

**August 2017**

**ISSUE No 72**

**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 Monday of each month at the Sunbury Football Club Rooms “Clark Oval Riddel Rd Sunbury from 6.00 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*** Sunday rides leave from Mac Donalds Horne St Sunbury at 9.30 AM unless otherwise organised. see ride calender on [www.mrug.net](http://www.mrug.net) for dates  
Saturday rides leave from Jolley Miller about 11-ish

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***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: God it looked good.....**

## **Your Committee**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Nickname</b>	<b>Phone</b>
President	Michael Bevan	Donald or Zip	0431 495 673
Secretary	Mark Behan	Fluffy	0412 078 098
Treasurer	Richard Bouchier		0418 639 555
Ride Co-ordinator	Richard Bouchier		
Quartermaster	Sylvia Behan		0413 188 894
Editor	Jim Alley	The Cat	0414 871 927
Welfare officer	Moira Burgess	Foxy Lady	0413 269 022
Events Co ordinator	John Barrie	Stud	0447 083 590
Committee	Ian Cowie	Moose	0419 587 208
	Vicky Cronin	Papparazzi	0409 434 101



## *A Word from your President.....*

Hi everyone, this is my second newsletter report. That 3 months has gone quickly and it would be fair to say a few things have happened in that time, so i will get straight to them.

### AGM 2017

With Easter well and truly out the way, a few branch members packed up and headed for the Ulysses AGM held this year in Wauchope near Port Macquarie on the NSW coast. We didn't all travel together. As the group I was in headed on a women's weekly world discovery tour for 6 days, heading to places I have never been, just to get to the AGM. Our travels took us to Orbost, Canberra, Gulgong, Moree, Ebor and finally to Bonny Hills, where we stayed for the week.

The section between Gulgong and Moree we encountered the heaviest rain I have every ridden in, an in doing so, I found out that my gloves were just one big sponge. My so called waterproof jacket was not, and i thank God we made it to Moree before I just floated away.

During the next week, the people of Wauchope put their best foot forward and made everyone feel more than welcome. In my opinion, this a big part of making a successful AGM. The area itself was an excellent spot for the AGM, with plenty of places that offered scenic views for rides.

The trip home was not as fun as the trip getting there as we only drove the freeways all the way.

The AGM is more than just a meeting, it's a social event where you get the chance to meet and mix with members from other branches and form friendships with them. it's great to spend time with other members from our branch and get to know them as well as join in the camaraderie of all the people at the AGM.

Next year's AGM is going to be held in Barmera SA, on the Murray River (well, close enough), not that far from Berri or Renmark. This AGM will be 7-13 May 2018, so do yourself a favour and come along to this AGM for the experience.

### Social Events

At the start of this month we had our annual Xmas In July with 41 Adults and 1 child attending. I could not attend the event as I had work commitments in QLD. After talking to the committee and other affiliates, the day was an apparent success and everyone enjoyed themselves and the venue.

We are looking at our next event which will be a dinner night and ride on the Melbourne Star. This is currently being planned for late August or early September. So keep an eye out for the email or Facebook event notice. It would be great to get a large group along to this event.

### Movie Nights

Paul Arumets often organises an impromptu movie and dinner night at Itahlia and Readings in Sunbury. This is normally on a Wednesday or Thursday night. Paul normally advises of these on the clubs Facebook page. If you have access to Facebook and no access to our group then search Facebook for Macedon Ranges Ulysses Branch, and request to join and one of the administration people will accept you and you will then be able to access our page.

### Change of Venue and Day for our monthly social night.

Your committee has decided, effective with the August meeting, to move from the Sunbury Bowling Club and go back to the Sunbury Football Social Club. So we don't clash with other clubs wanting to use the venue on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month we have changed the night to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month with the first social night being on 21 August 2017, with the meeting scheduled to start at the new time of 7.30pm. Most people who are having dinner arrive from 6pm onwards, so there is plenty of time to eat and socialise.

The venue has a reasonable menu including a few senior meals. I also believe there is a 2 for 1 offer on Monday nights. Don't hold me to that statement.

These meetings are social events. They offer members the opportunity to get together and, well, socialise. This is encouraged, but we do have a formal component in each meeting. In the past few years, many members tend to leave promptly after the formal meeting and raffle have been completed. The committee is planning to have other social activities after the meeting to allow more socialisation among the members and have a little fun. We will let you know what the activity will be before the night, most of the time!

Until next time,

Michael Bevan  
President  
#50364





## A Word from our Secretary

### MINUTES

MRUB Committee Meeting 18/7/17  
Sunbury Bowling Club 6.00 pm

**Present:** Michael Bevan, Sylvia Behan, John Barry, Mark Behan, Moira Burgess, Vicki Cronin, Ian Cowie

**Apologies:** Jim Alley, Richard Bouchier

- John continues to investigate a major social activity for August / Sept. The choice is between a ride to the Melbourne Wheel with an onboard meal, or a Tenpin Bowling outing. The general meeting will be asked but preference seemed to be for the "Wheel" option. John to report back after further research.
- Treasurers report (via Michael) that as of the start of this week the Branch had a bank balance of \$2538 with no outstanding debits.
- Discussion was then turned to a possible change of venue for future meetings. The three options were The Gisborne Telegraph Hotel, Sunbury Football Club, or the status quo at the Bowling Club. Michael made the point that as there were no constitutional issues re the shift he now preferred the option of deciding the issue in committee and presenting our decision to the members. Each option was considered at length with the Telegraph a good option but the actual meeting rooms being not furnished suitably and uncertainty re privacy for our gathering. The Bowling Club moving us too far from bar and meal facilities along with an increasingly expensive menu considering the quality of the food. Service was also deemed to be slow. The Football club had cheaper (better??) food with a good menu and option and for all members to access the seniors meal. The main concern was that to assure continuity and some level of privacy the night needed to be changed to a Monday. After extensive discussion (during which time the meeting moved from the dining room to the back room) a vote was taken and it was decided on a 7 to 1 basis (Richard had indicated his preference for the status quo) to move to the Football Club. Our first meeting will be the third Monday of August (21st) at 7.30 p.m.
- Some concern was raised re the brevity / content of our social meetings. It was noted that once the raffle was drawn people disappeared. It was decided that we needed to increase the "social" side of the meeting and several suggestions were made. A short 'trivia night' was suggested (to be followed up with Charlie if interested) and more guest speakers. As a result Moose will follow up with David Goldsmith (?) re a talk on "aviation" for our meeting on the 21st.

**Meeting closed at 6:49**





### *A Word from your Treasurer/Ride Co-ordinator.....*



NR 13									
Treasurer's Report:	June and July				2017				
Activity					Xmas in July	Ann. Memberships	Raffle	Raffle	Q's Mstrs
								Xmas July	
18/06/2017	After-Gal Dinner								
	Deposits Cash	\$	30.00	Branch		\$	80.00		
	Deposits Cash Dep	\$	105.00	Branch	\$	105.00			
	Deposits April Raffle (net)	\$	108.90	Branch			\$	108.90	
	Deposits O'Master May	\$	36.00	Branch					\$ 85.00
Jun-17									
	Deposits								
	Xmas in July	\$	435.00	Direct Dep	\$	435.00			
Jul-17									
	Deposits Xmas in July	\$	210.00	Direct Dep	\$	210.00			
	Cheques	\$	110.00	Branch	\$	70.00	\$	40.00	
	Cash Xmas in July	\$	700.00	Branch	\$	700.00			
	Xmas in July Raffle	\$	300.00	Branch				\$	300.00
		\$	2,074.90		\$	1,540.00	\$	40.00	\$ 85.00
	Withdrawals								
7/14/2017	reimburse M Began		-70		\$	70.00			
7/14/2017	reimburse M Burgess Raffle		-500.14						-500.14
7/15/2017	reimburse R Boucher (RSG34.5)		-1,483.5		\$	1,483.50			
			-2955.64		\$	13.50	\$	40.00	\$ 85.00
7/18/2017	Closing Balance	\$	2,538.64						



## From Your Friendly Editor.....



And so here we go again. Another AGM down and a great time had thanks to Stud, my report of the event is in this letter for all that wasn't fortunate enough to go to read all about it and our epic journey to and from. It was good to revisit the site again of Wings legendary dunny run and we gave it a true celebration. Caught up with some good friends especially Steve and Lynn from Mildura. Held Stud down to only three indigressions which was pretty good and kept Gomez's Moe safe for his return to Melbourne and true love. As for Michael well .....

