

The Adelaide Branch's Engine Room

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The Odyssey is published bi-monthly as the magazine of the Ulysses Club Incorporated Adelaide Branch and is available by subscription - **(\$7.00 for 1 year, paid to the Treasurer, Helena Cole, 2/26 Capper St Camden Park 5038 or at the monthly meeting.)** Contributions from members are welcome. Contentious material is referred to the Adelaide Branch Committee. The Editor reserves the right of final choice of material to be included in each issue and its format. All material should be sent to **The Editor, 26 Second Street, Ardrossan 5571 or by e-mail: king@netyp.com.au.**

Material which has been processed on a computer should be sent on a floppy disc, CD or e-mailed. Original photographs, images on CDs or floppy disc, or e-mailed photos only should be submitted. **Please do not send photocopies of photographs as they will not be used** - The completed Odyssey is sent to the printer on a CD.

Please include a stamp addressed envelope if you want material returned or see the Editor at the monthly meetings. Magazines not collected at the meetings will be posted the following week.

Closing dates for submission are:

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| 19th July | for the August issue |
| 19th September | for the October issue |
| 19th November | for the December issue |
| 19th January | for the February issue |
| 19th March | for the April issue |
| 19th May | for the June issue |

Although all efforts are made to ensure accuracy, The Odyssey cannot verify any material used in this publication. Views contained in editorial material are those of the respective authors and not necessarily those of the Ulysses Club Incorporated. All material and advertisements are submitted subject to the discretion of the members. The Odyssey reserves the right to refuse any advertising or delete any material which could be considered or interpreted as questionable, libellous or offensive, without consultation.

The Editor's Bit.....

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year and that you ate and drank too much - I don't want to be alone when I get back on the diet and the wagon!!

Had a lovely trip to Mount Gambier in Sue's BMW (the four-wheeled kind) a couple of weeks ago. There were Adelaide people everywhere you looked, all having a good time! On the way there, Sue stopped near a farm entrance to get some water out of the boot, and we couldn't believe our eyes - a patch of red and white agapanthus -that's right: red agapanthus! So naturally it required a closer look (although I did have my suspicions). Sure enough, they'd been spray painted with red paint. Gee, they looked pretty! I assume it was done to create a red, white and green theme for Christmas.

I might be preaching to the converted here, but: My daughter left her plastic bottle of water (the usual clear ones) between the front seats of her car. A short time later, she had to go back to the car for some reason, and could smell something burning. The sun shining through the windscreen, then through the bottled water, must have acted like a magnifying glass and had started a seat smouldering! How lucky was she that she went back? Her little Cortina would have been lost. Thought I'd just pass this on, as I know we are all guilty of keeping bottles of water in the car. Just don't leave them in the sun.

We're all excited here, as our eldest grandson, Kynan, has been accepted at Uni to do Civil Aviation. Without a plan B, he was exceptionally relieved.

Had an email from Vic and Maria Barnes from the Meadows Hotel - they advised they have sold the hotel. We wish them well in future endeavours.

Plans are in place for Canberra - not long to go now!



The Branch has been notified that all prospective new members must produce a photocopy of their driving licence to prove their date of birth. Seems some are a bit huffy that we have some 'illegals' infiltrating the Club.

Wendy

Extreme Powder Coaters

Mathew Reed
Proprietor

6 Heath Street
Lonsdale SA 5160
Mobile: 0401 675 293
Fax: 08 8382 7533

ALTERNATIVE AGM DINNER

(Monthly Dinner)



Friday, 11th March
at
7.00pm

SOMERSET HOTEL
505 Bridge Rd
PARA HILLS



Registration Fee: \$1.00

buys a ticket in the raffle for the major prize of

Motor Cycle Alarm Clock
Value \$50

to be drawn on the night



Prize for best beanie/hat on the night



For bookings, phone Jenny Hills on 8262 5493

(leave message on message bank)

Do NOT phone Hotel

Registrations close 9/3/05



The Canberra AGM Beanie Challenge

The scene is to be seen at the AGM in a bean(ie)



Prizes to be awarded for

- Best colours
- Most original
- Best theme

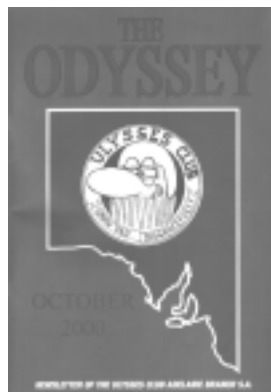
Beanies to be donated to the Mount Gambier Bluey Day Shave-off, where Rudi and Jane Esman will have their heads shaved, to be sold. Get your needles and hooks out, girls and boys - no limits on your imagination, styles, etc.



Contact for this event is Sue Freene 8277 3339



The Odyssey Levy



If you would like to get continue getting further issues of The Odyssey, (6 per year) simply send \$7 to

Helena Cole
2/26 Capper Street
Camden Park 5038
(together with your name and address)

or pay to Helena at the December or January meetings.



Whale Ride



Saturday 23 July to Sunday 31 July
2005

- 23/7: Cowell Foreshore Caravan Park
8629 2307
- 24/7: Streaky Bay Foreshore Caravan
Park 8626 1666
- 25/7: Streaky Bay Foreshore Caravan
Park 8626 1666
- 26/7: Nullabor Hotel/Motel/Caravan Park
8625 6271
- 27/7: Nullabor Hotel/Motel/Caravan Park
8625 6271
- 28/7: Ceduna Foreshore Caravan Park
8625 2290
Ceduna Community Hotel 8625 2008
- 29/7: Ceduna Foreshore Caravan Park
8625 229
Ceduna Community Hotel 8625 2008
- 30/7: Kimba Caravan Park 8627 2040
- 31/7: Home

Look for further details in future editions of The Odyssey.

More info? Contact Helena Cole on
8376 2261

Whyalla Branch Has New Clubrooms

About eight months ago, due to circumstances beyond our control, we found that the 086 group in Whyalla needed to find new premises to which to relocate.

After an exhaustive search for the right location, we have just been granted permission from the Whyalla City Council to lease the old Whyalla airport hanger (a heritage building) located in Keith St.

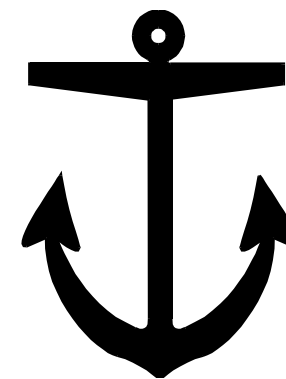
We have some work ahead of us to bring the interior up to scratch, but would like to inform all members and guests visiting Whyalla, that we are still open for business on Thursday nights and Saturday afternoons for tucker, beer and bullshit, and as usual you are most welcome to join us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank 'Northern Belting' for allowing us to use the previous location on their property over the past ten years. The 'Shed' has been a popular focal point for both members and visitors alike. We prefer to think of the move as an expansion

step going from a shed to a hanger and with it, a lot more room.

How do you find the 'Hanger'?? – Easy! The 'Hanger' is located on the western side of the wetlands and accessed from Keith Street.

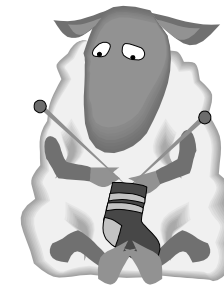
Arriving from Port Augusta – go straight past OneSteel over the railway bridge and continue down Playford Avenue until you can't go any further and then turn right towards Port Lincoln (The wetlands are on this corner to your right). Take the next turn on the right and that is Keith St. You will see the old hanger next to the S.E.S compound.



Graham Gill
Secretary 086 Group
0412 059 564



Mid-Weeker Port Vincent



Wednesday 27th to Friday 29th April 2005

**Accommodation at Tuckerway Hotel
Cost: Approx. \$14.50 per person per night + food.**

**For further details and bookings,
contact Mick Sandley on 8251 2435**

Kaptain Ken's Korner

Gee life's hard! Liz and I have been at Beachport for a week now, and it is so hard to put the pen to paper after all of our exhausting activities, e.g. snoozing in my armchair under the gum trees, etc.

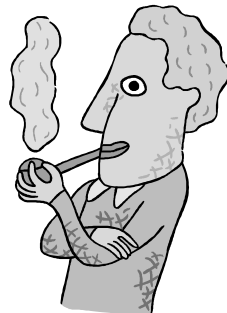
Anyway, my report is well overdue and Wendy is about to have my hide if I don't get a move on! So here it is:

Since the last 'Korner' we've had **Sue Nicolle's Gladstone Gaol weekend** that went off fantastically.

Lester Launer's Hot Ride at the end of November: a small but merry group it was, even too hot for 'pink piggy'!

