



RIDING ON TOO

NEWSLETTER OF THE ULYSSES CLUB

CANBERRA BRANCH

January 2009 Volume 25 Number 1 Newsletter 194

**WWW.ULYSSESCLUB.ORG/BRANCHES/CANBERRA/
PO BOX 387 CURTIN ACT 2605**

PRESIDENT

Peter Gibbins
Pgibbins@bigpond.com

G'day again & Happy New Year.

TREASURER

Leo Farrelly
leo.farrelly@webone.com.au

Well the Christmas break is now behind us and the count-down to the AGM in Albany is well underway. Only some 6 weeks to the start of the event however many more will be commencing their journey's well before this.

SECRETARY

Ian Paterson
iansallypaterson@iinet.net.au

I cannot report much for the last month as I have been up north with the family for a couple of weeks. There are many items to be progressed however most of the focus will be on the AGM. I was planning to attend the Capital Rally last weekend however dark forces prevented this from occurring. If anyone from the Branch attended it would be good to hear about it at the next meeting or even provide a ride report.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jennifer Woods
jenwoods@internode.on.net

Flip
flip.dover@incanberra.com.au

David McIlroy

Peter Arday
pjarday@westnet.com.au

If you have not had a chance to look lately, the branch website has been updated. It is good to see that there are more contributions to "My Bike and Me" however I feel that there are others who may wish to contribute. If you do, please forward your details to Gary Mac for uploading.

EDITOR

Flip
RO2Editor@live.com

An order for the Club shirts has been placed with a deposit being paid by the Club. If you have ordered one of the new branch shirts, could you please arrange for payment once these have been received? Tim Hobson is coordinating this for us.

HISTORIAN

Peter Newark
pjnewark@ozemail.com.au

Also just a quick reminder that following the last meeting we will now be commencing the branch meeting at 7:30pm rather than 8:00pm in future.

QUARTERMASTER

Jan Wills
janw@clicksrecruit.com.au

WEBMASTER

Gary McDonald
kurrajong@internode.on.net

See you out and about.

New Members and Visitors:

NONE

--Peter

MEMBERSHIP IN THE ACT REGION: 400+

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Meeting Opened: 8:05 pm.

Attendance: 53.

Apologies: Chas & Jen Towie, Sharon Costigan, Suzanne Arday, Norm MacLachlan, Jim Wadsworth, John Grunberg, Trevor McLeod.

Welcome New Members & Visitors: None.

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

Business arising from previous minutes: None.

Correspondence in:

Newsletters from Ulysses Club MIA branch and VVC MC ACT.

Arthritis ACT newsletter.

Invitation to attend VVCMC ACT's 33rd annual rally, Canberra Carotel, 23–25 Jan 2010.

Invitation to attend Ulysses Cotton Country Cruisers' 8th Moree Muster, 30 Apr–3 May 2010.

Invitation to take part in Shannons Wheels Expo, Old Parly House Lawns, 21 Mar 2010.

Flyer for Great Southern Motorcycle Only Swap Meet, Goulburn, 17 Jan 2010.

Flyer from Mototech Motorcycle Smash Repairs, Smithfield, NSW.

Experience Esperance tourist info (see Ian to have a look at this).

Correspondence out: Nil.

Business arising from correspondence: None.

Rider Development:

Gary Mac still has vacancies for Rusty Riders refresher courses – contact him on 0408 434 549 or kurrajong@internode.on.net. Gary also advised everyone to prepare their bikes and themselves for holiday riding so we can all meet again don't know where don't know when some sunny day this side of the great divide.

Webmaster Report:

Gary was very excited about Google Analytics, which tells us how many people have visited our branch website (603 visits by 327 unique visitors from Nov 14 to Dec 14) and where they're from (mostly Canberra, then the rest of Australia, with a few from UK, Canada, Denmark, Philippines and one from Hong Kong, though the latter coincided suspiciously with a visit to HK by Judy Perry). Me and My Bike stories and photos are still needed, as are ride reports and photos.

Ride Coordinator's Report:

Peter Arday deputised for Trevor McLeod and reminded us to check the starting times of rides on the Ride Calendar (in RO2 or on the website) as some summer rides start at 8:30 or even 7:30am so we can be home before the worst heat of the day.

