

November 2016

ISSUE No 69

**SOME CONTENTS OF THIS NEWSLETTER MAY
OFFEND SOME PEOPLE**

**PLEASE BE AWARE OF THIS AND READ THE INFO
ON PAGE TWO**

Macedon Ranges Newsletter

Social Nights are held on the Third Tuesday of each month at the Sunbury Bowling Club Rooms “Clark Oval Riddel Rd Sunbury from 7.00 pm onwards. Come along and enjoy a great nights chat and a nice meal.

Saturday Morning Coffee’s are at the “Jolly Miller” in the Gisborne shopping centre, Brantome St Gisborne from approx 10AM onward till about 12.00 noon. Just look for the Bikes and Foxy’s happy smile or even Smokeys

Midweek rides are from the Caltex Servo in Station Rd Gisborne on each Wednesday Morning at 10 AM. (Gentlemans hours) Usually arranged on the day

Calendar Rides leave from Mac Donalds Horne St Sunbury at 9.30 AM unless otherwise organised. see ride calender on www.mrug.net for dates

Please read this

Some jokes may be deemed to be offensive to some people. However, it should be recognised that most jokes, if not all jokes, would be deemed to be offensive to some people. Let's face it; just about every joke ever told contains something offensive that will get right up the nose of someone.

Just because jokes offend some people it is no case for censorship. Humour, of all varieties, exists for those who enjoy it.

Never forget how to laugh!

COVER: Sometimes just a nice member shot hits the spot

And what’s inside

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A Word from your President.....

Hi members, every time I write one of these I make some reference to the weather. So this time will not be different. It's been lousy!! We have had very low numbers on riders and temperatures but high numbers in rainfall. Daylight savings is upon us and the days are getting longer, so bring it on!!

This year has been bad in the health of our members with the Cat and Wendy getting banged up, Moira having a little op, Mark Behan also. Henry also had a scare but came through. Then of course we lost Jim. So fingers crossed this trend stops and everyone is fit and well for the rest of 16 and all of 17.

Richard our ride coordinator has put together a complete list of rides which is great but one of the problems we continually face is getting people to lead. It really is not that hard but the same people seem to be the ones putting their hand up to help. Please consider helping and leading any destination you feel comfortable doing. Contact Richard, he will be very happy to hear from you.

We did have the Echuca weekend at the end of Oct and 9 members enjoyed 4 dry days filled with fun and mozzies. Thanks Richard for your efforts with that. Max and Nola were kind enough to invite the group to their home for afternoon tea, it was a great time with yummy treats, great company and a beautiful setting, oh and mozzies.

This year the first lady has been kind enough to offer her place to the club for the Christmas event. I have sent an email with the details and would love to see you all there. Book your spot and come along on the Saturday the 3rd of December.

Mark Freestone
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A Word from our Secretary

The good news is the branch continues to grow. Whilst I was off overseas we had 3 new members and no resignations and although I have only met two of the new members I will catch up with everyone in due course. I should also mention that we did technically have yet another member added to the list but Judith is, as I said, only technically new. Number #58 is once again on our books and it remains great to see Judith out and about with the branch.

As a bike rider I couldn't help but observe the differences I see here in Victoria with the countries I travelled to recently. In China there was the almost bizarre experience of motorbike riders being in the majority (plenty of cars but heaps more motorbikes). They zipped here there and everywhere and to actually spot a bike helmet or any safety gear was a rarity. They also pretty much saw things like traffic lights, pedestrian crossings, and traffic lanes as optional. Cross at lights at your peril and be ready to dodge silent death! Silent? The majority of bikes in China were electric and they just appeared from nowhere and expected you to avoid them... even if you had a green walk sign.

There were some really interesting additions that were common. Full blanket like suits that were part of the bike/scooter (gets cold in China). Trailers were very common and by trailer I'm talking ones stacked two meters high and twice that in length often with a passenger lounging on the top of the load. Parking was another thing unmatched in Victoria with whole streets cordoned off just to give the hundreds and hundreds of bikes somewhere to park.

This contrasted very much with the North American and European countries we've just come back from. Canada was so like us bike wise. There were not a lot of them, but the warmer weather we experienced soon had a few cruising about the streets especially in the restaurant precincts. Had us very homesick for our Harleys.

England not too many bikes and I spotted not one single Harley for the entire time there. Apparently not all that popular a brand. That said all the bike riders I saw there, like us, were well geared up and more prolific on the warmer days.

