discussed. An email sent by the President to the branch membership was also discussed. Flip said she was resigning from both the committee and the RO2 editorship and left the meeting.

BBQ: Peter G will help Kim set up and organise a roster for the monthly BBQ at CMC. *ACTION: Kim and Peter G.*

Peter H has increased the BBQ float to \$100.

Banking: Peter H is looking at changing our account so we can use electronic banking. *ACTION: Peter H.*

Ride Leaders: Ian has sent Gordon a list of people who are happy to fill in occasionally as ride leaders. *ACTION: Gordon to follow up.*

Ride Guide: Gordon and Trish have compiled a draft ride guide and will work on a final draft to be submitted to committee members for approval. *ACTION: Gordon and Trish.*

Meeting closed: 9:00pm.

Next committee meeting: Tuesday 3 August.

Rider Development:

On a very sad note, this Saturday 17th July, another ACT Rider has lost their life. As individuals we often feel helpless, and that there is nothing that we can do. It may be too late to do anything for this fellow rider, but there is a lot we can do for ourselves and our rider mates.

The simple things. Like taking charge of our own riding. Practicing our riding and our road craft, take a regular refresher courses, and looking after our health to be the best rider we can be.

Then - Demand the same standard of friends and family - that they be the best drivers and riders that they can be. Remind them to look out for us, to take as much care that they can, for themselves, and for every one else on the roads.

Our network is wide. Our families and friends and their families and friends are all within our spheres of influence. Maybe its time we reminded everyone within our individual "reach" that each of us can try that little bit harder to be a better rider or driver. To do the simple and basic things. To Stop at Stop signs, Give Way at Give Way signs, obey traffic lights, to slow down, take our time and concentrate our driving and our riding to get it right.

I don't think this is a difficult thing to ask of those who know & love you. It might save your life.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ulysses Club - Canberra Branch					
Report for June 2010					
Income					
			Banked S1	Banked S2	Investment
15/06/2010	Xmas Party Payment	\$79.00	\$79.00		
15/06/2010	BBQ	\$194.10		\$194.10	
15/06/2010	QM	\$22.00	\$22.00		
15/06/2010	Raffle	\$28.75	\$28.75		
14/07/2010	Banking			\$194.10	
19/07/2010	Banking		\$129.75		
Presented cheques					
29/06/2010	Xmas Party Deposit #961543	\$1,185.00			
Expenses					
15/06/2010	BBQ expences June 2010	TBA			
Account Balances					
	S1 03409312	\$352.63			
	S2 03505049	\$979.76			
	Investment	\$4,174.52			



Thinking of a Two Wheeled New Zealand adventure?

Lex Schotel of Taupo Motorbike Tours and Hire says
 "Experience New Zealand nature, culture and adventure!
 We are a company that organises motorbike tours and hire in New Zealand
 and invite you to visit our website:
www.nzmotorbiketoursandhire.co.nz. See you down under!"



WHAT'S ON

MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7.30PM AT THE ITALO AUSTRALIAN CLUB, 78 FRANKLIN ST, FORREST. ARRIVE EARLY FOR DINNER WITH OTHER MEMBERS, BEFORE THE MEETING, FROM 6.30PM

Next meeting Tuesday 20th July 2010

Xmas in July 24th July

Tattersall's Hotel Xmas in July

83 Main St, West Wyalong NSW 2671

* Cost of meal \$35,

* accommodation \$25,

* cooked breakfast \$15

Accommodation Tattersall's – \$35 [S] \$50 [D]
\$55 [Twin]

Contact Judy Perry

judyperry@netspeed.com.au

62511 999 or 0438 511 991 if you are interested in going

END WINTER !!!!!

A GREAT WEEKEND AT THE COAST

4th & 5th Sept

Let's attend the Ulysses South Coast Meet & Greet together

http://ulyssessouthcoast.webs.com/download_documents/meet_greet_invite.pdf

They have put a great program together for us Starting with a meal at the Bridge Hotel on Friday night 4th Sept

Rides and shopping on Saturday and Sunday and a three course meal at Bomaderry Bowling Club on Saturday night[\$40]

Have a look at their web site and put a group together among yourselves

Let JudyPerry know if you are going so she can coordinate departure times etc

Judyperry@netspeed.com.au 6251 1999 0438 511 991

Canberra Branch Christmas party

Saturday November 27

Dinner & Train to Tarago

cost \$79 per head for up to 40 people (cheaper per head if we have more people – if numbers can be accommodated).

booked for 30 and will have to pay a 50% deposit very soon to secure our booking. Numbers and money will be needed soon.

