



LOGAN CITY ULYSSES BRANCH

JUNE 2009

NEWSLETTER

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IN BETWEEN THE LINES



I was not sure what I should write about for this edition of the newsletter. Sometimes the words seem to flow onto the paper and other times the head just remains cluttered and the words are just a jumble going around and around with no destination.

It was not until I went to the ride for the vision impaired that the pen to paper was able to begin. As in the write up for that day it was a perfect autumn day with the clear skies and a cooling breeze wafting under the covered areas.

One of the participants for the day was Stephanie Dunn. She was in her late 20's and her husband would not have been much older his name was Steve. I first met Stephanie when she was checking out which bike of preference she wanting to ride on. It was Ian's bike which caught her attention. After sitting on the bike for a photo she wandered off to get sorted for the car driving. Stephanie could only see approximately an arm length in front of her and only at three degrees. She had been vision impaired for some time so overcoming this obstacle was still a challenge but not so daunting now.

During the morning I decided to be a passenger in one of the driving school cars to see what the track was like for the bike for later on in the afternoon.

To my surprise Stephanie was the driver so we met again. The car was a Suzuki Swift manual 5 speed which was her preference as she wanted to drive the car. Not just plod along in an automatic as that was not challenging enough for her. She was so excited about the drive and she rang her mother about what she was attempting to do and her mother was not impressed at all.

David the instructor was new to this as well so I thought we are going to have interesting drive.

Soon we were out on the track we manoeuvred around the first corner and I realised my back brake was not working at all. It hit me like a ton of bricks Stephanie was blind, David had not experienced this situation before and I was in the back seat completely helpless.

David's instructions were short and simple left, right, more left more right low down and accelerate. We fish tailed a couple of times which was interesting. Stephanie just laughed with delight wanting more speed and excitement. We saw Steve running from one side of the pit to the other to take as many pictures as he could of her driving. We told Stephanie when to wave which made it more special for them.

It occurred to me the total trust which she displayed was amazing. To know that David was in control to a certain degree but he very rarely used his controls. So this brought to my attention to the trust which was displayed between the two.

Stephanie was just so stoked when she eventually got out of the car. Steve was there and hung on every word she said, about her experience and he could not have been happier for her.

Trust is such an important area for these people young and old. Without the support of family and friends their lives would be not be fulfilling as they were on Sunday.

I learnt a valuable lesson on Sunday about trust

Also our independence can be taken away from us at a blink of an eye.

I will be looking at my life through eyes wide open and not with blinkers on.

Also appreciate the colours which I see.

Vibes

PRESIDENTS REPORT



This month was a bit of a quieter month for yours truly due to some work commitments but we did manage to get out and about on the days where the weather permitted us to.

We had members attend the Honda 4 Rally which was a terrific turn out and a new record has been set I am not to sure of the exact figures but there was over 2000 bikes on the ride which smashed the old record of 896 so for those that attended from Logan well done.

We also assisted Brisbane Branch with the Blind Society ride where we got to watch people with a vision impairment drive a car around a race track. I tell you they have a lot more guts and determination than most of us put together, the fastest they got around Lakeside was 137Klm/h which doesn't sound like much but you have to remember they cant see.

After that we took them for a ride on the bikes and the thanks that we received just didn't stop you could see it in there faces and smiles it made the whole day worth while. I received so many comments about our presence and what we did for them (all be it in our eyes was just a small part) made their day.

Ian has a letter of thanks from the Blind Society that he will read out at the meeting it is a very moving letter. We took people of all ages on rides from children to a 72 yr old which I took and to hear his story how he lost his sight was very moving. You get to realize that these people are just like you and me but some of the things that they can do put us to shame.

The people that I took on a ride were not all born blind from birth some lost there sight from accidents and some from medical conditions but there heart made up for it they all have learnt that you have to move on in life, I know that I was very moved over the day by the sheer bravery and courage of these people.

I am also happy to say that a member from Logan was used to do some promotional work with the Blind Society and as soon as I get the pictures I will post them on the web site.

At the end of the day we were allowed on the race track to do a few laps with a maximum speed of 100klm (lucky there were no speed cameras) there is a short video in the web site of a couple of laps around Lakeside.

The ride calendar for the next 6 months has been prepared for everyone to look at and debate it if you like. Thanks to all those who attended.

Gadget

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O'REILLY'S RIDE



one way stretches. A couple of cattle grids thrown in along the way one in particular was just before a sharp bend so lining up the bikes was a tricky maneuver in not getting caught in the grid.



heading the same way. So we decided to meet at the top for lunch. We stopped at a lookout which was impressive as you can see by the photos. We had good bun break before we ventured on for the last 10 kms to O'Reilly's.