Denmark gets a special mention. Not because of the motorbikes but rather the push bikes. I have pictures at the Copenhagen railway station of the parked bikes in the thousands and stacked in special racks two storeys high. There was even a smaller local station just outside of the city where they were three racks high. In fact I don't actually remember seeing any motorbikes in Denmark but perhaps I was just unobservant?

Germany? For all the BMW riders out there I saw very few bikes but yes, they were BMWs. Mind you it would be a brave man or woman to ride a bike on the autobahns. Everything you heard is true. They really do drive in excess of 200 kilometres an hour and even then you can't relax in the outside lane - there's always someone zooming up to pass. Mind you the average German driver is very disciplined and stays out of the fast lane unless passing, works with other drivers to facilitate merging when required and even puts on their emergency flashers when traffic unexpectedly slows so there is plenty of time to brake. I had a ball but Sylvia seemed to feel I was "a little fast" (that's woman speak for "You're crazy and for god's sake slow down!").

The last two places we visited didn't have any bikes (that I saw). Venice, well the streets were a little wet. And Dubai, was just too hot. If they ever invent proper air conditioning for a bike (I guess that would be some sort of suit - I hear the Yanks are working on it) then they'll make an appearance on the streets of Dubai but until that happens they'll just have to contend with their bumper to bumper slow crawling traffic.

I guess the point of all of this is to just say how lucky we are here in Victoria re bikes. We generally have good weather, good roads and pretty good traffic. Destinations are many and varied and if you're a member of the Macedon Ranges Branch you have great people to ride with. By the way if there is anything you would like to know about our branch or membership drop me a line and I'll see what I can do.

Cheers
Fluffy



From Your Friendly Editor.....



And so here we go again

Well so it usually is but wait.....

Yes your friendly editor has been a little laid up for the last few weeks or should I say months in hospital thanks to some absolute ar sole in a tin can in Bali that took out the bus Mrs Puss and I were travelling in and we both ended up in hospital on the 25th of August until now which gives me just one week to get this letter out, and for you lot not to be let down. Therefor if this edition is a little short on guff you know why. So as I said before here we go again.....

So lots has happened so I believe. Some sad news about our legend Jim who sadly passed away. We will miss him and his happy disposition around the club that's for sure. Was glad to see the club gave him a fitting farewell.

Was told there was another Trivia night which went really well and there has also been a couple of film nights at Sunbury which all went well. Was able to keep up with some of the rides etc. from Facebook which seemed pretty cool. Really good to see all is in hand.

Well that's about all from me for a change as its going to take a while to catch up on what's happened over the past few months

Like to thank all of you who sent us get well wishes during our internment, especially the fox who had flowers in our hospital room when we were finally flown into Melbourne, Was a lovely gesture.

Guess the next letters not till Feb so to you all hope you have a great Xmas break and that Santa brings you all you want.

Till next year

Meow





A Word from our Welfare Officer

Welfare reports:

It has been a very interesting few months. Not only have we had above average rainfall, colds and flus seem to rampant, most people have had a case of the sniffles. Stay well. We had very sad news on the 27th August, with our #57 Jim Ferrie passing away at the magnificent age of 90. It was a shock to all. A card and beautiful flowers were sent to Judith Brooke, with our sympathy and condolences from everyone. His memorial at the Sunbury Bowls Club was well attended, with an abundance of families, friends and acquaintances. The memorial ride from Gisborne to the bowling club was a sight to behold, with about 40 bikes in attendance. Jim would have loved it.

Not long after, news was filtering through that Jim and Wendy Alley had been involved in a bus accident, whilst on holiday in Bali. Wendy suffering from smashed hand, broken leg and cuts and scraps. Jim, broken shoulder/collarbone, a punctured and collapsed lung, broken ribs, smashed hip, smashed knee cap. Their son Dean flew over to help, physically and mentally and to help with their situation. It was a few weeks before both Wendy and Jim were allowed to come home, directly to a rehab place locally. Flowers were waiting for them on their arrival, with chocolates. They are now home (not sure if their pet cat is ready to forgive them for abandoning him for all those weeks) Their recovery has been amazing, though slow and steady is the word.

Flowers were sent to Henry Frankl at St Vincent's Private hospital. Henry had a few of our members a little worried before the Wednesday ride. They decided to ferry him home. As it turned out, Henry is a very lucky man. With an emergency surgery for a brain bleed, a few days in hospital, he will be coming home soon. All of us at Macedon Ranges are wishing him well and a speedy recovery.

