



3rd Edition, August 2005

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From the Ed's tortured keyboard

My thanks again to those kind members for the very positive feedback on the May/June newsletter. YES!, it was a big e-mail file and both Hans and I did have problems getting it out., although the biggest problems were ISPs rejecting member's e-mail addresses causing heaps of "bounce back". For this reason I do urge all members to ensure Barbara has your correct e-mail address if you want us to get this riveting rag to you.

Due to popular demand, and in order to keep the newsletter to a reasonable size we will be going bi-monthly from now on. So, get your contributions in NOW Folks for the October 05 edition and don't forget to hassle our ride coordinator (Rob) with any ride ideas you may have for his next ride calendar.

On other matters, Barb has asked me to publish a poster for the Charity Ride in December so I am proposing the name "ONYABIKE2005" as the theme for this worthwhile run.

However, I am in need of an appropriate motorcycle, "theme orientated" digital graphic for the poster center-piece and would appreciate any material or ideas from you graphic design and digitally adept members. Obviously, anything used in the poster must not be subject to copyright, if so, the Branch will need to have written approval to use it.

How does the idea of giving this newsletter a name sound to members? I would appreciate any views and name suggestions on this very critical issue.

In the next edition; Rob provides a terrific insight into bike racing in Holland. Details on the December charity ride and Christmas party. A central west NSW trip report by Ferg and yours truly. Two more members bite the dust in "Member's Profile" and much more. So! stay tuned but more importantly, stay upright. The very best to all. Ed.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi One and Al

We had our August Quarterly meeting at that great venue, Wave's Bar and Grill at Bermagui. The meeting saw the establishment of a committee to organise the Charity Ride and any one that would like to get involved in any way, whether small or large will be welcome. I know some of you were away on rallies or at bike races or were just too busy to be there, so this a plea to all those people who can help in even the smallest way. If you know some one that might like to give a prize and you can organise it, that in itself will be helping! Lets all work together on this and make this year bigger and better than before.

We are having the first committee meeting this week so don't be shy, join in give me a call on 44721543 at work or home 44723543. I would prefer to get calls at home and if I don't answer leave a message and I will call you back, I am normally home after 7pm.

We also discussed some other changes to the times on the Ride calendar and the Xmas party but Ill let the other's fill you in on the details as they are finalised. Remember to ride safe. But more importantly, enjoy the ride.

Cheers

Hans

In this edition

From the Ed. The President's report. The Cascades/Burlang camping run.. Bombardier's concept bike. Dungog (BMW rally) trip report. Member profile: "The Kawasaki Kid" and "Jerry The Lad". 20 sobering points from the "Hurt" study. Abstaining. More natural selection from the Darwin files. and the usual Member's parking and notice board.

The Cascades/Burlang (Big Hole) run

Below: The dirt bike boys, Nigel, Peter and Fergus taking a morning breather at Nimmitabel after a wet, pea soup (foggy) ride up Brown Mountain on the May 05, Cascades/Burlang (Big Hole) camping run..



In the 100 or so kms between Nimmitabel and Braidwood there are 3 beautiful pincio/ camping sites all located on the western side of Deua and Wadbillign National Parks and within an easy days ride of Batemans Bay and Bega. The run involved about 60 kms of good dirt roads, all negotiable by sensibly ridden road ma-



Above: The Cascades and Burlang ride crews rendezvous at the entrance to the Burlang picnic area. The dirt bike blokes met the above crew here after camping overnight at the Cascades camping area 60kms to the south. Unfortunately 2 of the 4 dirt bike boys (Peter and Nigel) were AWOL at the time this photo was taken. A magic ride weekend for all concerned and a destination to become the annual Branch camping area according to ride coordinator Rob. Ed.



What we may be riding in 2025

Manufacturer: Bombardier
 Model: "Embryo" concept bike.
 Engine: Unknown
 Fuel: Hydrogen cell.
 Weight: 164kg
 Max. Speed: Warp factor 6
 Brakes: Computerized linked to gyroscopic control.
 Mono wheel full time at high speed. Computer controlled, gyroscopically balanced.
 Stabilizer wheels deploy forward at below 15kph.

Karuah River Rally 11-13 February 2005

We had six takers for the four day trip to the Annual Karuah River Rally organised by the BMW Touring Club of NSW in the Chichester Forest about 30km north of Dungog.

Friday morning 9am at the Batemans Bay Tourist centre, Jim Bain, Arthur Flower, Robert Overdijk, Jeremy Quyle, Bob Edwards and Nigel McFalane set off on the ride. Fortunately Nigel road a BM so at least we had one of those amongst our midst.



The beautiful Karuha rally campsite. Photo: Rob Overdijk

The day was excellent for a long ride and after a quick bite to eat at Maccers we soon turned off at Bomaderry to go up the Cambewarra Mountain into the Kangaroo Valley. Various winding backroads with great scenery took us around Bowral and Mittagong onto the old

highway from Colo Vale to Thirmerre for our next stop. From here via Warragamba into the Friday afternoon city traffic through hot and busy Penrith/Richmond heading towards the (in)famous Putty Road. At last out of the chaos and heading north again. With very little traffic on this ever lasting winding road and with a much better road surface then on my last ride here 20 or so years ago we soon lost sight of Jerry and Nigel and after an overnight stay at Singleton we caught up with them again the next morning at Dungog. Some confusion about the first night's stay.