December started with the **Pitmans' Ride** and what a great day they put on for us – great steaks, free raffles, terrific weather- perfect for the 100+ members to enjoy on the waterfront at Goolwa. Thanks Guys!

Robbie and Helena's pre Toy Run Breaky was just soooo good, it's just got to be an annual event.



Then came **Guzzi Bob's Twisty Ride** that I've only heard rave reviews about – good on ya Guz

January kicked off with **NatCom's meet the Barossa Mob**, who gave us another great day, as only they could. Dez the Prez's breaky before the ride was superb and afterwards we rode to Mannum to join the **T.V. Dummy Spitters**.

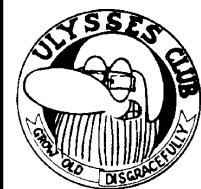
Chris Hartley's Midnight Run – what more can I say, we missed it! Prizes will be presented at the next meeting.

So, I know what your thinking: Are there any good rides coming up? There sure are! Check out the Rides Calendar. I can bet they are all gunna be good.

Just remember: if the forecast is for 37° or over, the official ride is cancelled, and if you want to ride at a leisurely pace, ride at the rear of the group and you will not be hassled by riders roaring up your bum!!

Now, unfortunately, I've got to get back to that gum tree etc., so enjoy the rides

**Space is grace
Kaptain Kuddles**

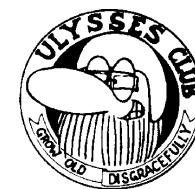


12th Central Odyssey

at

Pendleton Farm

(12ks Melbourne side of Keith on Dukes Highway)
Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday 30/9-3/10/2005



Accommodation

Please make your own bookings by phoning Pendleton Farm on 08 8756 7042
(all cabins, etc. have been reserved for Ulyssians until 31st December, 2004)

- 1 20 canvas huts (sleep 4)
- 2 Bunkhouse, 4 rooms (each sleeping 14)
- 3 Also other hard accommodation. A total of 178 beds in all.
- 4 12 Powered sites
- 5 Unlimited unpowered sites

The facilities are really good, with the use of a very high quality dining room and kitchen facilities (Rob is very impressed!)

Our Branch has now happily settled into its new 'home' at the Willunga Golf Club. Everyone who has seen the venue is thrilled with its size and facilities and it is expected to be our home for quite some time to come.



There is good news regarding Paul 'Vespa Boy' Hancock. He continues to make good recovery and is now able to attend branch and committee meetings once again. We have missed his ready smile and great sense of humour, and are all looking forward to the time when he can once again 'cock a leg'. The Ducati is patiently waiting in the shed!

The good riding weather is with us again, which is just as well, because we have some fun times planned. Kev 'Abdul' Hausler has organised an overnigher to Bublacowie on Yorke Peninsula, leaving from the MEADOWS BAKERY at 9.00a.m. on Saturday, February 12. The following weekend, on Sunday 20, Pete Castle is hosting a Mystery Treasure Hunt ride, which leaves from the Alma Hotel at 10.00a.m. The following weekend, Grot has organised a Learners' Ride (overnigher) to the Wellington Pub and return, leaving from the Alma Hotel at 10.00a.m. on Saturday, 26. Those unable to stay overnight, should contact Grot on 8384 2985, to let him know if they intend to go direct to the Wellington Pub on Sunday morning to participate in the return ride.

As you will be aware, this year's AGM will be held in Canberra between the 7th and 13th March, and I know that a good number of our members are intending to go. Those looking for someone to travel to Canberra with should make their voices heard at our February meeting, to give themselves a chance to team up with others who might be heading across around the same time. AGM's are hard to describe adequately, but suffice to say that once you have been to one, you would never want to miss one again! A fun party that lasts an entire week in the company of true Ulyssians is something that everyone should experience.

Following the AGM on March 28, Reb 'Paparazzi' is again organising his highly successful Ice-cream Run. He and VB organised an interesting route and travelled at a comfortable pace last year and have been coerced into doing it again. I can't wait.

The only sad note of recent times is that the ever enthusiastic 'Strech' has been forced to resign from the committee on very strict advice from his doctor. The message was not subtle and required immediate action. The committee understands fully his reasons for resigning but were sad to see him go because that kind of enthusiasm is rare. He will still be active within the branch, but at a much more leisurely pace. 'Thank you' does not seem to be adequate to you mate, but, as Caz said, we want you around for a long time, not just a good time.

That's all from me for this issue.

Safe and happy riding to all.
Warren 'Memphis' Jamieson



Strech finds out that bald heads are a chick magnet!



Yeah? Well, we still don't know what Crazee really looks like, do we?



The abundance of toys collected on Fleurieu Peninsula

Fleurieu Branch Arthritis Research Taskforce 'Shave off'

"Ride for Toys" was held for the second time (First held in Dec 2003). This was again extremely successful and we more than doubled the 2003 amount of toys, food and clothes that were collected for Christmas distribution, through Direct Care and the Combined Churches of the Fleurieu Peninsula.

This year, however, Strech raised an idea that eventuated in several of the Fleurieu Branch members volunteering to have their heads shaved to raise funds for the "Arthritis Research Task Force" so these two events were combined.

We initially set out with an aim to raise around \$1000.00 by having five members 'shave off'. Four members:- Ray (Hoppy) Willis, Kevin (Mutley) Garner, Jim Northeast and Fred (Reb) Van Erp, volunteered their heads, and John (Strech) Moore volunteered the whole lot - head, beard and moustache.

This was a fantastic day: the weather was great for the ride, the route was an interesting one with a little red convertible appearing several times along the route, to view the passing bikes and wave them on with great enthusiasm and encouragement. She

must have teleported from place to place. Those on the ride will know what I mean. The Ride for Toys ended with participation in the Goolwa Christmas Pageant, lots of people lined the way cheering the bikes and urging them to rev engines and toot horns. Following this, the fun "Shave off" event was conducted on stage at the Goolwa Christmas Carols night, just before we handed over the "Ride for Toys" collection. The crowd was great in giving encouragement and cheers to the guys being shaved. A lot of fun was had by all, including the three girls who volunteered their time and equipment to actually conduct the shaves.

After the event-filled day we had one last card to play. Peter (Buzz) Burrows donated a fantastic photo of the guys (after the shave) which we auctioned off at the December meeting of the Fleurieu Branch. This photo was finally sold for \$60.00 to Slider, known by many in the Fleurieu Branch. What a great guy to donate so generously.

When the funds were finally tallied up, both Strech and I were astounded, (in no particular order):- **\$222.50** by Ken and Margaret Garner, and Willunga Golf Club Members; **\$43.00** (+ toys/food for 'Ride for toys') by

Caz Moore from AIPC Staff and Students; **\$45.00** by Sandy from the Chemist on Seacombe Road; **\$75.00** from Ulysses members at Fleurieu Branch Meeting; **\$ 20.45** by Cathy Barlow at Sara Rowland Hair Salon – Christies Beach; **\$195.45** from Ulysses members at Adelaide Branch meeting; **\$350.80** by Kevin Garner from Tenneco Walker Automotive Employees; **\$147.00** by Fred (Reb) Van Erp from Royal Adelaide Hospital Theatre Staff; **\$300.00** by Jim Northeast; **\$30.00** by Ray (Hoppy) Willis from Repat Hospital Staff and patients; **\$110.00** "on the day" to shave CRAZEE – (our ride captain) on the day; **\$334.80** collected on the day from spectators at the Goolwa Pageant & Carol's night; finally **\$60.00** from Slider for the auctioned photo - **A Grand**

**Total of
\$1934.00.**

Strech and I were totally overwhelmed! We had such fun doing this and we raised funds for Arthritis and collected toys and food for needy families in the Fleurieu Peninsula at the same time. Our Christmas was full of joy and



we hope that a little of that has found its way back into the community.

Strech and I would like to extend a special thank you to the following people: Ken and Margaret Garner (who collected from members of the Willunga Golf club) and the members of the Golf club who gave so generously; the generous members of the Ulysses Club, and to all the those who spent time collecting money for the Arthritis shave off and toys/food/other goods for the "Ride for Toys". Special thanks to the three girls, Cathy Barlow and Jessica Esman, (the two hairdressers) and Mingyon (Cathy's friend) who volunteered part of their weekend to perform the shaves.

The outstanding success of these two events is a reflection of your support and generosity. Finally, a big thanks to the guys who volunteered to be shaved and put up with all of the ribbing after, to assist in raising the funds for the Arthritis Research Task Force.

'Well done' to you all!! You are truly a great reflection of a club that demonstrates both pride and commitment to supporting the communities in which we live and ride.