As always, the welfare officers job is only as good as the information given. Please let me know if you know of anyone who needs help or in need of any assistance. Contact me on 97445656 or 0413269022

✉ foxys@internode.on.net

Moira Burgess
(foxy) 🐾





A Word from our Paparazzi

Twenty five intrepid general knowledge gurus attended another successful Trivia night at the Snowgum Hotel in Taylors Lakes. Our host, the Honourable Charles Meson fired off fifty taxing questions and the newbies, under the watchful eye of Kim Bouchier, won the night. MRUB is planning another Trivia Night in February 2017, so, start practising. The movie nights are becoming a regular fixture and all are welcome. Please, watch the Facebook page for details and pass on the invitation to those members who do not frequent the internet.

Cheers... Paparazzi.





A word from the Quartermaster

Now that the weather is warming up and we are heading towards Christmas, why not gear up in some comfortable riding tees and polos and check out the equipment and fun Ulysses items that would make great gifts!

There's been quite a bit of interest in the new women's butterfly tee in blue marle, as well as the women's butterfly polo in white. I've also restocked the coffee mugs which come in red or black, that display the Ulysses logo when you add hot water. Great gift

idea! Also on hand is the Ulysses wallet that is black and flat, made from canvas material. Perfect for your vest inner pocket! Then there's the stubby holders in black or pink, or a silver wine opener.

These are just a few of the items for sale at every meeting and occasionally, at the tire kick.

Ulysses National has a list of discontinued merchandise including past AGM commemorative items, going back to the 2003 AGM. Of course, last year's AGM at Launceston would be of interest to all those who attended. Everything from polo shirts, to lapel badges, to stickers and caps. They also have a "Spring Surprise" promotion, offering a new, improved backpack: *Black/Charcoal Back Pack with Old Man logo on front, 28 litre capacity, 600D polyester with latex rubber backing, 2 separate storage compartments, padded iPad compartment, contoured padded mesh back panels, quick release side compression straps, mesh drink bottle pocket and zippered side accessory pocket, heavy duty zippers, rubber protection feet and mesh backed padded quick grip handle and last of all, rubber headphone exit port on front compartment. Dimensions: 32cm Wide x 44cm Height x 20cm Deep. Price: \$49.95*



Don't forget to check out the Gear Shop in the Riding On magazine. I will happily put in an order for you if I don't have the item in stock. I will have the Discontinued Merchandise list with me at the next branch meeting as well as the latest copy of the magazine, so just let me know what you would like ordered. I can also be contacted directly on my email at sylvia.behan@outlook.com

Cheers from Sibby. ☺

Howdy all, if you were not at the last club meeting you may not be aware that Christmas this year will be held at my and Lucy's home in Sunbury. I will need to know numbers for catering so could I get people to respond to this email, NOT FACEBOOK before Wednesday the 23rd of November.

The usual applies in that you will need to bring a chair drinks and a smile. There is a pool so if you are a swimmer feel free to bring your togs and towel, hopefully we get a bit of sun and the water will be warm. There is also a dam with plenty of yabbies so you can catch your own and cook them up if you want.

Our address is 93 Watsons Road Sunbury. We are on the corner of Watsons and Foxhollow and the club banner will be on the gate. Its easy to find, heading south on Vineyard Rd heading out of Sunbury toward Diggers Rest go past Masters, continue to the second road on your left which is old Vineyard rd. Turn left there and follow it left , over the rail line and to the top of the hill. We are on the left before Foxhollow Drive.

See you there and don't forget to book!!

Mark Freestone
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James Thomas Ferrie
(Jim)

15/7/1926 ~~to~~ 26/8/2016

To all members of

Macedon Ranges Ulysses Branch

I am writing to thank everyone for the many kind and caring actions and words following Jim's death. The beautiful flowers, food, photographs and so many offers of help were very gratefully received. Jim and I always felt lucky to be part of such a friendly group of both former and present members, and a special thankyou to those of you who helped Jim remain involved once his riding days were over. Also, of course, that amazing ride from Gisborne to the Bowling Club - it would have brought a very big smile to his face!

I sincerely thank you all,

Judith Brooke

Presentation to Judith Brook

Following the passing of Jim Ferrie our membership was concerned that Judith Brook felt unsure as to her status with the ulysses movement and our branch in particular. Many members may not be aware that Jim was #57 and Judith was #58.

So it was decided to see if we could get #58 back for Judith not only to make her a member again but also to let her know how valued she is to us.

We ran a raffle to raise the funds required to do this and also many members made quite generous donations to the cause. Girl Rider put forward a \$200 gift pack of quality merchandise for the raffle. The amount required was reached and at the October meeting Judith was presented with her #58 membership card. Along with this was her 20,25 and 30 year badges and her 70th badge as well.