We all arrived in one piece for lunch. We went on the suspended bridge which gave you a bird's eye view of the forest. Gadget and Rowdy climbed up the tree which was halfway along the bridge. Brian and I looked on as they climbed to the top. As usual the boys were boys making the bridge bounce and swing making it a rather unnerving experience. The trip down the range was better than going up. I think once you know what to expect it is not so daunting. It was decided we would check out the



historic tunnel just south of Canungra as we have passed it so many times and never checked it out.

Please see photos.

Vibes

On the 3rd may we had a ride to O'Reilly's. Gadget was the ride leader and was followed by three musketeers, who were not intimidated by the mountainous scenic views which we only caught glimpses of as concentration was the name of the game not sight seeing on this ride. This particular ride consisted of hair pin corners, narrow



There were more corners more than I wish to remember. As well as pot holes which were strategically placed to keep you on your guard. To make it more interesting a few cars thrown in as well. Our first stop was at Canungra for a wee stop before heading up the range. We caught up with Gringo who was with a group of friends who were



LOGAN CITY ULYSSES HONDA FOUR RALLY



The day started out as a typical Autumn morning. We had five bikes roll up for the Honda Four Rally. Vibes was the ride leader who led us the back way through Middle Road. I was doing ok until doubt set in that I had gone past the turn which I was looking out for. So after stopping and conversing with Diesel that we were still on the right track I decided Diesel to take over as ride leader until we arrived at the highway via a detour because of the road works.

We picked up Sak and Big daddy at the truck stop on the Warrigo Highway. Now we had seven bikes. Just as we were starting to get into the 100 kms mode the traffic came to stop with road works traffic being merged into one lane. Buggar.

So we eventually arrived at Laidley at 10.15 am all in one piece. Bernie discovered he had an oil leak which was a concern. But after investigation it may have been from an over fill of oil fingers crossed there.



There were a huge amount of bikes already parked around the community centre.

After we registered and received the badge and pin we wandered around to see if there were any familiar faces in the crowd. Bobcat found the food stall so he was happy.



The ride starting at 10.50 and we rode along the back roads to Gatton show grounds. From the news that night there were over 2,000 bikes which was excellent. Once there we wandered around to try and spend our money but managed to keep it in our pockets as items which we were planning to buy was not on offer on the day. We met up with Greg, Gringo and Smiles.

Though Sak did give it his best shot to buy panniers but were too big for the bike. Diesel had money for a trailer but the one he wanted was already sold Vibes was after a comfy seat which were not on sale. So between us we saved our selves a lot of money on the day.

After checking everything out and had lunch we left for Brisbane about 1.30pm.



Thanks to Gadget, Diesel and Sak, Bobcat and Big Daddy, Bernie and Vibes, Greg, Gringo and Smiles for supporting Brave Heart and Young Care.
Vibes

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO SAK THIS
MONTH



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BLIND SOCIETY SUPPORT DAY

There was an excellent turn out for this special day to help the vision impaired with 8 bikes turning up for the day. Laura and John dropped in to see us before we left but they were heading south for the day.

We left on time and arrived at Lake Side to find an array of bikes, old vintage cars and driving school cars to support the vision impaired on this day.

The organizers were very professional in the handling of the event and every thing went very smoothly. For those who did not go there were 20 driving school cars with dual controls and the blind could participate in driving the cars with an instructor. They were allowed to drive on the track for 15 minutes. As far as I know there were no stack ups and it was amazing to see how fast some of the cars were going down the straight.

Once that was done rides on the bikes were offered for those who wanted to have a ride. The bikes were very popular for the young and the old alike. It was great to see their faces beaming with excitement and anticipation. For some the rides were too short but that did not stop them coming back for seconds.

The vintage cars were very popular as well. It was great to see these machines airing out the cobwebs down the straight.

We were fed and watered on the day by the Lions Club and they did an excellent job on the day.

Thanks to all who attended. I did attempt to get a group photo as it was hard to get every one together in one place at the same time. After a couple of hours the opportunity did arrive but I was asked to take the photo later. But the opportunity did not happen again on the day. So I was disappointed as it is always good to get the group photos on these special days.

Some of our group went home early about 1.30pm. Others stayed behind to the end of a great day.

Vibes

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“Stay Alive Defensive Motorcycle Training Academy”

We'll Get You Riding Safely to "Stay Alive".

We offer all our students personalised service with care and attention to the finer details of learning to ride a motorcycle. Our team of experts are on call to keep you safe and secure. We're a family-owned business, with old-fashioned honesty and integrity values.

We have an onsite motorcycle mechanic to ensure all bikes used are completely safe and comfortable for the learner riders needs.

Q Ride Accredited Trainers

Call us for:

- Specialised teaching for new riders.
- Specialised one on one training for new riders.
- Specialised defensive training, for riders with motorcycle licences.
- Mobile school training, we come to you.
- Fleet Training
- Tests and Licences
- All motorcycle mechanical services and repairs.
- Mobile service and repairs.