**Ulyssians: stand up and be proud of what you achieve!
Proud to be Ulyssians John (Strech) Carol (Caz) Moore**

The Last three months of the Eyre Peninsula Branch's program has basically been the annual short rides enjoyed as the year draws to a close and we prepare for



Barry Lunn and Paul Sellen

the Festive Season. The first of these was the 70 km ride to Cummins for 'Breakfast at Cougars' football clubrooms (organised by Barry Lunn and Paul Sellen) after which, the riders went on various rides of their choice. The



second was to Port Neill for a 'Twilight Run' where a large group enjoyed tea at the hotel on the foreshore. In excellent weather, the evening ride

home in the moonlight from Port Neill was again a great experience, virtually no other traffic on the road, where the rider's world seems limited to the pool of light in front of the bike, with lights of distant farmhouses for added interest and identification.

This year's Christmas party was held at the North Shields Wheatsheaf Tavern. Forty two members and partners attended to enjoy an excellent meal of 'pig on the spit', turkey etc. with a much too generous range of deserts for the betterment of disgracefully ageing waistlines. Good music added to an already good friendly 'tavern' atmosphere.

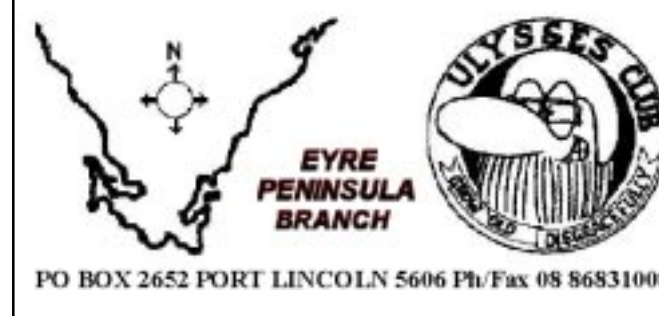
Casual weekend and midweek rides are still proving popular.

The Branch members all express their sincere sympathy to fellow member, Dud Noble on the loss of his loved wife Nat who was always friendly and beautiful company when she attended our functions.



The late Natalie Noble

**Bevan Smith
E P Scribe**



PO BOX 2652 PORT LINCOLN 5606 Ph/Fax 08 86831008

EYRE PENINSULA BUSHFIRES

Our Branch Members would sincerely like to thank all those offering help and inquiring about our members, and all people in this area.

Unfortunately, we had four members and their families who were directly affected:

Our Branch Vice President and Scribe, Bevan Smith, who has a small property near Louth Bay, had most of his feed burnt and the fire went to his back verandah, but was fortunately stopped by Bevan, his daughter, Jodie, and son-in-law, Peter. His shed, which contained his workshop, a lot of Jodie's horse tackle and Bevan's three motor bikes, was totally destroyed. One bike was a 1975 Goldwing with sidecar in mint condition and 21,000ks on the clock.



Bevan and Paul unloading hay

One of our last year's committee members, Paul Miller, had part of his house burnt, animals destroyed, as well as sheds burnt and, some would say, one of the best gardens in the area totally destroyed. Fortunately, Kevin Warren, who is one of our members and runs an aerial agriculture spraying service, was able to have his son, Tony, waterbomb the Miller's home three times and so saved a good part of the house. Paul and Lyn have wonderful friends who have really rallied around with their help.

Eddie Robinson, who lives at North Shields, had his home totally destroyed, along with his dog and his motorbike. Eddie is a resilient fellow and will rise again.

As many Ulyssians stayed at the caravan park during the 2003 Odyssey, they will remember our member, Bob Willis and his wife, and their fine park. Fortunately, most of the park and buildings survived, but some of the permanent residents in the park lost everything at the Port Lincoln end of the park.



Wanilla Forest

As mentioned, Kevin Warren's plane saved part of the Millers' home, but saved a lot of other property with his three planes that he kept in the air. From what I am told by different farmers, only the highest praise can be bestowed upon Kevin, his pilots and ground crew.

At the Lions Hostel at North Shields, where we had our

Odyssey functions and where many of you stayed, the bunkhouse was totally destroyed and there was minor damage to the ablution block. The hall was not touched and neither was the caretaker's house, but his shed, which stored his new boat, was totally destroyed.



Donated Hay



Bevan Smith's bikes



Wanilla Garage

It has been a busy time here in the Limestone Coast what with Christmas and New Year and all that goes with living up to the club motto.



We had a great run down to Carpenter Rocks and their tavern to enjoy our Branch Christmas Dinner. We had roughly 50 people from our Branch plus visitors who enjoyed a fantastic meal in great surroundings. Thanks to Chris S who organized the lunch.

There has also been the ongoing organizing of our first (and best) rally with a dedicated group organizing the music and activities for the Saturday night plus wrist bands, gate keepers etc. (See ad previous page). Everything is now ready, with the final meeting coming up with the Port McDonnell Footballers, who are supplying the venue and the catering. It's going to be great and we are already getting people coming from all over South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales. If anyone is still thinking of coming, give us a call or email and turn up. You will not regret it!

A number of the Adelaide Branch members and others were recently down here for Jane's birthday. Some can even remember it! Rudi thinks some of the food may have been off as he felt unwell the next day.

Over the Christmas break, some members went for short rides around the district and a group of friends decided to ride to and around Kangaroo Island. Aren't there some interesting dirt roads over there, and the hospitality is second to none?

On a more sombre note, our thoughts and prayers are with those who suffered loss during the recent fires on Eyre Peninsula in the Port Lincoln area.

Mark Schulz

Yorke Peninsula



On Sunday, 5th December, about 17 bikes from various areas of the Peninsula, met at Kadina for a ride to Port Broughton (where we met by our host, Brian Carmody). Brian then led the group to Port Pirie and his home for a BBQ, where Port Pirie members joined us for a pleasant day.

On Sunday 6th February, there will be a ride to The Barossa Valley - destination Bethany Recreation Park - for a catered lunch. BYO drinks and eating utensils. Meet 'Snayle' at Port Wakefield at 9.30 am.

On March 5 & 6 we will be having an overnight stay at the Melrose Caravan Park. Powered and unpowered sites, bunkhouse and limited cabins available. Make your own bookings asap. The two hotels also offer accommodation. Either hotel meals or BYO.

3rd April will see us riding to Mannum. Own arrangements for lunch. Meet at Port Wakefield 9.00 am.

1st May and it's off to Port Vincent for BYO BBQ at Bernard and Barbara Knope's home.

11th-13th June (Note change of date) we will combine with the Adelaide Branch for a weekender at Stansbury.

Contacts: James on 8823 3247 or 0429 864 262
Snayle on 8854 5311 or 0402 804 811

**Stay upright and ride safe
James Bartsch**

An 80-year-old man went to his doctor for his annual check-up. The doctor asks him how he's feeling.

The 80-year-old says, "I've never felt better. I now have a 20 year-old bride who is pregnant with my child. What do you think about that?"

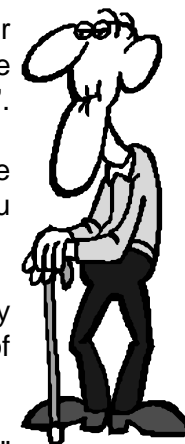
The doctor considers his question for a minute and then begins, "I have an older friend, much like you, who is an avid trophy hunter and never misses a season. One day, when he was going out hunting, he was in a bit of a hurry and accidentally picked up his walking cane instead of his gun. When he got to

the creek, he saw a prime beaver sitting beside the stream of water. He raised his cane and went 'bang, bang'.

Suddenly, two shots rang out and the beaver fell over dead. What do you think of that?"

The 80-year-old said, "I'd say somebody else pumped a couple of rounds into that beaver."

The doctor replied, "My point exactly."



Torrens Valley

Recent rides have been well attended with numbers averaging 15 to 20 riders. We have had approximately 20 new members join the Ulysses Club through our branch since October, which is very encouraging. There have also been many new faces.

Ratbag Robbo's "Dummy Spit" on the 9th January was particularly well attended with 37 riders starting at Munno Para. We picked up 3 stragglers during a scenic ride to Mannum where the Adelaide branch (over 20 riders) met us on "sacred ground". The Dummy Spit had the group in high spirits...well...the onlookers were. Participants were a little red faced! The Gnome's antics kept the laughter coming...he was at one stage threatened to be physically thrown along with his dummy! Robbo announced this would be an annual event.

During the day the hat (tin) was passed around with \$100.00 raised for the Tsunami appeal.

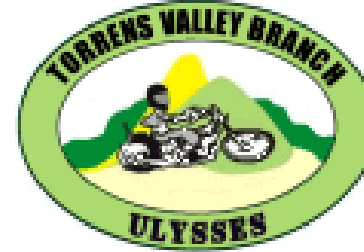
The event was won by Keith "the Pommy" Jones with a commendable spit of over 2 metres!