Thank you to all of those who made this possible, Yvonne and Ken from Girl rider, our members and NATCOM. Welcome to our newest and oldest member, #58 Judith Brook.

Xmas in July Prize

Well for some the planets align and I must admit for this little black duck (or puss) at the Xmas in July afternoon mine certainly did with me winning the Nolan Helmet being the first prize in our raffle.

The fox told me that I had to get in touch with Motohub Sunbury and they would organise me to be supplied with the unit making sure that it was the model I wanted and also the correct size and colour. So cool hey.

And so a few days after the event I fronted Motohub and introduced my self.

I was then informed that the two owners being Mark and Christine were off the very next day to Rumania to race dirt bikes in a Red Bull event and would be gone for at least two weeks but on there return Christine would take me over to Ron Angels the Australian Distributor of Nolan and I could had pick my new helmet.

And so upon there return Christine got in touch and we organised a meeting over at Ron Angels in Thomastown.

I must admit I was most impressed with the Ron Angel establishment as it not only is the Australian distributor for Nolan but also Givi and a heap of other products including intercoms, oils, and tyres.

After a rather exciting time of choosing my new lid I was given a great cooks tour of there establishment by there National Manager Grant Sammut. A very pleasant morning and once again many thanks to Motohub and once again cant stress enough that we must support the local motorcycle businesses in our area.
Cheers Meow



Sunday ride 2016 08 14

Smokey led a dozen of us down the garden path to Kyneton, Bendigo, Myers Flat for lunch at Allies Hotel, and then back to Kyneton and finishing at Woodend. A beautiful day in the sunny skies (mostly) and green fields. Thanks to Smokey for leading and to the others for their additional pleasant company. Two Indians, 3 BMWs, 1 Ducati, 1 Honda, 1 Triumph, 2 Kawasaki, 1 Suzuki, and 1 chook chaser.



Study proves less time looking at speedo and more time looking around means safer roads
Research conducted by the University of Western Australia has found the less leeway given to road users before being slapped with a speeding fines correlates directly with the ability to detect hazards — or vulnerable road users.

In other words, drivers (and indeed riders) in areas with a zero tolerance policy — where you can be fined for travelling one or 2km over the sign-posted limit — are actually at more risk than road users driving in areas given more leeway, the study found.

Using a driving simulator set to a 50km/h speed zone, 84 people were told that they could be booked if they were found driving at either 51km/h, 57km/h or 61km/h. During the simulated process, small red dots were then introduced into each of the driver's peripheral vision and the results revealed participants with the one-kilometre threshold were least likely to identify hazards, or other road users like motorcyclists.

"We concluded that drivers' mental and visual resources were being used up by paying extra attention to the speed monitoring task, and this was taking some of their attention away from the visual world around them when they were driving," researcher Vanessa Bowden told the ABC.

Surveyed participants also said the simulated driving experience in the one- and six-kilometre threshold zones was far more difficult and demanding than the 11km/h threshold.

"There can be a perception that by making it stricter you're only going to get benefits, like you'll get everyone driving more slowly and more safely," Bowden continued. "But you can't necessarily make drivers pay more attention to the speed and go more slowly without taking their attention away from some other critical aspect of driving."

Time is like a river. You cannot touch the water twice, because the flow that has passed will never pass again. Enjoy every moment of life. As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends, so the service was to be at a pauper's cemetery in the Nova Scotia back country. As I was not familiar with the backwoods, I got lost and, being a typical man, I didn't stop for directions.