Lots been happening with in the club with events happening quite frequently. Pappa and co have been putting together film nights and the Xmas in July and other events all booming successes. Thought the Pig and Whistle was great with plenty of food, good service and the back room to our selves worked a treat.

Lets hope we all enjoy the new venue for our social nights (back to the future) and that all works out well.

Have received a few ride reports to put in the letter and that is nice, but I know for sure that there has been shit loads more, and what's that I hear from you all SFA. Still can only lead a horse to water I guess.

Nice to be finally on two feet again and hope to be on the bike again in the near future.

Well that's about all for this quarter so.....

Meow



## A Word from our Quartermaster

**Winter is coming! Those cold winds are going to creep in if you're not covered fully. No one likes to be cold on a ride! So rug up with all the great things Ulysses and our branch have to offer! Our Macedon Ranges jumpers are just the ticket, long enough to cover your lower back and warm enough on its own. I have one each of the Ulysses beanie, scarf, neck wrap and bandana available now at very reasonable prices, so snap one up at the meeting Tuesday night, or contact me to bring one to the tyre kick. Cheers, Sibby**









## A Word from our Welfare Officer

It has been a quiet few months, and that's how we like it! Winter is here, it has come thick and fast, we ask for everyone to be careful on the roads.

So far, with the usual colds and flus going around, everyone seems to be well, healthy and happy. We would like to keep it that way.

Early June, Richard Prisingrove had a little spill when out dirt bike riding, his bike was ok, Richard was not so lucky with a couple of broken ribs and severe bruising. Although, not strictly a current member of our group, he is in fact one of our founding members of our little branch.

So, our best wishes and good thoughts were sent to Dickie for a speedy recovery. Not long after, news came through that Cheryl Chambers had suffered a broken collarbone after a fall. In fact, she had severely damaged her shoulder and will have a long and slow recovery time. A card and flowers were sent along with all our kind and special thoughts, hoping she recovers fully.

A card was sent to Jim Alley, (our five point seven million dollar man) after his little "op" a hip replacement, wishing him a speedy recovery, as it is, in the two weeks since his operation, Jim is now completely pain free and walking with barely a limp. Almost a miraculous recovery, well done, Mr Puss!

The job of the Welfare Officer is made easier, if you let me know of anyone in need of help or assistance.

My contact details : [0413269022](tel:0413269022)

or [foxys@internode.on.net](mailto:foxys@internode.on.net)



## A Word from our Paparazzi



Well, with more than half the year gone and the cold weather truly here, it was good to see so many MRUB members celebrating Christmas in July. Thanks to Sylvia (Quartermaster) for all the organization, and to all the other committee members who did their bit to make it a great day. There has been so many positive comments about the day and the committee will definitely look at the Pig and Whistle for future functions.

I am still seeking "Caught in the Headlights" and "My First Bike" stories. Please write something and attach a photo, We all want to enjoy your memories. Email these stories to [vickicronin1@bigpond.com](mailto:vickicronin1@bigpond.com) this will assist our Editor Cat with preparing your newsletters.

If anyone takes photos on rides please send them to Cat to put into the newsletter.

Cheers... Vicki. #63980





## 2019 AGM Event Mornington

Although 2019 sounds a long way off it will be here sooner than you realise. Plans for the forthcoming AGM Event are proceeding nicely. A recent meeting at Mornington outlined several ideas including themes and ideas for the Tuesday meet and greet and the Saturday night dinner. Colours and design of the memorabilia were also discussed. Managers and coordinators are currently putting together the first draft of their expected budget requirements and, although various aspects of the event are yet to be finalised, this is a NATCOM requirement as they have final say on everything to do with the event.

The current structure for the 2019 event involves 37 positions of which 9 still need to be filled. We are now looking to recruit for the following positions:

<b>MANAGER 4</b>	Team leader of portfolios: Meetings, Catering, Grand Parade, Function & Ceremonies, Decorations and Organised Rides. Coordination of various portfolios reporting to AEC Executive and NAGMEC.
<b>Event HQ</b>	Coordination and administration of the event including providing members support for information desk, phone charging, event awards and lost & found.
<b>Parcels &amp; Laundry</b>	Coordination and delivery of parcels including event PO Box, parcels collection, release to members and re-postal service. Laundry service drop-off and pickup (laundry service provided by willing local laundry service).
<b>Check In</b>	Coordination and support of check in registration requirements
<b>Volunteers</b>	Responsible for recruiting general volunteers and design & management of effective work rosters.
<b>Training</b>	Responsible for ensuring that site and OH&S training has been provided for volunteers and coordinators.
<b>Media &amp; PR</b>	Responsible for ensuring that the event receives a steady and effective level of positive, current and informative publicity and promotion before, during and after the AGM Event. The purpose of this Portfolio is to ensure that the forthcoming Ulysses Club AGM Event is publicised and promoted appropriately and adequately to all relevant audiences.
<b>Functions &amp; Ceremonies</b>	Responsible for coordinating five (5) official Club functions and ceremonies during the AGM Event week. Functions are: Meet N Greet evening, Official Welcome Ceremony, Formal Dinner, Church Service, and Closing Ceremony.

We are also looking for some for following:

<b>Website Administrator</b>	Liaison with National Website Coordinator for the establishment and currency of AGM event website.  Liaison with Media & PR Coordinator and AEC on information to submitted to AGM event website.
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If you feel that you could fill one of these roles or, If uncertain, would like to ask some questions please give me a call on 0407 058 058

*Stephen Draper #36741*  
*AGM 2019 Event*  
*Manager 3*



## From our Secretarry

I'm writing this the day after our trip to see "Dunkirk" at the pictures. Some of us had tea first (about 10) and the rest (a further 3 or 4) came along just for the film. No doubt it will be mentioned in detail elsewhere but I thought this a perfect example of what we, as a branch is about. Yes, we're a social club with a motorbike theme but I noticed that here at Macedon Ranges we're more importantly a group of people who simply get on and also care about the people we mix with. We look for reasons to share time with each other and to give support where needed. We listen to each other's stories and tell a few ourselves. I've never seen anyone ignored or isolated and hence it's a pretty good place to hang.

We seem to be genuinely concerned when one or another of us sustain an injury (and let's face it, in our chosen pass time, that is not a rare enough event) and you only need to look at the reaction when someone drops their bike. Genuine concern for their welfare, genuine pain at the damage to a bike and always understanding that there but for the grace of God...

Yes there are occasional disagreements, and occasionally someone can be an ass but two things seem to shine through at MRUB. The dynamic doesn't seem to support holding a grudge and joy of joy there is little or no politics or cliques. Feathers quickly smooth and everyone still speaks to everyone else. I know some Ulysses branches where that simply doesn't happen.

Sometimes people forget that the branch is only as strong as the weakest link and that anything that happens is usually as a result of someone putting in work and being willing to give up their time to create opportunities for the larger group. Whether that's a Saturday or Sunday ride, an event like Christmas in July or the picture nights at Sunbury. Not every event is a success (I remember the last trivia night that had a disappointing turn-up) but so long as the opportunities are there we will be a strong branch.

Committee of course does its bit to create events for the club and to improve those events where they're a regular occurrence. Hence our move to a Monday night and to a new venue for our club nights. Our turn-up was on the wane and there were grumbles re meals, rooms and drinks availability. So the committee decides to try to improve our lot and make some changes. It won't suit all (does anything ever?) but let's give it a try. Likewise not every ride is roaring success with heaps of riders BUT weather and circumstances (family always comes first) can all play a hand. We need to recognise there will be hits and misses and hope those who manage a ride enjoy themselves, which they usually do.

Of course the committee is not the fount of all wisdom (please note I avoided the suppository joke there folks) and needs a little support from the wider membership. We'll organise something if people want it and trips are planned for different events. The Melbourne Wheel has been suggested. So if you have ideas let us know and I guarantee we'll look into it. Yes we may need help to make it happen but we do need good ideas first.

I started by pointing out a good turn-up for the pictures and saying this typifies MRUB. It's an odd measure to be sure (some movies are not to everyone's taste) but the bigger picture holds true I suggest. There are people out there making bookings, collecting money, spreading the word, etc. and whilst they don't really expect you to turn up to everything that happens rest assured they're trying and they're doing it with good grace and the best interests of the branch in mind so support from you guys, if only a quiet nod, is what will keep us as a branch a nice place to be.