The ride from Singleton to Dungog is breathtaking and a must for anyone, except the road surface which is 90% filled potholes in places. The little town was abuzz with motorcycles. Our last leg to the camp site included 10k's of gravel road from reasonably to rough. Jim missed one turn on the gravel and he finally showed up 3 hours later after a drink at the Dungog pub, he had done at least 100k's on dirt and that for someone who doesn't like gravel roads!

The Karuah river camp site provided a neat but small swimming hole to refresh ourselves. In the afternoon the numbers increased to at least 200+ bikes and plenty to gawk at. During the presentations of the various rally awards such as the "Virgin" award, it came to light that Bob and Jim had never been to a rally before and were able to claim an award. We should have received an award for "best dressed" in our distinctive shirts. The night went well with the obligatory short rain-forest downpour not dampening anyone's spirit.

Sunday morning was slow for most but not Nigel as he left early to be back at work on Monday. Jerry left us at Dungog to stay with family in Newcastle. The return trip was via Maitland, Cessnock Wollombi to Wisemans Ferry. From here we lost our way a bit due to the lack of a good map but on the positive side, we saw most of Western Sydney before finally getting to Liverpool and the freeway south. Mittagong was the last overnight stop with a relaxed Monday morning run home. This trip could well become another annual trip.

Robert Overdijk.



Riding in the wet on the road to the rally.

Member profile: Arthur Flower



Left: Arthur (Kawasaki Kid) Flower standing to attention at Talbingo. Easter 2005 camping run

Born- 1940
 First job- Radio communications technician.
 Moved to Mogo in 1974 has 3 children (2 boys, 1 girl) and became a granddad 13 months ago.
 Started his motorcycle career in 1944 on a "Matchless".
 Worst experience on a bike? Getting booked 4 times in one night (Wow! What were you doing Arthur?).
 Best bike ever owned: Honda VFR 400cc
 Worst bike ever owned: "Adler" 250cc (German make).
 Dislikes: Cold hands.

Likes: Fine weather riding, good riding company, a good fire and camp on a winters night. Ambitions: Annoy hell out of the Shire Council and die at the age of 90 from gunshot wounds received from a jealous husband (a classic and very worthwhile Ulysses ambition Arthur!).

Having rode and camped with Authur on the Talbingo run, I must say, I have never traveled with a more well equipped and provisioned rider. Thanks Authur, it was a good run! Ed.

Member profile: Jeremy Quale



Above: Jeremy ("The Lad") Quale relaxing at the "59 Cafe" Cobargo on the 17th July Brogo run.

Born: Singapore.
 Age: 58 years young.
 Married with three children, 2 boys and one girl.
 Occupation: Farmer (now retired). Completed agriculture apprenticeship in Cheshire, England. Lived in India for 6 years when he was just a lad.
 Favorite bike: Honda CBR 1000.
 Best bike ever owned: See above.
 Best ride ever: The Isle of Man.
 Likes: Riding bikes, blues music and my wife ("the wife" appeared to be an

after thought according to Nigel and Ferg) Dislikes: People who tell me not to drink and smoke, old age and bad drivers.
 Favorite saying: "Get stuffed".

During my brief interview with Jerry, I could not help thinking that this lad has literally, "been there and done that" during his very interesting life. I also got the sense that Jerry would have been a big larrikin in his younger years and the twinkle in the eye would indicate he probably still is. I do hope the twinkle remains for many years to come Jerry! Ed.

CHARITY RUN AND CHRISTMAS PARTY

Don't forget this years "ONYABIKE2005" charity 3rd December and the Branch Christmas party 10th December. The "must-do" social event of the year! Stay tuned for full details in the October edition. Ed

20 SOBERING POINTS FROM THE "HURT" STUDY

1. Approximately 75% of the 3,600 motorcycle accidents studied in California by Hurt *et al* involved a collision with a passenger car.
2. The remaining 25% involved collision with a fixed object, including the road surface.
3. Motorcycle mechanical failure accounted for 3% of accidents, most of this percentage was due to tire failure.
4. In single vehicle accidents, rider error was the highest direct contributing factor. The highest percentage of rider error type was loss of traction while cornering or braking on various sealed (paved) road surface conditions.
5. In multiple vehicle accidents, the driver of the car violated the motorcyclists right-of-way in most cases.
6. In multiple vehicle accidents, it was the failure of drivers to "recognize" (see) motorcycles in traffic.
7. The highest percentage accident configuration (type) is the car turning in front of the motorcycle at an intersection.
8. Weather was not found to be a factor in 98% of accidents studied.
9. Most accidents occurred within close proximity to the trip origin (the rider's home).
10. Post-accident motorcycle fuel system leaks occurred in 62% of all accidents studied.
11. More than 75% of all accidents occurred within 45° of the straight ahead, line of rider's vision, few occurred at the limits of the rider's peripheral vision.
12. Non-manufacturer modified ("chopped" frame or engine) motorcycles were over represented in the total number of accidents.
13. More than 50% of riders involved in accidents had less than 5 months experience riding the motorcycle they were on at the time of the accident.
14. Motorcycle riders with dirt-bike experience were underrepresented in the total number of accidents.
15. Post accident rider interviews indicated that "lack of attention to riding" was the most common "accident factor".
16. Injury severity increased with motorcycle engine capacity.
17. Large engine capacity motorcycles were underrepresented.
18. 16-24 year old riders were over represented.
19. 30-50 year old riders were underrepresented.
20. Nearly 50% of fatal accidents involved alcohol.

