

August 2018

ISSUE No 77

**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 6.15 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 Michaels (yet I doubt it)

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 for dates
Saturday rides leave from Jolley Miller about 11-ish

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: Did you see what I got for Xmas.....

Your Committee

Position	Name	Nickname	Phone
President	Michael Bevan	Donald or Zippo	0431 495 673
Secretary	Mark Behan	Fluffy	0412 078 098
Treasurer	John Barrie	Stud	0447 083 590
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 coordinator	Vicky Cronin	Paparazzi	0409 434 101
Committee	Ian Cowie	Moose	0419 587 208

A Word from your President.....



Hi everyone, Well I can honestly say that I can't wait to get over this winter and like everyone I have had enough of the cold so bring on spring so we can get some better riding weather.

Unfortunately I haven't done much riding at all since I returned from the last AGM as the bike has given me a little grief with a starter issue and the clutch cable breaking and work commitments but the good news is the bikes all fixed so I can start riding it a bit more.

There is an event that is put on the second Saturday of each month called the Victoria Breakfast Club, and it is a breakfast open to all Victorian Ulysses members, The location of VBC is at a different location each month and this month it was in Tallarook and had a turnout of around 35-40. The VBC is a good event to catch up and make friends with other branches and to gather and talk well just about everything. Some of the VBC will require an overnighner as they are spread all over Victoria, so for those who are interested I will email out the location of the next one once I know it.

Membership Drive

Since my last Presidents Report the committee have put together a flyer with a brief outline of Ulysses and our branch. The flyer was distributed in places where motorcycles are likely to go such as motorcycle shops, repair centres or cafes like Motobeanon Malmsbury, the intention is to attract new members to the club after all the more the merrier.

Rides

Because of the winter the ride calendar was dropped back to 1 Sunday ride per month and as next month will be spring we will probably go back to 2 rides a month

So Jim will need volunteers to lead rides for the Saturday Lunch ride as well as the Sunday rides so please consider putting your hand up and let Jim know you are interested in leading a ride.

Mornington Ulysses Rally

The first Ulysses Rally planning is well and truly on its way and from the organisers I have talked to it will be an excellent event, registration at this stage can be done by the form from the Riding On magazine and snail mail but the website registration portal I believe is not that far away, for those who will be attending the Saturday Night catered dinner be aware the rally will not be using the big arse marque as previous years but instead they will be using the Mornington Racetrack facility's so the dinner will be limited to 1000 people only as that is all the venue will hold.

For this of you that have never been to an AGM before (now Ulysses Rally) as this one is in Victoria do yourself a favour and go and have a look at the event, you can get 3 day passes this year so you don't need to be there for a week and there is still plenty of accommodation available.

Overnighters

In November we have our annual spring trip and this year it will be to Colac for 2 nights staying at the caravan park at the lake, Mark and Sylvia have put a lot of work into this trip to make it as enjoyable and fun as possible, we will be departing

On Friday 2nd November and returning on Sunday 4th November, more information is in the events on our Facebook page or you can speak to Mark or Sylvia Behan

The second trip is an overnighner to western Victoria to do the Silo Art Trail and is being organised and lead by Ken Hagar, this trip is departing on 1st December and returning on the 2nd, further information is also in events on the branches Facebook page or you can talk to Ken Hagar or myself.

It would be great to get large groups support these trips.

Lastly the website and calendar have fallen behind and at the last committee meeting the committee took up Les Ros's offer to be the new webmaster and as soon as both Les and myself can get together so I can show him what needs to be done we will get back on the air

Michael Bevan
President
#50364





A Word from our Secretary

Well another newsletter has rolled around and we find ourselves about to leave the last month of winter and start our first month of spring. I know the weather has been poor because I've taken the car to the tyre kick a few times rather than ride and upon arrival bikes have been few and far between (even totally missing a few times). Those who do come out in all-weather should be commended... or perhaps taken into care. Either way I'm looking forward to warmer weather and the opportunity to ride more often.

There was a distressing incident just up the road from my place a week or so ago. A motorcyclist was killed as he hit a car head on. At the time all we knew was he was on the wrong side of the road and that his companion had stopped, determined he was dead, and rode on. A confusing situation at the time, it has since emerged that it involved some sort of road rage incident involving a third vehicle namely a VW car. I'm sure the police will eventually bring it to court and we'll know the facts, but it brought it again to my attention just how vulnerable we are on the road. I must say that by in large the people I ride with in MRUB are good careful riders (and that includes those who still like to go fast) so I do not ever expect to see any of us in the news, but I would like to reiterate the need to be careful out there as it's not always down to us as we share the roads with some pretty "average" drivers.