## 2017 AGM Port Macquarie

And so there was Four of us that rode to the AGM as a group. This is a Day by Day log of the trip

### Day 1 – Tuesday 16 May

And so at 6am on the dot my mate and driver (The ever Reliable STUD) for the next 2 week arrived at my front door to take me to the 2017 AGM in Port Macquarie. We were due to meet the other 2 that we were travelling with at a Maccas in Pakenham on the highway at approx. 8 for breakfast and so in the cloak of darkness we headed off. A beautiful run through the tunnel and out onto the Monash was had and we found ourselves in front of the clock by about an hour. Not so the other two who were about 10 minutes behind us and ran into a prang that blocked the freeway and held them up. In the interim we had gone to the wrong Maccas and after a phone call from “Zip Bevan” (yes that’s Zip for short and will be explained why latter in this report) and Gomez, we tried to relocate ourselves only to run into a grid lock ourselves and took approx. 50 minutes to drive 4kms.

Finally, we all met up and believe it or not, at 8am, and after a very nice Maccas breakfast headed off on the princess highway towards Orbost. The ride was really uneventful and after a quick lunch in Lakes Entrance we hit the road again and finally rode into Orbost to spend the night in the Luxurious “Orbost Club Hotel”. The Pub was a gold rush vintage but biker friendly and the bar although old was warm and the locals and barman all welcoming. After conquering the multiple flights of stairs (oh the pain) and finding a way around the dogs that would guard the bikes for the night we settled in for a nice drink and finally tea in the dining room. The rooms were warm and clean and the shower in the morning an experience.

### Day 2 – Wednesday 17 May

Morning seen us rise at about 6:30 (a time I was to find Stud automatically stirred at) and after renegotiating the stairs headed down the main street of Orbost for a really nice breakfast in their local Bakery. The riding got much better for Zip and Gomez as the road between Orbost and Canne River was nice and sweepy and well surfaced. A quick fill up of petrol and a quick empty out of the night before seen us heading up the Monaro Highway towards Bombala. This was a really lovely strip of road, the weather perfect, and I was starting to feel a little envious of the two in front. We arrived in Bombala and headed then to Cooma. Again the two on the bikes were in their element as both were really enjoying both the scenery and the riding. Had lunch at Cooma Maccas and after watching some very enthusiastic highway Mr Plods left very quietly and rode on to Canberra. Now I’m not saying Studs GPS was wrong but we did get a great Cooks tour of Canberra before finally arriving at the Canberra Carotel. (Confirmed by the rep from Cartoscope that nearly all GPS’s actually take the same long route even though programmed for shortest and quickest. Will update soon)

Settled into the two rooms that were booked, and after acquiring a nice bottle of red we headed down to the local shopping centre and a Chinese restaurant, where we had a very nice meal (great sweet and sour pork). We then headed back to the Carotel for a reasonably early night.



We finally meet up



Beer was good, staff were great, stairs were shit



Great riding





### Day 3 – Thursday 18 May

Morning once again gave us superb weather and we watched the temperature climb into the mid 20's. Riding again was great and the two bikes revelled in the great conditions. We headed first for Yass and then up to Mudgee where we had a really lovely lunch in a very shmick café. Must admit the quality of food was pretty good. Stud took a shine to one of the waiting Ladies, but time was on our side and so we left the café and a heartbroken wench and headed towards Cowra. Cowra was the site of the World War 2 Prisoners of war camp breakout where quite a few Aussie soldiers and Jap prisoners died during the violent breakout event and they have a memorial Japanese Garden to mark the tragedy. It was at these gardens where our beloved President Michael had a little problem with one of his clients in Melbourne and Michael tried to solve the problem over the phone. Frustrated would be a mild term to use as the entire Gardens heard what our companion thought of the other end of the phone as he tried to explain how to create a computer ZIP File. We all thought it really funny as did most of the people around us and hence he has earned his new name of ZIPPO. After quite a delay at the gardens we arrived in Gulgong in the dark as it was a long hard ride and we could tell quite easily how hard it had been by the repetitive comments relating to his backside by our beloved president the Zip. A great night at the local RSL was had where we had a meal that would have fed three was dished up to us. Great Sweet and sour pork though. We picked up a 6 pack of what the locals called Fish Hooks and headed back to the Cabins where we had a good chat and then a well-deserved night's sleep.

### Day 4 – Friday 19 May

Seen us rise to a lovely morning with rain being threatened on the radar and forecast. Never rains on a cat was my reply and as all knows it never does. Headed directly towards Dunedoo then up to Mendooran and finally via a great back road to Coonabarabran. Had a lunch in Coonabarabran at a café in the main street and was amused at the owner who claimed to be flat out. There was 6 people in the place. Must have been peak hour. Didn't matter though the burgers were great. Left Coonabarabran and headed for Moree. I guess my prediction was to be proved a little incorrect as it absolutely teamed rain for the next hour and Zip and Gomez got drenched. At least it never actually did rain on a cat as I was nice and warm in Studs truck accompanied with a heated seat. These are the pleasures one gets when one is a little incapacitated.

Arrived at the Gwydir Caravan park in Moree (Zips bum was on fire poor lad..... lol) and was told that the rooms I had booked only had double beds. Now I know of Studs reputation and so a double bed was not on. I looked over at Zip and he was looking at Gomez strangely. Hmmm. So they eventually gave us a super family room with 2 bedrooms and 4 beds. Wasn't long before the 4 of us were lazing in the 38-degree spar water. Very nice. After a recuperation session we dressed for the RSL and had a quite nice tea with a glass of red to wash it down. John and I listened to a two piece band while zip and Gomez went to indulge in the pokies. Bingo!!!!!!!! Gomez won \$1000.00 and Zip was so happy for him (Not). Anyway a round of drinks was on Gomez and the RSL payed for most of his trip from then on.



Prez does his block  
Emerges Zippo



Diggs at Gulgong



The historical site of  
wings waterloo

Diggs at Moree





#### Day 5 – Saturday 20 May

Seen us lazing in the pool for most of the day after a late get up. Zips bum was starting to feel human again and the team were in good spirits. Stud tried to have an early morning dip in the pool but was turned back by a full house of very excitable women who had commandeered the pool but seemed only too eager to have him join them. (Stud will explain) We all assembled at the Ladies toilets and had a commemorative picture to celebrate the “Running of the Dunny” by our very own Wings. (There lays a tale that only a few can retell) Went and had a look around the place and I purchased flowers for Mrs Puss’s birthday at the local florist and arranged to have them delivered on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. (That night had tea at the Amaroo Tavern just next door to the Caravan Park and Zip was upset it wasn’t his turn to win. An early night was had by all.

#### Day 6 – Sunday 21 May

Seen us leave the luxury of our penthouse digs and head towards Ebor. Headed out on the Gwydir Highway. Missed the turn off to the Thunderbolt way at Inverell and ended up going direct to Glenn Innes. This got us directly on to the Guyra. This turned out to be a bit of a disappointment as the boys missed a lot of the Waterfall Way road and we ended up in Ebor a little earlier than expected. But we ended up at a quaint little coffee shop in Ebor having Scones jam and cream and a nice cup of tea. Very British.

Finally got our rooms at the Ebor hotel and settled in. Went for a look at the Ebor Falls which were pretty spectacular. And watch a couple of guys flying their expensive drones (\$2500 each) over the falls taking really good snaps. Zip took the mandatory selfie of us all.

On return to the hotel Michael was enthused by the drones and took his small one out for a test run. This was going to be used to take shots at the Tuesday and Friday night dinners as his drone flew around the marquee. Unfortunately, it would not completely connect with his i-phone and flew out of control over the shed to land in a paddock. Hmmm. With tail between his legs it was recovered and returned to his bag never to be seen again. Tea was good and plentiful, beer even better, and port served to Gomez in a 7oz glass. We retired to our comfortable rooms. We watched the Motor GP on Telly and hit the sack. Well some did, as the place got a little rowdy by some just about race finishing time.