Ten Pin Bowling night

Saturday August 21

Belconnen Bowling Centre

\$25 a head (includes two games, shoe hire, a burger and a soft/hard drink)

Please confirm with Judy (preferably with money) by July meeting.

NATIONAL MEMORIAL RIDE DAY

Ulysses Club National Memorial Ride Day will be commemorated by Branches and members on Sunday 12th September, 2010.

In remembrance of those members who have ridden on.

a short ride from McDonalds – Narellan, departing at 10.30am to the

Cordeaux Dam picnic area, off Picton Road.

There will be a short ceremony in order to pay our respects to our many friends who are no longer with us.

The proceedings will conclude with a free, sausage sizzle/BBQ lunch.

Further details contact – Bernie Rogers - 4655 6238

Macarthur Branch

www.ulysses.org.au/branches/macarthur
Campbelltown NSW 2560

FOR MORE WHAT'S ON:

[HTTP://WWW.ULYSSES.ORG.AU/BRANCHES/CANBERRA/HTML/WHATS ON .](http://www.ulysses.org.au/branches/canberra/html/whats_on)

Webmasters Report:

Members of the Committee have made a number of requests for website redesign - these are being progressed as time permits. A number have been completed.

The national site upgrade commenced on the 2nd June and is expected to take several weeks as per the advice below:

“Over the next few weeks the National website is being rebuilt behind the scenes. Starting today (2 Jun 10) a number of upgrades and changes will occur, which may necessitate the site going off line for short periods.

In several weeks, when the new site is migrated and goes live it will be off line over a weekend for testing etc.

An appropriate notice will be displayed to inform users and I will post information on the Notice Board and Discussion Forum in advance.

When it goes live users will be required to re accept the terms of use and Code of Conduct, prior to entering the site and Forums. ”

As a result of this work an alternate hosting of our own website is now available and formal request to the National webmaster has been made. Access to the new facilities will be granted soon.

This will present the branch with a useful opportunity to re consider the structure and services provided on the branch website. Time for a who, what, when, where, why.....

At the time of writing (from 17 June to 17 July) the current branch website has had:

- 263 visitors, mainly entering via the front page, and chiefly visiting the What's On, RO2 Newsletter, Ride Reports and Training web pages in that order of significance. There were a total of 435 visits.
- 96% of visitors entered the site directly, with just under 3% using another sites weblinks or a search engine.
- Canberra (strangely!) is the chief source of visitors, but all Australian capital cities except for Darwin and Brisbane, are represented.
- Australia and New Zealanders are our chief visitors, but we have also had visits from the US, Canada, Iran, Israel, Belarus, Romania and the UK

Happy Snaps for the New Website??

New website - new images - You know it makes sense - motorcycles, riders, riders pillions, riders pets, (no Cars though) - snap 'em and send them in - fame (but no fortune)

what are you waiting for!!

Wings over Hawker

By Ian Paterson

You might have heard on the grapevine that Sally and I bought a new motorbike – in fact you might have already seen it in the metallic flesh. It's a dark blue Honda Goldwing, a big, comfy touring bike with an 1800cc flat six engine, cruise control and heated seats. Well, there's a bit of a story behind this, so make yourself comfortable . . .

I wasn't even thinking about a new bike until Canberra Motorcycle Centre owner Mike Houston came to the Ulysses Club meeting a few months ago and said Honda Australia was overstocked with Goldwings and they would move heaven and earth to shift them. Even though I love my Honda ST1300 and had a great time riding it to Western Australia and back, that sparked my interest.

So Sally and I took CMC's demonstrator out for a 750km weekend ride, staying overnight in Young. It was great to ride but when it came down to numbers, the changeover price was way more than I had expected.