Torrens Valley bi-monthly dinners will be held at the Mawson Lakes Hotel, 10 Main Street, Mawson Lakes, the first dinner being on Friday, 18th February. Contact Pam Gray for bookings...82637566

It is great to see Pat Hannagan back with us and in good health again. Also, our members regularly mention Paul Hancock at our meetings. We wish him a speedy recovery!!!!

Check out the calendar for future rides. Rod Stoneman's

Twilight ride is always a good event, but numbers are needed. Our branch also has safety in mind with a First Aid course on the 6th February (now booked out).



On the 20th March meet us at Caltex, Munno Para for Cancerman's "buy a town ride". This one is going to be interesting...don't miss it!!!

I am often asked if all of our rides will go north.....being that we are a northern based branch. Definitely not! Rides are catered for almost any destination, from Oodnadatta to Mt Gambier...awww...just kiddin'!!! I try to vary the ride destinations and mix the straight stuff with the bendy stuff, a balance you might say...and sometimes, we will head south. Come along and enjoy. Budding ride leaders, give me a ring...there is still plenty of 2005 ride space available. There are always opportunities to meet up with the Adelaide and Fleurieu Branches as well.

Stay well and ride safely,
Ross (Tai) Jones
Rides Captain.
mob.# 0419835800



PENDLETON FARM 2004

It was a cool morning when we started from a couple of different places for the midweek ride to Pendleton Farm on Wednesday, 27th October 2004. We all converged on Strathalbyn and Mick, leading in his usual good style, led the riders to the next stop (Meningie). There I chatted to a Boss Hoss owner, who was on his way to the drags in Adelaide during the weekend. Don't know how far he got as, apparently, he left his credit card at the service station and was long gone before it was discovered, giving none of us any chance of catching him.

We continued on to Pendleton Farm, where we thought we would never get the chance to stay again, when we left there last year. But the Farm has great new owners, Rhonda and Brian Loller, who are great country style hosts, helping us enjoy our stay there.

On arrival, we were met with a lovely afternoon tea so we had energy to set up our accommodation for the next two nights. It was great to have members from Port Pirie, The Mallee and Victor Harbor areas with us.

The next day, after a good breakfast and morning tea, a group of us ventured into

Keith and on to the other side where Brian has property. Here he demonstrated and explained to us novices the great workings of his irrigation system. We were all appreciative of his work, but I have to let the secret out, that we enjoyed the trailer ride to and from the pump - Brian had arranged for us - we were like big kids and we would do it all again. Thanks, Brian.

We then ventured on to Mount Monster, which is 93M high, and has slopy rocks one has to grip onto with one's feet to get to the top, but it was worth the effort to take in the view from the summit.

Then back to the Farm for a good lunch and rest, and then a bigger group of us, led by Ross, ventured through the back, winding rides to Mudulla Hotel for hot chocolates and cappuccinos.

On arrival back and being a little warm I decided to test the heated pool - the water felt warmish. Well, trust me always put your whole arm in because Brass Monkeys had nothing to do with the water chill underneath. Still, I did one lap and felt totally cooled down. It would be great on a warm day - perhaps it will get more use

at the Central Odyssey in 2005. Others took the maze through the hay bales and no one got lost, because everyone (about 30) was seated for a lovely roast lamb tea. A beautiful full moon rose outside and the members chatted, and some even watched laptops inside. But before bedtime we enjoyed a home cooked chocolate birthday cake, which I cut and shared with the chorus of people who knew the birthday song - thanks friends.

On Friday, after a good breakfast and morning tea, most rode off, but some of us stopped and wandered around a bit further, looking at the different accommodation and development proposals for the farm.

After making a very yummy salad roll for lunch, it was time to say good-bye again, but we look forward to returning for the Central Odyssey 2005 at Pendleton Farm.

Jenny Hills



Brian Loller, Jenny Hills and Rhonda Loller



Vicki (new member)



Wayne 'Skippy' Partridge



Joseph Colaruotolo



Mountain Man, Robbo



Loaded up for the cattle sales!



Oops! Rejects!

The Joker Weekend

Two dozen or so members gathered on a perfect, sunny Saturday morning for the short ride to Clare for the 'Joker Weekend', at the Harvey Norman car park, behind Munno Para Caltex. Tents on bikes, trailers packed with gear were the norm for the overnights with the odd lone rider, like myself, just along for the day ride.

Robbo lead off at a smart pace and promptly left the last three bikes (including myself as Tail-End Charlie) caught behind at traffic lights. However, everyone followed along smartly and only one marshal was required to ensure that we all turned off the Gawler Bypass, at the correct corner.

Traffic was very heavy to Gawler, as we would expect on a Saturday morning,

however it continued all of the way to Clare. The Clare Valley was hosting 'A Day on the Green' concert that evening at Watervale, and it had drawn a huge crowd, with most people making the most of the perfect weather to travel up early and to spend the day touring The Valley. Every motel, hotel, B&B had No Vacancy signs hung out, and when we got to the Caravan Park it was chaos!

I left the lucky campers to sort themselves out and noticed that every square inch of the park appeared to taken up with visitors, even the oval appeared to have a mini tent city springing up rapidly. I hope our people had a good time.

I went on into town and did a little window shopping and picked up some

bargains at the small market, then headed home. I did some scenic detours on the way back, none of which ended up where I thought I was going, including the back roads from Giles Corner, trying to get to Hamley Bridge (then finding out that there is a sealed road across from Tarlee). Oh well, all good fun!

Lovely day out. Hope the Joker Evening went well and many thanks to Robbo for taking over the arrangements to ensure a great weekend went ahead.

Kerry Booy



Ross



Spence



Mark and Bernie



Jen, Chris and Tikki



Robbo, Moss and Liz



Russell

Toy Run Breakfast

Approximately eighty people took advantage of a great breakfast before the Toy Run in December. In ideal surroundings at the Camden Park Oval parklands, Rob Cole and his merry 'little' elves had all the usual goodies including a full cooked breakfast of bacon and eggs.

The weather held off after looking a bit threatening, so conditions were fresh and pleasant.

Considering the relatively late notice of this event, the numbers were exceptional. All agreed that it must go on the calendar as a regular event.

Wendy King



'Anyone for coffee?'



'Do we have to go on the toy run?'



'Show me the money!'



Enjoying a chat before heading off to the Toy Run



'Last call for baked beans!'



Anyone for toast?



Whadayamean, she wants her egg flipped?

Letters to the Editor.....

Dear Wendy

Denny van Maanenbergs article (September 'Riding On') re scams, prompts me to warn members of a 'dirty one' from India. My tourist mate, Robin, reached the top of an open-sided escalator ride in a shopping mall, when he was enthusiastically greeted by a turban headed shoe-shine man. 'Sir, Sir, poo on shoe. I clean for you!!??' Robin looked down and, sure enough, a blob of greenish dung was stuck to his shoe.

The offending blob was removed, both shoes cleaned and polished. Then came the sting for 600 rupees in payment. 'But that's 35 Aussie dollars!' (A top price in my book, then again, Robin's not short of a bob and probably a pretty soft touch.) But at least this Indian was trying to earn his keep, rather than beg for it.

The scam? It's beautiful! Standing on the ground, about a third of the way outside the escalator up, stood an accomplice, armed with a box of green dung and a knife. As soon as his mate up top had finished with his customer, this bloke below would scoop some dung onto his knife and gently smear it onto the shoe of the next unsuspecting tourist, as he slowly rose up the escalator!!! Full marks for innovation, eh? And how much money would this bloke make in a day? I'm considering giving up my wool store job and going over there!

Robin reckoned that, in hindsight, 'the poo' looked like, and probably was, avocado. He thus decided, if the incident

occurred again, he'd simply wipe it off with his funder, eat it and say to the shoe shine man, 'No, thanks!!' Food for thought, eh?

Mike (Bugger) Smith

Dear Wendy

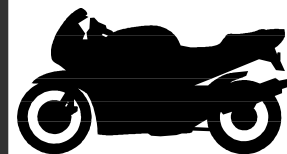
Recently, I was involved in a 'high side' avoiding an idiot car driver. My beautiful Yamaha Diversion was written off and I came close to a write-off, as well. You guessed it, the excuse was 'I didn't see him, officer.' BS. 'Nuff said.

Anyhow, good news for me, bad news for you all - the doctors believe I will return to same condition as before the prang: some say, 'Oh, no!'

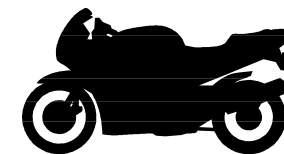
In closing, I would like to thank the Ulysses from Fleurieu, Adelaide and Torrens Valley for their support of phone calls, messages and offers of assistance from family, and the numerous invitations to people's homes for meals. It has been done in the true spirit of Ulysses. My wife, sone and daughter thank you all for your kindness. A special thank you to the Fleurieu Branch for a food hamper containing goodies suitable for visitors. It was a big help to Moira. Last of all, a big 'thank you' from me, because I am getting better every day, and I'm on the way back.