I'll take this opportunity to welcome a new member Anthony Henry who is returning to riding after some years. Anthony tracked us down via the web and managed to make the tyre kick last Saturday, paid his \$20 and is keen to start riding with us. If you meet him please make him welcome, although that is the beauty of our branch in that you never need to be reminded to be welcoming and kind.

Speaking of the \$20 I will remind you that your administration fee is our main (usually only) source of income. If everyone pays we can afford a bigger and better Xmas do, cards to our sick and injured, and all the other small administrative things we do such as info booklets and our web site. As a Ulysses branch a small admin fee is all we're allowed to levy so in that sense it is voluntary but without it we struggle to organise things that generally all enjoy. Just to put you in the picture our branch membership sits at 143 members (19 of which are over 70 so don't pay the fee) while only another 29 have paid their \$20.

Behind the scenes we have produced the flyers to boost membership and have them currently displayed in shops, cafes, ride schools and motorbike retailers stretching across our catchment area. Thanks to those members of committee who took the effort and kilometres to get them out. It's interesting that according to reports and my own experience the retailers were genuinely pleased to put them on display and will I'm sure be very supportive of our branch.

Finally, just a reminder that there are lots of good things happening in the coming months, bowling, silo ride, annual ride (this year) to Colac / Apollo Bay, Xmas BBQ at Hanging Rock and many talks and fun things at our monthly meetings. As the weather warms I hope to see you on a Sunday ride soon, Jim does a good job!

Cheers

Fluffy





Word from your Ride Co-ordinator

The July Sunday ride was to Bacchus Marsh for morning tea at the Angelos Patisserie then on to Daylesford via Ballan for lunch at The Mill.

Six intrepid riders set off with two leaving us at Bacchus and a third leaving us at Daylesford. The remaining riders returned home via the dam wall (Upper Coliban Res) and Carlsruhe

Despite a forecast for hazardous winds and rain we had an easy, good run with minimal wind and no rain.

(see Pic. on Facebook)

The August ride will be morning tea at Bannockburn and lunch at Wyndham Harbour

The September ride will be a mountain ride as temperatures should have warmed by then.

Regards

Jim (FROG)



From Your Friendly Editor.....



And so we hit August which means that winter is nearly over. Praise the lord, cause it has been so bloody cold. Proud of those still going out on the Wednesdays and weekends for a ride but I'm afraid my old bone wont take it any more.

Special thanks to Pappa who keeps those reports rolling in. Great job Vicky

So we had our Christmas in July at the Pig and Whistle hotel at Trentham. The day was great with lots of talk and everyone mixed just fine, but the meal I though compare to the year before was a little bit of a let down. Still that didn't change the day and as usual Foxys raffle went over a treat as usual. See the pics in the report. Many thanks to Pappa, John (Stud) and The Fox for the efforts put in. And once again the "Sunbury Bike Hub" must be thanks for there generosity in supplying prizes for the raffle. Remember them next service.

And so we made the local rag with an article. Woo hoo. It was good to see us portrayed as human instead of what people perceptions are at times.

Loved Ron's article on his first bike. Made a good page of reading.. Also Patto's trip must have been awesome. I'm jealous mate. Perhaps Hey-u could.....

The picture comp was a lot of fun also and got a lot of laughs. Thanks to all who put in.

Well that's about it for now, so till next exciting edition

Cheers

Meow





A Word from our Welfare Officer

We have had a fairly quiet three months, apart from the usual illnesses with the dreaded colds and flu.

Ian Cowie, aka Moose. Has finally had his hip operated on, apparently it was quite a straight forward operation, and went very well, with Ian coming home very soon after. No card or flowers were sent, but a long and funny phone conversation was had. He is now on the road to recovery, if, he completes all his physio and exercises. Although, it may be about six weeks before he is allowed on his 'spider'

Flowers were sent to Yvonne and Ken Barker, with the sad passing of Yvonne's mum. Along with all of our condolences and kind thoughts to Yvonne and Ken's family.

We had a wonderful turn up for our Xmas in July, hopefully everyone had a good time.

As the position of the welfare officer is as good as the information given, tell me if you know of anyone that is not well, or in need of help.