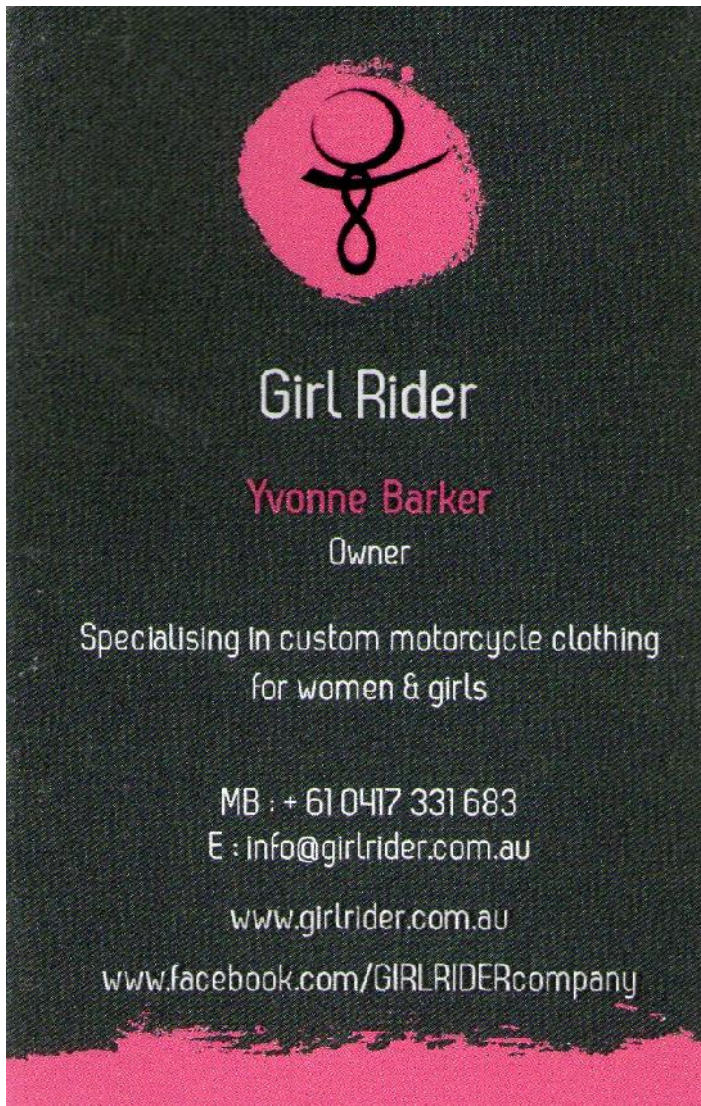
I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch. I felt badly and apologized to the men for being late.

I went to the side of the grave and looked down and the vault lid was already in place. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play.

The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family and friends. I played like I've never played before for this homeless man. And as I played "Amazing Grace", the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together. When I finished, I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head was hung low, my heart was full.

As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen anything like that before, and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years."

Apparently, I'm still lost....it's a man thing.



John Eacot was heard tell some one

My wife Andrea found out that our dog (a Schnauzer) could hardly hear, so she took it to the vet.

The vet found that the problem was hair in the dog's ears. He cleaned both ears and the dog could then hear fine. The vet then proceeded to tell Andrea that, if she wanted to keep this from recurring, she should go to the pharmacy and get some "Nair" hair remover and use it in the dog's ears once a month.

Andrea went to the store and bought some "Nair" hair remover.

At the register, the pharmacist told her, "If you're going to use this under your arms, don't use deodorant for a few days."

Andrea said, "I'm not using it under my arms."

The pharmacist said, "If you're using it on your legs, don't use body lotion for a couple of days."

Andrea replied, "I'm not using it on my legs either. If you must know, I'm using it on my Schnauzer."

The pharmacist said, "Well, stay off your bicycle for *at least* a week!"

Jane and Arlene are outside their nursing home, having a drink and a smoke, when it starts to rain. Jane pulls out a condom, cuts off the end, puts it over her cigarette, and continues smoking.

Arlene: What in the hell is that?

Jane: A condom. This way my cigarette doesn't get wet.

Arlene: Where did you get it?

Jane: You can get them at any pharmacy.

The next day, Arlene hobbles herself into the local pharmacy and announces to the pharmacist that she wants a box of condoms.

The pharmacist, obviously embarrassed, looks at her kind of strangely (she is, after all, over 80 years of age), but very delicately asks what size, texture, brand of condom she prefers.

'Doesn't matter Sonny, as long as it fits on a Camel.'
The pharmacist fainted.

MY MIND SAYS
I'M IN MY TWENTIES, MY
BODY SAYS YEAH YOU WISH.





In the Headlight with Mark Behan



I've been asked to write a short blurb about myself so that you all might know the new secretary, not easy but I'll try.

I'm a retired secondary English teacher who pulled the plug a few years back. I've always been active in the 'club' scene and have tried a few sports and hobbies. I've been a yachty, starting out with a Fireball on Lake Boga when I taught at Swan Hill and finished my yachting interest when I finally sold my Sydney - Hobart racer some 10 years later. I also qualified as a scuba diver and with a school based club, did activities such as cave diving. Gave that hobby up after a few close calls. Tried archery, which I still dabble in, but whilst a member of several clubs, never really found one that I felt a part of.

By then I had moved onto pistol shooting which I did for 26 years. As a competitor I was at one point top 10 in Australia in my chosen event, then State President for four years and then National Vice President for a further three years. The politics surrounding the sport (and here I'm talking Federal politics) finally saw me give up that interest.

