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**FOR THE RIDE**



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National Committee members**

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**ULYSIAN SUBMISSIONS**

SPRING EDITION | AUGUST 2025

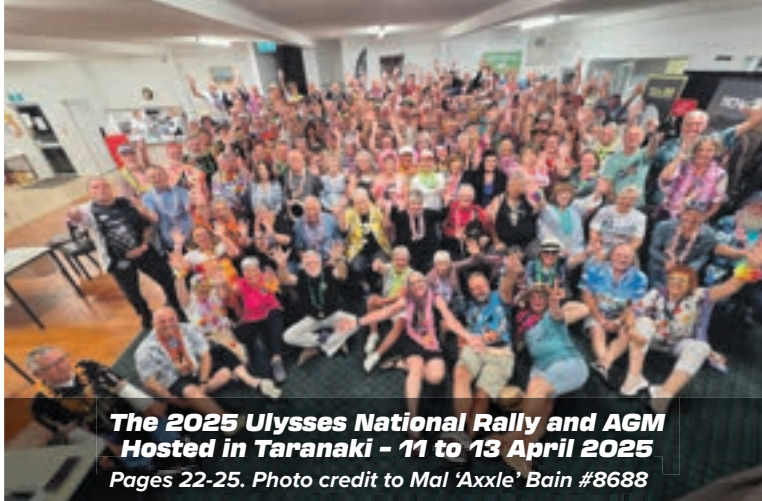
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and sent as an attachment. Advertising  
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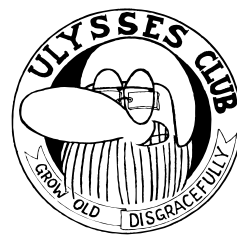
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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**ANDY WILSON #7169**  
National President



**What an AGM that was! Excellent venue, organisation, food, entertainment — and the cream on the cake was that the Bike Raffle winner was at the AGM; that really made the weekend. Massive thanks to Taranaki for hosting us all so well and dishing out the cream donuts and giving us no time to eat them!**

The new National Committee has been elected and had our first Zoom meeting. The changes are: Debbie MacFarlane is now secretary; Chris Groupe is treasurer. Suzi and Vicki are on the committee to work mainly on the club events and future plans (what have they got instore for us all). The main aim of the Strategic Plan is to get a bigger public profile and grow the membership numbers, from all demographics. Tony is taking on communications/Facebook and website. Karen is quartermaster and a new Idea of co-ordinator support person to increase the contact between Natcom and the branches. So expect a phone call from her soon. Craig is continuing with the constitution

until it is registered, and I get to fill the gaps as well as organize the next Bike Raffle which starts again in August.

On Saturday 3rd May, we had the pleasure of handing over a new bike to Mark Lundt, the lucky winner of the raffle. Mark chose an Aprillia Toureg 660. This was held at Colton's Motorcycles in Hawera. The support for Mark was amazing, with most of the Taranaki branch at the dealership to see his new ride and escorting him around the local area to try it out. I must also mention Europe Imports, the distributor in New Zealand for Aprillia, for looking after us so well, and also Phil and his partner in crime from Colton's Hawera, for getting the bike prepared in time for us. A huge thanks to both parties from Ulysses Club of New Zealand Inc.

Our new sponsors are fully aboard now and we are going through ways we can help each other. The main thing we have to remember is sponsorship is a two-way deal and we need to support each other. Sometimes companies aren't the cheapest, but they have a

better product that offers better value or more cover. So, a big welcome to AA Insurance.

The next AGM to look forward to is being held by the Nelson branch. We have already booked our accommodation. So, let's see if we can get a huge attendance, as I am sure Lorraine and Co will have a heap of fun and a few surprises in store for us.

Nelson branch is also the hometown for our latest Life Member, awarded in New Plymouth, to # 1117 Lorraine Lindsay. This is very well deserved, after many years' service at both branch and national level. Thanks so much for all you have done over the years, Lorraine.

Let's enjoy what's left of the riding weather and each other's company. Also to grow what is the best and most inclusive social motorcycle club in the country.

SEE YOU ON THE ROAD SOMEWHERE  
**ANDREW WILSON #7169**  
National President

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# VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

CRAIG MOODIE #8602



The AGM is now behind us and we have a great team working for you at Natcom for the year ahead. The new constitution has been approved. We are currently working on our submission to get reregistered under the new Societies Act. This may sound a bit boring, but it is an essential thing that we need to do in order to continue to operate.

## Rider Safety Fund

The Rider Safety Fund is subsidizing the new vests to make them more affordable for our membership. It is also contributing towards rider training and Rider Down First Aid courses.

For those who are thinking of running a Rider Down type first aid course,

please keep me informed as to how the finances are going, as we can look at contributing in some form if necessary.

As far as the rider training is concerned, the fund will contribute up to \$50 towards your course. This is done as a reimbursement of course fees and it is paid into your branch account and then they can pay it to you. If you are seeking a reimbursement, please contact your branch co-ordinator with your receipt and your course certificate. I must point that this is not a payout for doing a free course. The fund is for reimbursing fees actually paid. I should not need to say this but unfortunately it happens all too often.

If you have a safety initiative please get in touch and we will see what can be done to assist.

## Lunch at our place

Every year Raewyn and I host a lunch on a Saturday and this is open to Ulyssians.

This year it is on the 28th of June at our place at Kumeu, just north of Auckland. If you would like to attend please contact me for the details and RSVP.

*Let's hope the weather over the next few months allows you get out on the bike.*

*Ride safe,*

CRAIG MOODIE #8602

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# NATIONAL SECRETARY'S REPORT



## Hello fellow Ulyssians

**It is with pleasure that I present my first report for the *Ulyssian* as the national secretary.**

I look forward to the year ahead.

I would like to start by thanking Susie for all her hard work as the national secretary and I look forward to working with her and everyone else on the National Committee for another term.

So please be gentle with me and be patient when emailing me, I will endeavour to answer/pass over your email to someone who can answer as soon as possible.

A brief introduction of myself reads; I joined Ulysses Canterbury early 2017 along with my husband, Dean. In 2021 I joined the Canterbury committee as their secretary. It was a role that I have enjoyed for the last four years. Canterbury has an amazing committee and I am sad to step down from my role there but I'm looking forward to my new challenge.

On a personal note, I have just passed the test to get my full motorcycle license – yay. I ride a Honda Rebel 500, it's red – and I like red as red goes fast!

Ok, on to business.

To those of you who couldn't make it to the 2025 National Rally & AGM run by the Taranaki branch. It was held at the Poritutu Bowling Club, what a fantastic venue. Taranaki had everything running like clockwork. They had a great group of members who all worked together famously. WELL DONE TARANAKI.

What follows is a quick rundown of the National AGM held on the Saturday during the rally.

Two remits were up for vote at the AGM, one being the adoption of the new constitution, as you know this had to be successful, otherwise it was going to create a huge headache for the committee, and if the remit did not pass we ran the risk of the club being

non-existent. The second one was increasing the number of members on the National Committee from seven to eight. It was great to see that both the remits were passed at the AGM.

### Remit 1:

The request seeking to replace the existing Club Rules in their entirety and adopt a Constitution in accordance with the provisions of the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.

**Yes Votes - 182**

**No Votes - 0**

**Total Votes - 182**

**100% Remit successful**

### Remit 2:

The request seeking to increase the membership of the National Committee from Seven (7) members to Eight (8) members.

**Yes Votes - 175**

**No Votes - 8**

**Total Votes - 183**

**95% Remit successful**

There was one presentation for Life Member, that went to Lorraine Lindsay #1117. Lorraine is a worthy recipient of the Life Member award with years of hard work which showed her passion for Ulysses. Congratulations Lorraine.

**Your National Committee was elected.**

**National President:**

**Andy Wilson  
#7169**

**National Vice**

**President:  
Craig Moodie  
#8602**

**National Treasurer:**

**Chris Groube  
#7925**

**National Secretary:**

**Debbie Macfarlane  
#9634**

**National Committee Members:**

**Karen Wilson #7787,**

**Vicki Noda #9990,**

**Suzie Pentalow #8532**

**and Tony Hickmott #10416**

The 2026 National Rally is to be held in Nelson over the weekend of the 27-29th March 2026. The venue is The Headingly Centre. Registration forms have been finalised and emailed to all the branch office holders as well as being in the latest newsletter from Nelson. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Thank you to the branches who have so far sent me their 2026 Branch AGM details. I know I thought it was crazy thinking so far ahead when I was the Canterbury branch secretary but I am sure that as national secretary it will be really important to have all that information on file. I need these ASAP to put info into future *Ulyssian* magazines. Branch secretaries, please remember to email your 2025 AGM minutes and treasurer's reports to me and Debby once you have held your 2025 AGM. Thanks!

I hope you all have a good winter and may the weather be in our favour for our club rides. Stay shiny side up.

**DEBBIE MACFARLANE #9634**

*National Secretary*



# NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT

**CHRISTOPHER WAYNE  
GROUBE (CHRIS) #7925**  
National Treasurer

**As your new National Treasurer, I thought I'd introduce myself by taking you on a ride through my journey—one that's been shaped by motorcycles, career shifts, and life's unexpected detours.**

Christopher Wayne Groube (Chris) #7925. Born 23 July 1954 in Pahiatua hospital, Wairarapa. My only claim to fame is this was the same hospital our statesman Sir Keith Holyoake, former Prime Minister, was born in, 11 Feb 1904.

My father was a railway surface man and mother a teacher. We lived in a small railway settlement at Konini.



The railway lines were no more than 25 metres from our front fence. This was the era heralding the end of steam trains and beginning of diesel trains in NZ. When I started primary school, I caught the railcar from Konini to Mangamaire school, 3km, then home again. If I was late getting to the railway station after school and the driver saw me running up the road to the station, he would stop and wait. I got to ride in the cab quite often. I also got to walk home occasionally. Those were the days. My father carried out track inspections on Saturday mornings, so I often went with him on

the jigger - see pic below left. These were motorised ones. Not the manual push/pull ones of the earlier years.