Again great scenic riding



Ebor falls



Diggs at Ebor



#### Day 7 – Monday 22 May

Rode into Port Macquarie and directly to the AGM registration (Zips bum was once again on fire). As usual we got lost finding the place but eventually all was good. After registration we headed on to the Bonny Hills Caravan Park where our beloved President had booked us in. This was beyond our expectations as the Cabin was a three-bedroom delight with tellies in each room as well as the lounge. We allowed Zip the privilege of the double bed and ensuite as he outranked us, (all bow to the Pres.) We had our own BBQ and a porch with A MILLION DOLLAR VIEW, we were really spoilt. Smokey and Dawn were also at the same park which made it nice also. We went up to the local "Woollies" which had a BRWS bottle shop attached and stocked up for the week with meat, salads, wine, and fish hooks. We were told that a Bush Poet was to be performing at the General BBQ area and so we all rocked on down. Turned out he was great and so Stud and I brought his cd. Really good stuff. A great BBQ then followed where Smokey and Dawn joined us. All in all, a great day and a great finish.

#### Day 8 – Tuesday 23 May

Woke to the Studs birthday. We all sang him happy birthday and Smokey gave him a birthday balloon. Got an SMS from Mrs Puss to say she loved the flowers, Gomez said we had to have a cake and later that night a cake appeared and all was good.

Left the Park and Smokey and Dawn guided us up to the Big Brother lookout. View was spectacular and Zip naturally took the mandatory selfie and posted it on Facebook. We then headed down to the AGM site where we had our first look at the place. Was slightly disappointed at the trade expo as I thought it was a little light on in numbers. But those that were there were good and more than ready to chat on about the products. The test rides (although I couldn't ride anything) was also a little disappointing as Harley, Honda, Yammy, didn't turn up but the ones that did being Suzuki, Triumph, BMW, and the local lad who provided some Harleys and Ducati's did more than expected. Great effort. The food trucks were also of really top quality and the Ladies Auxiliary were working flat out supplying coffee and light meals at really good prices. After a good look around we headed back to the Park as we were to be picked up at 5 in the bus for the Tuesday night dance.

Picked up right on 5 in a bus that just made it to the AGM site. Hmmmm. The Venue was looking great with a circus type tent erected and every one dresses in prisoner garb. We were outfitted in our club shirts. The meal was a little on the lean side and there were no sweets. Bit of a bummer. Christo was presented with his "AGM virgin" certificate as was a heap of others, don't know if Daryl got his as we didn't see him till much later in the night. The band on the other had were great and sang a kind of rockabilly music that had everyone dancing and held a full dance floor all night. Gomez brought the CD as he was really impressed with the group (or was it the singer?). Back on the bus at 10 and back to the Park and into bed.



Yes Victor...Finally there



Our morning view from our balcony



Great scenic views from big brother lookout



Tuesday Night Dinner



#### Day 9 – Wednesday 18 May

Decided to have a look at port Macquarie after a late get up. Had a good breakfast on the BBQ and then headed into the Town. Drove into the main centre where we had a nice lunch of Fish and Chips. Gomez decided to try out their Fish Selection and it seemed there was something wrong with his fish bites as by night time he was crook as a dog. We cruised down the coast all in the fable truck and stopped off at Tacking Point Lighthouse. From here we got magnificent views along the coast in both directions and would have been great for whale spotting if there had been any to see. Pity that hey... But we did see the Whale watching tour boat scooping round trying to find some. We were all booked into the “traditional night out at a restaurant” which was in Port Macquarie. It was a mate of Smokies and was called The Romma. It served good Italian food and all agreed it was a top night. We got back to find Gomez in bed and out like a light. Watched a bit of tellie then headed to bed.



#### Day 10 – Thursday 19 May

Seen Gomez rise a little better that he went to bed as the wog seemed to have passed through him. A late start to the day seen us head to the AGM to have a really good look at all the attractions and as it was the night of the traditional club BBQ we had to also do a little shopping. We hit the AGM and had a really good talk to most stall holders and I had a good chat to a couple of the trike converters just in case things turned to crap later in the year. Ran into Daryl and he was just raving about this new Triumph 800 which he was trying to convince himself he really needed to own (Which he finally did purchase on return to Melbourne). It was also the open day to the public and there were quite a few towns folk floating about trying to find out what this strange invasion of the town was all about.

The town was putting on a Bike Show in the main st that evening between 5 and 7 and so we decided to go have a look. The town had closed off one of the main streets for the show and a lot of the show bikes that people has ridden to the event were there on display. Also there was a couple of the trade displays from our AGM there and that certainly added to the atmosphere.

Later we headed back to the camp and prepared for the Club BBQ. Was really happy that all except Christo turned up (he had made other plans with some of the campers). We had plenty of food and the conversation never stopped all night. Daryl a relatively new member had a great night and as it was his (and Christos) first AGM thought the turn was great.





Day 11 – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May.

A late start again and a good breakfast was had by all. Michael had to attend the presidents meeting and so that left the three of us to find something to do with the day. We went up to the AGM site but most traders and bike dealers had packed up. We decided to go and have a look at the Bago Winery. Now this was meant to be just a few Kms out of town but it ended up a decent drive mainly dirt roads, until all of a sudden you came out onto a lovely clearing filled with Grape vines, a cool looking cellar and a very friendly host who was more than willing to let us sample any of his wares we wanted. Needless to say we certainly did and so we settled in for a very pleasant afternoon along with a rather large cheese platter that you could purchase of all the various cheese makers in the area... Now there was a sight to say beware of the birds that made Stud a little excited but it turned out there were over friendly kooka's that delighted in stealing cheese of your plater.

As we had the Friday Night dinner to attend we headed back to the camp and was picked up by the same driver but a far more reliable bus that took us all to the Dinner. The meal was a much better deal that the Tuesday night and yes they did have a sweet but it was a pack of local delicacies which really didn't pass the pub test. Those that dressed up really did it well as it was lords and wenches and some of the getups were really cool. The presentations were given and the raffle drawn and all the formalities done and dusted. Dawn won a really cool plaque with Harley Davidson all over it which Smokey will just love to hang up in his house, but at least we got something. The band started up and I thought god what crap is this. But from the second number they became really great and held a full dance floor all night. All in all, a good night to finish off a good AGM.

Day 12 – Saturday.

Seen us rise early and John and I watched the boys ride off to the Grand Parade. I must admit I was more than a littler envious as I would have loved to be in it. Stud and I headed down to the main st of Port Macquarie in the truck and took up our place on the bridge near the end of the run and waited. The mood in the crowd was cool and when the copper rode through on the Indian Police Bike a huge roar greeted him. Finally, the bikes started to roll by and after a decent wait our crew came into view and we got good footage of them. The final assembly was just up the road from where john and I had parked so we walked up and met up with everyone in the park. After the parade we all went for a really cool breakfast just around the corner from the BRWS bottle shop. We headed back home and kind of did nothing for the rest of the day. Smokey came in and told us who won the election, and we already knew where the 2020 was to be held in SA from Michael. So we kind of just packed up ready for the next day's ride Zip making sure he rested his backside to the max.



Well someone had to try the local wine



Saturday Night and caught up with a mate Steve from Mildura





### Day 13 – Sunday.

Left after a good breakfast and a clean-up (must keep the Ulysses name good) and headed out onto the highway heading direct to Sydney. The aim was to get to Campbelltown that night which is south of Sydney and so we would miss the Monday traffic. This proved to be a great move. Stopped off some greenie coffee place for a quick coffee and later at a crazy place called the rock for a pie for lunch. Made Campbelltown in good time using all the freeways and booked into the motel that Michael had organised the night before.

Went to the Chinese restraint which was attached to the motel and had a really nice meal. Sweet and sour pork was good. We all hit the sack early as it was a big day for the boys on the bikes the next day as they hoped to make Albury for the night.

