

## Who's News                      March 2013

**Tasmania** outcomes: **Tim Emons** (yellow CBR1000) crashed on Day 4 on the transport leg between Queenstown and Derwent Bridge and was taken by ambulance back to Queenstown and then airlifted by fixed-wing plane to Hobart Hospital. On Day 7 **Andrew Newbury** (green ZX10) was involved in a collision with **Peter Feistl** (Panigale) on the Bothwell Road and was taken by ambulance directly to Hobart Hospital. Tim's left leg just above the ankle was plated and screwed and both of Andrew's collar bones were set. After struggles with bureaucracy Tim and Andrew were transported via plane back to Melbourne and then via ambulance to the Austin (Andrew) and the Epworth (Tim).

Since arriving in Melbourne Tim has undergone a full right knee reconstruction and heel plate surgery. Andrew has had his right foot pinned and plated (multiple breaks). Andrew and Tim have made it to the relatively luxurious rehab quarters in the Epworth's new facility at 50 Burwood Road Hawthorn. Visiting hours are from 4-8pm Monday to Friday and 12 noon to 8 pm on the weekends and public holidays. Visit Google Map "<http://goo.gl/maps/uNeam>" for more information.

Both Tim and Andrew are tech savvy and have their smart phones and are posting to Facebook. Their contact numbers are: **Tim: 0409 948 409** and **Andrew: 0400 513 375** Their recovery will be a long process so please make an effort to keep in contact. We wish Andrew and Tim a speedy and full recovery and look forward to seeing them riding again.

**The Committee** has given serious consideration to the collision in Tasmania on the 7<sup>th</sup> March near Bothwell. The majority of the Committee agreed to a resolution at the last Committee meeting (21/3/2013) where Peter Feistl's membership will be suspended for three months. The penalty will take effect once the Resolution is confirmed by the Committee, nominally 11<sup>th</sup> April, pending any appeals. The member has been found guilty of conduct unbecoming and prejudicial to the interests of the Association, as per Section 7 of the Constitution. If you require additional information please contact any of the Committee or visit <http://www.melbsportsbike.net.au/constitution.pdf>.

**Club Membership** has plateaued at **99** after nine months of renewals.

The **Club web site** at [www.melbsportsbike.net.au](http://www.melbsportsbike.net.au) accumulated **386** hits between mid-March and April 1, half a month's worth. Total site visits are **81,388** since April 1996. The counters on the other pages after another month indicate that the 2013 Ride Calendar page took **326** hits (total **28,301** since 28<sup>th</sup> October 2008) and Great Roads **64** hits (total **6753**). Status quo is maintained with the Home page taking slightly more hits than the Calendar page.

For **March** the official kilometres (sum of ride lengths) for the month is **8,240 km** (up 6,836 km on last month), is massively inflated with Tasmania and Dargo plus 5 Sunday rides. The official Club kilometres for the month (people x ride length) is **102,951**, up 79,170 km on last month. March was a long riding month with seven rides, Tasmania adding a whopping 68,405 km to the Club's riding total. This figure is based on what half the Tassy riders told me their odometer reading was, and a best guess for the others based on the number of day rides they rode on the organised ride.

The average calendar **yearly total** is 346,862 km since 2005. This year we are up to **168,652** after 3 months with 5 minor crashes and two serious (broken bones) crashes. So far this year, our average Club kilometres between serious crashes is 84,326 km. Long term it is 106,727.

**Front Cover:** Dargo General Store, morning of 24<sup>th</sup> March. Back row: Maggie Reeve, Aiden Baker, Steve Mudford, Garry Boucher, Paul Southwell, Ronny. Middle row: Dan McIntosh, Jesvin George, Phill Hotschilt, Glenn Aspden, Tony Stegmar, Quinn Myers, Misho Zrakic and Pina Garasi. Front row: Kurn Bridgeman, Cindy Lee, John Willis and Rob Langer. Photo by Ben Warden and banner artwork by Fiona Warden.

**Back Cover:** Meredith 1<sup>st</sup> April. Rob Langer, Bill Simpson, Gordon Heydon, Bill Kennedy, Cliff Peters, Misho Zrakic, Pina Garasi, Raman Biaroza and Alex Nadelyaev. Photo by Ben Warden.

Seen at the **Social Sip** on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March: Ben and Julie Warden, Ron and Julie Johnston, Paul Southwell, Ian Payne, Tony Stegmar, John Willis, Simon Wastney, Glenn Aspden and Rob Langer. *11 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 2012/13 count after **eight and a half** months sees the top ten positions as: **Ben Warden** (88), **Cliff Peters** (53), **Pina Garasi** (51.5), **Rob Langer** (49), **Ian Payne** (45), **Paul Southwell** (44), **Tony Stegmar** (42.5), **Misho Zrakic** (37), **Ron Johnston** (35) and **Simon Wastney** (32). Cliff slipped past Pina and into outright second place as we move into the last three months. All other positions remained the same except Ron dropped another place as his 6 month suspension starts to bite. Simon is still holding off Jesvin George and John Willis for the 10<sup>th</sup> spot by a point.

Email from Life Member **Peter Philferan** transcribed over the phone: "I received the Club Magazine and many thanks for sending the free copy of the 2011 DVD. Excellent work and congrats to all concerned. I'm well as can be but since Christmas I have been in and out of Box Hill Hospital with bowel problems. I have to go in for surgery on the 5<sup>th</sup> April. It will be a three hour operation and I will be in Hospital for about a week followed by respite care at the Tanderra Hostel, 141 Highfield Road Camberwell. I can be reached on **9836-1565**. The Tasmania trip looked like a bad time for the Club with Andrew and Tim seriously injured. I will be thinking of them in my prayers and plan to visit them this week as they are now close by. Regards, Peter Philferan."

In a later phone conversation, Peter noted that he had been on six Ulysses overnight events in the past year, the last being the AGM at Mildura where he was one of 4,000 attendees. He was riding his 250cc Yamaha scooter of course, accumulating another 4,000 km in a week of riding! Not bad for a bloke who turned 80 last August 21<sup>st</sup>. He noted that after his last big crash (Kawasaki GT750 into the side of a caravan turning right in front of him), his bike also caught fire. And all he wanted to do when out of intensive care was get back to riding! A true believer. Go Peter!