Sincerely

Paul Hancock



**Vale Kym Nappa
#31343
12-10-2004 aged 41**



Kym battled with malignant melanoma for four years.

We joined Kym and his twin brother, Mark, with the Ulysses Club twelve months ago. Another brother, Tony, and a sister, Debbie, are also Club members.

Kym and Tony went to Geelong for the AGM last year where they rode every demo bike there. Kym was hoping to get to Canberra,



as his daughter lives there.

Kym started riding at age 5. He rode a Bridgestone 90. At age 16, he was the youngest rider to go in the 24 Hour Trial, and his father, Rick, was in the sidecar.

We would like to thank all Ulysses members for their support.

**Dad, Mum and Friends
(Rick and Ronda)**

RETIREMENT WITH A GRIN

Recently I was thinking about retirement and aged care when I saw an article about nursing homes and the expenses. Then it hit me. No nursing home for me!

Here is my plan: I'm checking into the Holiday Inn.

With the average cost for a nursing home reaching \$188 per day, there is a better way when we get old and feeble.

I have already checked on reservations at the Holiday Inn and for a combined long-term stay discount and senior discount, its \$49.23 per night. That leaves \$138.77 a day for breakfast, lunch, dinner in any restaurant I want, or room service.

It also will leave enough for laundry, gratuities, and special TV movies, plus I'll get a swimming pool, workout room, lounge, and washer and dryer. I'll also get free toothpaste, razors, shampoo and soap and I'll be treated like a customer, not a patient.

Five dollars worth of tips a day will have the entire staff scrambling. There is a city bus stop out front, and seniors ride free. The handicap bus will also pick me up if I fake a decent limp. Ride the church bus free on Sundays.

For a change of scenery, take the airport shuttle bus and eat at one of the nice restaurants there. While you're at the airport, fly somewhere. Meanwhile, the cash keeps building up.

It takes months to get into decent nursing homes. On the other hand, Holiday Inn will take your reservation today and you are not stuck in one place forever. You can move from Inn to Inn, or even from city to city. Want to see Hawaii? They have a Holiday Inn there, too.

TV broken, light bulbs need changing, need a mattress replaced? No problem. They fix everything and apologize for the inconvenience. The Inn has a night security person and daily room service. The maid checks if you are OK. If not, they will call the undertaker or an ambulance.

If you fall and break a hip, Medicare will pay for the

hip, and Holiday Inn will upgrade you to a suite for the rest of your life.

No worries about visits from family, they will always be glad to visit you, and probably check in for a mini-vacation. The grandkids can use the pool. What more can you ask for?

When I discussed my plan with friends, they came up with even more benefits that Holiday Inn provides retirees.

Most standard rooms have coffee-makers, reclining chairs, and satellite TV. All you need to enjoy a cosy afternoon. After a movie and a good nap, you can check on your children (free local phone calls), then take a stroll to the lounge or restaurant where you meet new and exotic people every day.

Many Holiday Inns even feature live entertainment on the weekends. Often they have special offers, too, like the Kids Eat Free program. You can invite your grandkids over after school to have a free dinner with you. Just tell them not to bring more than three friends.

Pick a Holiday Inn where they allow pets, and your best friend can keep you company as well.

If you want to travel, but are a bit skittish about unfamiliar surroundings, you'll always feel at home because wherever you go, the rooms all look the same. And if you're getting a little absentminded in your old days, you never have to worry about not finding your room as your electronic key fits only one door and the helpful bellman or desk clerk is on duty 24/7.

Being natural skeptics, we called a Holiday Inn to check out the feasibility of my plan. I'm happy to report that they were positively giddy at the idea of us checking in for a year or more. They even offered to negotiate the rate. We could have easily knocked them down to \$40 a night!

So, when I reach the golden age I'll face it with a grin.

Just forward all your emails to the Holiday Inn!"

From Carmel

How many times have you woken up in the morning after a hard night drinking and thought 'How on earth did I get home?' As hard as you try, you cannot piece together your return journey from the pub to your house. The answer to this puzzle is that you used a Beer Scooter. The Beer Scooter is a mythical form of transport, owned and leased to the drunk by Bacchus the Roman God of Wine. Bacchus has acquired a large batch of these magical devices. The Beer Scooter works in the following fashion: The passenger reaches a certain level of drunkenness and the "slurring gland" begins to give off a pheromone. Bacchus or one of his many sub-contractors detects this pheromone and sends down a winged Beer Scooter. The scooter scoops up the passenger and deposits them in their bedroom via a Trans-Dimensional Portal. This is not cheap to run, so a large portion of the passenger's in-pocket cash is taken as payment. This answers the second question after a night out, 'How did I spend so much money?'

Unfortunately, Beer Scooters have a poor safety record and are thought to be responsible for over 90% of all UDI (Unidentified Drinking Injuries), such as skinned knees and a sore spot on the top of your head. An undocumented feature of the Beer Scooter is the destruction of time segments during the trip. The nature of Trans Dimensional Portals dictates that time will be lost, seemingly unaccounted for.

This answers a third question after a night out 'What the hell happened?'

With good intentions, Bacchus opted for the REMIT (Removal of Embarrassing Moments In Time) add-on, that automatically removes, in descending order, those parts in time regretted most. Unfortunately one person's REMIT is not necessarily the REMIT of another's and quite often lost time is regained in discussions over a period of time.

Independent studies have also shown that Beer Goggles often cause the Scooter's navigation system to malfunction thus sending passengers to the wrong bedroom, often with horrific consequences.

For the family man, Beer Scooters come equipped with flowers picked from other people's garden and Thump-A-Lot boots (Patent Pending). These boots are designed in such a way that no matter how quietly you tip-toe up the stairs, you are sure to wake up your other half. Special anti-gravity springs ensure that you bump into every wall in the house and the CTSGS (Coffee Table Seeking Guidance System) explains the bruised shins. The final add-on Bacchus saw fit to invest in for some Scooters is the TA (Tobacco Absorption System). This explains how one person can apparently get through 260 Marlboro Lights in a single night.

P.S. Don't forget the on-board heater, which allows you to comfortably get home from the pub in sub-zero temperatures, wearing just a T-shirt.

A man walked into the produce section of his local supermarket, and asked to buy half a head of lettuce. The boy working in that department told him that they only sold whole heads of lettuce. The man was insistent that the boy ask his manager about the matter.

Walking into the back room, the boy said to the manager, "Some old bastard wants to buy half a head of lettuce." As he finished his sentence, he turned to find the man standing right behind him, so he quickly added, "and this gentleman kindly offered to buy the other half."

The manager approved the deal, and the man went on his way.

Later the manager said to the boy, "I was impressed with the way you got yourself out of that situation earlier. We like people who think on their feet here. Where are you from son?"

"Australia, sir," the boy replied.

"Well, why did you leave Australia?" the manager asked. The boy said, "Sir, there's nothing but whores and rugby players there."

"Really," replied the manager? "My wife is from Australia!"

"Really??" replied the boy. "Who'd she play for?"

Jennifer visited a psychic of some local repute. In a dark and hazy room, peering into a crystal ball, the mystic delivered grave news: "There's no easy way to say this, so I'll just be blunt - prepare yourself to be a widow. Your husband will die a violent and horrible death this year."

Visibly shaken, Jennifer stared at the woman's lined face, then at the single flickering candle, then down at her hands.

She took a few deep breaths to compose herself. She simply had to know. She met the fortune teller's gaze, steadied her voice, and asked:

"Will I be acquitted?"

Can't Keep off those Victorian Roads!

Mid March 2004 and the time had again arrived to depart for our annual "boys trip." Having missed out on Tassie the year before due to being hospitalised following a bike drop in the Adelaide Hills I was champing at the bit for the big day to arrive and had been duly lectured by Rex not to take any chances on the bike as the event drew nearer.

Riders: Rex Brown - Yamaha XJR1 300, Jim Gill - Yamaha, Neil Skewes - Yamaha 1600 Roadstar, Kevin Pattison - Suzuki 1200 Bandit, Graham Trenwith - Yamaha Diversion.

Day 1 Destination Beachport: Four of us met at Modbury Civic Park which was bathed in beautiful sunshine at 8.00 am and we all knew that we had cracked a perfect riding day for the run down to Beachport. As we passed through Gumeracha there waiting in the main drag surrounded by the family waving good bye was Patto on the gleaming new Suzuki. We only slowed down to the speed limit as we passed through the town but it wasn't very far down the track before the minors showed Patto had caught up and tacked onto the group. On the flats between Palmer and Murray Bridge the speeds were wound up a tad. A "Growing old Disgracefully" symptom which seems to infect Ulysses members on long flat deserted stretches of road with no wind and perfect visibility and it wasn't very long before arrived at Tailem Bend for our first stop and traditional breakfast.