Peter has received a few emails complaining about excessive speed on some rides. Despite this, the only rider pulled over by the police on recent rides was the slowest rider in the group, who was warned for doing 106 km/h on L plates.

Peter said Trevor's prognosis had improved and "whatever he's got won't kill him immediately". Nonetheless, new blood and fresh ideas are urgently needed on the Ride Committee – anyone who can help out, please see Peter or Trevor. "I've been doing it for years so it can't be that hard," Peter said. Judy Perry immediately jumped to her feet and volunteered. Any more takers??

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Quartermaster's Report:

New Ulysses Club polo shirts (not branch shirts) have been held up but should be available at the February meeting. Buy Ulysses Club merchandise through Jan and save on shipping costs. Pay for the goods when you pick them up.

Jan's gear table is now partly a swap meet where you can buy and sell second-hand gear. Tonight's offering included riding boots, a riding jacket and a woman's leather vest.

MRA Report:

Jen Woods thanked everyone who took part in the Christmas Toy Run, the most successful to date. Ulysses Club again won the Christa Power Memorial Trophy for the biggest attendance while Graeme and Lin Barber's amazingly modified Kawasaki Vulcan Classic was judged the best decorated bike and Mal Garner's coin jar raised an incredible \$665.

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

Snowy Hydro SouthCare CEO Steve Gregory was on hand to accept a cheque for \$2500 raised at our monthly BBQs at CMC. Steve said SouthCare was grateful for our support over at least the past five years. "You'll never know how much your donations are appreciated," he said. "Part of our job is recovering motorcyclists, usually through no fault of their own, and we can't exist and can't save lives without donations like yours."

Steve said it costs \$4 million a year to keep the rescue helicopter in the air but SouthCare has to compete with aggressive fundraising by NRMA CareFlight, even though CareFlight doesn't operate in our region. Keep this in mind next time you get a phone call from CareFlight begging for money.

New meeting time: Members voted to start the monthly meetings at 7:30pm from January.

Volunteers are still urgently needed for the BBQ committee so we can continue our community fundraising. See Flip.

Last call for Branch polo shirts – see Tim Hobson.

The branch Christmas Party proved to be a sensational night, with excellent tucker, great music and a spectacular wardrobe malfunction when Bryson suddenly, unexpectedly and unashamedly appeared on the dance floor wearing Kyla's dress.

Quilt raffle: A QS quilt crocheted by Maxine will be raffled in Jan-Feb.

Motorcycle pants: Kenn Lowis of Neds Motorcycle Wear (a Ulysses member) brought along a selection of Kevlar lined pants and set up portable changing rooms and credit card facilities. Members responded enthusiastically. He'll also be at the AGM in Albany.

Tonight's winners: Dave McIlroy won a t-shirt from Neds. Derek Titheradge won the Lucky Door Prize, a \$100 voucher from CMC. Tim Hobson won the wine raffle.

Meeting closed: 9:25pm.

Next meeting: 7:30pm Tuesday January 19 at Italo-Australian Club, Forrest.

WHAT'S ON

MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 8PM AT THE ITALO AUSTRALIAN CLUB, 78 FRANKLIN ST, FORREST. DINNER WITH OTHER MEMBERS, BEFORE THE MEETING, FROM 6.30PM

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2010

Anzac Day

2010

24th, 25th, 26th April

Three days and two nights at Young Tourist Park.

All welcome, it will be another great weekend away.

Saturday easy ride to Young. Dinner that night at Young Services' Club.

Sunday early bbq breakfast, then about an hour's ride to Temora for Anzac Day Service.

After Service lunch at Temore Services' Club or make your own arrangements. The Air Show will be on for those who wish to go there.

Sunday night will be a bbq dinner.

Monday bbq breakfast, pack up then head for home.

Members coming along for the weekend will need to supply all their own food and drinks. Members will also be expected to make own bookings.

Bookings for accommodation can be made by contacting Len or Karen on 0263822190.

There are a few types of cabin ranging in price from \$66 to \$81.40.

Booking early would be best. Let Len or Karen know if you need linen when you book.

Darryl Palin and Peter Arday are the organisers.

Please let them know if you decide to join us.



Greetings all,

Eight Suspects arrived at Williamsdale for today's hot outing. Three Suzukis, 2 BMWs, a Triumph, a Guzzi and a Gilera. The morning was pretty comfortable but the afternoon was starting to warm up a little. Definitely a day for lightweight summer jackets with all the vents open.