However, I found a second-hand Goldwing in the classifieds on the Ulysses Club website. A 2007 model (the same age as my ST1300) with 36,000 on the clock and a few extras that I would have added, such as a towbar. The best bit was that it was in Mackay in tropical North Queensland, where Sally and I lived 25 years ago. After discussing it at length with Sally I did the deal, flew to Mackay on a Tuesday morning and swapped a little piece of bank paper for the bike.

Canberra is more than 2000km from Mackay so I planned to take four days to ride home. I left Mackay at lunchtime on the Tuesday and rode about 330km to Rockhampton. Next day, in perfect weather, I headed over Mt Morgan, turned left at Dululu and rode south through Biloela, aiming to stay with friends at Toowoomba that night.



This is a wonderful bike road – hardly any traffic, mostly good surface, and plenty of bends. I was having a ball until I got to Monto, a small farming centre, and pulled in at a servo to refuel and have some lunch. As I stopped, steam started billowing off the right side of the engine and when I got off, the whole right side of the bike, along with my lower right leg, was covered in coolant.

My first thought, “Oh shit”, was followed rapidly by the realisation that “I probably don't need to fill up with petrol right now”. Instead, I did what any Aussie bloke would do in such a situation – I went inside and had a meat pie and sauce and considered my options.

It looked a bit grim – here I was stranded 1500km from home in a town of only 1100 people with a bikesporting what looked like a rooted radiator. What I needed was a Honda motorcycle mechanic, but Monto doesn't even have a bike shop so the chances of that were nil.

But how wrong can you be! Friendly locals directed me to the Monto Tyre Centre, which is owned by one Brett Avis, a former Honda motorcycle mechanic who had spent two years as service manager at the Honda dealership in Biloela. He stripped the bike down enough to see that it wasn't just a radiator hose – the right-side radiator had actually been punctured.

This is almost unheard of on a Goldwing because the two radiators are tucked away behind the fairings and face sideways. Apparently a small, fast stone had gone through the radiator guard, hit the fan and been deflected 90°, punching a hole in the radiator core.

RIDE REPORTS (CONT.)



After making lots of phone calls which revealed, amongst other things, that there wasn't a replacement radiator in the country, Brett decided that the only way to get the bike fixed was to truck it 200km to Bundaberg, where there was a Honda dealer and a radiator factory as well as the famous Bundaberg rum distillery. Honda Rider Assist agreed to pay for 100km worth of towing.

Up stepped Angel No.2, Nigel Street, owner of Monto Auto and Towing. He already had a big job booked for the following day but said he could take me and the Wing to Bundy. The only catch was that to fit it in, we would have

to leave at 4am!! So Brett drove me to the Three Moon Motel – the town's only motel – and then he and Nigel loaded the bike on the back of the truck and secured it. Now here's the funny bit – this motel is where Sally and I spent the last night of our honeymoon in 1985! The owners didn't remember me but they said they had only been there for a few years themselves.

Next morning I waited out front in the chilly darkness (it's winter, remember, even in Queensland) for Nigel. He was right on time. I climbed in and we headed off. The most direct route to Bundy took us through wild mountain country on some pretty hairy back roads, some of which weren't even sealed. The truck barrelled through the darkness, bouncing off the occasional kangaroo, and every now and then I glanced back at the Goldwing, seemingly hanging on for dear life but in reality sitting rock solid.

Nigel unloaded the two of us at Mega Motorcycles at Bundy at 6:20am. The manager, Anthony, who was expecting me after several phone calls from Brett the previous day, arrived at 7:30am, assigned his Goldwing-trained mechanic to the job and gave me a courtesy bike for the day. I returned at 5pm to find the Wing fixed and ready to go.

It was too late to ride anywhere else so I checked in at the nearby Park Lane Motel. I got chatting to two ageing bikers (i.e. about my age), both Ulysses Club members, who were also staying there. I had dinner with them and next morning, as we were going in the same direction, we rode together for a few hours before our paths diverged.

To cut a long story short (and it is getting rather long), I stayed that night (it was Friday by now) at Toowoomba and the following night with friends in Manilla before leaving on a very frosty Sunday morning to ride the final leg back to Canberra.



RIDE REPORTS (CONT.)