We moved to Blenheim when I was 13, to be closer to my mother's family who lived in Nelson. I attended Marlborough Boys' College. Was in the school shooting team, school cadet programme and played rugby. Was average academically. Report cards often had the standard comment, could do better. Detentions and canings/strap were part of my education. First bike, Suzuki 50. I sat University Entrance but by that stage had decided I was getting a job so

I could earn some money. I started working in administration, Lands and Survey Department January 1972. I got 202 for UE which was a pass back then as you only needed an average of 50 over 4 subjects. We had a lot of fun in those early working years. No responsibilities, regular pay, heavy social programmes, sport and I was into tramping.

Second bike, Suzuki Wolf 90cc twin cylinder two stroke. All my friends had bought Honda 100's, single cylinder 4 strokes, so I decided to be different. Even though I was giving away 10cc I thought two cylinders and a two stroke would be better than the Honda 100's. Wrong. The Wolf was gutless in comparison.

A couple of years on, I had joined the NZ Army Territorials, and we all graduated to bigger bikes. Third bike, Honda CB350. I have a vivid memory of being released for a weekend from our basic training in Burnham

and riding the bikes up to Blenheim that Friday evening in the middle of winter. Helmets at that stage only had the Perspex visors and the gear was nothing like we take for granted now. We had to have frequent stops to thaw out our extremities. That was painful.

After seven years in the department, many of my friends were coming out of university with qualifications, lawyers, engineers, accountants. I had lost my mother to cancer in 1975 when I was 20. I couldn't see much of a future following the path I was on, so decided to go to Lincoln University to do an agricultural degree and come back into the department as a field officer. The Blenheim office used to help manage the Molesworth and Glazebrook stations as well as parks and reserves, which were part of the Crown Estate. That seemed much more interesting work. In hindsight, had I stayed in the administration section of the department, I would have remained an unqualified administrator and probably re-structured out of a job. I left the CB350 in Blenheim with my brother as I had put so many miles on it, it was getting tired.

I married Janice in 1981. In 1983 when I graduated with a B Com (Ag), the Lands and Survey Department was no longer. The economy wasn't doing well and as farm management consultants were a discretionary spend for farmers, I carried on at Canterbury University to do a B Com in accounting. With cross credits from Lincoln, I could complete the B Com in two full time years with two subjects left to complete. I could do this while working. In my first year at Canterbury I purchased, with my 1st bursary cheque, my fourth bike, a Honda 50 step-through. A classic commuter.

Before deciding I would carry on at Canterbury, Janice and I had a decision to make. We were keen to travel and had put a deposit on an overseas Contiki tour. I also had a NZ Post Home Ownership account maturing and we could use that and the Government Grant to go toward a house. We chose the house option

and built in Linwood, Christchurch. Over time, I put down all the lawns, decking, paving and landscaping. Our firstborn, Nic, arrived in May 1986. If we had chosen the Contiki option, our lives would have taken a very different path.

After my two full time years at Canterbury, I started working for Peter Alexander, a specialist Farm Accountant in Christchurch. Fifth bike, Hona NH80 Lead. I went over to the university a couple of times a week for lectures and tutorials. The day before my final exam, Janice's 14-year-old dog Kirsty died after taking herself away by crawling under our deck. We were both so upset. I wasn't in any frame of mind to sit an exam so didn't go which meant I had to do it all again the next year. At the end of that next year, I was so over it I found it hard to study. I remember vividly the deflation when going over to the university to check the results. Fail. Another year, do it all again. I couldn't give up with only one paper left, out of all I had already sat. I graduated B Com in Accounting 1988.

Our second son, Josh, was born October 1989. Janice and I were still keen to travel, so sold up and moved to Melbourne. Janice's family had all moved over and were living in Sydney, Newcastle and in between.

We left just after Nic's birthday in May 1990. No bike during this period. New job, city and young children. I worked in a Chartered Accounting firm in Public Practice and gained good experience outside of the farm accounting environment. We came back to Christchurch in January 1997 so the boys could start their secondary schooling in NZ

In 1997 I obtained a contract to oversee the transition of Queen Mary Hospital, Hanmer Springs, from Health Link South, the public health entity running the operation at that time, to a new private company which had been set up to take over the alcohol and drug treatment facility. This turned into a full-time job, eventually as financial controller, for the next seven years until the Government pulled the pin on all its contracts in 2003. The income stream from private paying clients hadn't built to a level sufficient to cover operating costs at that point so the company had to be placed into liquidation.

I went back into public practice working for a chartered accountant in Rangiora. 2007 sixth bike, Suzuki GS500F. We were still living in Christchurch as the boys were going to local schools, so the Suzuki became my commute to Rangiora. I joined Ulysses 15/11/2009 and was

a regular on the Sunday rides and got into the rally scene. Appointed treasurer of the Canterbury branch at the 31/1/2010 AGM. Presented my first Annual Accounts at the 31/1/2011 AGM and my last at the 31/1/2025 AGM, having been nominated for the National Committee treasurer role. Seventh bike, January 2012, purchased a 2004 Ducati ST4s with 24k on it. Red. ABS, side panniers, heated grips, aftermarket pipes, Marchesini wheels, braided break and clutch lines, Ohlins suspension. 220kg wet and 117 hp. 21 litre tank. Averages 20km per litre on my work commute or 23km per litre touring so theoretically has a 480km range but I've never put it to the test. Love this bike and haven't found any reason to change it - see photo below left.

In August 2012, after the earthquakes, I moved to a job in Christchurch and closer to where we were living. That is my current employer, Timaru-based but now with Accounting, Audit and Body Corporate staff in Christchurch. We built in Rolleston and moved in February 2017. I have been doing all the landscaping, decking, irrigation, lawns, etc, as I enjoy this type of project work. Keeps me active and fit. But this has meant I haven't been very involved in the social, riding and

rally scene over these last few years. This will change soon, hopefully. My 21km commute to work is along the new 110k section of Southern Motorway, which is great, until you get into the congestion getting off the motorway and through the city. It's a 20-to-30 minute commute and I ride all year round, unless, in the winter, it has rained then frozen overnight. It's one of the great aspects of my work/life balance that I can get to ride my bike every day, during the week at least.

In March 2024 I was honoured and privileged to be awarded the Odyssey Medal.

I look forward to my new role. US presidents work into their 80's so I reckon I have a few more years left in me. God willing. Motorcycles and Ulysses have been an important part of my life, and I love the DUC, so, as long as I can get my leg over, I plan on carrying on.

**CHRISTOPHER WAYNE GROUBE (CHRIS) #7925**  
*National Treasurer*



# ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

**I know I promised in the March *Ulyssian* that it was my last report, and yet here I am again! Seriously though, folks, I couldn't leave without some final words.**

I still get goosebumps and a few tears as I remember my weekend in New Plymouth at the National Rally; stunning weather, beautiful food and such friendly hosts. I was incredibly humbled by the amazing gifts, cards and to cap it off, receiving a standing ovation was a major highlight in my life.

Now before I sign off and hand over to Gemma for her few words of introduction, I would like to thank a few people who have been a tremendous support to me during my time in the club.

To name a few people who had a huge impact on what I did:

Howard Mansell for the hundreds of hours spent creating a national database, that later became a stock control inventory, just wow!

The late David Coy and Stuart Burns who challenged my accounting skills and improved them dramatically over time. Mike Dew, Tim Stuart, Andy Wilson, thank you for your huge support, I am so grateful to you for all your encouragement over the years.

The national committees I have worked with, honestly, I am blown away at your incredible commitment and dedication to making this the best club in NZ.

Coordinators, secretaries and especially members - THANK YOU, I will miss you all, it has been a pleasure to work with you.

Many may know by now that my successor has finally been revealed. Gemma Peyerl, member # 9484 from Taranaki branch, will take over my role as national administrator from the 1st July, officially.

Gemma and I have been working together for the past month to ensure my handover and her commencement will be as seamless as possible for you all. Until the end of June, I will continue to monitor all administration emails. The PO Box here in Upper Hutt will also remain open until such time as it comes up for renewal, and I will forward any mail that does come in on to Gemma on a weekly basis. However I would recommend any new member applications to please be scanned and sent to the admin email, so there is no delay in processing.

## **Gear sales:**

I can't leave without one final word, Karen Wilson, who has been so dogged in sourcing these bloody Hi Viz vests. I know that you are all so grateful to have them back. Thanks Karen.

As they are very expensive to post to individual members, they can only be purchased through your local branch. Sizes available range from L – 5XL. Please order these through your branch quartermaster.

All other stock items are fairly low as we have been trying to keep levels down to help with shipping them to Gemma's place.

I met Allan Pratt, the Australian Ulysses Club president, at the National Rally, and managed to once again open the possibility of purchasing Ulysses gear items from Australia.

It is hoped that Gemma will be able to purchase the much loved pocket wallets, braces and other lines that Australia source where we haven't been able to. So, watch this space, Gemma will let you know when these are available and at what price.

That's it from me....over to you Gem.

*Debby Morgan*

**Hi Everyone. Yes ... I have huge shoes to fill!**

**I have heaps to learn from Debby before she steps aside and thankfully, she will be available to me for a short while after the official handover date.**

I am really looking forward to serving you, supporting you and working with you - so if you have any queries, or need any information, please continue to make contact through the normal channels.

A little about me ... I'm married with two 'grown and flown' children - one in Australia and one in Wellington. I have a strong administrative and human resources background. I'm also a creative soul and do pottery and other creative pursuits. I've been a Ulysses member since 2016 and ride a BMW R1250 RS. She is my 'forever' bike :-)

I ask for your patience as I'm bound to test it (lol) while I find my way. I am really looking forward to meeting those that I haven't already met.

Chat soon!

