Who's News June 2013

The final **Club Membership count** is **102** after twelve months.

The **Club web site** at *www.melbsportsbike.net.au* accumulated **695** hits between May 31st and June 2nd. Total site visits are **83,281** since April 1996. The counters on the other pages after another month indicate that the 2013 Ride Calendar page took **560** hits (total **29,967** since 28th October 2008) and Great Roads **72** hits (total **6999**). Status quo is maintained with the Home page taking slightly more hits than the Calendar page.

For **June** the official kilometres (sum of ride lengths) for the month is **2039km** (up 603 km on last month), with 5 Sunday rides. The official Club kilometres for the month (people x ride length) is **21,410**, up **4392** km on last month. The figures are up on last month because the ride attendances improved with more sunny Sundays compared to last month's very wet riding conditions.

The average calendar **yearly kilometre total** is 346,862 since 2005. This year we are up to **235,339** after **6** months with **nine** minor crashes and **three** serious (broken bones) crashes. So far this year, our average Club kilometres between serious crashes is **78,446** km. Long term it is 106,727. Last month there was one very minor crash – second ride - a sign of winter where the riding numbers are down, the speeds are down, and there are fewer new riders on rides.

Front Cover: Photo taken at Korumburra Bakery on the Loch Kilcunda ride, Sunday 16th June. Back row: Ronny, Misho Zrakic, Pina Garasi, Rod Silver, Jesvin George, Glenn Aspden, Roman Biaroza, Cliff Peters, Mark Bell and Paul Robinson. Front row: Simon Wastney, Ian Payne, Paul Southwell and Rob McDowall. Photo by Ben Warden and banner artwork by Fiona Warden.

Back Cover: Photo taken at Strathewan at the end of the Pheasant Bakery ride, Sunday 9th June. Back row: Ian Payne, Paul Southwell, Gordon Heydon, Eddie Simonis, Phill Hotschilt, Brian MacGeraghty. Front row: Glenn Aspden, Rob Colbeck, Jesvin George and Simon Wastney: Photo by Ben Warden.

Seen at the **Social Sip** on Thursday 2^{nd} May: Ben and Julie Warden, Ron and Julie Johnston, John and Lou Tickner, Andrew and Bridgette Newbury, Rod Silver, Ian Payne, Glenn Aspden, Ken King, Simon Wastney, Paul Southwell and Mitar Marescuk. *15 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 final 2012/13 count after **twelve** months sees the top ten positions as: **Ben Warden** (116), **Pina Garasi** (67.5), **Cliff Peters** (66), **Ian Payne** (64.5), **Rob Langer** (61), **Paul Southwell** (57), **Misho Zrakic** (49), **Tony Stegmar** (47.5), **Simon Wastney** (43) and **Jesvin George** (40.5). Three changes in the last month: Ian overtook Rob as Rob travels the world highways and byways; Misho moved past the *disappeared* Tony, and Ron Johnston dropped out of the top 10 when Jesvin made up a point and moved half a point clear. It all starts again next Sunday!

Email (10th June) from **Billy Simpson** post Daylesford ride: Thanks Ben for leading today. It was fun. I'm glad Cliff and I came home via Morrison's! The roads have all been ungraded and are fantastic to ride on, plus we avoided a huge Highway ride from Tullamarine Airport to Geelong. I had to do an emergency toilet stop at Greendale pub. A very close call. And another when I got home. I almost didn't make it! I even hit the crapper with my helmet still on... (Too much info? Sorry.) Cliff and Donna thought it was hilarious. Why do people love to laugh at Billy's misfortunes? Even I can laugh at it now but it wasn't funny at the time, I'll give you the tip!

Email (13th June) from **Rob Langer**: All is going well here in Norway. Today I cross over the Arctic Circle so I will not see darkness for the next three weeks. Like Marc, I will also miss out on the next two Committee meetings. I was sorry to read about Pina's run-in with the Law and I look forward to reading about other happenings when the June mag is up on the web. I have posted some photos from Norway on my Facebook page.

Email (15th June) from **Phil Hotschilt** re Hyabusa clutch fix: I'm just writing this message for Hyabusa owners relating to an issue I had with my 2008 Hyabusa. A few weeks ago I noticed a loud noise coming from the clutch side of the motor, so I looked on the Hyabusa forum for any hints. A

guy with the same noise pulled the clutch engine case off and noticed the clutch spring bolts were loose and the outer side clutch cover was rubbing on the inside of the engine case. So I took the engine case off my bike to expose the clutch and saw the same thing. I purchased new set of heavy duty clutch springs and replaced the thrust bearing. I had the old clutch plates checked to see if they were still usable and they were so I put it all back together making sure all the torque settings were correct. The noise issue is gone and the clutch is fine. A cheap fix, thankfully.

Email (16th June) from **Mark Bell** after his first ride (Loch – Kilcunda): Just a quick note to say thanks for sending out all the info on MSR with upcoming rides etc. To be honest I was a bit nervous about the ride on Sunday as I'm not used to riding in large groups but was so impressed with the way you guys operate and the ride *at your own pace* attitude. I ride regularly through the Mornington Peninsula but it can get a bit boring so it was great to see some different roads with different challenges. Thanks again and look forward to the next ride.

Email (3rd July) from **Andrew Newbury** re status update after Tasmania crash in March: It's been a long ongoing journey and I'm expecting to return to work after five months in late July. Final (here's hoping!) operation to remove all of the metalwork from my right foot mid August. Sadly I've been advised that the fourteen screws and two plates will be staying in my shoulders for life:(. Then ongoing 9-12 months of physio and hydro to regain function in my toes, ankle and shoulders/back. Damn if it isn't a lengthy journey. Lorenzo's recent exploits at Assen have given me renewed courage and shows what focus, concentration and sheer willpower can do. I'll be riding again by November, onwards!

Email (3rd July) from **Tim Emons**: Hi Ben and dearest MSR crew. It is now two months since I was discharged from the Epworth, and I have settled back into the chaos of life at home. I don't know how I used to fit all those hours of work into my week in the past, because now I seem to be flat out just keeping up with my medical and rehab appointments! I've been back in for two more operations since the discharge - one on my right knee, to try to coax it to bend to a useful degree, and the other to clean out some floating bone fragments and scar tissue from inside my left foot.

I have been permitted to remove the big plastic boot, and weight bear is tolerated on both legs now. Two weeks back, I was issued with a pair of crutches, and I finally feel I've been freed back into the world! I still use the wheelchair around the house daily, as my legs aren't usually up to the task in the early mornings or late afternoons, and my physio has warned me to back off the pace and allow my redeveloping muscles some time to become accustomed to carrying weight again. I still have a long way to go before my right knee will bend far enough to reach a sportsbike footpeg, or left foot move enough to change gears, and I'm still munching down an absurd combination of medication in an attempt to keep the pain manageable, but it's all good progress!

I'm not likely to see you on a ride soon, but maybe at a Social Sip. Oh yeah, and I'm missing riding like you wouldn't believe – I can't wait for the mag each month! Best Regards, Tim Emons

MSR Membership Renewal 2013/14

Reminder: Membership fees are due by 1st July. Membership is from 1st July to 30th June.

- Full Membership fee is \$60 (hard copy magazine posted)
- Full Membership \$30 (on-line magazine only)
- Associate Membership \$30 (non-riders, on-line magazine only)

The money is used to help run the Club and pays for the printing of the magazine, stationery, postage, Club BBQs, PO Box, etc. The Club is a non-profit organisation and relies on your continued support for its existence.

Direct Deposit via the Internet into the Melbourne University Credit Union:

BSB: 803143 Account Number: 14304721

Account Name: Melbourne Sportsbike Riders

Please put YOUR name in the appropriate field so that the Club can identify who paid and forward the electronic receipt to the Treasurer.