Source: *Motor Accident Cause Factors and Identification of Countermeasures*, Hurt H.H., Oullet J.V. and Thom D.R. Traffic Safety Center, University of Southern California, 1981.

Abstaining

A young newly wed couple wanted to join a church. The reverend told them, "We have special requirements for new parishioners. You must abstain from sex for one whole month."

The couple agreed and after two-and-a-half weeks returned to the Church. When the Pastor ushered them into his office, the wife was crying and the husband obviously very depressed.

"You are back so soon... Is there a problem?" the Reverend inquired. "We are terribly ashamed to admit that we did not manage to abstain from sex for the required month..." the young man replied sadly.

The Reverend asked him what happened.

"Well, the first week was difficult... However, we managed to abstain through sheer willpower." "The second week was terrible, but with the use of prayer, we managed to abstain."

"However, the third week was unbearable. We tried cold showers, prayer, reading from the Bible.... anything to keep our minds off carnal thoughts.

One afternoon, my wife reached for a can of paint and dropped it. When she bent over to pick it up, I was overcome with lust and had my way with her right then and there" admitted the man, shamefacedly.

"You understand this means you will not be welcome in our church," stated the Reverend.

"We know," said the young man, hanging his head.

"We're not welcome at Bunnings either."

Source: Unknown. Ed.

Unfortunate Husband or is this just real natural selection at work?

This guy pushed his motorcycle from the patio into his living room, where he began to clean the machine with some rags and a bowl of gasoline, all in the comfort of his own home.

When he finished, he sat on the motorcycle and decide to give his bike a quick start and make sure everything was sill OK.

Unfortunately, the bike started in gear, and crashed through the glass patio door with him still clinging to the handlebars.

His wife had been working in the kitchen. She came running at the fearful sound, and found him crumpled on the patio, badly cut from the shards of broken glass. She called 911, and the paramedics carried the unfortunate man to the emergency room. Later that afternoon, after many stitches had pulled the husband back together, the wife brought him home and put him to bed. She cleaned up the mess in the living room, and dumped the bowl of gasoline in the toilet.

Shortly thereafter, her husband woke up, lit a cigarette, and went into the bathroom for a much-needed relief break. He sat down and tossed the cigarette into the toilet, which promptly exploded because the wife had not flushed the gasoline away. The explosion blew the man through the bathroom door.

The wife heard a loud explosion and the terrible sounds of her husband's screams. She ran into the hall and found her husband lying on the floor with his trousers blown away and burns on his buttocks. The wife ran to the phone and called for an ambulance.

The same two paramedics were dispatched to the scene. They loaded the husband on to the stretcher and began carrying him to the street. One of them asked the wife how the injury had occurred. When she told them, they began laughing so hard they dropped the stretcher, and broke the guy's collarbone.

A true story!

Source: Steve Hughes & John S. Conover. 1997, Darwin Awards, Urban Legends.

Member's Parking

Evan Holt would like to remind Euro Branch members that the Far South Coast Ulysses Club is off the ground and running. Their ride calendar now extends well up into our area and hopefully we will be able to meet up with their members on some of our rides. More info to come regarding our southern neighbors in the next edition.

Barbara (our unsung hero-of-a-Secretary) has sent out letters to all members requesting any unpaid or overdue membership fees and your correct contact means. So please, help Barb out and get your fees and correct contact information in.

Tony and Di Pye would like to advise members that John and Mandy have opened an authentic Turkish food van at Benandarra service station which is opposite the Durass turnoff. These good people will give Ulysses members a 10% discount on their yummy food.

Branch Notice Board

⇒ The "Kings Rally" Friday 19th to 21st August 2005 at Canyonleigh.

⇒ 14th Annual Celebration of the motorcycle, Bombala 17th & 18th Sept. 2005.

⇒ HMAS Albatross air show ride 30th October 2005.

⇒ Coffs Capers Odyssey 5th & 6th Nov. 2005.

⇒ The annual Snowy (Thredbo) Ride 25th to 27th Nov. 2005

ANNUAL BRANCH CAMPING WEEKEND?

How does the idea of an annual Branch camping weekend at Burlang (Big Hole) sound to members? Let the ride coordinator know what you think the most appropriate weekend would be. Don't forget to call or email Rob with any feedback on the ride calendar. He will be standing by his phone and computer around the clock waiting for your input.