I then returned to boating (power this time) for a few years. I joined the Coast Guard and was quite active getting my commercial coxswains qualification. I was Lieutenant / Secretary of the Flotilla and then became Deputy Commander. This time it was a combination of too big a commitment and internal politics that saw me give that away. I think it was also the fact that there was little opportunity to include wives or a wider social aspect that played a part in leaving.

Next came the car club. I needed to replace my MGB with a car that had 'longer legs' so bought a Boxster S. I didn't want it sat in the garage like the MG had, so in an effort to take it on runs I joined the Porsche Club of Victoria. Nice club and before long, I was Register Captain and was actually organising the runs. I then got seduced into racing and had to buy another car as Sylvia said the good car wasn't going on the track. It was a fun five years but cost and a car that became too valuable to track anymore, saw a virtual end to racing. So I moved on to marshalling and am currently Marshal Co-ordinator for the club.

So bikes? When I retired Sylvia was still working and took the everyday car to work, which left me at home with limited transport (hated taking my good car to the supermarket with all those trolleys!). So I hit upon the idea of a motor bike. Sylvia and her brothers had taught me to ride some 40 years ago on the farm so figured it was a cheap, simple option to take shopping. My first bike, a 250cc Virago, was a great little bike and I zipped down to Woodgrove nearly every day. I of course had to join a club (by now you've figured I'm an addict) and Ulysses seemed to fit the bill.

I was made welcome at the first MRUB Tuesday night meeting I attended and was also welcomed by the members living here in Melton (the Melton Crew). So every Saturday I rode with them across to Gisborne for the Saturday tyre kick. MRUB was just plain friendly and I was really enjoying the fellowship. My bike was too small for long runs (although I'm sure I would have been welcome) so I started looking for its replacement. My head and wallet said get a Triumph but my heart said get a Harley. I went with my heart and to be fair have never regretted it. My 1200 Sportster is my pride and joy, easy to ride, pretty to look at and reliable to boot. What more could you ask for? A year in and my wife wanted to know what I got up to on a Saturday morning so came across in the car to Gisborne... welcome another member to MRUB.

So, Secretary? I just want to put in, give a little back. If there is one thing I've learned it's that in a club it doesn't matter what car, boat or bike you own, what makes a club worth any effort

The New Victory Octane ... Hmmm

The 60-degree, short-stroke water-cooled V-twin (bore and stroke are 101 x 73.6mm) in the Octane has an electronic 60mm throttle body. The 1179cc mill is a DOHC design, and claimed power and torque are 103hp and 103Nm, hitting their peaks at 8000rpm and 6000rpm respectively. That's the most horsepower ever on a production Victory and, weighing 242kg, it's also the lightest Victory motorcycle ever built, too.



The power surge from the Octane is sensational, with that short-stroke design and short gearing proving to be nothing short of an irresistible combination. Not only is the acceleration captivating but it's torque-rich as well, and the rev limiter is in a zone that Victory's other main engine, the ubiquitous 106 Freedom, wouldn't even get close to. It's just such good fun, and with so much rideability.

The Octane powers through the gears, but even in top gear at a ridiculously low rpm, it pulls and doesn't groan as it gets back up to speed.

Gear ratios haven't been divulged, but Victory says that the Octane is geared short and claims a quarter-mile in 12 seconds and from 0-100km/h in less than four seconds. American journos got to take the Octane on a drag strip at their launch to really test those claims... Even though the final belt drive gearing on the Octane is quite short, it still sits around 4000rpm on a freeway, which is nothing. And the engine is super smooth at that speed, with nary a hint of vibration.

The bullet cowl does a decent job on open roads, but at higher speeds I found myself pushing further forward as the buffeting became more intense – just in the right position to devour the curves.

The transmission is one sweet unit — showing exacting standards like the rest of the engine — and is a quantum leap above the other Victory units. A little clunk into second is about the only thing you'll feel or hear from the cogs.

The throttle response is so crisp on the Octane, so we're talking bona fide power cruiser here – not a lumbering, heavy and slow-steering bike that's attempting to masquerade as one. For me, the engine has the same level of feel good factor as the new Ducati XDiavel – which admittedly has to be tamed — but without the wiz bang electronics.

The Octane chassis isn't as advanced either, but then again the Octane is priced \$18,995 ride away and the base XDiavel is \$27,490.

There will obviously be performance comparisons with the 1133cc Indian Scout, as the Octane (which has a 2mm bigger bore) shares a similar bottom end but with more 'energetic' components at the top end, such as the camshafts. There's also a massive gulf between engine tunes, and that shows with the Octane's absolute zeal off the line compared to the Scout, and there's no doubt it's probably more suited to more experienced riders.