Imagine our surprise upon exiting the toilets following a "pit" stop at Meningie to find a couple of women laughing heartily at the conversations and comments that they claimed to have heard

word for word when in the toilet next door to us. So much for "secret men's business" The trip down the Coorong can be fairly boring at times but the perfect riding weather combined with some stretches of lovely scenery resulted in an enjoyable run to Beachport where we arrived early in the afternoon. The scenic trip around the coastline at Beachport is well worth while however be warned: if you decide to walk along the beach front there is a sandhill to climb up to the lookout which must be on first name terms with Everest. Three made it after much huffing and puffing whilst the other two, smart ones, didn't even attempt it and turned back down the beach.

Day 2 Destination Port Fairy. The weather had warmed up a bit but it was still good for riding and the morning run on good roads skirting the pine forests to Mt Gambier for a McDonald's breakfast was enjoyed by all. As was the run via Nelson and Portland to Port Fairy. We have found that a trip to the supermarket for rolls, cold meat etc. on our trips can be a saving and provide a better feed than lining up at the local take away. We also all carry thermos's which we organise in the morning before leaving. Sitting on the lawns at the foreshore for lunch my memories went back to the wall of bikes which covered the

roadway when the Ulysses did their AGM run to the town. I am sure anyone who was there can picture it and will recall how hot the trip was back to Mt Gambier on that day.

Within 200 metres of arriving at the motel where we were staying we struck our first roadworks. Fresh bitumen; and it doesn't matter how slow you ride it still manages to spray up onto the bike. Two members with the newest bikes were quickly on their backs cleaning it off when we stopped. We had intended to have tea down at the Wharf taking in the atmosphere of the area and after unpacking we headed down to take a walk around this historic town and check it out. The lovely old buildings made the walk well worth while and in the process we found the local pub was a far better proposition for tea.

Day 3 The Great Ocean Road. What a wonderful experience. Over recent years there has been a lot of upgrading to the road surface with most of it now comprising of good gritty bitumen and providing due care is taken it can be covered safely. However tourist vehicles entering the roadway from scenic areas can be a hazard and whilst traveling up the Otways in drizzling rain Neil

had a near miss with a car which had lost control on a bend and slid out of control onto his side of the road. No wonder he looked so white when we pulled up at Layers Hill because if it wasn't for his police training and riding experience he would have got wiped out. When in this area it is worth taking a short diversion to visit the recently opened sky walk amongst the tree tops.

The road down to Apollo Bay had dried out and I was surprised with the

handling of the Gold Wing which passed me two up and set an impressive pace on the chase down to the coast. The constant pounding of the seas on the coastline is clearly evident in the changes by erosion to it from one visit to the next. Our destination of Anglesea was typical of popular tourist spots with higher than normal accommodation costs for the cabins we stayed in. We are now finding that if you take into account linen hire cabins often work out more expensive than budget motel rooms and on this trip most of our nights were spent at motels.

Day 4 Philip Island. We arrived at Queenscliffe just in time to board the ferry to Sorrento where we decided to spend some time looking about and have morning lunch. Previous experience had shown how difficult it is to find the way East without getting tangled up with the urban sprawl of Melbourne so after receiving advice from the locals we headed out. After only getting semi lost (dead end) we eventually found our way to Hastings for lunch. Once a quiet country town, now being gulped up with the urban growth of commuters to the city.

Booked into the Seahorse Motel (excellent) at Cowes, quick look at the track and shopped for ingredients for a home cooked



From left: Kevin Pattison, Rex Brown, Graham Trenwith (scribe), Neil Skewes, Jim Gill

tea. Curried sausages; enough to feed 10 with fruit and ice-cream for desert. Doing it tough! There was a large number of bikes on trailers at the motel which upon investigation turned out to be a club using the Philip Island track to legally get their rocks off caning their road bikes around it. Good idea when you live in a state where they book you at 5kms above the limit On the way out the next day we checked them out and man could some of these boys ride! Shows what the modern bike can handle when they are on the red line all day at the track and then use the same machine for their daily transport to work. All types were in use and to Rex's delight an XJR was holding its own against the more fancied sports bikes.

Day 5 Destination Lakes Entrance - Having heard of Fish Creek; AFL footballer's home, we decided to check it out. On the way Jim decided after talking to the lads the night before to see whether 100kph in 1st on his bike exceeded the red line. It didn't! No wonder it's a rocket when there are still another 5 gears to go. Not much at Fish Creek I can assure you! Approaching Sale we struck more roadworks which thankfully were no where near as bad as the freshly watered mess we had encountered near Warnambool which had everyone in the bum on the seat, legs in the landing pelican stance. However, the group became strung out and the two tailenders nearly got separated from the rest of the group. At Bairnsdale we stopped for lunch and some viewed the Catholic Church which has been beautifully decorated out with paintings on the walls and ceilings.

Day 6 Rest day at the well appointed Whiter's Caravan Village where we had stayed on an earlier trip. Jimmy had never been up to Omeo and decided to do this alone whilst the rest of us did a run up to Buchan which proved to be an excellent ride. Not wanting to go back by the same route Rex and I returned via Orbost. Now this was a challenge with mainly single lane bitumen Adelaide Hills "Corkscrew Rd" style winding down the 50+ kms out of the mountains.

Day 7 Once again we were blessed with a lovely sunny day. The Princess Highway provides excellent riding along this part of Victoria surrounded on each side with dense forest, treeferns etc. with a good surface of long sweeping bends. Stopped in the main street of Orbost where we were given a bum steer from one of the locals about taking a diversion to the "beautiful coastline" instead of following the highway. The road may have followed the coastline but you couldn't see past the dense foliage separating it from the beaches. All agreed- a waste of time.

The Cann Valley Highway is a great ride following the river up to NSW. Just over the border there is a section of perfect surface road which has recently been completed and begs to be given a bit of a "squirt" on. Can't help it can we? Arriving at Cooma we parked the bikes with some difficulty due to the motel being perched on the side of a hill. At the RSL that night following tea Rex and I tried our hand on the full size billiard table. What a joke. The games went on forever and trying to use the "tall timber" for down the table long cue shots was beyond our abilities entirely.

Day 8 The temperatures in the highlands had dropped considerably and we rugged up prior to leaving. Nothing prepared us for the hell ride to Kiandra; thick fog, bitter cold and visors which kept fogging over. I was grateful for the recently acquired face mask which prevented fogging up on the inside by directing expelled breathe out through the bottom of the helmet. However the visor was fogging up on the outside and wiping it off

with the glove wasn't sufficient to keep it clear meaning that a lot of the ride had to be done with the visor up. By the time we stopped at Kiandra everyone was shivering cold and desperate to slip behind the nearest tree. The place is now deserted but once supported a large community. Must have been tough in those days!

Now came the steep descent down the mountains to Corryong. A little of the family jewels kissing the tank stuff on some of the steeper drops. Fortunately by this time the fog had cleared and the sun appeared again. Taking our time the ride was not as hairy as we had expected and with the beautiful scenery most enjoyable. Overnight was at Corryong and a worthwhile exercise when visiting the area is to travel out to Towong and view the river and bridge a short distance from the town. A fantastic camping area with deep and crystal clear water passing under the bridge.

Day 9 Mother of our favourite roads. The Murray Valley Highway to Wodonga. Big sweeping bends with a top grade gritty surface. We were heading to Bright via Mt Beauty and Falls Creek snow resort and turned of the highway attempting to follow a recommended motorcycle route along the valley on the Eastern side of the river to Mt Beauty.

Missed the turn and finished up on the main road following the Western side but it still turned out to be a nice ride. Talking to the locals prior to heading up the mountain to the resort they warned us to be careful because two motorcyclists had been killed on the road the day before. The road surface was good but with plenty of switchback 25kph bends I can assure you that there were no attempts at scraping footpegs etc. as we tippy-toed up to the top. On the way down we stopped for a cuppa at Bogong which would have to be one of the prettiest picnic spots we came across for the trip.

After we booked in at Bright Jimmy checked the ticking sound coming from the front of his bike and found that he had picked up a screw in the front tyre. With Al service from the dealer in Wodonga a new tyre was couriered to a friendly butcher shop and fitted by a Ulysses owned servo, before lunch the following day. Great service all round

Day 10 Fortunately this was a planned rest day and the tyre hadn't thrown a spanner into our schedule. Three of the group only wanted a short run and went for a coffee at Harrierville whilst Jim and I wanted to see the views from Mt Hotham. Last time I was there it became fogged over and it was barely possible to see the white line on the road. This time it was perfect with the views being the best of the resorts visited and with a good road leading up to it a very enjoyable ride.