### Day 14, 15, 16 – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

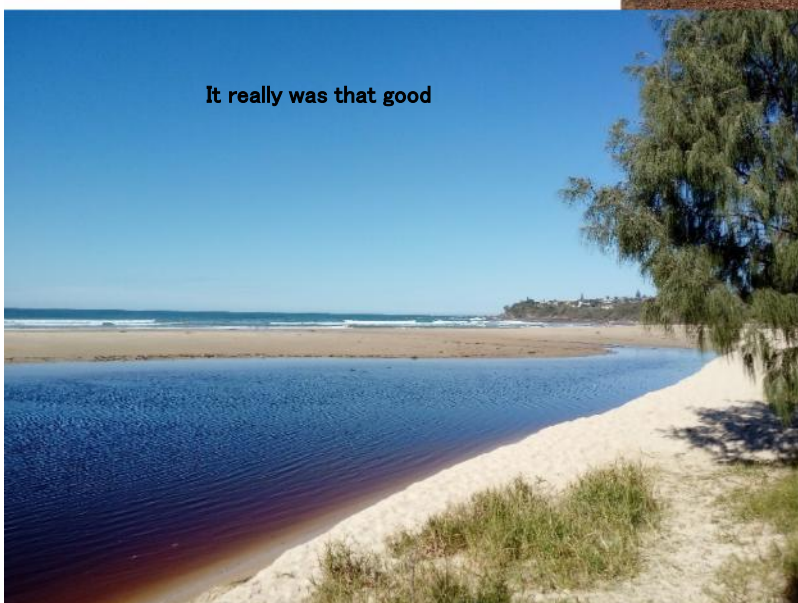
Seen us say good bye to Gomez and Michael and they rode on to Albury and the next day made it home. Stud and I headed to Canberra Where we booked into the same Carotel we stayed in on the way up. I caught up with a mate I had worked with in Melbourne that evening and a good night was had. The following day we headed down to Pambula to see one of Johns friends. They lived in a lovely house tucked away in the wood and were nice enough to put the pair of us up for the night. Another great evening was had. Wednesday morning seen us leave Pambula bright and early and did a 700 km run home to Melbourne arriving home at about 4:30. One very big day.

### Summary

And so that was the 2017 AGM in Port Macquarie done and dusted. All in all a good AGM. WE all had a great time with many good memories. Roll on 2018 and South Australia's Renmark on the Murray.



Last night in Cambelltown



It really was that good



Zipps third ear







## Sunday Ride Report, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

Woke up Sunday morning and it was cold, with not a very good forecast, 5mm of rain overnight. Packed my wet weather pants (pessimistic) and summer gloves (optimistic) in my trusty Ulysses man bag.

Left home (Bacchus Marsh) at 8:20am, temperature was 9°

Started to wonder if heated hand grips would be a good idea, but no, got through previous winters without them.

Roads were wet but clouds were breaking up, looks promising.

Got to Macca's in Sunbury at 9am and waited patiently as the car park was bike free except for a lonely T-Bird and me.



By 9.30am started to wonder where everyone was.

The AGM? Running late? Home in bed? Crying over the Bombers loss to the Tigers?

WE decided to make a Plan B. No sense wasting a good ride on me. Been there, done that.

Where to go, what to do? All dressed up and nowhere to go. 9:40am and no late arrivals. OK, now Plan B.

WE took a vote and decided on the historic car/bike races at Winton this weekend, but racing would have already started.

After a comprehensive briefing inside my helmet, WE left.

My brother in law, and nephew both race early 1940's Indian Scouts and I was keen to see a race or two.

As Ride Leader I decided WE should go via Lancefield, Broadford and the Hume Highway to get to Winton ASAP. No time to waste.

Up the Hume Highway, OMG how mind numbing, plenty of time to think and contemplate my navel.

\$1.20, cruising up the Hume made bearable by staying out of sync with the tin tops and luckily no blue light distractions.

There was no time for morning tea or toilet stops despite the whinging. As ride leader I made the choice to press on so WE could enjoy a bit of motorcycle race action.

Corner marking was not an issue, it all came together with military precision.

Must have been the comprehensive pre-ride briefing I gave. But I think I lost tail end Charlie, oh hang on, that's me!



Lots of wet roads, but no rain so far. WE pushed on.

Got to the racetrack in good time and checked out the Pits to find my sister & her crew.

Racetrack was dry and the weather overcast and cool. Perfect for racing but not for the many spectators. Ran into a couple of friends from the past and did a bit of catching up.

Racetrack food is never great and it lived up to OUR expectations, but warmed us up and filled our collective bellies.

Got to see my nephew, Michael, come 2<sup>nd</sup> in his class in a nail biter between 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> places.

Only his second race on the bike in the photo, his own, after cutting his teeth on one of his Dad's bikes.

Said my Goodbye's then rounded up the crew for the trip home, didn't take long!



Fuelled up at Benalla then onto the Hume Highway, OMG ..... sorry we've already done that. Dark clouds looming but so far, so good.

About 20 km from Seymour the sky fell. I was in the middle of a rainstorm complete with lightning and thunder, but by the time I pulled into a truck stop to put on my wet weather pants, it was over.

Turned off at Broadford, then home via Kilmore, Lancefield & Gisborne. Wet road but no more rain.

Got home by 4:30pm, temperature 9°I was dry but had cold fingers. Maybe heated grips for Christmas, but I have got to get through winter first. Maybe Christmas in July!

Great day, 480km round trip. Any day on a bike is a good day.



Cheers

Mal Livesay, #49876

Ride leader, corner marker, tail end Charlie, catering director and entertainment officer.

**P.S. Next time I'll try it with a few biker buddies for company. 😊**



## Grums First Bikes

Back in 1960 I was given a hand me down bike by my older brother so I could learn to ride around the paddocks where we lived . The bike I got was a really weird folding contraption called a Wellbike fitted with a Villiers 98cc two stroke engine driving through a single plate clutch & fixed gear. The Wellbike came folded up in a canister from an Army surplus auction & I was told they were used during WW2 by British Paratroopers as a means of transport once parachuted into the battlefield. To start it you pulled the clutch in & ran beside it & then dropped the clutch. I just rolled it down the hilly street where we lived & rode off, sans helmet, licence etc etc, as you could get away with it then. I rode that bike for years all over Pascoe Vale, Happy Valley & Broadmeadows, no one cared, no one complained, & seemingly running forever on a gallon of standard petrol, which I recall cost the equivalent of around 35 cents. I also used to ride this thing around the Essendon Airport taxi ways as my 14 years older brother worked for ANA then Ansett- ANA in the late 50's. Eventually airport security (DCA) cracked it & nabbed me & the Welly was pushed into the lunchroom till the heat died down. Nevertheless the experience gave me enough confidence to graduate to what was for me, my first track bike.

After the Wellbike was pensioned off my brother bought a Royal Enfield 125 for 6 quid off a work mate with working lights etc. Consequently I rode this thing around at night till all hours as it was very quiet. Then enter an ancient but fast Ariel 500 Red Hunter single port with girder forks, what a fabulous bike & really soundly built like a proverbial battleship, as the owner of an AJS 500 scrambler found out to his cost. Out of the blue I had a head on prang with this bloke at the local track & pushed his front wheel & forks back into his engine. All I did to my old Ariel was bend the front crash bars slightly. I kicked them straight & was on my way, the AJS rider walked home to get a trailer to retrieve his wreckage. Back then the track was made up of two groups, riders & spectators. The speckled potatoes would sit on the hill to watch proceedings & hurl the obligatory rotten abuse at dodgy riders, no doubt hoping for prangs. When the AJS bloke shuffled past them going home to grab his trailer, they gave him some fearful stick in the shape of ribald riding advice etc LOL.

But I digress, the only drawback with the Wellbike was it had an exposed magneto flywheel, the large retaining nut of which inevitably chewed it's way into my left ankle after I clipped the side of the boys shelter sheds in the school grounds near our house which caused me to low side. Mum wasn't too pleased with my older brother for giving me that "stupid thing" but what's a chewed ankle when you're young & invincible having so much fun ? In any case my ankle soon healed & I was on my merry way again with not a care in the world. Of course my Dad being a motorcycle new sales agent & mechanic for Panther & a few other makes in between was sympathetic but wisely turned a blind eye to my activities & pretended not to notice or be encouraging my two wheeled shenanigans bearing in mind Mum's attitude to me riding bikes in the first place. Speaking of Panthers, (here we go) my best mate had a 350 & we used to ride it around a footy oval near the Moonee Ponds creek. It had no exhaust pipe at all and 2 foot flames would shoot out the exhaust port & the racket was astounding. Not a problem till one day the fuel tank split & dumped petrol & up she went. My mate slid back onto the rear mudguard & knee steered that ball of flames for the creek which was handily nearby & had a small cliff. When he was 20 feet away he jumped off & the flaming Panther went sailing over & down into 5 foot of water. Five minutes later after we stopped laughing, Norm just shrugged & said he'd get another one as they were cheap as chips at the time. Subsequently we found out that a Happy Valley kid went in after it & somehow eventually dragged it out & got it running again. I knew another kid who bought a 750 WLA Harley for 6 pounds (\$12) off a widow as anything old was regarded as junk. He flogged it up & down the track all day till it seized & had to push it home. To find bikes then you just had to look over back fences. My first road registered bike was a 1948 Triumph Speed Twin which I bought from Mayfair Motors in Elizabeth street in 1966. It was worn out but it was transport & only cost me \$30 being a trade in on a new Honda. I rode it all over to some big races & a few rallies, the last being the Kangaroo Rally at Lake Burrumbeet in 1966. On the way home the generator & R/H exhaust pipe came loose so I rode with left foot & flying boot on genny & right on exhaust. In the end I sold it & bought a Honda CB72 on the never never. It had an Overhead Cam Motor, twin leading shoe brakes & wonder of wonders, electric start & would rev to 9,500 which was unheard of back in the day. Although only a 250, it would easily outpace 500 bikes like the AJS etc. It was my only form of transport & I never had a car licence till my early twenties. My girlfriend at the time did have a car licence and a Morris Minor as well so she drove me around in it for a while as being a total motorbike enthusiast, I had a real dislike & contempt for cars at that time. In the end I saw reason & bought my first 4 wheeler (FX Holden for \$75 with blown head gasket).

