

Who's News August 2013

The **Club Membership** count is **86** after two months with 38 hardcopy and 48 e-copy magazine. Welcome to new members **John Marshall**, **John McGuinness** and **Rob McDowall**. John Marshall rides a BMW K1200RS and regularly makes the trip down from Ballarat to join the rides. A fine effort considering he paid his membership fee after one ride and I wouldn't give him the passwords until he had completed the mandatory three rides! John McG rides a Ducati Multistrada 1200S and Rob rides a Yamaha R1. We wish our new members many fun and safe rides.

The **Club web site** at www.melbsportsbike.net.au accumulated **525** hits between July 29th and September 2nd. Total site visits are **84,696** since April 1996. The counters on the other pages after another month show the 2013 Ride Calendar page took **729** hits (total **31,126** since 28th October 2008) and Great Roads **95** hits (total **7144**). Home page numbers are up 365 – the weather for three of the five rides bright and sunny, summer coming fast!

For **August** the official kilometres (sum of ride lengths) for the month is **1521 km** (up 156 km on last month), with 4 Sunday rides. The official Club kilometres for the month (people x ride length) is **24,564**, up 8,035 km on last month (lowest since July 2006!) The last three rides have had very high attendances: 28, 26 and 24 people respectively. Look out summer!

The average calendar **yearly kilometre** total is 346,862 since 2005. This year we are up to **273,278** after **8** months with **thirteen** minor crashes and **three** serious (broken bones) crashes. So far this year, our average Club kilometres between serious crashes is **91,093** km. Long term it is 106,727. Last month there were two minor crashes: Aiden Baker (ZX10) near Kinglake on the Eildon Ride, and Rob Langer hit a cow on the Licola Ride. Both riders okay. See articles for more information.

Front Cover: Photo taken at Broadford on the Euroa ride, Sunday 25th August. Back row: John Hoare, Willem Vandeveld, Dean Murray, Cliff Peters, Peter Jones, Geoff Dick, Richard Paulsen, Zane Dawood, Rod Merrett, Aiden Baker, Scott Bowden, Tom Murchison, Quinn Myers and Stuart Hosking. Front row: Rob Langer, Paul Southwell, Geoff Jones, Simon Wastney, Marc Marais, Paul Gilmartin, Pina Garasi, Toby Jaworski, and Sean Brown. I took a stab at putting names to faces but with five first time riders and one second time rider, it was beyond me. But with a little help at the Social Sip I was able to deduce the last one. Photo by Ben Warden and banner artwork by Fiona Warden.

Back Cover: Photo taken near Archies Creek, Sunday 1st September, Poowong ride. Back row: John McGuinness, Stuart Hosking, Ian Payne, Rob Langer, Geoff Shugg, Cliff Peters, Mark Copeland, Adrian MacGeraghty, Michael Srb, Roman Biarozza, Rob Kolbeck, John Marshall and Michael Henriksen. Front row: Scott Bowden, Misho Zrakic, Pina Garasi, Glenn Aspden, Steve Mudford, Cindy Lee and Tim Walker. Photo by Ben Warden.

Sadly, my trusty Canon IXUS 80 (8 MP) didn't survive the severe wet weather conditions on the Apollo Bay ride back on the 28th August, despite being in its "waterproof" bag inside my "waterproof" black GearSack bag. It had taken 10,000 pictures, mainly of Club rides, so I had had a fair run with it, and can't complain too much. Even my maps inside a plastic bag went mouldy, a very sad outcome as these maps are no longer in print thanks to Google Maps and the like. *Survivors* will remember this ride for a long time, especially as we keep reminding ourselves just how wet and windy it was – all day! And when it wasn't raining, there was dense fog! Despite attempts to dry the camera out – it still functions but the screen is dead – the cause is lost. On the plus side I now have the latest equivalent Canon G1X (14MP). Sensational pictures, quantum leap in technology, and \$200 cheaper! Front & rear covers first pictures.

Seen at the **Social Sip** on Thursday 1st August: Ben and Julie Warden, Ron Johnston, John Willis and Lou Tickner, Andrew and Bridgette Newbury, Rod Silver, Ian Payne, Glenn Aspden, Ken King, Simon Wastney, Paul Southwell, Tim Emons, Marc Marais, Rob Langer and Stoimen Stojanov. I had to print another 20 magazines! *17 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.

After **two** months the usual suspects are at the front: **Ben Warden** (15), **Cliff Peters** (13), **Ian Payne** (12), **Robert Langer** (10), **Simon Wastney** (9), **Pina Garasi** (9), **Paul Southwell** (8), **Misho Zrakic** (7), **Marc Marais** (6), **Stuart Hosking** (6) and **Jesvin George** (6).

Email from **Jesvin George** 3/9/2013: After quite a while I caught up with [Life Member] **Peter Philferan** over the phone and he wants me to pass this info to you. I might visit him in the coming weeks. Peter has been on and off in Boxhill Hospital since April. He has twisted bowel and related health issues including surgery for one hernia and another operation in October/December for the second. He is forced to travel on public transport, no motorcycle riding allowed. Peter will be attending the Ulysses Rally later this month by V-Line (train) since it is close to Albury. His scooter carburettor is getting replaced and he has been advised not to put RON 95 or 98 which will 'harm' the carburettor! The mechanic will deliver the scooter to his home.