

Tasmania Trip – serious crashes. As some people may already know, there were a couple of very serious crashes on the recently completed Tasmanian trip.

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 where he is now recuperating. His left leg was broken near the ankle and there is also damage to his heel bone. His right knee will require reconstructive ligament surgery back in Melbourne, nominally scheduled for the 19th of March. Tim's wife Sue has visited him in hospital. Tim may be in a wheelchair for up to six weeks until he can bear weight on a leg. His biggest hassle is boredom (waiting for the swelling to go down before operating) closely followed by how to get across the water, which seems to be a financial gap in our medical bureaucracy. Good luck Tim. (p.s. Tim's bike was totally destroyed in the crash.)

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 to Hobart Hospital. Peter remained upright. Both of Andrew's collar bones have been plated (from the front) with more operations planned to fix other issues from the back. Andrew's wife Bridgette has visited him in hospital. (p.s. Andrew's bike dissolved in a spectacular fireball.)

Both Tim and Andrew suffered concussion and are battling the short term effects, though now the pain killing drugs are more of an issue. When not doped up they are quite lucid.

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** **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 good luck with the medical bureaucracy and a speedy and full recovery. We look forward to seeing them riding again.

On a far less serious note, there were another couple of minor incidents:

Mark Copeland was involved in a minor "off" (Day 2) at Corinna when a 4WD skidded through a T-junction and knocked Mark off his bike at low speed. Oggy knobs did a good job. Insurance will sort this out.

Secondly, **Rob Langer's** F700S stopped dead with electrical gremlins 16 km south of Deloraine. He spent the last few days driving a Nissan Maxima loan car while his BM is repaired, a slow process over the long Labour Day weekend. Rob is back in Melbourne waiting for the call.

Club Membership remains at a very healthy **99** after eight months of renewals.

The **Club web site** at www.melbsportsbike.net.au accumulated **695** hits between mid February and mid March, up 86 on last month. Total site visits are **81,002** since April 1996. The counters on the other pages after another month indicate that the 2012 Ride Calendar page took **649** hits (total **27,975** since 28th October 2008) and Great Roads **105** hits (total **6689**). Status quo is maintained with the Home page taking slightly more hits than the Calendar page.

For February (not half of March as well) the official kilometres (sum of ride lengths) for the month is **1404 km** (down 2606 km on last month which had the Jindabyne long weekend ride). Official Club kilometres for the month (people x ride length) is **23,381**, down 18,939 km on last month. February was a short month with only three rides, one of the very rare occasions this happens.

The average calendar **yearly total** is 346,862km since 2005. This year we are up to **65,701 km** after 2 months with 4 minor crashes and two major crashes.

Front Cover: Tasmania Day 7 near St Mary's. Back row: Pina Garasi, Misho Zrakic, Rob Langer, John Willis, Tony Stegmar, Dave Ward, Marc Marais, Stuart Hosking and Ian Payne. Front row: Cliff Peters, Bill Simpson, Paul Southwell, Peter Feistl, Peter (guest rider), Kurn Bridgeman and Rod Silver. Photo by Ben Warden. Fiona Warden banner artwork.

Back Cover: Tasmania Day 1 Leven Canyon lookout. Paul Southwell, Tim Emons, Rod Silver, Tony Stegmar, Mark Copeland, Pina Garasi, Stuart Hosking, Misho Zrakic, Marc Marais, John Willis, Andrew Newbury. Photo by Ben Warden.

Dargo 23/24 March. See the itinerary page and pay \$60 to confirm your bed. Due to the strong interest we have booked three houses: Central Dargo, River Cottage (next to the bush hospital) and the Miners Cottage. All roads are open (Omeo, Dargo, Licola).

Seen at the **General Meeting at the Tower Hotel** on Thursday 7th February: Ben and Julie Warden, Ron and Julie Johnston, Paul Southwell, Ian Payne, Tony Stegmar, John Willis, Tim Emons, Jesvin George, Ronny, Cliff Peters, Simon Wastney, Geoff and Val Jones, Ken King and Kurn Bridgeman. *17 people* A special note of thanks to our long distance members Geoff and Val Jones and Cliff Peters who made the long trip from home to ensure we had enough people to make a quorum for our special resolution. The following **Special Resolution** was passed at the meeting:

“**Twelve (12)** members personally present (being members entitled under these rules to vote at a General Meeting) constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a General Meeting. A minimum of four (4) members of the Committee must be included in the quorum.”

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** (80), **Pina Garasi** (46.5), **Cliff Peters** (46), **Rob Langer** (44), **Ian Payne** (42), **Paul Southwell** (40), **Tony Stegmar** (37), **Ron Johnston** (34), **Misho Zrakic** (33) and **Simon Wastney** (30). Plenty of movement this month with Pina and Cliff moving up a place as Rob slid down the rankings with all his overseas travel taking away valuable riding time. Ian slipped past Paul and Ron only dropped a single place despite not riding. Simon managed to shake off Jesvin and John Willis for the 10th spot.