Contact me on [0413269022](tel:0413269022)
foxys@internode.on.net

foxy
Moir Burgess....Xx



A Word from our Paparazzi and Event Co-coordinator



Well with Christmas in July done and dusted, it was great to see so many of the club members and their families joining in the fun. Thanks to the Pig & Whistle for putting on a great meal for everyone to enjoy. Moira, wove her magic and produced a truck load of fabulous raffle prizes.

The Bowling Day is coming up in September please let me know if you will be attending.

To the club members who have not yet provided a story on the "Their First Bike" or "Caught in the Headlights" please either put pen to paper or send me an email so that these article can be put into the newsletter. events@mrub.org.au

Regards
Vicki Cronin #63980
Events Coordinator
Macedon Ranges Branch
Ulysses Club Inc.
events@mrub.org.au
Ph. 0409 434 101





A Word from our Quartermaster

If you're wondering why I put this solo photo into my report, it's because this new beanie from Ulysses has been my most popular item sold in the last few months. Have to keep reordering it!

However, I do have more of the MRUB jumpers and polo tops, so if you haven't got yours yet, or need a second or third one, let me know and I will make sure I have one in your size at either the tyre kick or the meeting. Always happy to order anything for you that I don't have in stock, including merchandise shown in the Ride On magazine.

Cheers from your friendly Quartermaster



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:

MANAGER 4	Team leader of portfolios: Meetings, Catering, Grand Parade, Function & Ceremonies, Decorations and Organised Rides. Coordination of various portfolios reporting to AEC Executive and NAGMEC.
Event HQ	Coordination and administration of the event including providing members support for information desk, phone charging, event awards and lost & found.
Parcels & Laundry	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).
Check In	Coordination and support of check in registration requirements
Volunteers	Responsible for recruiting general volunteers and design & management of effective work rosters.
Training	Responsible for ensuring that site and OH&S training has been provided for volunteers and coordinators.
Media & PR	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.
Functions & Ceremonies	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:

Website Administrator	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



Wednesday's Wintery Ride. 4th July
6 Starters 4 managed to finish..

Well done Colin..

Photo taken by Macca McCain

Regards

Vicki Cronin #63980

Events Coordinator

Macedon Ranges Branch

Ulysses Club Inc.

events@mrub.org.au

Ph. 0409 434 101



Wednesday 11th July Ice Skaters,
Bill, Bruce, Andy, Ron, Colin and
Wally. Six riders to Castlemaine
for smoko, three to Strathfieldsaye
via Bendigo. Return via
Redesdale. Wishing Ron a very
Happy 80th Birthday. 90% of the
ride was below 3 degrees.

Photo and report from Where's
Wally.

Regards

Vicki Cronin #63980

Events Coordinator

Macedon Ranges Branch

Ulysses Club Inc.

events@mrub.org.au

Ph. 0409 434 101





Sylvia rides a Harley Street 500 and Mark rides a Harley 1200 Custom Sportster.

These riders dispel the myth

Amy Hume

Macedon Ranges ULYSSES Club is working to dispel the long-held myth that 'bikers mean trouble'.

Beyond the intimidating Harley handles, leather jackets and 'tough guy' exteriors at the over 40s club are largely retirees just looking for an excuse to hit the road and share a love for riding with others.

"Bikes are on the rise on our roads and it's mostly our age (over 40s) that's responsible," club secretary Mark Behan said.

"Forty-year-olds are young, let's be honest, but many of our members are retired. We have people still riding into their 70s and 80s. Bikes are economical and fun...without even realising, riding becomes a lifestyle."

The Macedon Ranges ULYSSES branch alone has more than 140 members

and Mark and his partner Sylvia are just one of the husband-wife duos that regularly hit the road.

"A lot of people hear 'Harley' and they think of big handlebars and tough bikies - we're nothing like that," Sylvia said.

The leathers and bikie gear is mostly for personal protection.

"We've had 40 years each of driving experience and we know the road rules, we don't disobey them, we don't drink and drive, and we're a lot safer than some people we see on the roads."

The club is inclusive of women and families and is always seeking new members.

You can expect to see the Macedon Ranges club in Trentham for their Christmas in July celebrations. From here they will begin planning for other social rides including the big ULYSSES toy run for the Salvation Army in December.

**Attached are two photo and the report for the 20180717
Wednesday Ride. Photos by Macca.**

The Brass Monkey riders were at it again today,
with morning Tea at Ballan..