As an aside but continuing on the 2 wheeled theme, my Dad was a founding member of & helped build the Glenroy RSL club rooms. And every Saturday I'd jump in his dodgy exhaust Indian Chief with box sidecar & we'd roar flat out up to the RSL which was just a wooden framework at that time. In due course & with the application of much beer consumption, it was somehow finally completed & my family spent many happy nights in that place during the 60's. And lucky me, during school holidays I'd travel in the Indian to Dad's shop in Mt Road Moonee Ponds just up from Maurie Quincey & spend the day re arranging his window presentation & trying to start customer bikes.

For lunch we'd shut up the place & roar off again on the big noisy Chief to Aunty Elsie's house in Athol St Ascot Vale for a sambo & cuppa. While the old man was catching up news with Aunty, I'd sneak out the back & harass her talkative ancient white cocky to the point where he would shriek, swear & abuse me. Aunt said the delivery men taught him his bad language as they were coming & going, no supermarkets then. Although I bet Uncle Bill had something to do with that. Around that time my Uncle was secretary of Moonee Valley Racing Club & the Oaklands Hunt Club & kept his 2 steeplechase racehorses in the rear stables there (Teedum & Mudeet) which I gave an extra good feed to that Unc knew nothing about. Lunch concluded, it was back on the Chief & flat out up Maribyrnong hill & back to the shop. In those days some shop owners did shut up for lunch which was accepted as most people were in no hurry for anything. I found out later from my brother that the old man's noisy Chief had a sneaky exhaust "cutout" setup on it which was a manual valve he could work to switch from muffled to straight out exhaust. In fact the latest Commodore SS V8 has a similar system called a bi modal exhaust. Nothing new under the sun !Getting back to the Wellbikes, if anyone is wondering what one looks like you can google it or go to the Williamstown Motor Museum to see one in the flesh. It was extremely reliable, just requiring the odd plug clean now & then ( like your mower). By the time I was 14 I had read all of my Dad's motorcycle service books from the 1920's some of which are valuable collectors items now and managed take apart & re assemble engines from the procedures in those books. Back then we had no TV as Mum disapproved ( must have known something) so we read a lot at night in the lounge room with a blazing open fireplace in winter, cooking toast on the embers. Somehow it always tasted better than the electric toaster. Anyway those are the memories of my first bike, many more have followed but you always have a soft spot reserved for that first two wheeler, (and girlfriend with Morris Minor !)

So in conclusion, that's my story & I'm sticking to it.

And like Troy Bayliss said, if ya don't like it ya's can all .....something something.

Safe riding in 2017  
Bill Graham. Member # 66913

I'm probably going to hell for this,  
but you are coming along too !  
for laughing.....



Its called a **Barka**

After his exam the doctor asked the elderly man: "You appear to be in good health. Do you have any medical concerns you would like to ask me about?" "In fact, I do," said the old man. "After I have sex with my wife, I am usually cold and chilly, and then, after I have sex with her the second time, I am usually hot and sweaty. " Later, after examining the man's elderly wife, the doctor said: "Everything appears to be fine. Do you have any medical concerns that you would like to discuss with me?" She replied that she had no questions or concerns. The doctor then said to her: "Your husband had an unusual concern. He claims that he is usually cold and chilly after having sex with you the first time, and then hot and sweaty after the second time. Do you know why?" "Oh that crazy old fart," she replied. "That's because the first time is usually in July and the second time is in December."

At the end of the tax year, The Taxation Office sent an inspector to audit the books of a local hospital. While the agent was checking the books, he turned to the executive of the hospital and said "I notice you buy a lot of bandages. What do you do with the end of the roll when there's too little left to be of any use?"

"Good question," noted the executive. "We save them up and send them back to the bandage company and every once in a while, they send us a free roll."

"Oh," replied the auditor, somewhat disappointed that his unusual question had a practical answer.

But on he went, in his obnoxious way.

"What about all these plaster purchases? What do you do with what's left over after setting a cast on a patient?"

"Ah, yes," replied the executive, realising that the inspector was trying to trap him with an unanswerable question. "We save it and send it back to the manufacturer and every so often they send us a free bag of plaster."

"I see," replied the auditor, thinking hard about how he could fluster the know-it-all executive. "Well, What do you do with all the remains from the circumcision surgeries?"

"Here, too, we do not waste," answered the executive..

"What we do is save all the little foreskins and send them to the tax office, and about once a year they send us a complete prick."

**DON'T WORRY,  
SOME PEOPLE  
ARE THEIR OWN  
PUNISHMENT  
IN LIFE**

SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM

"Be decisive. Right or wrong,  
make a decision. The road of  
life is paved with flat squirrels  
who couldn't make a  
decision."  
~Unknown~

SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM

A Muslim has been shot in the head with a starting pistol; police say it's definitely race related...

Due to a water shortage in Ireland, Dublin swimming baths have announced they are closing lanes 7 and 8....

**REMEMBER, WOMEN ALWAYS  
HAVE THE LAST WORD IN AN  
ARGUMENT.**

**ANYTHING A MAN ADDS AFTER  
THAT IS THE BEGINNING OF A  
NEW ARGUMENT.**

SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM

**NEVER MAKE A WOMAN MAD.  
THEY CAN REMEMBER STUFF  
THAT HASN'T EVEN  
HAPPENED YET.**

SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM

Paddy thought his new girlfriend might be the one but after looking through her knickers drawer and finding a nurse's outfit, a French maids outfit, and a police woman's uniform, he finally decided if she can't hold down a job, she's not for him.

Paddy is doing some roofing work for Murphy. He nears the top of the ladder and starts shaking and going dizzy. He calls down to Murphy and says "I tink I will 'ave to go home, I've come all over giddy and feel sick." Murphy asks "Ave yer got vertigo?"

Paddy replies "No I only live round the corner."

**Arguing with a woman is like  
reading the Software License  
agreement.**



**In the end you have to ignore  
everything and click "I agree".**

SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM

After 100 years lying on the sea bed, Irish divers were amazed to find that the Titanic's swimming pool was still full.



## Ken Hagers Trip No 2 to the USA

In late May Colin Randall, Mark & Lucy Freestone, Richard & Kim Bouchier, and Matt & Michelle Dridan arrived in the USA to join me in a ride in my favourite part of the USA, Utah.

Colin, Richard and Kim started their travel in San Francisco, while Mark, Lucy, Howard (my brother), Rosa (his wife), and I started from Carson City, Nevada. We met Matt & Michelle in Las Vegas, which was the official starting point.

The plan was for CRK to travel to Mammoth Lakes via Yosemite National Park's Tioga Pass Road and meet MLK there. Well, the winter snow was so heavy that the road was still closed when they left on 1 June! In fact, the road wasn't opened until 24 June, about the latest day ever. So, an alternative plan was put into place to get them around the snow.