As you'd expect, the Scout and Octane share a number of components, although there has been a concerted effort by Polaris to keep the "customer facing" bits and pieces separate in the spirit of uniqueness. Makes sense.

From what I have been used to with traditional Victory fare, the level of performance for the Octane really hit me between the eyes, and I would have been satisfied if that was all the new machine had to offer. But it can also bang out some pretty impressive corner speed, too, which is certainly a part function of the light-weight.

You can't really find a nimble package any other way, and the fact that the seat height is so low keeps the whole Octane plot tracking on a low and solid plane. It just feels taut and rigid, and the 1577mm wheelbase lends itself to plenty of agility.

The Octane only comes standard with a solo saddle.

The chassis includes the cast-aluminium frame, supported by steel backbones, and there are also 41mm forks (129mm travel) and twin shocks (76mm travel). The engine is a stressed member of the frame. The shocks are preload adjustable, but if you want more – as you so often do in this configuration — there are adjustable piggyback shocks in the accessories catalogue.

With that in mind, the Octane devours low-compression hits very well, but when the speed is up the forks are a little too soft to absorb all the clamour of braking and then trying to settle for the turn. The Octane doesn't get 'squirrely' though, and sometimes it's just a case of the engine tracking on a more energetic plane than the chassis. The Octane was still a blast to chuck around, though. Rake is 29 degrees and there's 130mm of trail.

Victory says there is 32 degrees of lean angle to deliver "agility previously unknown to American V-twin motorcycles".

The Octane tracks on 18 (front) and 17-inch rubber (the rear approaching supersport-like sizing) wrapped around 10-spoke cast wheels and with anti-lock braking as standard on the 298mm disc brakes. The brakes, a twin-piston caliper up front and a single-piston rear, aren't ferocious but are imposing and certainly more than acceptable.

I really enjoyed the low seat height on the Octane, and my 172cm frame found a comfortable seating position, even with the forward controls set further back than the Indian Scout. That made for much better cornering fun, as well.

The seat is a little hard-ish, and I could see bum fatigue sneaking into the equation if the Octane was tracking along a harsh and bumpy road – and with only 76mm of rear suspension travel there's not a lot of room to move.

The instrumentation on the Octane is simple but functional. There's a round speedo with LCD insets, while the bike has an LED taillight. The bulk of the chassis, running gear and powertrain are blacked out. There's Matte Super Steel Grey bodywork, and even the tank badge has been cast in grey instead of the traditional Victory red to "create a modern, monochrome look"

The Octane could not have come at a better time for Victory. It's a real breath of fresh air for a brand that has, to be brutally frank, failed to fan the embers of excitement over recent years. The Octane is a muscle bike that actually talks the talk and just exudes rideability with its magnificent and very generous powerplant. There's a lot to be excited about with this jigger

The Importance Of An Occupation After Retirement

As we get older we sometimes begin to doubt our ability to "Make a difference" in the world. It is at these times that our hopes are boosted by the remarkable achievements of other "Seniors" who have found the courage to take on challenges that would make many of us wither.



THIS IS A QUOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR:

"I've often been asked, 'What do you do now that you're retired?'

Well...I'm fortunate to have a chemical engineering background and one of the things I enjoy most is converting beer, wine and whiskey into urine. It's rewarding, uplifting, satisfying and fulfilling. I do it every day and I really enjoy it."

**I hope this is An Inspiration To You
All.**

Cinderella said 'Fairy Godmother, what are you doing here after all these years'? The fairy godmother replied

'Cinderella, you have lived an exemplary life since I last saw you. Is there anything for which your heart still yearns?' Cinderella was overjoyed and after some thought replied 'The prince was wonderful, but not much of an investor. I'm living hand to mouth on my pension and I wish to be wealthy again.

Instantly her rocking chair turned into solid gold.

The fairy godmother then asked 'What do you want for your second wish?' Cinderella looked down at her frail body, and said, 'I wish I were young and full of the beauty and youth I once had.'

At once, her wish became reality and she was young and beautiful again and she felt stirrings inside her that had been dormant for years. The fairy godmother spoke once more: 'You have one more wish; what shall it be?'

Cinderella looked over to the frightened cat in the corner and said, 'I wish for you to transform Bob, my old cat, into a kind and handsome young man.'

Magically, Bob was immediately transformed into the most handsome man Cinderella had ever seen. The fairy godmother said, 'Congratulations, Cinderella, enjoy your new life.' and disappeared in a flash of blue light. Bob and Cinderella looked lovingly into each

other's eyes. Then Bob walked over to Cinderella and held her in his young muscular arms. He leaned in close, blowing her golden hair with his warm breath as he whispered...