Regards
Vicki Cronin #63980
Events Coordinator
Macedon Ranges Branch
Ulysses Club Inc.





20180620 Wednesday Ride Six bikes and a Trike
Morning Tea @ Wandong
Then on Kinglake, Flowerdale, Strath Creek to Broadford for lunch.
Home via High Camp Road and Lancefield.
(Good Job Colin)

Regards
Vicki Cronin #63980
Events Coordinator
Macedon Ranges Branch
Ulysses Club Inc.

Husband wanted! Must be in my age group, must not beat me, must not run around on me and must still be good in bed. All applicants please apply in person."

The following day, she heard the doorbell. Much to her dismay, she opened the door to see a gray-haired gentleman sitting in a wheelchair. He had no arms or legs.

"You're not really asking me to consider you, are you?" the widow asked: "Just look at you — you have no legs!" The old gent smiled: "Therefore, I cannot run around on you!"

"You don't have any arms either!" she snorted.

Again, the old man smiled: "Therefore, I can never beat you!"

She raised an eyebrow and asked intently: "Are you still good in bed?"

The old man leaned back, beamed a big smile and said: "I rang the doorbell, didn't I?"

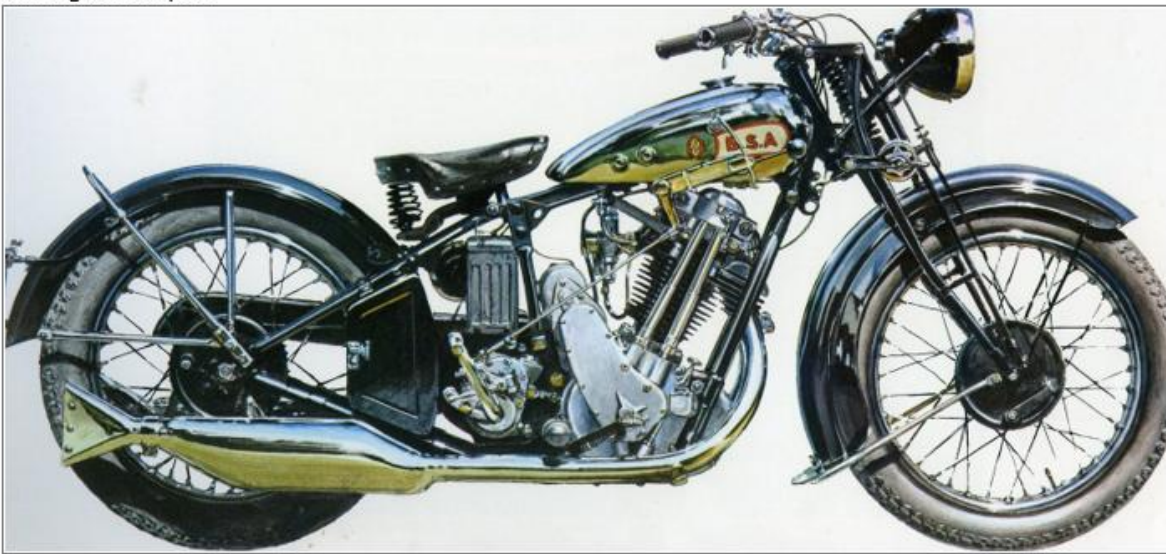


My first motorcycle: by Ron Weste

As the oldest member of the Macedon Ranges Ulysses Group I guess not too many people in the group can remember riding motorcycles back into the 1950's.

Well I can, and vividly remember waiting anxiously for my 16th birthday when I could get my licence in South Australia, my home State. The first thing I wanted to do after turning 16 was buy myself a motorcycle.

I had 25 pounds save up and together with my older brother went into Mick Brown motorcycles Renmark to buy my first bike. I was still at high school so there was no expectation of bringing home anything better than the 25 pounds I had in my hand would buy. Mick took me through the shop to the back yard and showed me something resembling a two wheeled device leaning on the side fence overgrown by morning glory creeper. Mick indicated I could have it for 25 quid and proceeded to pull the motorcycle out of the entangled creeper.



It turned out to be a 1927 B.S.A. 500cc Overhead valve.