After six days and 2300km, I arrived home two days late and \$800 out of pocket. But, I have to confess, it was worth it! It showed me (yet again!) that when you're in trouble in Australia you're never really alone.

Everyone I met went out of their way to help me and get me back on the road, and I'm eternally grateful to them. I sent Brett and Nigel a bottle each of our favourite red wine, Lake Breeze Bernoota, a beautiful shiraz-cabernet blend from Langhorne Creekin South Australia, with instructions that if they don't drink red wine, to give it to someone else who has helped them.

So we now have two Hondas in the garage – the Goldwing and the ST1300. I love them both, the Wing for its comfort when touring and the ST for its more sporty feel on twisty-turnies, but come spring I will have to put one of them on the market. Sally have already done one 680km weekend trip on the Wing and we'll be taking it to West Wyalong for Christmas in July, so I think I'm getting a feel for what our decision might be.



Joe from Due South Motorcycle Tours contacted the branch offering a special motorcycle tour to coincide with the **Motorcycle Tour South Africa – Tri-Nations Safari Tour 2010**

TRI-NATIONS ANZAC RUGBY MOTORCYCLE SAFARI TOUR Friday 20 August 2010 to Sunday 29 August 2010 (9 nights, 8 days)

Due South Motorcycle Tours is owner run and offers intimate small groups excellent motorbike tours for those who enjoy riding pristine roads on current model bikes through amazing countryside. All enquiries for the above tour, standard tour set to your own dates or customised tours are welcome!!!

Due South Motorcycle Tours cc

PO Box 1500

Wilgeheuwel, 1736

South Africa

Tel: +2711 025 4040

Cell: +2783 652 4040

Fax: +2786 511 4760

info@due-south.co.za

www.due-south.co.za



Life's a journey... enjoy the ride...'

TRAINING OPTIONS

Here's a Letter from David Gibson reminding us of some of the training options available from Stay Upright here in the ACT.

Practice sessions - 3 hours of intensive practice of the skills

Intermediate Roadcraft course - 6 hour course

Manage the Road - 4 hour course

Bike Prep - a 2 hr basic bike maintenance course

Hi guys, (please pass this on if your are no longer the correct contacts for MRA, Ulysses and GOT'M),

Just touching base with a few reminders of our services and an offer for your members.

Some of our training options may be of particular interest to your newer riders.

Our MOST Open Mornings are on the last Sat of every month between 9am and noon. Open Mornings are a opportunity for ACT and NSW learners to come along to the centre, meet other new riders and have a go at the test 'just for fun'. For \$15, each rider gets a visual roadworthy of their bike, a stress-free go at the test under real test conditions, professional feedback and they take their 'scoresheet' home to see how the scoring system works.

Practice sessions - 3 hours of intensive practice of the skills required to take the dread out of the MOST. The Practice Session is followed by a dedicated MOST session for those who may want to test afterwards - max 6 students, cost of 3 hrs \$150 + test \$46 = \$196

"Intermediate Roadcraft course" - a 6 hour course. 2.5 hours are spent at the Fairbairn Hillclimb Circuit where we focus on practical skills (moving off, stopping, turning, accelerating, braking, maneuvering etc) then 3.5 hours on public roads for the practical application of roadcraft techniques (hazard identification and risk management etc).
Max 12 students, cost \$230pp.

"Manage the Road" - 4 hours purely on the road focussing on the practical application of roadcraft techniques (hazard identification and risk management etc).
Max 6 students, cost \$150pp.

Bike Prep - a 2 hr basic bike maintenance course run by JP, one of our instructors who is also a qualified mechanic.
Max 6 students, cost \$100pp.

Things are always a bit slower for us at this time of year so if anyone in the MRA, Ulysses and GOT'M wants to do the leg work of organising 5 or more participants on any given Stay Upright training course/activity, I will give them a 15% discount on the booking fee. This means a per head saving of anywhere between \$15 to \$45 depending on the chosen course. We will look after the booking and collection of fees etc, it just needs someone in your groups to coordinate and provide me the names and contact numbers of 5 or more definite starters.

This offer covers any training activity conducted between now and the end of winter ie 31 August 2010. If you can get the numbers we would be happy to put on a dedicated activity on a date to suit the group so long as it is before the end of August.