After meeting and having lunch, we made it to Mammoth Lakes California. The accommodation was good, but the air was a bit chilly and thin (elevation of 8,053ft). The next morning's departure had a temperature of 3c. An hour later we stopped to remove most of the cold weather gear as the temp had risen to 28c. An hour after that we stopped for fuel and a change to summer gear as the temp had risen to 35c. This is what happens when you travel from the mountains to the desert. The remainder of the day was in heat and getting to the air-conditioned rooms in Las Vegas was most welcome. Upon arrival, M&M were not there. We got checked in and they arrived on their motorcycle, which they had just picked up from Eaglerider. So, we were all together in LV. From there we headed off on the adventure the next morning, 3 June.

Las Vegas was the low point of the trip. Literally, as its elevation was less than anywhere else we were going to be for the next 3 weeks.

Rivers. Wherever we encountered a river it was near flooding, due to the extensive snow fall the previous winter. Most of our riding was with snow capped mountains, either in the distance or up close.

Where we stayed and Points of interest

Since I need to keep this relatively short, I will give you information about the above and let you search on the www for as much detail as you desire.

Las Vegas Nevada	Valley of Fire State Park (lived up to its name)
Mt Carmel Junction Utah	Bryce Canyon National Park (lots of hoodoos)
and water)	Zion National Park (in a valley with lots of greenery
formations)	Scenic Byway Utah highway 12 (lots of red rock
Torrey Utah	Great food and a fantastic view with the meal
of rock	Escalante National Park (Ride through with a variety formations)
Moab Utah	Arches National Park (plenty of natural arches and other formations)
Colorado River)	Castle Valley – Scenic Byway Utah 128 (next to the
Durango Colorado	Mesa Verdi National Park
	Durango Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad
	San Juan Skyway (with one pass at 11,018ft)
	Gooseheads State Park (Utah)
	Mexican Hat
	Monument Valley
Page Arizona	Glen Canyon Dam
herd there)	Antelope Canyon
	Grand Canyon National Park North Rim (saw Bison
Williams Arizona	Grand Canyon National Park South Rim
	Grand Canyon Train
	Route 66 cafe and memorabilia
Seligman Arizona	Historic Route 66 started here, more memorabilia and photos
Kingman Arizona	Mr D' z Route 66 Diner for ice cream
	Mother Rode Cycles for cool vests (they worked well)
Oatman Arizona	Last section of the old, near original, Route 66 (tight and narrow)

Laughlin Nevada

Casino with air-conditioning after the hottest day (47c)

Last night for the group

CRK left early in the morning heading to Bakersfield, and then onto San Francisco. The others go to Las Vegas where M&M return their bike and we check-in to the Paris Casino Hotel for the day/night. We got there early in the day as the heat was still 47-49c. After sorting things out, we wandered through the various casinos and enjoyed LV as much as one can.

The next morning H&R leave for a direct drive home to Carson City. MLK head off to Mammoth Lakes for another night's stay. Some of the snow from 3 weeks previous was still there! Temperature was an unusually warm 28c. Heard stories about the amount of snow ML had during the winter. One was that in one three day period they had over 3 m of snow. This was so much that they had to get help from the US Army to remove it. Another was that the ski resort had to close because of too much snow. The chairlifts were stuck in the snow and had to be dug out! That is a lot of the white stuff!

MLK then went to Placerville California. Along the way we had rivers which were flooding, mountains with snow and rain. For 5-10 minutes the rain and hail pelted down. It was cold as we were still over 7500ft. The roads into Placerville were amazing. They were a series of 8 roads (and I managed to get them all correct, no u-turns) each was as twisty as the Reefton or Black spur but a total length of nearly 50 miles (80 km) and as narrow as Mt Macedon. It was a lot of work, but worth it as it was through countryside not many Americans, let alone Australians, will ever see.

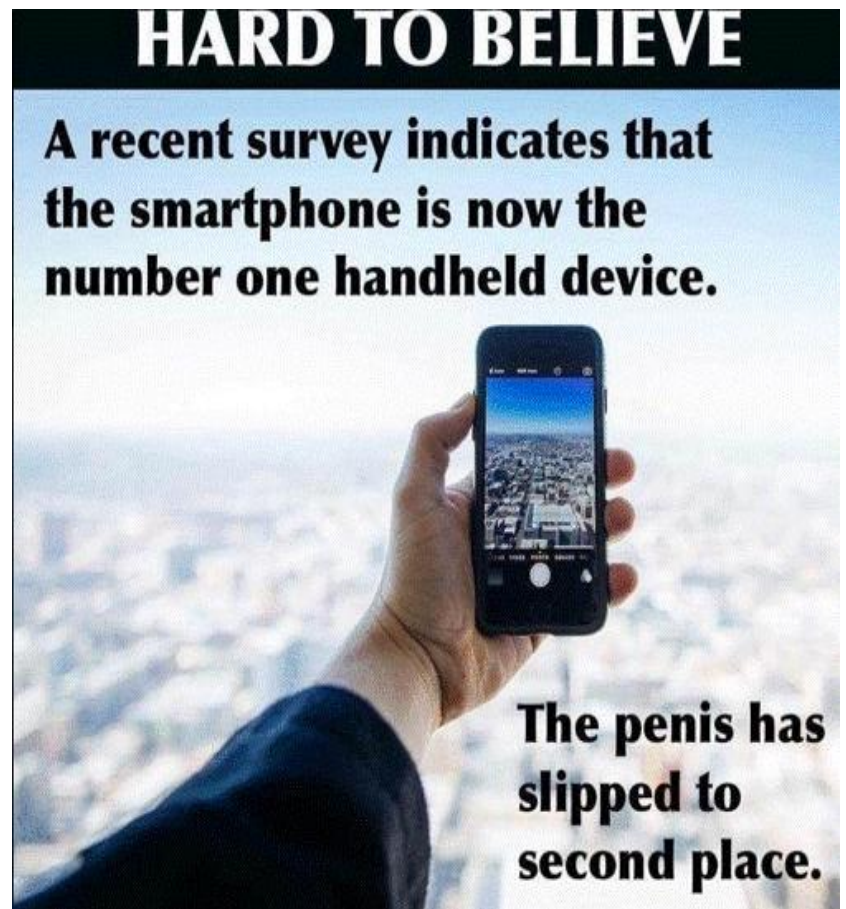
Leaving Placerville on US 50 took us along the South Fork of the American River, which was raging and flooding. Stopped in South Lake Tahoe for lunch and a gondola ride at Heavenly Resort, which still had snow and limited skiing. Then it was an hour ride down to Carson City. Done. Well, had to clean the bike before returning it to Howard. Had to pack and get ready to fly to San Francisco for a further five nights/six days of tourist stuff I didn't do in October. 4053 miles (6485 km) from 1 June through 22 June. Piece of cake!

Thus ends my last trip to the USA for the foreseeable future.

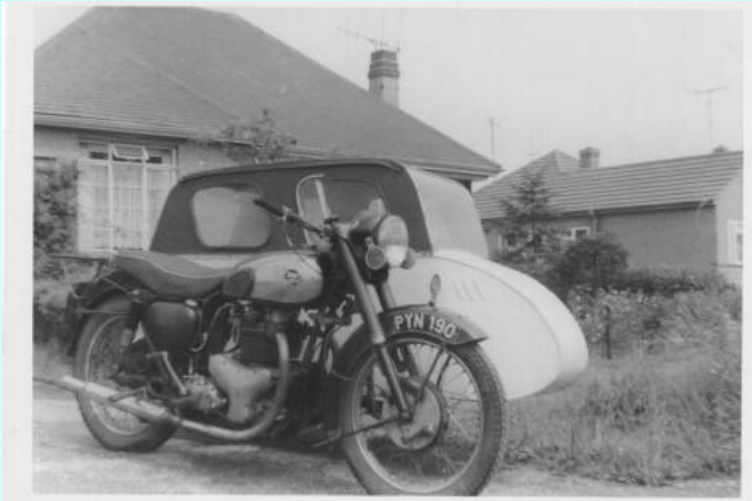
Hey You  
#25809

A 54 year old woman had a heart attack and was taken to the hospital. While on the operating table she had a near death experience. Seeing God she asked "Is my time up?" God said, "No, you have another 43 years, 2 months and 8 days to live." Upon recovery, the woman decided to stay in the hospital and have a face-lift, liposuction, breast implants and a tummy tuck. She even had someone come in and change her hair colour and brighten her teeth! Since she had so much more time to live, she figured she might as well make the most of it. After her last operation, she was released from the hospital. While crossing the street on her way home, she was killed by an ambulance. Arriving in front of God, she demanded, "I thought you said I had another 43 years? Why didn't you pull me from out of the path of the ambulance?"

God replied: "I didn't recognize you."







### Early Bikes

Unfortunately my photographs of my early motorcycles are scarce and mostly out of focus!

The BSA Golden Flash/Busmar outfit was bought from Pride and Clarke, Stockwell Road London, SW9 from memory it was a 1955 model BSA, sidecar build unknown.

I collected it on the day of Winston Churchill's funeral, when many roads in London were closed to traffic, making the trip back to East Essex difficult in the wet!

I'd already had outfit experience with a Royal Enfield 500 Twin with a single seat scooter sidecar.

Many miles were ridden on the "Flash" around Essex and Suffolk, often 4 up. My mate on the back and our current girlfriends in the chair in tandem.

I took up observed trials riding in the mid 1960's always on Greeves, as did most of my club mates in the Southend and District Motorcycle Club, later others moved to Bultaco Sherpa's, Montesa's and the occasional DOT.

The picture of the Greeves was taken at Danbury in Essex. The usual safety gear, gloves, boots, wax cotton jacket and cloth cap.

Col R

### **I woke up this morning at 8 and could sense something was wrong.**

I got downstairs and found the wife face down on the kitchen floor, not breathing! I panicked. I didn't know what to do. Then I remembered the local cafe serve breakfast until 11.30.

### **I saw my mate Charlie this morning, he's only got one arm bless him.**

I shouted - "Where you off to Charlie?"  
He said, "I'm off to change a light bulb."  
Well I just cracked up, couldn't stop laughing, then said,  
"That's gonna be a bit awkward init?"  
"Not really." he said. "I still have the receipt, you insensitive bastard."

### **Angela Merkel arrives at Passport Control in Athens airport.**

"Nationality?" asks the immigration officer.  
"German," she replies.  
"Occupation?"  
"No, just here for a few days."

## Night at a Gallie

**A** Great night was held at the Gallie Restaurant come winery in Melton Keilor rd. last May. Attended by 20 people we had a great time devouring a three course meal and a glass of wine for the total of \$30. Great value. All that were there had a top time and its hoped that more of this type of night can be had.







## Caught in the Headlights

### My Triumph TT600 by Heidi Frankl.

My little red machine is nearly 16 years old and I think it ages well. A few scratches here and there, but nothing too serious.

For about two years I had a red 250 Suzuki Across, and being a learner it was just the right size. Not too small, not too heavy but loud, because to get anywhere or to keep up with the bigger bikes it needed to work hard. My confidence as a rider grew and I started looking at larger bikes, around the 600 cc mark.

In one of the papers there was a Kawasaki advertised. I liked look, the price and made an appointment to see it and possibly take it for a ride. My husband, our son Alex (who actually had time or took time out) and I went to Geelong to check it out. When we arrived at the workshop, the bike was still in bits and pieces and I was very disappointed and not quite sure what to do next.

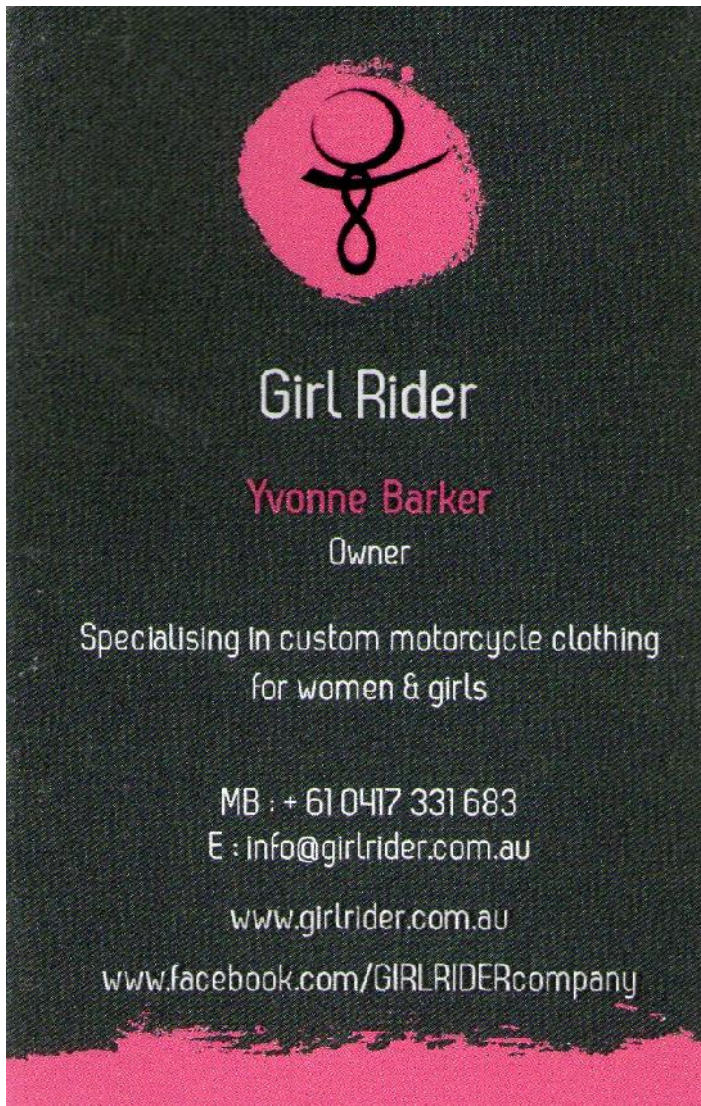
We started to wander down the street as we knew there are more motorbike shops and stopped at Pro Cycle looking at their magnificent display of new motorcycles in the window. Red, Blue, Yellow, bright colours, very inviting. I took a look at the red TT600 and thought: "I like this bike, I really do, but did I want to spend that much on a bike?" I sat on it, it felt so right. I needed a coffee, so we went across the road, had a coffee and the conversation was: "Mum, you should get that bike, you probably will never buy another one, and you will have lots of fun". Alex has been proven right with his comment. Red things go faster so I bought the red one and said to Henry, that he can ride it too, sometimes. He had an older 750 Honda at the time. Henry just looked at me and said: "Well, if you take the red one then I take the blue bike. So, that is how we ended up with two TT600 in one weekend. It proved to be a good buy, my bike has not given me many problems and it is still rides well. Henry used his as a trade in for the BMW. There are not many of the TT600 left, (I wonder where they are?) as Triumph used the TT600 to re-enter the market and quickly the faster and bigger models followed.

Hopefully, I am able to enjoy many more years riding a bike, maybe a trike in time or a trail bike or an adventure bike. There will be something for me.

Heidi Frankl

Member number 49322





A man was walking down the street when he was accosted by a particularly dirty and shabby-looking homeless man who asked him for a few Dollars for Dinner

The man took out his wallet, extracted twenty Dollars and asked,

"If I give you this money, will you buy some beer with it instead of dinner?"

"No, I had to stop drinking years ago," the homeless man replied.

"Will you spend this on green fees at a golf course instead of food?" the man asked.

"Are you NUTS!" replied the homeless man. "I haven't played golf in 20 years!"

"Well," said the man, "I'm not going to give you money. Instead, I'm going to take you home for a hot shower and a terrific dinner cooked by my wife."

The homeless man was astounded. "Won't your wife be furious with you for doing that?"

The man replied, "That's okay. It's important for her to see what a man looks like after he has given up Drinking and Golf."

What can  
happen if you  
eat Wheaties for  
38 years!



Whilst strolling alongside the Murray River this morning I noticed a Muslim extremist slip from the riverbank and fall into the water .

He was struggling to stay afloat because of all the explosives he had been carrying. If he didn't get help he'd surely drown.

Being a responsible Aussie, and abiding by the law of the land that requires you to help those in distress, I informed the Yarrawonga Police, the Immigration Office and even the SES Rescue team.

It is now 4 p.m., he has drowned, and neither authority has yet responded. I'm starting to think I wasted three stamps.





20170709 Christmas in July







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

**Ken (Hey – you) Hager**

**Vicky (Pappa)**

**Colin Randell**

**Bill Graham**

**Dennis (Dutchy) Holland**

**Smokey**

**Grum**

**Mal Livesay**

***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.....***

**Lovers help each other undress before sex.  
However after sex, they always dress on their own.**

**Moral of the story -- In life, no one helps you once you're  
screwed.**