*Gemma Peyerl*



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# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

#10848	Geoff Allan.....	Auckland
#10847	Richard Poff.....	Canterbury
#10846	Kelly Brown .....	Waikato
#10845	Russell Slaughter.....	Southland
#10844	Chantelle French .....	North Harbour
#10843	Scot Pearce.....	North Harbour
#10842	David Busch.....	Canterbury
#10841	Kevin Holmes.....	Waihi-Thames Valley
#10840	Murray Lewis.....	Marlborough
#10839	Neil Bartlett .....	Wellington
#10838	Leon Piko .....	Waihi-Thames Valley
#10837	Patricia Piko .....	Waihi-Thames Valley
#10836	John Hallett.....	Waihi-Thames Valley
#10835	Kerry Clark.....	Westland
#10834	Sonya Dowling.....	Marlborough
#10833	Simon Marshall.....	Nelson
#10832	Marty Armstrong.....	Nelson
#10831	Monique Austing .....	Nelson
#10830	Maggie Hooper.....	North Harbour
#10828	Bob Benton .....	Waihi-Thames Valley
#10827	Ingo Thony .....	North Harbour
#10826	Owen Knell.....	Kapiti Coast
#10825	Janet Voss.....	Taranaki
#10824	Ivan Webb.....	North Harbour
#10823	Paul Conroy.....	North Harbour
#10822	Philip Yarrow .....	Westland
#10821	Alison Ryan .....	Waikato
#10820	Stephanie Phillips.....	North Harbour
#10819	Karl Hughes .....	North Harbour
#10818	Frank Quensell.....	Whakatane
#10817	Seppo Makela .....	Whakatane
#10816	Ian Morrison.....	Otago
#10815	Morehu Solomon.....	Canterbury
#10814	Mike Hosegood .....	Kapiti Coast
#10813	Jason Ball .....	Hawkes Bay
#10812	Joe Booyens.....	Hawkes Bay
#10811	Stephen Fuller .....	Wellington
#10810	Peter de Graaf .....	Far North
#10809	Gary Craig .....	Far North
#10808	Deidre Woodcock.....	Hawkes Bay
#10807	Grant Johnstone.....	Auckland
#10806	Richard Easton .....	Far North
#10805	Carol Skelton .....	Rotorua
#10804	Melanie Skelton .....	Rotorua



## ULYSSES TWIZEL TREE



**As many will know, this tree was planted in Twizel in 2013 in order to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of the Ulysses Club in New Zealand in 1988. This was one of two commemorative trees planted, with the first being in Taupo in the North Island.**

Unfortunately, for its first couple of years the Twizel Tree didn't do very well, mainly due to lack of care and particularly watering. Canterbury branch soon became aware of the situation and some members made a couple of trips down there to fertilise and water the tree. Shortly after that, Canterbury Ulyssian Duncan Mill, who was working in Twizel at the time, arranged for some timber props to support it until it became big enough to support itself.

Since then Ulyssians from both the North and South Islands have made a point of visiting the tree and affording it even more care and attention.

Thanks for all your support folks, as you can see, it's worked a treat!

Cheers,  
**BOB TANNER #2877**  
Canterbury Branch



CAPTAIN CAREFREE #3497

# TT2000

Ikamatua

**2024 had been a shit of a year really, and I think for the first time in fifteen years the anticipation of the TT2000 website coming online was of no importance. Say what! Family first, right? Thus I'd no desire to push any envelope, to do masses of planning; in fact I had no idea what the theme was going to be because I hadn't been asked to do any scouting for checkpoints. Speaking of which, just because some of us do 'scouting', does not imply we know where the mysteries are. We don't, we have to find them like everyone else.**

So, with life chucking some very out of left field curve balls that my family and I were dealing with, I was just going to follow a planned route, presuming that's what the boffins at TTHQ had on offer, and The Hallway Tour was just what the doctor ordered. Twenty pre-determined checkpoints for the required 2000 points, on an open, fast route, and going by previous years, I could be finished Saturday evening. Sweet. All I needed to find was somewhere to park up

on the Friday and Saturday nights. And Auld Huey was smiling down on us with fine weather forecast for the weekend.

I caught up with Greg and his mates from Perth and we rode over Arthurs Pass to Greymouth on the Thursday arvo. Parked up in my cabin at the Top 10, I went over my pace notes, my gear and a final check of Charlotte, making sure everything was ready for the flag drop tomorrow morning. Then hit the sack and despite the heat, I think I was asleep before my head hit the pillow, the stress of the past months catching up.

I was the first to arrive at ANZAC Park where a member of the local Hot Rodder's Club was opening up the pavilion. Robyn soon arrived in her camper with the t-shirts and other paraphernalia we needed to start signing riders in. So many smiles from familiar faces I only ever see every February, and hundreds of names on the A4 sheets of paper to tick off, t-shirts to collect. Faces, names, g'day mate, more faces, more names, how's it going Captain, what's your name

again...do you think I could put two and two together, put a face to a name?

Following a thorough safety briefing by Shannon and Mark, the riders were off. I hung back a bit, not wanting to be part of the throng heading to the closest checkpoints. Let them clear a path ahead, because there was bound to be a blue-n-yellow or mufti parked up somewhere — Wylie Coyote and the Road Runner, beep, beep, because it's not like they didn't know it was going on.

For some reason, and it was only within a week of the start, I decided to gather up some Mystery Checkpoints as well. The mysteries at Ngahere, Ahaura and the Totara Flat were on the way to the first compulsory at Ikamatua, so why not! And if so, it made no sense not to get all ten if I was going to claim any at all. his meant any plans of finishing with exactly 2000kms wasn't possible because, to get all ten, I would have to deviate north towards Motueka and then across to Marlborough which would add several hundred kms to the route.

So, it was back to the drawing board, Google

Maps and my Excel spreadsheet calculations with distance x speed = time and a frantic route option replanning in order to keep my distance to a minimum. I needed short cuts and most short cuts just so happened to be on gravel. Not an ideal medium, but Charlotte and I had been a few places in the past we probably shouldn't have, and as they say, needs must.

There was a queue of cars, campers and trucks stretching for kilometres at the stop/go on the Four Rivers Highway (SH6) just west of Murchison, with the road opening 15 minutes every hour to let traffic through. How the hell does that work? 45 minutes of accumulated, perspiring westbound punters and 45 minutes of frustrated eastbound motorists hoping to squeeze through a one lane bottleneck. 90 minutes of frustration and 15 minutes to sort it? Yeah, right!

One disgruntled motorist stepped out in front of me, arms up, palms out, with a 'what the hell, there's a queue' gesture. But I'm on a bike so I joined about 20 others chatting with the Lollipop man, and after a



**Glenroy with RAPID on post as alternative ID**



**Ngapara**

brief 10minute wait, we got waved through, well clear of the maddening crowd.

Between the Ngatimoti and the Dovedale, there is a short cut with a very twisty section of gravel. Not so bad, beats going back out to the main road and around. What could possibly go wrong! It may well have been 4.3km of the stuff but the 2025 TT for me nearly came to an end when the marbles on a tight right hander had Charlotte sliding gracefully towards the shoulder, with me a passenger along for the ride and trying to stay upright. I couldn't stop her, and if I was going to go off, at least I could pick the most graceful and smoothest exit down the shoulder towards the paddock fence. Which I did, but I had to get back up and onto the road.

A deep breath, perhaps an expletive or two, no

damage, and so with much cursing and the 190 x 55 spinning a rooster tail of shite we did it. F\_\_k it! That's it! Charlotte and I had been lucky, dodging a bullet, but I didn't need this grief so no more short cuts. And while that would add around 120kms to the distance and an hour or so in time, I just wanted to finish the TT and these 'Minties Moments' I could do without, thank you very much. Thanks! I remember Don from Pit Lane had fitted knobblies to his 'busa. Yeah, nah.

Coming down the bypass towards Richmond, and stuck in 80kph traffic, I lifted my visor to let some hot, but nevertheless fresh air, in around my head when WHACK! I got got! A wasp or bee hit me right under the rim of my glasses and began drilling. Once, twice, thrice the wee bastard

injected its venom into my left infraorbital edema or periorbital bag. Although I believe I was the victim of road rage, he/she/they/ them was equally as vexed.

From a glance in a mirror while filling up at BP Haven, I realised things weren't ideal, as my left eye was almost shut. While I could force it open with a few farcical facial contortions, everything in that field of view was blurred. So, like a true Cantabrian rugby supporter, I was down to one eye. As a 'Canes fan, not ideal! Ooooh Aaaah Umaga!

I waved goodbye to a group of TT riders at the Tua Marina Waikakaho Hall, pointing Charlotte's nose south for a mind-numbing 136km run down SH1 to the NPD station at Kaikoura. Picking up Rotherham, the Scargill mystery, and Sefton Hall, I arrived at my digs

in Rangiora around 2130, generally well pleased with the day and tripping over everything because I couldn't see proper.

Monocular vision buggers up your depth of field and everything to the left of my schnozz was pretty much outside my field of view.

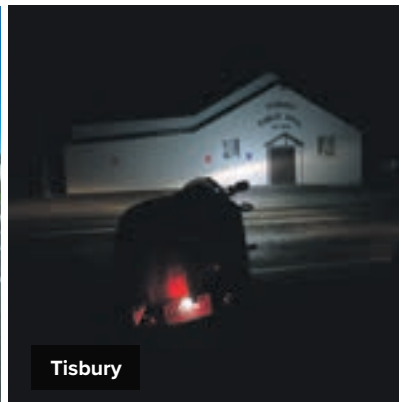
0400 Saturday. I pushed Charlotte out to the road, lest her quiet whisper as she fired up woke those in the nearby cabins. All was going swimmingly until riding along the ISR and into a wall of wet, impenetrable fog. I could barely see through a streaming visor and opaque monocular, so it was easier to ride with my glasses off, water running off my nose, dripping off my chin. Glenroy was completely socked out, but the rapid number on the gate post was, should be, enough to identify the checkpoint. These country



**Macraes**

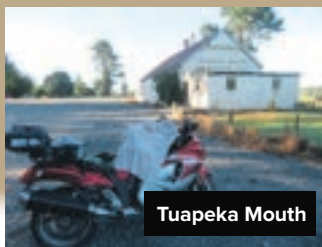


**Ohai with correct handrail ramp**



**Tisbury**

*continued over the page...*



Tuapeka Mouth



Ngatimoti



Merino Downs

roads with no median white line, barely discernible edge of tarmac and sod all reflectorised posts made for slow going. An on-coming vehicle, its headlights reduced to the penetrating power of a candle in an AG jar, was upon me and silently gone before you knew it. I reckon I had about 20m visibility and was navigating off my phone because I had no idea where the hell I was or where the road went.

Lagmhor, likewise, was dripping wet, but at least my lights illuminated the hall sufficiently to comply with the instructions. Peel forest. Tick. Petrol at BP Timaru, a hot chocolate and a Danish, with conditions clearing so by the time I reached Otipua, my average speed was back up to where I'd hoped it should be. The fog, though, had really knocked the overall rolling average to hell and gone, and I doubted I was going to pull that deficit back.

I met a couple of riders at Tekapo but from there to Ngapara and Kakanui, not a soul. The young fella on the Royal Enfield was at Kakanui when I arrived but from there to Macraes, Earnsclough and Millers Flat, I was by myself again.

