

Who's News June 2012

Club Membership stands at **89**, up two on last month, and is the final number for the year, one down on last year. Welcome back to former member **Craig Morley** riding a Honda VTR1000 SP and **Mitar Marescuk** riding a Honda CBF1000 Street Fighter. Craig has been on the fringe of the Club since 1992, rejoining intermittently since then. Similarly, Mitar has intended to join the Club for a few years, occasionally riding with us on Great Ocean Road rides and other rides out west, usually riding the wheels off a Super Motard. We wish them many fun and safe rides.

The **Club web site** at www.melbsportsbike.net.au accumulated **440** hits during **June**, down 185 on last month. Total site visits are **75,916** since April 1996. The counters on the other pages after another month indicate that the 2012 Ride Calendar page took **376** hits (total **23,189** since 28th October 2008) and Great Roads **71** hits (total **5870**). All counters significantly down, most likely due to the very poor weather – freezing cold and wet, wet and more wet. It is amazing that so many people turn up at all, the forecast usually accurate – flooding rains and strong winds. True fanatics.

For June the official kilometres (sum of ride lengths) for the month is **1,810 km** (up 193 km on last month). Official Club kilometres for the month (people x ride length) is **18,450**, down 1,617 km on last month. A five ride month but low average attendances means the sum of the Club runs is up a smidge, but the Club kilometres is down. Exactly what you would expect in a wet and cold winter.

The figures don't match up with last month – I made a couple of errors with the calculations, forgetting that the rides between Social Sips are not strictly per calendar month. Sometimes there is a ride on say, July 1st, before the Meeting on the 5th. That 1st July ride stats should not be included in the June stats. All fixed now. That figures now reflect exact calendar months.

The average calendar yearly total is 336,393 km since 2005. This year we are up to **174,515** km with a total of nine crashes. No crashes in June.

Seen at the **Social Sip** at Il Gambero in Lygon St on Thursday 6th June: Ben and Julie Warden, Ken King, Dennis Lindemann, Ian Payne, Ron Johnston, Simon Wastney, Craig Morley, Paul Southwell and Tim Emons. 10 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 2011/12 count ended on the Mt Buninyong ride, the ride before the 2012 July AGM. After **twelve** months the top ten positions are: **Ben Warden** (106), **Pina Garasi** (68), **Rob Langer** (59), **Ian Payne** (58.5), **Ron Johnston** (55), **Marc Marais** (55), **Paul Southwell** (54), **Tony Stegmar** (47.5), **Tim Emons** (40), and **Misho Zrakic** (40). The top ten in the same order as last month. Pina was the standout member once again, a truly dedicated MSR rider, even more meritorious considering the number of setbacks (crashes) she has fought her way back from, and the fact she doesn't do Social Sips, automatically dropping 12 points. **Rob** was a surprising third place finisher, a fine effort considering the amount of overseas trips he ventured on in the last twelve months. Well done to everyone else. We see each other that often we become good friends – almost like family.

Front Cover: 24th June, **Kilcunda Lookout:** Back row: Marc Marias, Dennis Lindemann, Mark Copeland, Tony Stegmar, Cliff Peters, Mark Rigsby. Front row: Simon Wastney (2nd ride), Cindy Lee, Steve Mudford, Pina Garasi, Misho Zrakic and Tim Emons. Ben Warden behind the lens. Fiona Warden banner artwork.

Back Cover: 10th June, **Jamieson Road Lookout:** David Lenaghan (1st ride), Rod Merrett, Tom Armstrong (1st ride), Tony Stegmar, Damian Jones, Mark Copeland, Jason Wilson, Simon Wastney (1st ride), Aiden Baker, Pina Garasi, Misho Zrakic, Mitch Bond (2nd ride), Cindy Lee, and Steve Mudford. Ben Warden behind the lens.

Email (19th June) from **Ron Johnston:** Just a short note to say I purchased a brand new, blue 2012 Suzuki GSX1250FA on the 2nd of June. I picked the bike up on Friday the 15th. It has a gixxer fairing, headlight and instrument panel and the rear shock is adjustable at both ends, and it has ABS brakes. I have only done 246 km on it.

Who's News cont. June 2012

Update (3/6/2012) from **Nigel Oman** who hit a kangaroo on the Christmas Hills road. It has been almost 4 months since my accident and I thought I would give you an update. I was off work for 7 weeks which may not seem a long time compared to others, but for me, it seemed to take forever.

Unfortunately, my leg is still not ready for me to ride. I have had some complications lately with my knee and have been sent for a MRI to see what is going on. I am not surprised by this complication as the accident was worse than I originally thought. The hospital's staff were very busy when I was flown into the Alfred in March. I was told I had a broken ankle and two cracks in my back.

Once I started seeing a physio, she wanted to know exactly what happened so she could treat me. She explained to me it was not my ankle exactly, my fibula (the small lower leg bone) came completely off. It only stayed in place because of my skin. At present it has healed at the bottom, but not at the top near the knee. My foot had also detached, but it too stayed in place because of my skin. And those cracks in the back were actually my T8 and T9 which had lost no more than 20% each... No wonder I was in so much pain, and why it has taken a while to get 'back on the beast'.

The bike has been replaced with a new black CBR2011 ABS. I was keen to get an ABS to make my riding safer. The discussion on Facebook confirmed this. Thanks for all the advice. It is still in the shop waiting for the 'all clear' signal. However, it may take a few months after that before I start riding with the Club again. I can't wait! I so miss my Sunday leisurely rides. Best regards, Nigel.

Email from **Jesvin George**, 13th June: Finally I am glad to inform you that I am getting a new 2011 CBR 600 RR e-CABS for 14K from MotoGC :-)