A full list of our training options is at <http://www.stayupright.com.au/act.htm> . Some dates are on our website, others can be obtained by phoning the office.

cheers
Dave Gibson
Canberra Region Manager
Stay Upright Motorcycle Techniques

Mailing Address: PO Box 480 MITCHELL ACT 2911
Street Address: Level 1, 39-41 Grimwade Street Mitchell ACT
Business Hours: 9am - 5pm, Monday to Friday
Email Address: dave@stayupright.com.au
Website: www.stayupright.com.au
Phone: (02) 6241 7610
Mob: 0418 617 100

Ride Report Major's Creek – 18th July

[Present in rough order of appearance: Gary McC-VFR1200 , Judy P-GT650, Gordon W- Tiger 1020, Arial W, Gary d-DL650, Bob E, Neil G Blackbird, Richard H-FJR1300, Jo M, Piers H-ER5, Flip, Peter H, William K]

Good sunshine and no rain as threatened. 12 riders ready to roll by not too long after the advertised time. Riders entered their name, bike and mobile phone number in the 'book' which our trusty 'tail end Charlie' Neil, wearing the high vis vest, put in his waterproof pocket. There has been debate as to who should carry the list because no one knows if anyone is 'lost' till TEC catches up with Ride Leader. However if someone chooses to leave the ride en route, it is TEC who would be notified.

Next stop was The Woodworks Gallery [within the hour!] where we met Terry F[and his son] a Ulysses member, looking well and as handsome as ever, that we have not seen for a while. He said he had been super busy but knew everything that was going on thorough the web site and RO2 and had been tempted to join us next week end.

The traffic was heavy on the Kings Highway which separated us somewhat and it was reassuring to see our trusty corner marker Gary, indicating a 'straight ahead'! I like riding in a group as it helps me focus on the rider in front instead of 1 mt in front of my wheel.

The pub at Majors Creek was warm and friendly if not memorable for the cuisine. The usual stealing chips from others plates. Fun conversations about nothing really important, except for the latest outrageous AP on the iPhone.

The youngest rider fed the juke box to play songs from decades ago which reminded us of our disgraceful youths?

Some went home via a dip down to Araluen while the rest made a bee line in increased wind with the end of school holidays traffic.

Anon



The Riders are in the Tardis

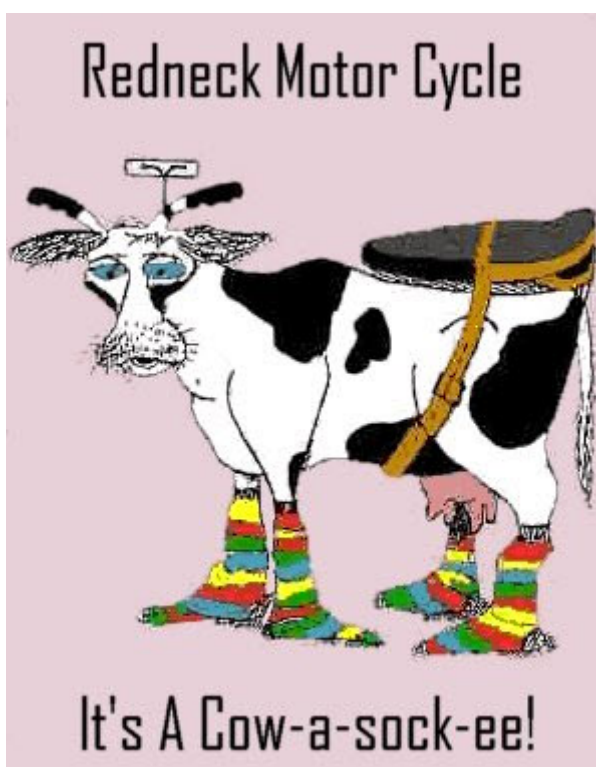
RIDE REPORT 2 (CONT.)



Majors Creek Pub - Warm!!!



Discarded furniture from the Tardis?
(sounds from our youth?)