I caught up with another rider on a Guzzi and sat behind him to mystery 8 at Merino Downs. I like riding by myself; I'm not beholden to anyone, I don't feel obliged to set the pace and I can ride my planned ride, but from time to time it is nice to join in with a group all going the same way. There were a group of four riders on GS's and a couple of other adventure type bikes putting t-shirts away

as I slithered my way up the hill to the hall, but I was back to my lonesome as I rode towards Kaiwera.

Now the cunning buggers at TTHQ had included a few fishhooks in the Hallway Tour. While most checkpoints required you to have your bike, t-shirt, in front of the hall with the hall name clearly visible, not all did. At Millers Flat you had to have the arch over the entrance way clearly visible. At Kaiwera Hall, the water tank had to be clearly visible, so it was important towards which end of the hall you took that photo. As I took mine, there were a number at the other end taking theirs looking at me obviously wondering 'what the hell is he up to?' Ohai Community Hall was another. The photo instructions said your bike, t-shirt in front of hall with the railing and ramp visible in the photo. There were ramps and handrails on opposite sides of the hall and to get the correct handrail and ramp in the photo you couldn't see the hall name, but then the instructions didn't ask for it. I'd learnt that lesson in 2024 when the photo required specifically said don't park on the double yellows outside that particular police station. The TTHQ boys picked up that in my haste, Charlotte was indeed parked across a double yellow and I was penalised for it. My bad! Feeling sorry for those who'd got their t-shirts out, bikes parked up incorrectly, I walked over and explained why I was where I was, but to no avail. They weren't convinced.

I arrived at my cabin at the Amble on Inn campground

in Invercargill around 1930 pretty chuffed with the day's ride, and well ahead of the ETA I'd set myself. In the kitchen I was heating up my tea when a couple on a cycling tour saw my eye and gave me two antihistamines. Back in my cabin, and with things laid out ready for the morning, tyre pressures and Scott oiler level checked, I sat in the warmth of the setting sun, going through my photos to make sure I had taken them exactly as required. I had. Too bloody late if I hadn't.

The eye was more open this morning but still blurred so it was easier to ride with it shut. About 15kms north of Fortrose the road was also shut. The bloke in the fluoro vest and vape saying there'd been a massive accident, and the road had been closed since 2200 last night. There was a detour, but I was told the diversion was about 25kms of gravel and pretty cut up by logging trucks. Bigger that. I headed back to Fortrose and the Coast Route with two GS's and another bike in tow. That added another 30-odd kms I didn't need and the irony of it was I was going to go to Niagara via Otago, Haldane and Curio Bay. But I had been following a group since Tisbury so I decided to keep following them. They were setting a good pace, it was dark and with one eye still not focusing well, easier to do so.

The Coastal Route is one of the hidden gems of Southland. I love its twists and turns. The ride from the hall at Niagara to the final check point at Tuapeka Mouth was an awesome ride, the Catlins devoid of all traffic until just before

Owaka and even then, only the odd car.

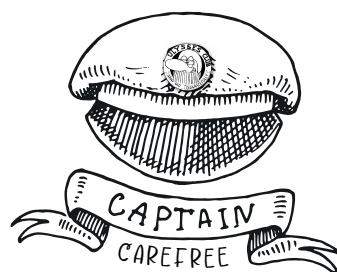
I met up with TTHQ Mark helping a fellow who had a fuel issue, waiting for a recovery vehicle, just before the final checkpoint at Tuapeka Mouth. To be so close and a mechanical failure pulls the rug out from under you. I felt for him.

There were only a handful of bikes when I arrived at Tokiti School. I know a few did finish Saturday night and were probably at home by now, but half the fun is greeting the riders as they come in and listening to their tall tales and true. When Dennis, my mate from Reeferton arrived, I said goodbyes and headed north.

The worst part of the whole weekend was the boring as bat shit ride north on SH1 to Christchurch. Hot, traffic everywhere, clogged passing lanes with impatient motorists speeding up - 'I dare you to pass me' - and with the adrenalin wearing off, aches, pains, gripes and cramps added to the discomfort. But I'd done it. Number 16 done and dusted.

My thanks to Shannon and Mark and the team of helpers for another awesome event. Oh, what cunning and devious theme awaits us when the 2026 website drops!

**CAPTAIN CAREFREE**  
#3497



TONY ALLEN #08420

# But it's Raining!

Winter is coming and some of us are put off about riding in the rain and cold, so they put their rego on hold and go cold turkey. I don't do that because riding in winter can be great fun.

Here are some thoughts and suggestions about getting out there in wet conditions.

Riding in the rain (and enjoying it) is all about smoothness, confidence, observation and the right gear, but this is the most important thing:

A wet road is not usually a slippery road.

I have clear memories of Andrew Templeton (a professional riding instructor) exhorting me to get my pegs on the ground on my K1200 doing tight turns when the surface was very wet. I couldn't do it, I chickened out.... but we both knew it was fine.

Yeah I hear you say, "but roads can get slippery when wet, and it is scary, and I will get cold and wet!"

Ok, "slippery" is usually crap on the road (especially when it has just rained on a dry road and the road is getting "washed"): wet melted tar patches, wet painted road markings or just too much water on the road.

You can see that sort of thing and make allowances.

Careful observation of the road surface is very important. If you see 'slippery', don't take sudden avoiding action. If it's a straight piece of road aim for the least slippery part of it.

Keep away from puddles and look for any water flowing over the road. You can ride through these fine, but they can give you a scare if you don't see them and unsettle you.

If it is through a corner, keep off the brakes, especially if braking in the wet makes you nervous and, again, aim for the least slippery part. Be in the right gear and speed whilst looking ahead and planning your corner. This is very good to do in the dry, even better to do in the wet. This is what a good rider will do often without even thinking about it.

Actually, you would be surprised just how hard you can brake in the wet. Normally you only lose 10% of your braking ability



on a wet road, which is way less than most of us use anyway.

It is always best practice to keep it smooth. In the wet it is really really important to be smooth through the corners and look where you want to go.

Don't be put off by small slides...it's ok, nothing bad will happen. Just relax and keep off the brakes. You may notice that people with a dirt bike riding background are often happier in bad conditions because they are more comfortable with the bike moving around under them. You just need to get used to it.

Ok, so you are worried about getting cold and wet – easily fixed, get the right gear.

Everyone should have heated hand grips fitted. Warm hands and fingers are an excellent way of helping you stay happy. They are not that expensive and easy to fit. You will be surprised the difference they can make to your enjoyment of a ride.

**TONY ALLEN #08420**

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*These articles are my own opinion, and you may not necessarily agree. That's a good thing; discuss it with your mates. If you come up with something that works better for you that you have consciously considered, that can only be good. Just don't get sucked into bad habits.*

**Tony is a Club Mentor and coordinator of the Wairarapa Branch. He is also a full IAM member and one of the NZ Distance Rider nutters.**

# Gabrielle's JOURNEY



Tent and Ducati at  
Blenheim Motor Camp

Some of you may recall an article I wrote in the September 2024 edition of the *Ulyssian* entitled *Gabrielle's Odyssey*. It described a motorbike ride my daughter Gabrielle and I did in the south of the South Island. *Gabrielle's Journey* describes a motorbike ride we did in the north of the South Island in March of 2025. Much of the journey was a similar format, it being six days long and staying in Top 10 Holiday Park cabins where possible. Gabrielle rode her Husqvarna Svartpillen 401 but since our last trip I have acquired a Ducati Multistrada 950.

Planning for the trip began when Melbourne-based Gabrielle suggested we do another motorbike trip together while she was visiting my wife and me. Instead of going south she suggested we head north. I was all for that. I opened up my laptop and started planning. After sending emails back and forth Gabrielle chose 'option three'. Further planning continued when Gabrielle arrived and we finalised our accommodation on route.

## Day 1. 155ks.

*Pegasus to Kaikoura.*

I have ridden many times to Kaikoura from my home in Pegasus. It is a ride the Monday Mafia have frequently done as a day trip, stopping to have lunch at Kaikoura' Pier Hotel. But it was a new trip for Gabrielle and the Husqvarna. With the Ducati loaded up with side panniers, a top box, and my tent and sleeping mat strapped on, and the Husqvarna with just a Givi top box, we left Pegasus. We stopped for fuel at the Amberley NPD. Gabrielle was quickly back into riding the Husqvarna after a six month lay-off.

15 kilometres north of Cheviot is the tiny settlement of Parnassus and here I noticed a café that I was keen to try as an alternative to the Cheviot café the Monday Mafia used. The café was small, the staff were friendly and knowledgeable. Thumbs up. I took Gabrielle down a back road to where the NZMCA camp my wife and I used during our caravanning days. Then came the Hunderlees, a steep

and twisty road I thought Gabrielle might have issues with. I need not have worried. At the bottom of the Hunderlees is a quick ride alongside the ocean.

We found our cabin. 'No we want a cabin with two beds, not a double bed.' Just how many times does that happen. Cabin changed, we walked into town for an evening pub meal.

## Day 2. 128ks.

*Kaikoura to Blenheim.*

Overnight it rained. Gabrielle wisely brought a cover for the Husqvarna, but the poor Ducati was left to suffer in the rain. We had breakfast muesli with Up'n'Go, a staple for us while on motorbike trips, and surprisingly tasty. Amongst a swarm of campervans we left the camp and headed into the centre of Kaikoura and out towards the end of the peninsula, past the old and recently renovated Pier Hotel. Then it was off to Blenheim.

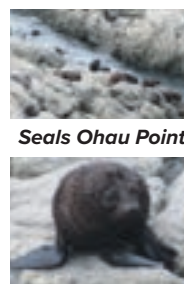
"Oh I don't want to see a seal colony," was Gabrielle's reply when I suggested



Parnassus Café



Kaikoura cabin and Ducati



Seals Ohau Point



Gabrielle  
Ohau Point

Bunnies at Blenheim

we stop at the seal colony at Ohau Point. But even she was amazed as she looked over the concrete wall and the rocks below. There were hundreds of seals and seal pups having a wonderful time playing in a narrow gut of water. Then it was onto Blenheim where Gabrielle stayed with her friends Ping and Jonathan. I camped in my little tent at the Blenheim River-side Camp. I like camping in my little tent and I had a pleasant spot by the river with a couple of bunnies to keep me company. The camp is beside and under a concrete overbridge, with some even camping under the bridge. There is also a busy railway nearby. The noise from trucks and trains was very loud; nonetheless I slept soundly.