We poured some fuel into the tank gave it a couple of kicks on the kick starter and it fired up in a cloud of smoke. The BSA was 27 years old even then but it was all I could afford at the time. I rode the bike home accompanied by my big brother in his Morris Minor to make sure I was OK which I was, and made it home with some of the glory vine still entangled around the old bike. On closer examination I found the engine was caked in grease and oil so I set about cleaning it with a tin of Kerosene and stiff brush. After peeling away 27 years of patina as they call it I could actually see what I had purchased, a very old tired motorcycle, but it was mine.

I rode that bike to school for about 6 months until the head master banned me from parking the bike against the school wall, for melting the asphalt due to fuel leaking. Fortunately we lived on a rural property and had a 44 gallon drum of petrol I could nick a couple of gallons every now and again. I eventually sold the old BSA (for 25 quid) after I started work and could afford to buy a later model.

To date I have owned 50 motorcycles and currently have a 1979 Kawasaki Z1300/6 and a 1984 BMW K100 which I use as a club bike these days. Of course there are numerous stories on bikes I have owned over the 64 years since that old B.S.A. but that will wait for another time. Ron Weste #3181.

Xmas in July 2018

The Club ran our annual Xmas in July at the Pig and Whistle Hotel up near Trentham for the second year.

A good crowd of about 44 attended and were treated to a three course meal and plenty of drinks. The day was bloody freezing but inside the pub the temp was great. Foxy ran her usual raffle and was received as usual really well with lots of ragging to all who won a prize. Many thanks to those involved in organizing the turn especially Foxy and John (Stud) Barry for the time put in.

Cheers



Monday 16th 2018 MRUB Social Meeting

Guest Speaker: our very own, Daryl Patterson.

Daryl spoke of his trip to Nepal with his mates. Whilst in Kathmandu, Daryl saw many temples in different states of repair after the earthquakes that the country suffered several years ago. He discovered that the people are great recyclers, wasting nothing. They reuse all the broken bricks and the old mortar is crushed down to be used in the new cement.

Daryl rode a Royal Enfield 350 in the south of the country and a "Himalayan" on his travels to the mountainous North. He spoke highly of both bikes and they were a lot of fun despite as serious lack of power in high altitudes.

Daryl had packed for winter, not realising that the weather was very hot in Kathmandu and said that he spent most of the time, when not riding, in a t-shirt. Dehydration was an unexpected problem and altitude sickness became an issue as they headed into the mountains. Daryl remarked on the corruption and poverty that was hamstringing the country and how the Nepalese compensate with their impressively industrious and innovative nature. The people are always working to rebuild their country, but due to perpetually shaky finances the country is dotted with unfinished capital works. Nepalese children are taught English in school so it is quite easy to get by, especially in Kathmandu and the further you travel out to the distant villages the less English is spoken.

The group travelled south to India and then north to the Chinese border where Daryl bravely (some may say brashly) rode across the 30 metre exclusion zone to touch the razor wire under the watchful gaze of the Chinese border guards.

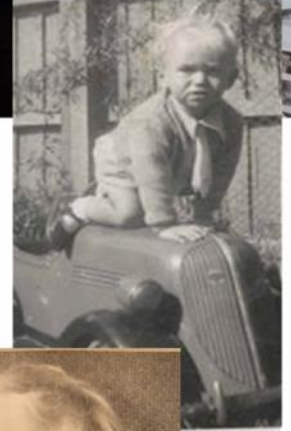
The trip was a fully supported organized guided tour with Royal Enfield hire bikes and four wheel drive backup. Daryl said the trip is a must do for those who like adventure. He had a ball.



Daryl travelled an estimated 2500 km and about 5% was on bitumen.

WOW! What a night....Babies and Bikes.

At the MRUB June meeting the branch members had a challenge. This was to match a bike with a baby photo of the owner. Apparently, we have all changed so much that some of us didn't even recognise ourselves. In fact, some of us didn't recognise our own bikes. So, if you see a club member carrying a helmet and wandering aimlessly around a car park... now you know why. The highest score was five out of twenty-three and it took some serious crunching of ancient gears to get there. Congratulations to our equal winners Andy, Louise and Daryl.



Wednesday wanderers, Macka, Rod, Jim, Bill, Ron, Colin, Bruce & Wally. Smoko at Glen Lyon, lunch at Maldon. To go with the photos 20180801

Regards
Vicki Cronin #63980



Wednesday 20180808 Report

and Photo By Colin Randall
"Another successful Wednesday ride, more new roads travelled, new front tyre worn in, little need for wet weather gear. Plus being leader and tail end Charlie. How goods that! Meredith corner store now open with new management"

Regards
Vicki Cronin #63980

Attached are two photos for the Sunday ride 22/7/18.

"A small group of riders left Sunbury today stopping at Bacchus Marsh for coffee.
Then onto Daylesford for lunch.
Well done Jim" Report and photos from Macca.

Regards
Vicki Cronin #63980



Two women friends had gone for a girls' night out.

Both were very faithful and loving wives, however they had gotten over-enthusiastic on the Bacardi Breezers. Incredibly drunk and walking home they needed to pee, so they stopped in the cemetery.

One of them had nothing to wipe with so she thought she would take off her panties and use them.

Her friend however was wearing a rather expensive pair of panties and did not want to ruin them.

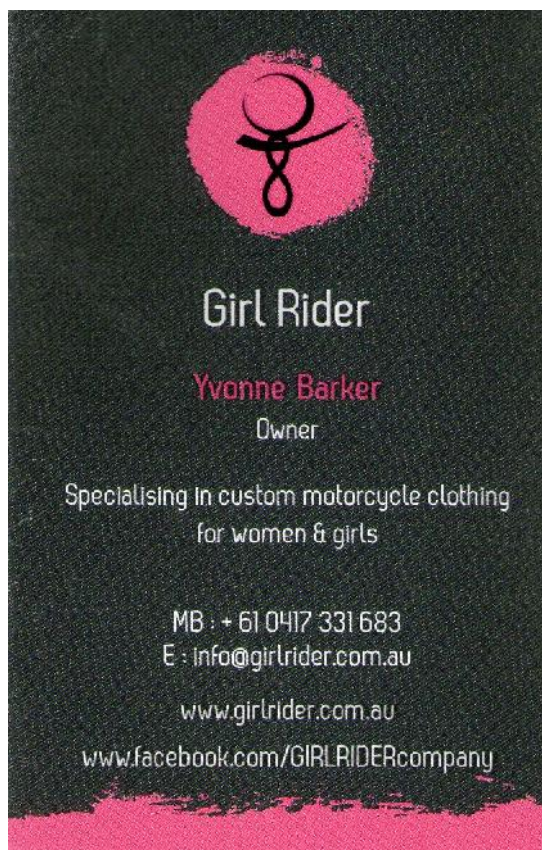
She was lucky enough to squat down next to a grave that had a wreath with a ribbon on it, so she proceeded to wipe with that. After the girls did their business, they proceeded to go home.

The next day, the husband of one of the women was concerned that his normally sweet and innocent wife was still in bed hung over, so he phoned the other husband and said: "These girls nights have got to stop! I'm starting to suspect the worst. My wife came home with no panties!!"

"That's nothing," said the other husband,

"Mine came back with a card stuck to her ass that said.....

'From all of us at the Fire Station. We'll never forget you.'"



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

Dennis (Dutchy) Holland (Great Jokes)

Peter Maquire

Cherry Cole

Ron Weste

Ken (Hey – you) Hager (Always puts in)

Vicky

Stud

Sylvia

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 cowboy, who just moved to Wyoming from Texas, walks into a bar and orders three mugs of Bud.

He sits in the back of the room, drinking a sip out of each one in turn.

When he finishes them, he comes back to the bar and orders three more.

The bartender approaches and tells the cowboy, "You know, a mug goes flat after I draw it. It would taste better if you bought one at a time..."

The cowboy replies, "Well, you see, I have two brothers. One is an Airborne Ranger, the other is a Navy Seal, both serving overseas somewhere.

When we all left our home in Texas, we promised that we'd drink this way to remember the days when we drank together.

So I'm drinking one beer for each of my brothers and one for myself."

The bartender admits that this is a nice custom, and leaves it there.

The cowboy becomes a regular in the bar, and always drinks the same way.

He orders three mugs and drinks them in turn.

One day, he comes in and only orders two mugs. (I know, a tear is coming to my eye too)

All the regulars take notice and fall silent.

When he comes back to the bar for the second round, the bartender says, "I don't want to intrude on your grief, but I wanted to offer my condolences on your loss."

The cowboy looks quite puzzled for a moment, then a light dawns in his eyes and he laughs.

"Oh, no, everybody's just fine," he explains, "It's just that my wife

and I joined the Baptist Church and I had to quit drinking."

"Hasn't affected my brothers though...."