THE USUAL SUSPECTS – Wednesday Ride September, October & November 2010

SPRING CALENDAR

DATE	DEPARTURE	RIDE LEADER	DESTINATION
1 Sept	10.00am	McDonalds Weston	(All rides are subject to prevailing weather conditions, i.e. NO guarantee they will occur.) Tim Chambers Uriarra Crossing, Cotter, Tharwa, Honeysuckle (L) BBQ (BYO), Moonrock Cafe (C) (180kms+)
8 Sept	9.30am	Mitchell*	Peter Wilson Gunning (C), Grabben Gullen, Range Road, Goulburn (L), Tarago, Bungendore (C), (230kms+)
15 Sept	9.30am	Mitchell*	Peter Wilson Bowning (C), Harden, Young (L), Moppity Road, Galong, Bowning (C) (320kms+)
22 Sept (280kms+)	9.30am	Mitchell*	Ian Johnson Braidwood (C), Nelligen, Batehaven (L) Picnic in Park (BYO) or Cafe, Bungendore (C)
29 Sept (School Holidays)	9.30am	Mitchell*	Denis Lawrence Barton Hwy, Bootrowa (C), Rugby, Crookwell (L), Grabben Gullen, Gunning(C) (320kms+)
6 Oct Bowning (L), Jerrawa, Dalton, Gunning (C) (200kms+)	9.30am	McDonalds Weston	Denis Lawrence Mountain Creek & Wee Jasper Roads, (about 8kms of gravel) Wee Jasper (C), BYO, Yass,
13 Oct (250kms+)	9.30am	Mitchell*	Peter Wilson Braidwood (C), Big Hole (Deua National Park) (L) BYO BBQ, Braidwood, Bungendore (C)
20 Oct (250kms+)	9.30am	Mitchell*	Denis Lawrence Gunning, Grabben Gullen, Crookwell (C), Goulburn (L), Tarago, Bungendore (C)
27 Oct (280kms+)	9.30am	Mitchell*	Peter Laidlaw Braidwood (C), Nelligen, Batehaven (L) Picnic in Park (BYO) or Cafe, Bungendore (C)
3 Nov (C) (250kms+)	9.30am	McDonalds Weston	Bill Uhe Mountain Creek Road (5kms of gravel) or Barton Hwy, Bowning (C), Burrinjuck Dam (L), Bowning
10 Nov	9.30am	Williamsdale	Peter Brooker Cooma (C), Jindabyne (L), Dalgety, Cooma, Bredbo (C) (350kms+)
17 Nov	10.00am	McDonalds Weston	Bill Uhe Uriarra Crossing, Cotter, Tharwa, Honeysuckle (L) BBQ (BYO), Moonrock Cafe (C) (180kms+)
24 Nov (280kms+)	9.30am	McDonalds Dickson	Bill Uhe Braidwood (C), Nelligen, Batehaven(L) Picnic in Park (BYO) or Cafe, Braidwood, Bungendore (C)

* Fresh Roast Coffee House (Jindebah), 30 Kemble Court, Mitchell (next to Canberra Motorcycle Centre).

Ride Leaders:	Mobile:	Email:
Peter Brooker	0429 918510	p.brooker@netspeed.com.au
Tim Chambers	juanitim@three.com.au	
Ian Johnson	igjohnson@hotmail.com	
Peter Laidlaw	0439 884984	pwaldial@grapevine.com.au
Denis Lawrence	0412 060775	denis@economicinsights.com.au
Bill Uhe	0438 299811	huhe@bigpond.net.au
Peter Wilson	0408 497172	0402 248553 peterwilson@grapevine.com.au