**Day 3. 252ks.**

*Blenheim to Collingwood.*

That pleasant camping spot by the river wasn't so pleasant the next morning. A tall tree across the river and a nearby tree combined to shade my tent and the Ducati from the sun. Both were soaking wet from the heavy dew. I pushed the bike and dragged the tent into the sun to dry. I then headed to the kitchen to have breakfast and a morning coffee. Breakfast eaten, coffee drunk, tent, sleeping bag and sleeping mat packed and loaded onto the Ducati, I headed off to meet Gabrielle at Ping's.

Sorry Blenheim, your picturesque camping ground gets the thumbs down.

Our day's ride was to Collingwood some 250k's away. While I can comfortably ride double or triple that mileage in a day, it was approaching Gabrielle's limit. It was a beautiful day for riding. Over the Whangamoas it was cool in the morning shade and soon we were approaching Nelson. Not far out of Nelson is Mapua, once a coastal trading port for the export of apples. The Mapua I lived in for a decade is much different from the tourist hub it is now, but it still retains its village charm. Gabrielle and I shared a pizza for lunch and afterwards bought an ice cream each from 'Hamish's'. I wonder how many

of the visitors realised Hamish's was named after a white heron the locals named Hamish, who would return every year to take up residence on the Mapua wharf.

Motueka NPD for petrol and then it was the infamous Takaka Hill with its tight corners and steep grades. I have a love/hate relationship with Takaka Hill but this time I let the Ducati rip for some fun. Takaka Hill, of course, is followed by the village of Takaka, and not far after that, to the right and on the coast, is the tiny Waitapu Wharf. Moored alongside the wharf is an oft photographed Dutch Skûtsje sailing yacht. With the afternoon getting on I elected to forgo the diversion.

Collingwood is nestled in the mouth of the Aorere River and the Collingwood Motor Camp is on a built up piece of land immediately on the river bank. Our cabin was situated in a magical spot at the south west corner of the camp, barely 20 feet from the river. Gabrielle was entranced. After a walk 'around the corner' to the beach we went to the Collingwood Tavern looking for a meal, and were greeted by a lively establishment. So busy, in fact, we were warned our meals would be three quarters of an hour in the coming. It was worth the wait.

**Day 4 264ks.**

As we rode out of Collingwood the next morning, maroon 4wd buses were loading up passengers for the drive along Farewell Spit. The Spit is a protected area (and rightly so) with the only public access by way of these buses. Gabrielle thought Collingwood was a magical spot and was especially delighted by our riverside cabin. She wished we could have stayed another day but our schedule was tight.

The road to Puponga, Farewell Spit and Cape Farewell is sealed but very narrow, with one way bridges over the numerous streams. Just before Puponga we turned left down a gravel road and rode the ten k's to Cape Farewell. A short walk from a carpark leads to a DOC lookout with impressive

*I was told to leave my boots in the sun awhile.*



*Ducati all packed up.*



*Poster on Motel wall Murchison Kiwi Holiday Park - there were others like it on other motel walls. Look at the date!*



*Husqvarna.*

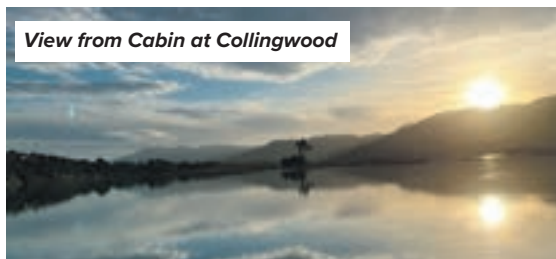


*Queen Mary Hospital Hanmer Springs.*

*Cabin at Collingwood*



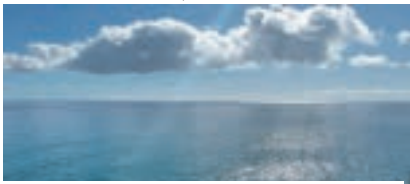
*View from Cabin at Collingwood*



*Hole in the rock Cape Farewell*



*Continued over the page...*



View from Cape Farewell looking north

views over the Tasman Sea and a cove with a hill in the rock formation. It is the northern most part of the South Island. Photos taken and wistfully wondering if I would ever come to this place again, we walked back to our bikes and began the journey south to Takaka.

If you have the opportunity, take the time to take a break in Takaka's Whole Meal Cafe. It is a whacky place that serves excellent food, and its customers are whacky and alternative. Us in our motorbike riding gear were perfectly in place. Gabrielle, as I expected, loved the Café. While we were having lunch she told me she was looking forward to riding back over the Takaka Hill. After an entertaining lunch food-wise we started the ride over the Takaka Hill and on to Motueka, then the day's final destination, Murchison.

The Motueka Valley is a ride not to be missed. Stretching from the Motueka Airport to Kohatu where it joins SH6 it passes through several villages, the largest of these being Tapawera. It is a stunning ride and on a warm sunny day doubly so. We booked a cabin at Murchison's Kiwi Holiday Park. In my trips and stays in Murchison I had missed this place, understandably as it is at the end of Fairfax Street. Getting an evening meal in Murchison has only one option, the local pub.

### Day 5 176ks

In the morning I went for a walk around the park. At some time in the past it was quite a place with a sweeping gravel drive leading to a motel block. Campsites were tucked in amongst belts of trees, there was an impressive children's playground,

Chooks at Murchison Kiwi Holiday Camp



Kitchen at Murchison - note the woodwork

adjacent to the holiday park, and part of the property was paddock containing horses and an emu - yes, you read that right, an emu. Within the park boundary were hens, goats and sheep. A children's delight.

Our cabin was small and functional with, for a change, two single beds. Showers were adjacent to the cabin as was the kitchen. The kitchen was someone's labour of love with impressive woodwork and a table inches thick, made of a single piece of timber. All very neat tidy and clean. We talked to Sandy; she and her husband own and manage the park and are working to bring it back to its former glory. She also told us the emu was very friendly and good with children. Over the fence next to our cabin was a flock of Guinea hens (I think).

For all that Gabrielle was not particularly enamoured with Murchison and was pleased to leave. The ride from Murchison to Hanmer Springs so not a particularly long ride and after breakfast of Muesli and Up'n'Go we loaded the bikes and headed off, stopping at Springs Junction. I gave the Ducati a bit of throttle over Lewis Pass, confident now to leave Gabrielle to her own devices. Slowed by a Solly's truck and trailer unit the Husqvarna soon caught up.

We checked into the Hanmer Springs Top 10, run by a neighbour's brother, and went for a walk. Surrounded by trees and large grass areas is the Queen Mary Hospital Historic Reserve. Tucked in one corner of this reserve are the hot springs. Originally built in 1916 for soldiers returning from the 1st World War with 'shell shock'. In the 1970s it became the national specialist addiction and alcohol



Mapua



Wharf at Mapua

treatment centre. The hospital closed in November 2003. It was fascinating wandering around the now largely unused buildings, set in park like settings.

Overnight it rained.

### Day 6 112ks

Once the bikes were loaded we headed into 'town' for coffee and a snack at the iconic Powerhouse Café, not far from the hot springs. Then we were homeward bound, stopping at Springs Junction and Culverden.

A trip like this is one of memories: new memories and emotions. While I had been everywhere, Gabrielle had not. It was good to sleep in my little tent again; I love it, but none of my riding buddies nor Gabrielle are remotely interested in tenting. I have ridden day trips to places like Kaikoura and Hanmer Springs. And trips to Murchison, Blenheim, Nelson, Motueka and Springs Junction are familiar. One place I was keen to visit was Cape Farewell, which I had ridden to once before during my Suzuki Vstrom 650 riding days.

I guess the surprise place we stayed at was Collingwood. The cabin we had and the views it offered were superb. It was the one place we could have stayed at for another day.

We used an app on Gabrielles phone to keep track of expenses and that worked really well.

Gabrielle is keen for another motorbike trip and we mapped out a route for our next adventure.

Pegasus - Hokitika - Haast - Te Anau - Milford - Blackmont Road to Tuatapere then we are not sure.



Flat Bottomed Floosie aka Mapua Ferry that transports hikers, cyclists and visitors across the Mapua Estuary to Rabbit Island



Mapua



Pizza for lunch at Mapua



Hamish's at Mapua - named after the white heron Hamish.

# Bike Raffle WINNER



## On Saturday 3rd May 2025, somebody's Christmases all came at once.

It started with a road trip for Karen and me to New Plymouth, or Opunake to be precise, where we were treated to a night out at the Surf Inn Bar with Andrew and Suzie Pentelow and their friend Hugh, a great start to a great weekend. Luckily no Panadol needed Saturday morning; coffee and breakfast then off to Colton's Motorbikes in Hawera, to find Phil who had readied and registered a brand-new bike for Mark Lundt, who won this year's National Bike Raffle.

When we arrived at the dealership a couple were in the sales area inspecting the bikes and gear for sale. More and more and bikes kept arriving until it looked like most of the Taranaki Ulysses branch had turned out to see one of their own receive his new prize ride.

Mark chose an Aprilia Toureg 660 in blue, white and red trim, a really well sorted bike.

After the photos and formalities were over, the very impressive carpark full of motorbikes escorted Mark on his maiden voyage.

We must say a HUGE thanks to Europe Imports for looking after us on the bike and Colton Motorbikes for readying and registering it so that we could present it on Saturday.

Now we need to remember to support those who support us.

Thanks

**ANDY WILSON #7169**





Gathering for AGM.



New National Committee.



Wellington won the "Best Dressed Branch."



Best dressed couples.

# The 2025 Ulysses National Rally and AGM

**- Hosted in Taranaki**

**11 TO 13 APRIL 2025**

*Photos taken by Mal 'Axxle' Bain #8688*

***This is being written on behalf of, and acknowledging, the 12 organising committee members plus all the Taranaki helpers over the weekend.***

The planning for this event started some years ago when the '2021 branch committee' decided it would be great to host the National Rally and AGM in Taranaki for the very first time. Covid and other things meant that 2025 became our year to host. The organising committee met regularly from 2024 and very quickly the foundations were laid, where we aimed "to provide attendees with a spectacular National Rally weekend, full of friendship, fun and fabulous fodder." From the very start it was our intention to provide as great a weekend as possible and the organising committee dedicated many hours to planning and making this happen.