About Us

Our company is based on the belief that our customers' needs are of the utmost importance. Our entire team is committed to meeting those needs. As a result, a high percentage of our business is from repeat customers and referrals.

We believe if more motorcycle riders had defensive training there would be less accidents.

We would welcome the opportunity to earn your trust and deliver you the best training service in the industry. Visit our website www.stayalivemotorcycletraining.com

Location: Jimboomba, Qld 4280

Contact: Ian Singleton 0412 509864 (Principle Trainer)

Hours:

By appointment.

Variable hrs negotiated to suit student needs.

Mon - Fri: 8am to 5pm

Sat: Variable

Sun: Closed

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Extract from Presidents Report ,Riding ON, May 09 re Motorcycle Gangs

Concern has been raised from some branches and individual members regarding the proposed new “ association laws” which are a direct reaction to a spate of recent outlaw motorcycle club violence and incidents

The basis of the proposed laws is as follows

The Police Commissioner applies to the supreme court to have a group “declared”, producing evidence of alleged criminal behaviour

Advertisements of application

Judge hears submission

Judge declares the organisation for three years if satisfied “on balance of probabilities” members associate for “serious criminal activity” and the organisation poses a risk to public safety and order

Advertisement of declaration

The police commissioner applies to the supreme court to place members of declared organisations under control orders

Orders must be served on the person to take effect

Control orders ban person from working in certain industries

Orders make it a crime to associate with other controlled person’s, except with close family, or during business, training, counselling or in prison.

The Ulysses club, with its vastly contrasting motorcycle constitution, aims lifestyle and outlook will not come under such political and police attention.

However branches and members are advised to refer any media enquiries regarding the current situation to the National Committee

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GOOD JOKE PAGE



One day an Irishman, who had been stranded on a desert island for over 10 years, saw a speck on the horizon. He thought to himself, "It's not a ship." As the speck got closer and closer, he began to rule out even the possibilities of a small boat or a raft. Suddenly there strode from the surf a figure clad in a black wet suit. Putting aside the scuba tanks and mask and zip-ping down the top of the wet suit stood a drop dead gorgeous blonde!

She walked up to the stunned Irishman and said to him, "tell me, how long has it been since you're had a good cigar?"

"Ten years," replied the amazed Irishman.

With that she reached over and unzipped a waterproof pocket on the left sleeve of her wet suit and pulled out a fresh package of cigars and a lighter. He took a cigar, slowly lit it and took a long drag. The castaway said, "that is so good! I'd almost forgotten how great a smoke can be!"

"And how long has it been since you've had a drop of good Bushmill's Irish Whisky?" asked the blonde.

Trembling, the castaway replied. "ten years."

Hearing that, the blonde reached over to her right sleeve, unzipped a pocket there and removed a flask and handed it to him.

He opened the flask and took a long drink. "Tis nectar of the gods!. Shouted the Irishman..,"Tis truly fantastic!!!"

At this point the gorgeous blonde started to slowly unzip the long front zip of her wet suit, right down the middle. She looked at the trembling man and asked, "And how long has it been since you played around?"

With tears in his eyes, the Irishman fell to his knees and sobbed, Jesus, Mary and Joseph! Don't tell me that you've got golf clubs in there too!"



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Ride Etiquette

Ride Leaders

1. Before leaving, advise riders of the destination and where designated stops are to be.
2. Be aware that you are leading a convoy of many bikes and stay in one lane as much as possible.
3. Minimise lane changes
4. When at rest stops, give 10 minutes notice of leaving to riders.

Riders

1. Keep at least 2 bikes in view of your mirrors
2. Notify tail end Charlie if you are leaving the ride
3. NO overtaking on corners/ bends
4. Bikes to be fully fuelled before start of ride
5. Remember – Always ride safety and within the law

Ride Leaders are advised to restrict their pre-ride instructions to the job specification

i.e. timings, directions, distance, coffee or lunch stops etc. Any further advice would be outside the limit of a ride leader's authority and should not include advising members on how they should ride their bikes.

There is a statutory requirement that each rider be licensed to operate a motorcycle

and do so in accordance with the rules of the road and in a safe manner. This would imply that a rider must rely on his/her own abilities and senses, under all conditions and not rely on the comments and judgement of others, such as a ride leader.

RIDE CALANDER



JUNE

6th Odyssey Rally
7th Kin Kin Pub
12th/14th Midway Rally
13th Round the World Dinner
21st June Ride for Daniel

JULY

5th Clarrie Hall Dam
10/12th Cooloo Rally
17/19th Christmas In July
18th Merlo Coffee Blood Run
19th Laverda Concourse

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