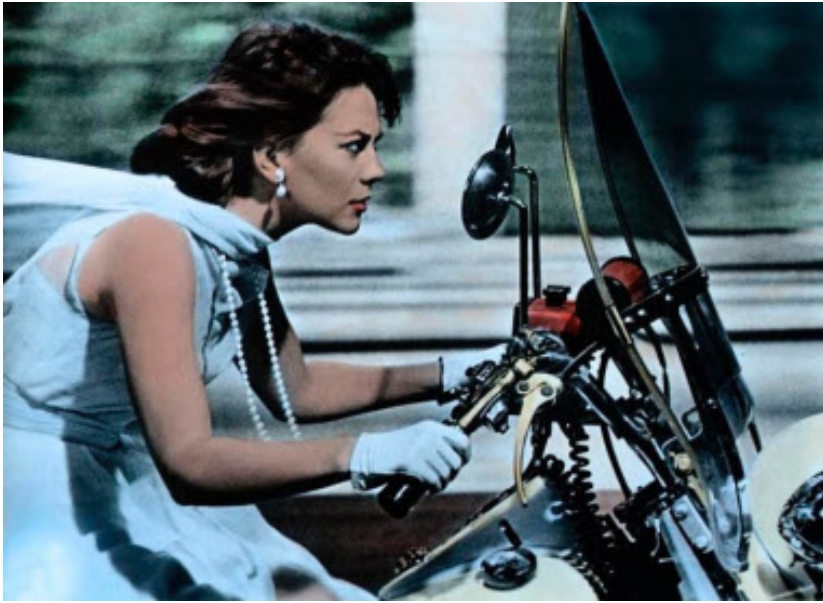
These rides are fun days, not a race or competition, please ride at your own skill level and respect the Road Rules.

Rides and Events Calendar July 2010 to September 2010

Notes: ACT Ulysses club rides are in plain black text below. Distances are return, and more stars (***) indicates a more challenging ride. D&R's (Decide & Rides) are usually held when there is no other club ride, or as an alternative ride when there is another activity on at the same time. For D&R rides the more experienced riders decide on the day where the destination will be depending on who turns up. **ACT Ulysses social events are in bold.** Significant motorcycling activities external to ACT Ulysses are shown in red. *MRA Family rides, in italics below, are held on the 4th Sunday of the month (when there is not usually a Ulysses club ride) to provide an additional ride every month for those interested in short rides &/or for learners.* Peter Thomas' "Church Rides" are shown in green.

Month	Ride Details
July	Tuesday 20th Club Meeting 7:30 pm Italo Club Forrest
	Saturday 24th CMC BBQ CMC
	Saturday 24th Sunday 25th Christmas in July West Wyalong (660km **)
	Sunday 25th D&R (Uriarra/Cotter MRA Family Ride) 10 am BP Watson
August	Sunday 1st Robertson Pub (440km ***)10 am BP Watson
	6th to 8th HAT Rally - Araluen FYI
	Sunday 8th C&C Collector Pie Shop (200km *) 10:30 Café Injoy Nichols
	Sunday 15th Durras for Fish & Chips (350km **) 10:00 BP Watson
	Tuesday 17th Branch Meeting 7:30 pm Italo Club Forrest
	Saturday 21st CMC BBQ CMC
	Saturday 21st Ten Pin Bowling
	Sunday 22nd (Gooromon Ponds MRA Family Ride)
	Sunday 29th D&R 10:00 Weston Creek Macca's
	Saturday 4th Sunday 5th 25Th Anniversary Nowra Ride (450km ***)
September	Sunday 5th Majors Creek Pub / St Stephens?
	Sunday 12th National Memorial Ride – Cordeaux Dam
	Sunday 19th C&C Grabben Gullen (290km *) 10:00 BP Watson
	Tuesday 21st Branch Meeting 7:30 pm Italo Club Forrest
	Saturday 25th CMC BBQ CMC
Sunday 26th (4 Hills MRA Family Ride)	

THE SPONSOR'S PAGE



MOTORCYCLE TYRE SPECIALISTS

**SUPPLY & FITTING OF TYRES &
ACCESSORIES**

19 LONSDALE ST BRADDON ACT 2612 -

tel: (02 6247 6804, fax: (02) 6257 5485

gearup@tjstyres.com.au



153 Newcastle St

FYSHWICK ACT 2609 Australia

Phone 02-6162 0002 or 1800 A-GECKO (1800 243 256)

MON-FRI:8.30-5.00, SAT:8.30-3.00, SUNDAY CLOSED

**CANBERRA
MOTORCYCLE
CENTRE**

Mitchel

**26-28 Kemble
Court**

Fyshwick

**Cnr Isa and Newcastle
Street**

02 62418107

Joe's Motorcycles Pty Ltd



15-17 COLLIE STREET

FYSHWICK

ACT 2609

Australia

Contact

Phone:

Alt: 02 6239 1442

Fax: +61 2 6239 1442