The weekend theme of "Surf Highway 45" and later "Disgrace-ville" captured the essence of the weekend.

We all arrived early on Friday at the Paritutu Bowling Club to get the meeting room ready for the NatCom and Coordinators' meetings, as well as to set up the entire venue. Everyone who had 'put up their hand' to help, arrived

with positive attitudes and enthusiasm – and armed with blue tack, hammers, drawing pins, rope, pens, paper, decorations, plants, flags, posters, and more. There was a tidal wave of creative pursuits as the venue hummed with banter, laughter, chatter and it quickly took shape. We were delighted with the end results – a complete transformation of the club into something befitting a national Ulysses event. We were all so proud. It was an incredible 'team effort' and honestly was proof that 'the whole is greater than the sum of its parts'.

Thankfully, the Taranaki kitchen team kept the Taranaki team well fed and watered throughout the weekend.

Things really started to kick off when coordinators started to arrive for their meeting – and a bit later, when other attendees arrived to register. All up, we hosted about 190 members and partners including the Australian Ulysses president and his wife and a couple from Ulysses South Africa. The registration table was looked after by many and each person was warmly



**Proud winner of Bike raffle, Mark Lundt - a Taranaki member!**

welcomed to the event, ticked off the list, provided with a registration bag AND offered a lei (with a suitable amount of 'Disgrace-ville inuendo!'). The individually numbered leis were to be worn throughout the weekend and if your number was called, you could select a spot prize. This really started the weekend with a laugh and contributed hugely to the fun of the weekend!

Ulysses gear was on sale, shuttles could be arranged and there were raffles to be bought. We were very spoilt to have a huge array of raffles of significant value, contributed to our event by various mostly local organisations. Each attendee received a Thank You schedule of who they were. There was a 50-ticket number limit per specific raffle. The raffle prizes drew a lot of attention from attendees.

Dinner on Friday was a range of smoked meats, slaw and buns and after everyone had feasted, the games began, starting with "He/She who can consume a cream doughnut in the shortest time was obviously from "Disgrace-ville" and would win a prize". It has to have been the loudest and messiest 30 minutes of the weekend! It was delightful how the branches' 'chosen chompers' delivered an outstanding performance of ramming cream, jam and

doughnut down their gullets and all over their faces at the same time! It was a tight finish ... but there can be only one winner.

Later, again, branch rivalry surfaced during an organised game of Toilet Golf. The prize for the winner was "not to be trumped". Each branch chose a 'golfer' who had to sit down and putt two balls onto a green and into a hole. The branch support was deafening. It came down to a 'tight two' who had a putt off and one emerged winner who was awarded the Donald Trump toilet brush prize.

We were delighted to be able to offer a free shuttle service to attendees. This was for both Friday and Saturday functions.

The Taranaki team was there bright and very early on the Saturday, getting ready for the National AGM. The AGM saw the election of the NatCom team and two remits voted on that passed. It was also a time to bid the national administrator of many-a-year 'farewell' as Debby Morgan was retiring end of June. She was highly regarded by the team for her exemplary administrative assistance over the years.

After the AGM, there was a Juno Gin tasting/tour for those interested and of course, the Rally Ride. By all accounts, both Saturday afternoon events were a



**A first...a pic of all the members attending the Rally.**



**An ideal location for an AGM.**



**"Disgrace-ville" theme as a guide of expected behaviours!**



**Committee overlooking AGM.**

**CONTINUED OVER THE PAGE**

# The 2025 Ulysses National Rally and AGM CONTINUED

Photos taken by Mal 'Axle' Bain #8688



Lorraine Lindsay - Life Membership!



Debby Morgan with presentation of Ulysses light from Dan Best, Rotorua.



Gathering for AGM.



Guests Savaugn & Allan Pratt who is the Australian Ulysses National President.



Ulyssians ready for the annual bike ride.

huge success and really enjoyed by those that attended.

Saturday evening's dress theme was "Surf Highway 45" and it was delightful to see how many attendees put in an effort to dress up. The meal was nothing short of outstanding with a huge array of tasty choices. After dinner, the raffle draws were announced and those that won were really rapt with their prizes.

The best dressed branch was won by Wellington and there were two best dressed couples who were awarded a prize.

The National Bike Raffle held everyone's attention as two constables entered the venue ... and with eager anticipation from all, the ticket was drawn. The room exploded into rapturous applause when a Taranaki member, who was present at the draw – Mark Lundt – won the bike. It could not have been scripted any better. To have someone actually present at the draw was excellent ... and for that person to have been from the hosting branch, was the icing on the cake! (Mark collected his new bike on 3 May 2025 with as many branch members as possible attending).

Saturday night also saw what we think was a first. We gathered the entire group of attendees together for a photograph. We don't think this

has been done before. We also then got branch photographs and winners photographs.

The remainder of the evening saw people catching up, chatting, and also having a dance or two in front of the live band. Again, we were able to safely shuttle attendees back to their accommodation.

Sunday morning's breakfast was a sight to behold. There was so much selection and it was all served promptly and efficiently. It really was a great end to the weekend for those that came along. There was lots of last minute catchups and farewells ... or adieu until next time ... which we look forward to in 2026 in Nelson!

As always we don't want to single out any specific organisation or teams with thanks. This weekend would not have been the success it was without the total extended team ... from the venue, to the people helping, to the contributors, to the members who attended, to the caterers, to the band, to the photographers ... it is endless.

We were super proud to provide Ulysses and attendees with a National Rally and AGM weekend in Taranaki, 'like no other'.

Thank you from the "Disgraceville Surf Highway 45 Organising Committee"



'On Yer Bike' — a local band - provided great music on Saturday night!



Tiny, one of the raffle winners.



Bill Kidney, Taranaki branch president with rock & roller Charlie Brown, # 4 Ulyssian.



Ulyssians living disgracefully.



Saturday evening great meal, and plenty of it.



An informative and humorous tour of Juno Gin distillery.



Winner of the cream bun scoffing challenge, Sean Wilson from Rotorua.



Simon Margrett - Kapiti Coast Branch. Winner of the toilet golf.



Sunday's breakfast, just what we needed before heading home.



Photo by Mal 'Axxle' Bain #8688

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Email: [editor@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:editor@ulysses.org.nz) to list your event

## AUGUST

**16th**

### North Island Remembrance Service

Saturday, August 16th at 2pm, Great Lake Centre, Taupō (Tongariro North Domain, Story Place, Taupō) Ulysses Auckland branch, in association with Ulysses Taupō branch, invite all Ulyssians to come together at our annual Remembrance Service and remember members who have passed away.

An organized social even is intended for the Saturday evening. Once planning is finalized, details will be available on the Auckland Ulysses website.

The Remembrance Service starts at 2pm, please be early so you can be seated in the hall before that time. A group ride on Friday 15 August from Auckland to Taupō is being planned. A formal ride of respect through Taupō will be held on the day of the service.

## OCTOBER

**Oct 1st - Nov 1st**

### 2025 North Island Compass Rally Motorcycle Poker Run

Registration form in Rally section of this magazine.

## NOVEMBER

### 2nd Ronnie Run

North Harbour Ulysses hold a Ronnie Run every year on the 1st Sunday of November - this year is the 2nd Nov.

**7th - 8th**

### 37th Waikato Branch Annual Rally Pureora Forest

Back to Nature Rally still going after 36 years. Info in Rally section of this magazine.

**21st - 23rd**

### Auckland Rally "River Meets the Sea"

Lock in the date.

Rally details in the next *Ulyssian*.

### 29th Ride for Refuge

We're hoping to have an every branch 'Ride for Refuge' every year, this year being 29th Nov.

## SEPTEMBER

**13/14th**

### Motorcycle Awareness Month (MAM) Ride

As per the Strategic Plan we're asking every branch to have a Motorcycle Awareness Month Ride on either the Saturday or Sunday 13/14th.

Theme colour is yellow.

**13th**

### South Island Remembrance Service Hosted by Canterbury Ulysses

Kaikoura Top 10 Holiday Park, 34 Beach Road, Kaikoura.

1pm Saturday, September 13, 2025.



# 2025-26

## DECEMBER



## JANUARY 2026

## FEBRUARY 2026

## MARCH 2026

**27th - 29th**

### **2026 National Rally and AGM Hosted by Ulysses Nelson**

The Headingly Centre, 2 Headingly Lane, Richmond 7020. Come and experience Nelson/Tasman like never before for our National AGM Weekend.

Information in the rally section of this magazine.

## APRIL 2026

## MAY 2026

**15th - 25th**

### **Australian National Rally 2026**

Nambour on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland.

Theme: Sun, Surf and Sand.

For more information go to the Australian website at:

[www.ulysses.org.au](http://www.ulysses.org.au)



## **Hey Ulyssians!**

**To list your event on this page, email details to: [editor@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:editor@ulysses.org.nz)**

# NORTH HARBOUR ST JOHN AMBULANCE RIDE

JOHN SHEARER #9242



*The St John's Team at Mangawhai Heads, who looked after us with amazing hospitality.*

Well our St John Ambulance run was one out of the box with brilliant autumn riding weather, great turn out of support and an incredible lunch once we reached our destination at the Ambulance Station in Mangawhai.

All up we raised just over \$750 for the station which they will use to recharge their emergency response packs that go to the scene of an accident. Greg Norton, our new runs

co-ordinator did a fantastic job putting the run together and liaising with the St John's team to make this all go as smooth as silk. For a quick build up and first time ride in many years we did well. My thanks too to Stephen Robinson from St John's and to everyone who came along and made this such a success. You were called to make the run and you came in numbers. We will go again next year in 2026 bigger and better.



*What a spread!*

*Brilliant day and great turn out from North Harbour.*



*Sue and Shane looking at their prize.*

# Nationally Coordinated Ambulance Rides

**SUZIE PENTELOW #8532**  
**VICKY NODA #9990**

As part of the national strategic plan, all branches were asked to run an ambulance charity ride this year. Apart from raising money for a great cause, the rides were planned as a way to meet three of the main goals of the strategic plan, which are to increase the profile of the Ulysses Club locally and nationwide, help us increase membership and improve the club's resilience for the future. As far as I have been told, seven of our 26 branches did organise and hold their charity ride, so a big thank you to them for working with Natcom for the benefit of the club as a whole.