A leisurely cruise to Cooma put us at the Bakery at 10:30. The Bakery coped well with the smaller group. We set out to explore a backway to Jindabyne and regrouped at the Fry-ing Pan turnoff along the Adaminaby Rd. It's a narrow country road and winds up and down through a dramatic landscape of scattered granite boulders and pops out at Berridale. Very pleasant and then into Jindabyne. The courtyard lunch spot was cool and shaded with a choice of cafes and a bakery close by.

Two of our riders were eager for an early return by the direct route to Canberra. So we parted, with the main group (6) crossing to Dalgety and on to Cooma via Maffra (along the Bombala Rd). The road climbs steadily out of Dalgety until you emerge on to the high plains. The landscape is vast stretching to blue hills on the horizon all around. And the undulating treeless plains are harsh and windswept. And it is hot and it is dry. Stunning and beautiful.

We breezed through Cooma and pushed on to Bredbo to find that our two other Suspects were still there enjoying a cooling drink. The break was welcome so we dawdled a while before the final stretch back to the Nation's capital.

Betty was back in the garage at 3:40 with 390kms on the clock. For riders from northern Canberra, add 30 minutes and 50kms.

Greetings all,

Eighteen riders made the rendezvous at Weston plus one pillion. A very good turnout including a few seldom seen Suspects from days gone by. I led off on schedule at 10:30 to ride to the Cotter via Urriara Crossing. I thought I was doing pretty well keeping the pack at bay until I discovered that the speed limit has been revised downwards from 100kph to 80 kph for much of the way. (The speed limit from the Cotter/Tharwa Rd turnoff to Point Hut Crossing has similarly been reset to 80kph).

Anyway we all arrived for a quick head count (3 came in later having taken an extended detour on the Brindabella Rd to the end of the tar).

As expected we arrived quite early for lunch at Honeysuckle Creek some time around 11:30. A shady rest was most appreciated but the temperature was building for our return. Depending on commitments, some riders returned to the big smoke, some rode via Macca's at Conder, and a few stopped by at the Moonrock Cafe (including myself). Laurie sampled an affogato (an espresso shot poured over a scoop of vanilla icecream). It looked quite refreshing so I might try one myself next time.

The return trip was quite hot so I was glad to get home at around 2:30 with approx 160kms on the clock.

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Greetings all,

There were 8 Suspects at Macca's for the day's outing which set off at 9:30. I was mindful of my speed as we headed to Urriara since I had been told that the limit was now 80kph, However I noticed some advisory speed signs at specific curves quoting "85kph". Then I did see an 80kph speed limit as I approached the descent to the Crossing and 60kph at the crossing. Anyway my speedo (adapted from an electronic push-bike unit) was acting erratically. When I washed the bike recently I knocked the magnetic sensor on the front wheel loose. I had tightened it but I thought it was acting up again. The readouts became more random and finally I glanced down and the speedo was missing altogether. I retraced my steps and found it on the road while the others rode on. I suspect now that the sensor was fine but the speedo unit itself was loose in its carriage and finally fell off.

At Yass we were joined by 3 others. Derek had travelled direct from Queanbeyan. Frank and Taffy joined us for coffee only and returned to the big smoke.

The run to Gunning via Jerrawa and Dalton was good fun and we arrived for an early lunch at around noon. Ossie Bob was waiting for us, having been forced on to 4 wheels due to a troublesome knee injury. Lunch at the Old Hume Cafe was most convivial with our hostess Melinda.

From there it was all roads lead home. I followed the designated route to Hall via Nani-ma Road. I had a chocolate Paddle Pop frozen milkshake (it's a paddle pop served in a paper cup and eaten with a spoon... most refreshing).

I returned home by the GDE but hit a long hot delay at the Glenlock interchange due to extensive road works. My clutch hand was nearly worn out from the stop/start and I feared for my air-cooled engine in the heat. I must have spent 15-20 minutes there.

But... I was home by 3:00pm . The odometer read 22.5km which was all it had recorded when I picked it up off Mountain Creek Road.

THE CAT IN THE HAT

On Aging



I cannot see
I cannot pee
I cannot chew
I cannot screw
Oh my god, what can I do?
My memory shrinks
My hearing stinks
No sense of smell
I look like hell
My mood is bad - can you tell?
My body's drooping
Have trouble pooping
The Golden Years
have come at last
The Golden Years
can kiss my ass.

Posted on January 07, 2010.

Johnstown, PA (GlossyNews) – Local and state police scoured the hills outside rural Johnstown, Pennsylvania, after reports of three animal rights activists going missing after attempting to protest the wearing of leather at a large motorcycle gang rally this weekend. Two others, previously reported missing, were discovered by fast food workers “duct taped inside several fast food restaurant dumpsters,” according to police officials.

“Something just went wrong,” said a still visibly shaken organizer of the protest. “Something just went horribly, horribly, wrong.”

The organizer said a group of concerned animal rights activist groups, “growing tired of throwing fake blood and shouting profanities at older women wearing leather or fur coats,” decided to protest the annual motorcycle club event “in a hope to show them our outrage at their wanton use of leather in their clothing and motor bike seats.” “In fact,” said the organizer, “motorcycle gangs are one of the biggest abusers of wearing leather, and we decided it was high time that we let them know that we disagree with them using it...ergo, they should stop.”

According to witnesses, protesters arrived at the event in a vintage 1960’s era Volkswagen van and began to pelt the gang members with balloons filled with red colored water, simulating blood, and shouting “you’re murderers” to passers by. This, evidently, is when the brouhaha began.

“They peed on me!!!” charged one activist. “They grabbed me, said I looked like I was French, started calling me ‘La Trene’, and duct taped me to a tree so they could pee on me all day!”

“I...I was trying to show my outrage at a man with a heavy leather jacket, and he...he didn’t even care. I called him a murderer, and all he said was, ‘You can’t prove that.’ Next thing I know he forced me to ride on the back of his motorcycle all day, and would not let me off, because his girl friend was out of town and I was almost a woman.”

Still others claimed they were forced to eat hamburgers and hot dogs under duress. Those who resisted were allegedly held down while several bikers “farted on their heads.”

Police officials declined comments on any leads or arrests due to the ongoing nature of the investigation, however, organizers for the motorcycle club rally expressed “surprise” at the allegations.

“That’s preposterous,” said one high-ranking member of the biker organizing committee. “We were having a party, and these people showed up and were very rude to us. They threw things at us, called us names, and tried to ruin the entire event. So, what did we do? We invited them to the party! What could be more friendly than that? You know, just because we are all members of motorcycle clubs does not mean we do not care about inclusiveness. Personally, I think it shows a lack of character for them to be saying such nasty things about us after we bent over backwards to make them feel welcome.”

When confronted with the allegations of force-feeding the activists meat, using them as ad hoc latrines, leaving them incapacitated in fast food restaurant dumpsters, and ‘farting on their heads,’ the organizer declined to comment in detail. “That’s just our secret handshake,” assured the organizer.

RIDE CALENDER

Weekend Ride calendar

Weekend rides fall into one of the following categories - (Decide & Ride) informal ride, (Chomp & Chat <250kms) shorter and easier rides, suited to less experienced riders or those returning to motorcycling after a long break, (Ride Days >400kms) will have a ride leader and be on challenging roads suited to the more experienced riders capable of riding at the speed limit for 6-8 hours. Most rides will start from either the Caltex Servo cnr Federal Hwy & Antill St., Watson, the Caltex Servo cnr Monaro Hwy and Sheppard St, Hume or the new Caltex Service Station cnr Curran Drive and O'Hanlon Place, Nicholls.

Please Note: Earlier start times to allow runs in the cooler part of the day.

Skill Definitions: **0.** Ride skill is undefined. **2.** Suitable for most riders.
1. Long and difficult. **3.** Short easy ride; an easy day. Suitable for everyone

Ride Calendar on the National Ulysses Website reflects the most current information.

Start Date	Finish Date	Locations	Ride Title	Skill
12-Dec-09	12-Dec-09	From: Old Parliament House	MRA Toy Run	3
8:30:00	12:30:00	To: Civic		
13-Dec-09	13-Dec-09	From: Caltex Servo, Watson	Comp & Chat	3
10:00:00	15:00:00	To: Taralga		
20-Dec-09	20-Dec-09	From: Caltex Servo, Hume	Club Ride	1
8:30:00	17:00:00	To: Tathra	(experienced riders)	
27-Dec-09	27-Dec-09	From: Caltex Servo, Watson	Decide & Ride	0
9:00:00	15:00:00	To: be decided on the day.		
3-Jan-10	3-Jan-10	From: Caltex Servo, Nicholls	Club Ride	2
7:30:00	12:00:00	To: Young via the twisties.		
10-Jan-10	10-Jan-10	From: Caltex Servo, Hume	Chomp & Chat	3
11:00:00	14:30:00	To: Captains Flat		
17-Jan-10	17-Jan-10	From: Caltex Servo, Watson	Decide & Ride	0
8:00:00	12:00:00	To: be decided on the day.		
24-Jan-10	24-Jan-10	From: Caltex Servo, Nicholls	Club Ride	2
9:00:00	16:30:00	To: Wyangala Dam (BYO BBQ)		
31-Jan-10	31-Jan-10	From: Caltex Servo, Watson	Club Ride	2
8:30:00	16:30:00	To: Illawarra Fly		

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USUAL SUSPECTS RIDE CALENDER

The "Usual Suspects" are a group of riders who meet outside the organised Ulysess Club rides. Most, but not all are Ulysses members. For further details, contact Peter Brooker - details below.

"USUAL SUSPECTS" - SUMMER CALENDER

School holidays... 21 Dec to 27 Jan

December 2009, January and February 2010

DATE	DEPARTURE TIME	DESTINATION
2 Dec	9.30am - McDonalds Dickson	Boorowa (C) Crookwell (L) Gunning (C) 311km
9 Dec	9.30am - McDonalds Dickson	Binalong (C) Wombat, Young (L) Boorowa, Yass (C) 319km
16 Dec	9.30am - Williamsdale Servo	Cooma (C) Berridale (via Frying Pan on the Snowy Hwy) Jindabyne (L) Dalgety, Mafra, Cooma, Bredbo (C) 410km
23 Dec	10.30am - McDonalds Weston	Choir Practice (options) Cotter (direct or via Urriara), Honeysuckle Ck (BBQ) Moon Rock Cafe (C) 188km
25 Dec		Merry Christmas
30 Dec	9.30am - McDonalds Dickson	Binalong (C) Jugiong Rd to Old Gundagai Rd to Cootamundra (L) Old Gundagai Rd to Harden, Yass (C) 371km
1 Jan		Happy New Year
6 Jan	9.30am - Williamsdale servo	Cooma (C) Adaminaby, Cabramurra (L) Cooma Bredbo (C) 450km
13 Jan	9.30am - McDonalds Weston	Mountain Ck Rd to Yass (C), Jerrawa, Dalton, Gunning (L), Nanima Rd to Hall (C) 220km
20 Jan	9.30am - McDonalds Dickson	Bungendore, Goulburn, Marulan (C) Bundanoon (L) Goulburn, Bungendore (C) 370km
26 Jan		Australia Day
27 Jan	10.30am - Logans Cafe Bungendore	Choir Practice , Braidwood, the Big Hole (picnic BBQ) , Bungendore (C) 260km
3 Feb	9.00am - Williamsdale Servo <i>Only for the hardy - long and difficult</i>	Cooma, Nimmitabel (C), Bombala (L), Cathcart, Wyndham, Candelo, Bemboka, Brown Mtn, Nimmitabel (C) 492km (the shorter ride, all comers - any part thereof & return eg lunch at Bemboka or Bombala).
10 Feb	9.30am - McDonalds Dickson	Gunning (C), Range Rd from Grabben Gullen, Goulburn (L), Bungendore (C) 249km
17 Feb	9.30am - McDonalds Dickson	Bungendore, Braidwood (C) Nelligen (L) (cafe or picnic) Bungendore (C) 278km
24 Feb	9.30am - McDonalds Dickson	Boorowa (C) via Frogmore to Wyangala Dam (L) Boorowa, Yass (C) 362km

BBQ and or picnic means bring your own cow, bangers or packed lunch with liquid refreshments. Choir practice means have coffee before departure time.
Distances quoted are from Canberra City Centre and return

Peter Brooker (Ringmaster) Telephone: 62 918510 Mobile: 0429 918510 Email: p.brooker@netspeed.com.au

Riders should be aware that at all times, each individual is responsible for their own actions and ultimate safety.