'Bet you're sorry now that you had me neutered!'

Three ladies are playing the fourth hole at a very private golf club when a naked man wearing a paper bag over his head jumps from the trees and runs across the green.

The three ladies stand in awe at the size of his manhood.

The first lady says,

"He is definitely not my husband."

The second lady gazes at his manhood and says, "He's not my husband either!"

After a very considered inspection, the third lady finally says, "...He's not even a member of this club."

Wednesday the 2nd of November was the Official MRUB Movie Night. What a fantastic turn out. Arumets, Barry, Bartleson, the Behan's, the Bevan's, Brooke, Cronin, the Dridan's and the Robson's. The evening started out with Dinner at Itahalia then we all went to see Dr Strange at the Readings Cinema, Sunbury. We have had several unofficial movie nights as advertised on the MRUB Facebook page and we intend to continue the trend. As usual, the more the merrier and everyone is welcome. Some of us meet for dinner or coffee before the movie. Some just come for the movie and some just come for dinner and skip the movie. It's all about the fellowship.

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Spaghetti Engineering

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Contact: Anna De Rossi

Telephone: 0423872905

Suppliers of fresh home made, pasta including ravioli, tortellini, lasagne's, gnocchi and home made sauces. We also have a small gluten free range.

For those of you who haven't had the chance to get an "Admin Fee's Form " here is one for you to fill out and "send to" or "hand to" one of our committee members or email to treasurer@mrug.net ASAP

Remember this club needs you subs to keep it healthy and running like you expect and want it



Macedon Ranges Ulysses



Administration Fees 2016

\$20.00 single or couple (both Ulysses members)

plus \$5 if a printed newsletter is required

(All prices include GST)

2016 fees are due on 1 January 2016 this fee contributes to providing:

- Newsletters
- Website hosting and domain name registration (<http://www.mrub.org.au>)
- General administration
- Christmas Function
- Occasional Subsidized Branch Activities

Exemption

- Persons 70 years of age and over are exempt from paying the fee
(Please display your license to the Club Secretary to claim the exemption)

Please pay by one of the following options:

- By mail with cheque or money order, to PO Box 552, Gisborne 3437
- In person via the Club Treasurer
- By Direct Deposit (Macedon Ranges Ulysses Group BSB 633-000 Acc 116352774)
(Make sure you use your name as the reference when making bank deposits)

Please provide the following details:

	Your Details	Partners Details (If Ulysses member)
Ulysses No.	Exp / /	Exp / /
Name	_____	_____
Address	_____	_____
Home phone	_____	_____
Mobile	_____	_____
D.O.B	_____ / /	_____ / /
E-mail address	_____	_____
Bike Details (include brand, model and year) _____		

(All members **must** complete questions below)

We would like to include your details on a contact list for the branch. The contact list will be available To all branch affiliates. Your email address will be added to the branch email list, this list is used for branch news, events and notices only

Newsletter Method Email or Post (Circle one)

Add to Branch Contact List Yes or No (Circle one)

Office Use	
Amount	\$ _____
Receipt No.	_____
Date	____ / ____ / ____

Date

/ /

Macedon Ranges

Christmas 2016

Sat 3rd Dec 12 noon



CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR WILL BE HELD AT THE PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADIES HOUSE. 93 WATSONS RD SUNBURY.

ON THE CORNER OF WATSONS AND FOXHOLLOW, LOOK FOR THE CLUB BANNER ON THE GATE.

BRING A CHAIR ,A SMILE AND A FEW DRINKS. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED. WE NEED NUMBERS FOR CATERING SO LET US KNOW BY EMAIL TO m.freeo@gmail.com BEFORE WEDNESDAY THE 23RD OF NOVEMBER. PLEASE DON'T RESPOND ON FACEBOOK.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE.

**THANKS TO THESE MEMBERS THAT MADE THE LETTER
WHAT IT IS.....**

Ken (Hey – you) Hager

Ted (my pommy mate)

My Bro BJ

Pappa

Ken Lott

Geoff Brown

Not that many out of a club of 200 plus

So.....Where the hell are you ALL

So what about it.....

Where's your bit.....

E MAIL TO ME AND SEE YOUR NAME IN LIGHTS

Or are you just like the rest and do Bugger all.....

A Muslim bloke I work with was bragging he had the entire Koran on DVD. Being interested, I asked him to burn me a copy.
Well, that's when it all kicked off!

Paddy caught his Wife having an affair and decided to kill her and himself.
He puts the gun to his head, looks at his Wife and says:
"Don't laugh, your next!!"