I was advised that other branches who for various reasons couldn't do the ride this year are planning to do the ride in 2026, so that's great.

## CANTERBURY

Canterbury did a dice run for our St John fundraiser. We had 97 registrants and raised \$1700 for the run. Canterbury turned on a beautiful day - there was a lot of positive feedback and comments received. A special thanks to Andrew from Hato Hone St John for bringing the motorbike out for a ride to show appreciation for raising funds for them.

Gavin Baker #10213



## WELLINGTON

The Wellington branch fundraises for the Wellington Free Ambulance (WFA) service and has been doing so for 35 years. We had 80 bikes and 90 riders and pillions take part in our Ambulance Ride this year, with the finish at the Waterloo ambulance station where a BBQ, hot and cold drinks and ANZAC biscuits were sold as part of the fundraising. We run quiz

and movie nights throughout the year too, and this year we handed over \$4000 to the WFA.

Jim Furneaux #2098



## MARLBOROUGH

Numbers were a bit down on past years, probably due to the long weekend. We started at Havelock and rode to Blenheim, where we finished with a BBQ and raffles to add to the final donation total to St John of \$700.

John Sinclair #9272



## TARANAKI

This was the first charity ride run by the Taranaki branch in over 20 years! We had 42 registrations and 38 bikes take part in our poker run. Gary from St John joined us at the New Plymouth start point with their mobile command unit and we finished the ride at the Opunake St John station, where the local volunteers had cooked a free BBQ with tea and coffee. We took the names of 10 riders who wanted to be added to our texting list to join our rides in the future (and hopefully become members) and raised \$780.

Suzie Pentelow #8532



## FAR NORTH

As well as the 300 km round trip that finished in Rawene, our branch also held a couple of fundraising BBQs outside Bunnings late last year and donated various branch raffle profits.

A total of \$1500 was presented to Hato Hone St John.

Marcus Gillum #9310



## NORTH HARBOUR

35 bikers attended the ride, which went really well. The finish was at the station at Mangawhai where we were treated to a massive spread put on by the ambulance team. Stephen Robinson, the Northern Region Community Partnership Fundraiser, attended at the finish point, so community connections have been strengthened too. The total raised was about \$400 for Hato Hone St John.



## HAWKES BAY

The Hawkes Bay branch held their ride which was attended by 53 bikes, with \$520 raised for Hato Hone St John. Everyone had a great time and we joined up two new Ulyssians! It had been five years since we ran our last ride for St John, so it was good to be out there for them again.

Trevor Wylie #9934



## COLLATED INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2025 RIDES, SO THAT WE CAN SEE HOW WE IMPROVE ON THIS IN FUTURE YEARS:

Seven branch rides were held.

**\$9,600 Total raised for ambulance services around New Zealand.**  
**397 registrations in total.**  
**2 new members joined.**  
**10 possible new members added to texting lists.**

Numerous other club connections strengthened.

One major and many local Hato Hone connections were made.

# Motorcycle Awareness Month **September 2025**

## Rev and Respect Rides

**Calling all Ulysses members from across NZ! National Motorcycle Awareness Month is held every September and Natcom wants you to be part of it in 2025!**

We are asking branches to hold a 'Rev and Respect' awareness ride in their area in September to **increase the profile of the Ulysses Club locally and nationwide**, help us **increase membership** and improve the club's **resilience**.

**Did you know that of all our current members, only 6.3% are aged below 55?**

We ALL need to start working together to come up with ways to start attracting more members (especially younger ones) to ALL of our branches and doing something for MAM is one of the ideas Natcom is promoting.

Coordinators have already been asked to share this idea with branches, so this won't be new information to most of you.

Important: If your branch DOES NOT have a committee who wants to help organise an awareness ride/event: This does not have to be organised by the branch coordinator or even a committee member - some branches have committees that are busy, don't have the knowledge or don't have the energy, so you might just be that keen person to get the ball rolling. Tell your coordinator you would like to be involved and contact Suzie or Vicky (Natcom) for support.

**First Steps - If your branch doesn't want to have a 'Rev and Respect' ride:**

1. Contact your local council and ask to speak to the Road Safety Coordinator. Once you find out who that is, find out what they have planned for Motorcycle Awareness Month. If they haven't got a plan, then contact your local bike shops etc to see if anyone is doing anything that you could get Ulysses to help with.

2. Check to see where your closest 'Rev and Respect' ride is being held

and make the effort to get to it to boost numbers.

3. Let Natcom know what your branch is planning to do. We will be advertising these on social media and our website.

**First steps - If your branch DOES want to organise a 'Rev and Respect' awareness ride/event:**

1. Decide on a date in September. Preferably not the last weekend, in case of postponement due to weather. Taranaki and Rotorua have chosen Saturday the 13th of September. If every branch who chooses to do a short ride as part of their event could choose the same date, then that would be perfect. We plan to try and get these on the news and having a bunch of big rides spread over the country will look great!

2. Think of a local charity you want to fundraise for. Decide on this early, so you can mention them when talking to other organisations and clubs. Taranaki has chosen MEN CAN, a local group that supports men who have or had cancer.

3. Contact your local council and ask to speak to the Road Safety Coordinator to see if they can support you in any way.

4. Start thinking of a shortish route for your 'Rev and Respect' ride in your largest town that goes through the main pedestrian area. Needs to have a big parking area at the start and finish points. Can be the same place if you want to do a loop. Contact the owners of these carparks to find out if they can be used. Taranaki are currently planning to go up or down Devon Street, NP and possibly finish up with a show and shine event. The New Plymouth district council has advised us that there is no paperwork, or health and safety or traffic management plans they require for a motorbike awareness ride, as we are allowed on the road already anyway.

5. Start making a list of all your local motorbike groups/clubs. You can start contacting them to ask them to be 'partners' or 'in association with' at your

'Rev and Respect' ride. Taranaki have one 'partner club' already - the Taranaki Red Knights. We will be asking more of our local clubs to join us too.

6. Let Natcom know what your branch is planning to do. We will be advertising these on social media and our website.

7. Once we know what every branch is doing, then we can advise on the next steps.

What has Natcom been doing behind the scenes to support Motorcycle Awareness Week?

- Contacting various national organisations to advise of the 'Rev and Respect' rides and ask for support for branches to hold their rides.

- Preparing media articles.

- Preparing to contribute some of our Ulysses Rider Safety Training fund towards the branches who are holding Ulysses 'Rev and Respect' Rides/ events.

- Organising templates for advertising posters and registration forms.

- Contacting national importers of motorbike gear to source prizes.

- We will soon be starting to advertise on social media that Ulysses are planning some big events, so that all motorbike clubs in NZ know that something big is happening in September.

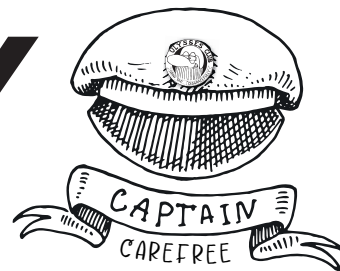
Let's hit the road together to raise awareness for motorcycle safety and visibility. These will be more than just rides - they will be epic statements and get the Ulysses brand really out there and show the strength of our riding community.

Ride with us, spread the message and make a difference. Stay safe, be seen and let's ride for awareness.

**How can you help nationally? If you have any ideas on who Natcom could contact for funding, support or prizes, please let Suzie or Vicky know. Let's ride!!**

**SUZIE PENTELOW #8532**  
**VICKY NODA #9990**

## Canterbury Capers



CHRIS CAREY #3497

**Sitting here with the sun streaming through the window and blue skies above, Lincoln - as indeed the whole of Christchurch - is slowly drying out. My mate at Akaroa recorded just over 300mm (in two days) on his rain gauge! We had about half that, and that was enough.**

Finally, Chez Carey has a computer, the first we've owned since the kids were at St Joe's in Nelson. I've only had company laptops, but as I'm retiring in a few months, it was not given back to me after being serviced. Retirement. It can't come fast enough. I've been asked what I will do? Dunno, anything, something. One thing for sure, you won't see me sitting in my pj's, smelling of pee, glued to the screen and endless reruns of Emmerdale Farm.

There have been a number of changes within the Canterbury branch, namely Chris Groube is now the Natcom treasurer and Debbie Macfarlane, their secretary. What is our loss is NetCom's gain. Rob Craw and Steve Parr have also resigned from the committee, both of whom have contributed a lot to the running of our branch. We have a lot of fun on committee, meeting the first Thursday or Thirst Day at the Papanui RSA for our meetings, although these meetings are often cancelled as there's nothing to discuss, or what needs to be, can be done via the phone or emails. Our last one was cancelled due to the state of emergency and the logistics of getting to the RSA. It took me an hour more than normal as I negotiated my way home from Lyttelton through a Rubik's Cube puzzle of road closures and orange cones, but Charlotte, a TT veteran, took it in her stride.

Replacing Chris as treasurer is Katherine Baker. Gavin, her husband,

is also stepping up and is now the liaison with new members. Beverley Cash, also a recent member of the branch, has also put her hand up, along with Stan, my old mate, both willing participants. Bruce Vincent, our branch St John liaison and Helicopter Hunt organiser, remains on the committee as does Chrissy Binnema, Sherrif and Welfare Officer.

We are also in the throes of appointing a secretary.

I know we often feel like we're indispensable (it massages our ego to think so), but we're not, and what warms the cockles of my heart is that when we lose such wonderful people as Debs, Chris, Steve and Robb, four others have immediately put their hands up. An injection of fresh ideas, new directions and energy.

A handful of us ventured north to New Plymouth for the 2025 AGM and gay-n-hearty, and on behalf of Canterbury I'd like to extend a huge thankyou to the 'Naki crowd for a fantastic event. It was like coming home as I rode north from Wanganui, looking into the distance for my first glimpse of Mount Egmont, as we did as kids on our way to the farm on Egmont Road in the Ford Popular, back then an all day trip from Wellington.

I have to thank Rob Craw, Gavin Baker and Euan Quaid for another successful poker run on ANZAC Day raising monies for St John. Also, to Maree and Bruce Vincent for their organisation and awesome route selection for the annual Helicopter Hunt. Thea Turner for her efforts with the 1000km Longest Day ride and while numbers were down on last year (it fluctuates), this ride is the only money we raise, other than fines and raffles on our monthly branch night, that goes towards the running of our branch.