Day 11 Destination Marysville. I was keen to try the recently sealed route to Mansfield which cut down through Whitfield because it had been listed as a great ride in a motorcycle book. Until Whitfield it was ordinary but from that point on it was superb. Funny how quickly reality can set in isn't it. Feeling great and in the groove after taking several sets of bends at + recommended speeds when "bugger me this bend keeps going"; line blown, fight off the instinct to touch the brakes, lean further. No great dramas but they weren't kidding on the advisory speed this time and I knew then how Jimmy felt a couple of days earlier on that 25kph left-hander when he finished up on the wrong side of the road.

A desire to ride to each of the snow resorts resulted in the group splitting up at Mansfield with Jimmy and me heading up to Mt Bulla and the rest continuing on to Marysfield. The ride UI) the maintain was once again well worth the effort and less demanding than the others. Regrouping at the motel later Rex told us of his anxious moment being tailed by a police car after winding the wick up (adrenalin rush) to pass a truck. The route we had taken is well patrolled because of it's popularity with motorcyclists and really is a top ride. The bakery in the town matches any we have come across and dishes up an excellent bacon and eggs breakfast

Day 12 A ride down the "Black Spur" to Healesville and across the Kinglake forest region to Whitfield for lunch. Motorcycle heaven I can assure you. A bit of a chat with the local Ulysses group who were gathered for their weekly ride and on to view the war memorial site and huge cross at Mt Macedon before arriving at Daylesford. Apparently this place is famous for it's hot springs and for being the gay capital of Vic. We weren't interested in either The motel was second rate and expensive and the sight of two men holding hands and gazing into each other's eyes over a candle lit dinner in the restaurant as we walked past did nothing to enhance our feelings about the town. We reckon the motel owner must have thought that the overnight booking for 5 men must have been for an orgy and he jacked up the prices accordingly. Wonder what he thought when 5 motorcycles rocked up and we took our helmets off.

Day 13 We set off early to visit an old gold mining town called dunes which is located North of Ballarat. This is one of the most original places I have ever been to. We arrived before the shops had opened and the sight of the deserted main street with all the old shop facades was amazing. Apparently the latest Ned Kelly film was made there and all they had to do was cover the bitumen road with dirt.

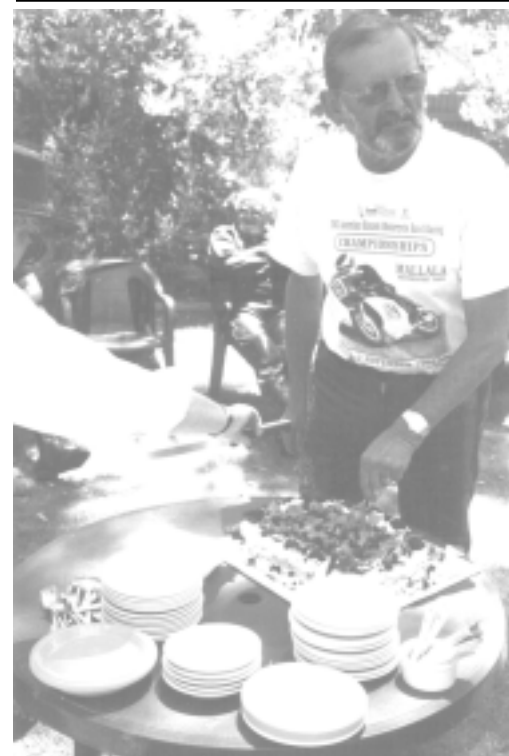
The route through Ballarat was well signposted and we had no problems finding the road to our overnight destination of

Hamilton. Gone was our motorcycle heaven roads and we were back to flat open country riding. However the motel Lenwin "On The Lake" must rate a mention because it was a high standard and the cheapest place we stayed at Much to Jimmy's delight the place had a Kentucky Fried and he was able to get his "fix" for tea.

Day 14 Head for home. The road through to Edenhope was undulating and provided an interesting ride but flattened out again from there to Naracoorte where we stopped for morning lunch. A brief stop at Keith and upon pulling in to fuel up at Tailem Bend the main conversation revolved around what speed every one was doing when they went past the speed camera between Keith and Tintinara. "Just passed a truck. I'm gone" moaned Jimmy. "I reckon it was pointing in the other direction" says Patto which made me feel a lot better because I didn't even see the bloody thing and being left a bit behind when we departed from Keith had given the Diversion her head a bit along that section. Final farewells from another wonderful trip together and now everyone was getting anxious to get home. Three of us ducked around the back of the hills with the remainder taking the freeway down to Adelaide. I still had some lovely country to cover because I continued through the hills to Gawler and back across the Adelaide Plains to Kadina arriving home late in the afternoon. Mind you the fuel economy would have taken a big dive across the last section

Conclusion - Once again the trip went off without a hitch. Spending the time in advance to book accommodation, schedule rest days etc. reaps the rewards of proper planning. All bikes performed faultlessly with the FZR taking out the honours on fuel economy. However the Bandit with the smooth riding style of Patto was right up there with it on a number of times. The slower speed limits in Vic returned some outstanding fuel economy at times. Next trip is up the Eastern Coastline to the Gold Coast with the route and accommodation already organised. Total distance covered=4,467 kms @18.21 km/l (Diversion)

Poets' Corner



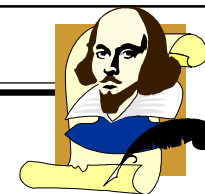
Mick Turns 70

Mick is a 'BONZA FELLA'
He really is 'TRUE BLUE'
Apart from his funny accent
He's AUSSIE through and through

He turns up every Wednesday
Regardless of heat, wind or rain
He's been leading us for nearly ten years
And we've never heard him complain!

Mick must be doing something right
'Cos we really think he's GREAT
That's why we're all here at his birthday
To say - 'GOOD ONYA MATE'

Geraldine Murray



Happy Birthday, Jane

For her very special 50th birthday, Jane and Rudi Esman issued an open invitation to all of her relatives, work mates and friends to attend a 'birthday rally' over the weekend of January 8th and 9th at their lovely home/property on the outskirts of Mt Gambier.

At least 100 of us turned up for the celebration!

The weather was particularly kind on Saturday for the Adelaide and Fleurieu visitors travelling down for the party on Saturday Night. The early birds from Yorke Peninsula and other places from afar had arrived on Friday and made themselves especially useful with helping to set up for the party.

A mini tent city had been erected around their home on the front side and back lawns and out in a paddock, while Brian and I camped in the back of our car parked under the Ash trees in their driveway.

In the contrary nature of things, every one seemed to gather with chairs and drinks in the warm sunshine on Saturday afternoon, out of the wind on the front lawn – fabulous view of the pine forests across the way, easy to check out all the new arrivals and best of all: Jane's Christmas present – a new garden swing chair that I hogged most of the day. Meanwhile out the back the Marquee, juke box, port-a-loo's and BBQ had been set up for our benefit – all on their lonesome as everyone was sitting out front.

Once I discovered the lonesome Juke Box I had the best

half hour as I had the chance to programme and dance to some of my favourite music at full volume all by myself. Of course shortly after, the group began the move around to the marquee and my choices were swiftly deleted and much more popular music began to blare across the valley for half of Mt Gambier to enjoy!



Don Freene, Garry King, Rhoda Ryan, Michael Ryan, Sue Freene and Carolyn McDonald living it up at The Esman Ranch

Jane, very sensibly, arranged for the BBQ to be cooked and served quite early, while there was plenty of day light to work by, leaving the birthday congratulation speeches, and party dancing to be enjoyed after dark.

Apparently the party people eventually nodded off after 3 am. But I had gone to bed many hours earlier and slept through all of the locals driving home and three spots of rain. However the early arrivals were also anxious to leave early for their long ride home, so by 6.30am the first Harley was being warmed up to leave. This of course encouraged many others to stagger out of their sleeping bags in search of coffee and a chat in the morning sunshine.

Slowly the after party cleanup, packing up tents and gear, having some breakfast got into momentum as people surfaced from every corner of the property.

Many thanks to Jane for any excuse for a party, and to Rudi, her boys, and all her friends and visitors who all pitched in to help get things done. We had a lovely time.

Happy Birthday Jane – Thank you very much for inviting us all.

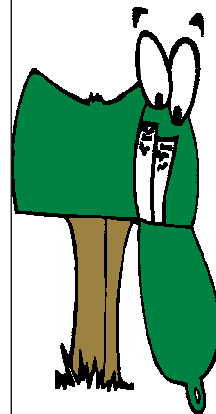
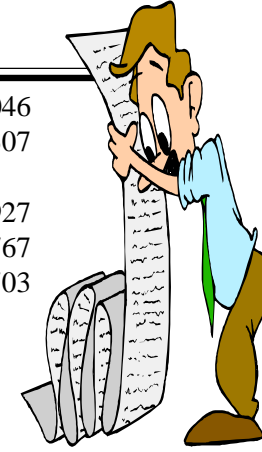
Kerry and Brian Booy



Sue Freene, Don Freene and Trevor McDonald

New Members

Robert Stone	PO Box 139	NORMANVILLE 5204	0419 820 046
Clive Martis	1 Isola Court	GRANGE 5022	0423 783 307
Philip Bull	45 Cornish Terrace	WALLAROO 556	8823 3342
Ashley Phillips	21 Turners Avenue	HAWTHORNDENE 5051	0423 187 927
Gregory Frost	13 Purnong Road	MANNUM 5238	0407 185 767
David Yudkin	1 Mill Street	MITCHELL PARK 5043	0403 025 703
Troy Carruthers	155 Andrew Smith Drive	PARAFIELD GARDENS 5107	
S. Keen	30 Black Top Road	HILLBANK 5112	
Trevor Robinson	30 Darren Avenue	INGLE FARM 5098	
Tony Barwell	41 Third Avenue	KLEMZIG 5083	
Tim Johnson	26 Smith Street	ANGASTON 5353	
Dean Launer	11 Benerley Street	MORPHETT VALE 5162	0417 808 658
Christopher Kingham	16 Grand Central Avenue	HALLETT COVE 5158	0415 236 493
Colin Pearce	PO Box 528	CEDUNA 5690	8625 3377
John Norwood	PO Box 387	CEDUNA 5690	8625 3481
Grant Haworth	48 French Crescent	TROTT PARK 5158	0403 111 279
Max Lindsay	PO Box 130	MANNUM 5238	8569 2298
Kevin Bihet	20 Carlton Road	CAMDEN PARK 5038	0419 031 258
Rob Hermann	12A Turner Street	COWANDILLA 5033	0409 399 088
Alan Cartwright	13 The Glade	ABERFOYLE PARK 5159	8270 5223
David Anderson	125 Palm Avenue	ROYAL PARK 5014	0418 825 843
Louanne Pound	39 Winara Drive	INGLE FARM 5098	0403 046 283
James Caruso	20 Medina Street	ABERFOYLE PARK 5159	0421 022 319
Terry Mader	22 Luringa Close	CRAIGMORE 5114	
Howard Pfeffer	31 Braeburn Drive	GOLDEN GROVE 5125	
Steve Scarfe	31 Jasper Street	SALISBURY EAST 5109	
Kim Taylor	12 Ingle Close	INGLE FARM 5098	



Change of Address

David Gittens	4 Baily Street	MOUNT GAMBIER 5290	8725 2212
Marie Bennett	4 Baily Street	MOUNT GAMBIER 5290	8725 2212
Martin Castilla	27 Boyle Street	MARION 5043	0422 442 243
Joe Milazzo	10 Ferguson Avenue	REYNELLA 5161	
Gordon Kerley	66 Park Terrace	GLADSTONE 5473	8662 2554
Sandy Williams	66 Park Terrace	GLADSTONE 5473	8662 2554
Di Longson	10/54 Cungena	PARKHOLME 5043	
Chris & Coralie Jackway	PO Box 9475	MOUNT GAMBIER WEST 5291	
Allen Main	61 Toorak Drive	BLACKVIEW 5114	
Robert Workman	65 Brooker Terrace	RICHMOND 5033	
Phil Chandler	PO Box 2124	NORMANVILLE 5240	8558 2171
Fred Catalano	16 Albert Street	PAYNEHAM 5070	
Sharon Brock	6/70 Eyre Street	NORTH WARD TOWNSVILLE 4810	
Joe Cairns	6/70 Eyre Street	NORTH WARD TOWNSVILLE 4810	
Shirley Hortin	PO Box 1213	PORT PIRIE 5540	
Vicki Rees	PO Box 1	FOREST RANGE 5139	8389 8286

Classifieds

**FOR
SALE**



Yamaha XVS650 AK Deluxe: 2000 model. Only 13,000ks. Sold and serviced by Yamaha World. Price includes Flip top helmet Zeus XL, Boots - Alp;inestars size 10, Bjays gloves Men's XXL, Draggin' Jeans Men's size 42, Dririder Tourer Jacket Men's XXL, Rjays Saddle Bags and Frames, Dririder Magnetic Tank Top Bag, Kryptonite Front Disk Lock, Windscreen. All excellent condition. (New cost \$1,900). **The bike and all accessories \$8,000. Contact Roger on (08) 8277 4075**

Honda CB1300: Naked muscle bike, 2003 model, fuel injected, still under factory warranty. Only 2,000ks. Black, brand new condition. New Micron carbon fibre muffler, throttle lock, seat cover, new std exhaust as spare. Suit new buyer. **Bargain at only \$12,500. Contact Ray on 0402 882 945**

Yamaha XV1000 and sidecar: 1983 model. 55,000ks. 3 months rego. Reasonable condition. Runs well. New battery and full face helmet. **\$4,000 ono. Contact Boyd Stuckey on 0403 411 041**

Tank Bag (Dririder): As new **\$80. Contact Rosalie Lewis on 0401 133 775**

Honda Shadow 600: 1994 model. 44,000ks. New tyres, 2 months rego. **\$3,800. Contact Ray Martin on 0414 400 548**

Suzuki VX800: 1991 model in very good condition. 59,400ks. **\$3,800. Contact Kevin on 8556 6972**

BMW R1150RT: 2002 model. One owner, excellent condition. 28,000ks. 2-way radion plus intercom, sheep skin, ABS brakes, heated grips, panniers, top box and more. **\$19,000 ono. Contact Peter Jolly on 0438 848 537**

Honda Rebel 250: 1996 model. Excellent condition. Silver and black. New front and rear tyres. Rear luggage rack, front screen, leather saddle bags. 18,300ks. Lady owner. **\$4,200. Contact John or Lyn on 8326 6512**

Motel accommodation in Canberra and Ulverstone booked and deposit paid but can't be used so if you would like it phone **Jenny on 8262 5493**. The room at Canberra will take three people and is very close to the AGM site.

Yamaha Virago XV1100s: 1998 model. Black and white. 7-8,000ks. Mag wheels, showroom condition. **\$8,000 neg. Contact Brian Walsh on 8154 7337**

Kawasaki GTR 1000: 1986 model. Silver. 104,000ks, excellent condition. **\$4,250. Contact Larry McCloud on 8250 4960**

BMW R65: 1984 model with spoked wheels. Genuine 67,000ks since new. New Pirelli tyres. Only 4,000ks on new Stainture exhaust system. Was regularly serviced, but hasn't run for 8 months. Needs restoration, but can't afford id. Cn be collected by trailer from Bordertown. **\$900 ono. Contact Barrie Hayman on 0428 280 235**

BMW K100RT: 1988. Genuine 26,000ks. Unridden and garaged from 1994 until 2002. Ex-Commonwealth Government escort bike. Double seat conversion using all genuine parts. Panniers and Redline exhaust (original available), some spares and tools. Excellent condition. **\$5,900 ono. Contact Paul 8524 4619**

BMW K100RS: 1986 model. Red, panniers, good contion and very reliable. Shaft drive rebuilt. **\$3,900. Contact Trevor Tapp on 0438 982 629**

BMW F650CS: 2002 model. As new only 6,360ks. Full BMW luggage. One lady owner. **\$9,000 ono. Contact Vic on 0427 879 373**

Yamaha XJ900: 1985 modfel, red and black. Original and immaculate with only 39,800ks (mainly touring). Lambswool seat cover, Gearsack, Koni shocks and workshop manual. Two owners, service every 5,000ks. Registered untio April 2005. **\$4,500 ono. Contact Garry on 8396 4079 or 0413 047 753**

Yamaha XZ550: 1982 model. Goes well. 53,968ks. **\$1,700. Contact Kevin on 8556 6972**

Telephone conversation goes;

"Hello, is this the police?"
 "Yes it is. How can we help you?"
 "I'm calling to report about my neighbour, Wazza. He's hiding cocaine inside his firewood!" "Thank you very much for the call, ma'am."
 The next day, police officers descend on Wazza's house in great numbers. They search the house and then go

out to the shed where the firewood is kept. Using axes, they bust open every piece of firewood but they find no cocaine. They swear at Wazza and leave.
 The phone rings at Wazza's house. "Hey, Wazz. Did the cops come?"
 "Yeah!"
 "Did they chop up your firewood?"
 "Yep."
 "Happy Birthday", maaaaate!!!!