

Who's News March 2012

Club Membership stands at 84, up 8 on last month! Welcome to Tony Ripepi (white KTM990) who signed up on the Dargo ride after three rides, and in no particular order: Matt Considine (CBR600), Mikey Henriksen (R1200RT), Andrew Newbury ZX10, Gordon Heydon (ZX6), Jesvin George (FZ6R), Sam Sirianni (back to the fold after a decade or more) (TL1000), and Chris Bouwmeester (CBR1000). We wish them many enjoyable and safe rides with the Club.

The **Club web site** at www.melbsportsbike.net.au accumulated **662** hits during **March**, up **217** on last month. Total site visits are **74,282** since April 1996. The counters on the other pages after another month indicate that the 2012 Ride Calendar page took **612** hits (total **21,695** since 28th October 2008) and Great Roads **125** hits (total **5585**).

For March, the official kilometres (sum of ride lengths) for the month is **3,628 km** (up 2285 km on last month – 7 rides for the month). Official Club kilometres for the month (people x ride length) is **46,386**, up 29,674 on last month.

The average calendar yearly total is 336,393 km since 2005. This year we are up to **113,058** km with only minor injuries, all incurred in the last month.

Seen at the **Social Sip** at Il Gambero in Lygon St on Thursday **1st March**: Julie and Ben Warden, Ian Payne, plus 3 more. 6 people

The **Club Participant of the Year** is based on aggregate points accumulated at 1 point per ride, an extra point for leading or being rear rider, and 1 point per magazine article (maximum 2 per magazine). Attending one or more days of a weekend event scores 3 points for leading, 3 for rear riding duties and 2 points for participating.

The count is for the 2011/12 year ending the ride before the 2012 AGM in July. After **nine** months the top ten positions are: **Ben Warden** (77), **Pina Garasi** (51), **Ron Johnston** (49), **Rob Langer** (48), **Marc Marais** (47), **Ian Payne** (45.5), **Paul Southwell** (43), **Tony Stegmar** (34.5), **Tim Emons** (31), and **Misho Zrakic** (29). The same top ten, but some minor reshuffling of the order: Pina slipped back past Ron into second position. It is very close between Ron, Rob and Marc.

Front Cover: Photo taken outside Woodend Bakery on the Castlemaine Ride, Sunday 11th March. Back row: Geoff Jones, Matt Archer, Damian Jones, Matt Considine, Rob Langer, Chris Bouwmeester and Ed Simonis. Front row: Willem Vandeveld, Roland Anthony, Ian Payne, Pina Garasi, and Gordon Heydon. Ben behind the lens, Marc Marais the title block.

Back Cover: Photo taken at the Omeo Lookout, Saturday afternoon (31/3/2012) on the Dargo Ride. Back row: Bill Simpson, Tim Emons, Matt Considine, Michael Henriksen, Mark Copeland, Pina Garasi, Marc Marais and Rob Langer. Front row: Rod Merrett, Pierre Ong, Dennis Lindemann, John Rousseaux, Misho Zrakic and Duane Rafferty. Ben Warden behind the lens.

Ride leaders required: We need someone to cover Pierre Ong's lead to Jamieson on Sunday 22nd April. Route, start point and destinations negotiable.

Email from **Paul Southwell** after the Lancefield ride (1/4/2012): Near misses: one angry local (Broadford) cop stopped me, Phill, Mirko and Jean at a corner for a rego, license and breath test. Gave us the third degree for about 20 minutes (thankfully it was a cool afternoon) while claiming he had some divine powers of checking Phil's speed through a paddock! I had the opportunity to caution fellow members to say yes sir, no sir and admit nothing. This allowed the one of Vic's finest to perform an interesting song and dance routine for us with phrases like "I can get four trailers up here to take your bikes away". Clearly they haven't heard of tow trucks in Bradford. He also sang a tune called "All the TOG's in the area have your number" and an old favourite of mine "Not on my patch" all preformed with suitable "gusto". Made for an interesting time! I just wish it was appropriate to clap.