We have had a number of guest speakers over the past few months, speakers from the Selwyn district prostate cancer support group. Meredith Young spoke of his experience with the Iditarod dog sled race in Alaska, and next week we have Jono and Melody from JR Motorcycles, a new service centre starting up in Rolleston and ideally situated, I'd say, with the expansion of Christchurch south and west.

The Wednesday Riders Knitting Group continues to grow, and they'll probably have another member come July 31st, so watch out! So too with a growing number of branch members addicted to the TT2000. I did warn them, but they wouldn't listen. However, with winter approaching, the number of rides and rallies has dwindled.

Coming up we have our midwinter Christmas dinner hosted by the Papanui RSA, which puts on a real good spread. In September we have the South Island Remembrance Service and in December we have been asked to help out with a 'secret squirrel' farewell for students from a local school, starting with a 'last exit' from the school grounds. This involves them walking onto the oval with the entire school and all the parents/whanau. The 'transport' appears and drives/rides onto the field. The kids hop on/in and go for a short (10-15min) tour near town before being dropped at a place where they start their adventure, a 4-5-day holiday together with no adults - their last adventure together - many of them started school together in kindergarten. Canterbury have been a part of this event before.

And that, as they say, is that.

Regards,

CHRIS CAREY #3497

# Wellington Witterings

JIM F #2098

**It's an overcast, drizzly day in Wellington after a glorious sunny ANZAC weekend, which is just as well, as it's the last day to get our contributions into the *Ulyssian*.**

This year we had a good turnout of around 80 motorcycles, with about 90 riders and pillion, and a dog. I recognised one or two members of Kapiti and Wairarapa branches who have regularly supported us, which is always good to see.

Our Ambulance Ride is unique, as we support Wellington Free Ambulance (WFA) which provides the ambulance service across the whole greater Wellington region, which includes Kapiti and the Wairarapa, while St John's provides the service over the rest of the country.

Apart from the Covid lockdown in 2020, when we simply gave a donation, Wellington branch has had an Ambulance Ride on ANZAC Day every year since the branch first started over 35 years ago. I think that unbroken record is probably also unique within the club, given

that ambulance rides seem to have dropped by the wayside in many branches over the years since the early days when it was the club's national charity event.

Since 2022 WFA has kindly allowed us the use of a couple of the vehicle bays at the ambulance station at Waterloo to set up our BBQ and refreshment facilities at the end of the ride. As their site faces onto an arterial route, the Ulysses flags have been useful in getting additional sausage sales and donations from passers-by. When the ride used to finish adjacent to the central Wellington Ambulance centre, it was not uncommon for people from apartments across the road turn up with plates to get sausages for their breakfasts. Every little bit helps.

We raise funds during the year with quiz nights, film nights and other events, and this year the branch donated \$4,000 to WFA. We do this ride rain or shine, so we pre-determine the amount to be paid to WFA to ensure that they always get a decent donation regardless of rider turnout.

There have been a few other rides since our last report, notably Pete's regular Thermos and Bun Rides, and the Meeting of the Clans at Tui Brewery. Great to catch up with mates from the other branches. Our February Coffee Ride coincided with NatCom's Fone-a-Friend promotion and started from MC3 Café and motorcycle museum, while our March coffee ride was a brunch at Cars Inc café and museum. Both cafes and museums are in Upper Hutt and well worth visiting if you are in the area.

A large contingent from Wellington attended the National AGM/Rally in New Plymouth. Unfortunately, several regular attendees were unable to attend, but we made sure we got as many non-attending members as possible to complete their postal votes for the crucial remits.

Taranaki Branch did the club proud with a very well organised event - well done team! Once again this was as great opportunity to catch up with old mates and make new friendships within the club.



Most of the Wellington members were highly visible on Saturday night thanks to our yellow and black bucket hats. The blokes were wearing hairy-chest design t-shirts, while Judy and Gillian had yellow bikini-design t-shirts, and we won the club's Best Dressed Branch at an AGM Trophy.

Mike, Kevin, Jason and I took the long way home, via the Coromandel Peninsula. It was a great ride up to Coromandel

township where we stayed for three nights. We had a great day riding down and around the southern loop, on the Tuesday, but we headed directly home on the Wednesday rather than overnight as planned in Tokaanu due to the expected bad weather. It was a 620 plus kilometre trip home, but we managed to stay ahead of the worst of the weather.

**JIM F #2098**



Wellington Ulyssians. Photo by Mal 'Axxle' Bain #8688

## Nelson nibblings **TONY CUTTEN #9289**

**Lorraine has taken a well-earned step back so the Nibblings will be a little different with new writers.**

2026 National AGM planning is rolling on. There are 22 accommodation options listed in the Ulyssian Magazine. You have the choice of AirBnB, motels, four camping grounds/holiday parks, two hotels as well as the Headingly Centre (Grace Church) grounds where the AGM will be held - but ONLY for self-contained RVs. And of course, the last resort of sleeping on an air mattress at your mate's place. Lorraine and Vicky will answer queries and questions. All

details of the programme, the accommodation and importantly the registration form appear in the *Ulyssian*.

The theme LIFE'S A BEACH was chosen to focus on what Nelson/Tasman is all about. Tahunanui Beach right in Nelson proper and very handy; Rabbit Island Beach, 13km long stretching from Mapua to the Waimea river inlet, is just a few kilometres away. Backed by pine forest, picnic areas with public gas barbecues and a wilderness feeling, it's great for walking – no motor-vehicles or bikes on the beach itself. The real gem is Kaiteriteri, known to all Kiwis for the golden, gritty, quartz-rich sand

derived from Separation Point granite. We invite Ulyssians from both ends of the country to an autumn visit to Nelson – find out why we live here.

Our weekly Saturday morning is held at Ali Oke, a modern café with good adjacent parking in the Berryfields subdivision in Richmond west, and very close to the Headingly Centre. There is always a welcome to visiting Ulyssians and please make yourself known to a committee member – easily identified as the noisiest, but possible wearing a light blue committee badge. Our rides subcommittee, under Allan Smith's

chairmanship, keeps a steady mix of local and longer distance rides on Sundays on offer. Thursday rides and impromptu rides are arranged spontaneously via Whatsapp, to keep the weekly calendar ticking over.

Our new committee members Gino Maresca, Lindsay Frame, Stephen Tucker and Gerry Tonkin are all up and running. As a committee we are up to full strength. A person to be coordinator is sorely needed to replace long serving coordinator Lorraine Lindsay. We are indeed fortunate that John Johnson continues to be the glue holding



us together until a new secretary can be found. In the meantime the chair of committee meetings will rotate through the committee members. John will continue to be point contact with National. The person taking the meeting minutes will also rotate to lessen the burden of the secretary job.

Gerry Tonkin, Nelson committee member, came up with Pass the Saddle - 33 Passes & Saddles to encourage members to explore the higher and lower passes of the Tasman region. For example, one at sea level, French Pass, and higher passes in the more remote areas of Nelson, Tasman and Marlborough. The complete list appears on the Nelson Ulysses website.

<http://www.ulyssesnelson.org.nz>

The challenge to complete most of the saddles was taken up by the intrepid partnership of members Andrew and Trish Spooner. As Gerry comments, these two have gravel for breakfast, dust for smoko and may even sleep on a bed of Matagouri and Spaniard. Attempts to ride the passes on Sunday rides

have been thwarted by weather but were achieved in January, February and March. Seven riders completed the Motueka/Moutere Hills group of passes, and ten riders the Golden Bay group of passes. Three riders also achieved most of the Marlborough passes (Molesworth area). As riders have grown older there appears to be a real aversion to gravel roads.

The next assault on the magic 33 passes will begin again next summer, as latterly (early April) our great run of fine weather through March ended with a good dump of rain in the first week of April, with decidedly cooler overnight temperatures. For the proper dirt riders who love the hard stuff, Gerry will arrange a dirt only ride next summer. Ulyssians visiting Nelson are invited to include a few passes in their rides. Note the Molesworth road closes from Easter Monday 21 April until 1 October, for winter.

Happy autumn riding!

**Tony Cutten #9289**



### **Big Thank You to Taranaki Branch from Vicki and Lorraine.**

We had an awesome time and were impressed with how hard you guys worked as a well oiled team.

The ride up and back was stunning as well.

Look forward to seeing you all at ours next year.

# Hawkes Bay

## BUZZ

**TONY HICKMOTT**  
#10416

**With the cooler weather upon us, it's time to reflect on what a great summer's riding we have enjoyed, though there are still plenty of options for rides coming up in the next few months.**

Hawke's Bay members have made the most off the fine weather we have had, and managed numerous rides, including the gathering of the clans at the Tui Brewery, local branch rides, and the weekday riders enjoying themselves out and about. Unfortunately, our trip to Rotorua was cut short due to a car vs car accident on the Taupo Road; luckily no one was seriously injured. Several members have managed to get away to the South Island and we had a great rundown from Trevor Wylie of his trip at the last branch meeting and hope to hear from the others who got away on their bikes for an adventure at upcoming meetings.

With the recent AGM being held in New Plymouth it was good to get away and make the ride to the event and catch up with friends and enjoy some great banter and local hospitality. It was a fantastic time away, with a detour up the Forgotten Highway a highlight. Congratulations

to the newly elected National Committee members, I do look forward to working with you all.

We will have held our St John ambulance ride by the time this is being read and let's hope for sunshine and plenty of bikes supporting this great cause.

And next on the calendar is our local AGM where we have received enough nominations for the committee roles and I look forward to seeing them carry on the good work from our previous committee members. And on that note, I would like to say to those that gave their time and put in such a huge effort a massive heartfelt thank you from me, it has been a challenging time for the branch but everyone stepped up and pulled together to keep the branch going stronger than ever.

As we move through autumn, I look forward to those chilly morning starts with the anticipation of a clear days for riding; rug up warm and keep those bikes out on the road is all I can say. I hope to see you all in Taupo to celebrate and remember our members who have passed on.

**TONY HICKMOTT** #10416



## from the **Far North**

Firstly, may I thank and congratulate the Taranaki branch for the amazing way they organised the 2025 Annual Rally and AGM in New Plymouth. Not only did they look after us all really well, but things happened when they were planned to, and they even managed to keep the weather good! