

Club Membership increased by another one last month and now stands at **102** after eleven months of renewals. **Adrian MacGeraghty**, riding a Honda CBR600, signed up on the Mirboo North Escargo Café ride after quite a few rides. We wish him many happy and safe rides with the Club.

The **Club web site** at www.melbsportsbike.net.au accumulated **591** hits between May 1st and May 31st. Total site visits are **82,586** since April 1996. The counters on the other pages after another month indicate that the 2013 Ride Calendar page took **506** hits (total **29,407** since 28th October 2008) and Great Roads **82** hits (total **6927**). Status quo is maintained with the Home page taking slightly more hits than the Calendar page.

For **May** the official kilometres (sum of ride lengths) for the month is **1436km** (down 473 km on last month), with 5 Sunday rides. The official Club kilometres for the month (people x ride length) is **17,018**, down **11,915** km on last month. The figures are consistent with the ride attendances tapering off quite dramatically with a number of Sundays' predicted weather cold, wet and windy. Good for the farmers; not so good for our ride attendances.

The average calendar **yearly kilometer total** is 346,862 since 2005. This year we are up to **213,929** after **5** months with **eight** minor crashes and **three** serious (broken bones) crashes. So far this year, our average Club kilometres between serious crashes is **71,310** km. Long term it is 106,727. Last month there were no crashes, a first for many months, and a sign of impending winter where the riding numbers are down, the speeds are down, and there are fewer new riders on rides.

Front Cover: Photo taken at Lancefield on the Woodend ride, Sunday 5th May. Back row: Steve Mudford, Misho Zrakic, Pina Garasi, Mal Djuric (1st), Julie Johnston, Ian Payne, Gordon Heydon, Rob Langer, Phil Hotschilt. Front row: Paul Southwell, Ron Johnston, Ed Simonis, Rod Merrett, Stuart Hosking and Nick Stafford (1st). Photo by Ben Warden and banner artwork by Fiona Warden.

Back Cover: Photo taken at Tyers at the end of the Licola Ride, Sunday 19th May. Standing: Cindy Lee, Gordon Heydon, Pina Garasi, Misho Zrakic, Rob Langer and Steve Mudford. Kneeling: Glenn Aspden and Jesvin George. Sitting: Paul Southwell, Cliff Peters, Simon Wastney and Rob McDowall (1st ride). Photo by Ben Warden.

Seen at the **Social Sip** on Thursday 2nd May: Ben and Julie Warden, Ron and Julie Johnston, Ian Payne, Glenn Aspden, Dennis Lindemann, Ken King, Simon Wastney, Paul Southwell 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 **eleven** months sees the top ten positions as: **Ben Warden** (106), **Pina Garasi** (63.5), **Cliff Peters** (61), **Rob Langer** (61), **Ian Payne** (56.5), **Paul Southwell** (53), **Tony Stegmar** (47.5), **Misho Zrakic** (46), **Simon Wastney** (40) and **Ron Johnston** (38). Only change: Ron dropped another position. Jesvin is half a point outside the top ten with one month to go.

Email from **Andrew Newbury**, 5th May: I've left Epworth as an inpatient and am finally back at home in Prahran with my wife. This isn't the end of festivities though as I'll be taking part in physio for many weeks/months to come and a final operation around September. I've been so very impressed by the support I've been given by The Club. Countless visits and calls have helped enormously to lift my spirits and keep me focussed on riding again. Thank you!

Email from **Kurn Bridgeman**, 5th May: Wanted to make tonight but unfortunately due to injury am unable to make it! Just wanted to say thanks for a great riding season and I look forward to returning to the scene in November. I had a lot of fun, did a lot of kilometres and consumed a lot of tyres! Look out for me at Monza turn one. Look for the arm sling (black of course). There are going to be some interesting flights (4) and driving adventures around Italy with the one arm. But the fractured collarbone and cracked ribs (Motocross mishap) should hopefully heal before my first trip in a month. All the best and see you on the other side.

Feedback from first time rider, **Robert McDowall**, Mon 20th May after Licola ride: Just a quick note to say thanks to MSR and how I found the day. I planned to do only the beginning part of the Licola Ride as it is not recommended for first timers. I was really impressed with the other riders' skills in the wet. I watched the riders in front of me and noted their lines and speed going into the corners. It gave me a real indication of available grip. This also helped me understand wet riding. I was so impressed with the way the ride was organised along with the locations and with corner marking that I had to stay for the full day. Everyone was friendly and really helpful and I never felt under pressure to ride out of my comfort zone. I will definitely be back for more ! Thanks.

Email from **Scott Bowden** 30th May regarding the purchase of a Honda CBR1000 to replace his CBR929. I'm very excited to pick it up next week. 2011 HRC - same as yours. 2,400kms on it. It was dropped and the bar end nicked the frame so it was deemed a repairable write off. New bar-end, new fairing, VIV, and good as new. It looks like it just rolled off the factory floor. It was bone stock but I've added a couple of things to be fitted for when I pick it up. Yoshi can, K&N air filter, heated grips and a tail tidy. I was able to get all of that at cost. I'm pretty happy with the price. The repairable write off thing doesn't really bother me as I plan on keeping it for quite some time. I reckon I will get a hold of Steve Mudford when I'm ready to sort the suspension out. Thanks for the suggestion.

Re: 929 key snapped off in filler cap. Managed to get the key out but it definitely ruined my day. I've just put the bike up for sale. A bit sad to see it go but I know I won't miss it when I ride the new one. If you know anyone after a 929 then let me know. 60,000 kms - \$4,600.

AGM next meeting at the Tower Hotel in Hawthorn on **Thursday 4th July**. We need a quorum of 12 members, otherwise we have to do it again a week later. So please make the effort to attend. If you are unable to attend but wish to vote (should a motion be put, or a Committee position be contested, god forbid) then please complete the "Form of Appointment of Proxy", Appendix 2 of the Constitution on the MSR web page under Policy and Procedures. It is pretty simple, along the lines of "I hereby appoint *Joe Blogs* to vote on my behalf ..."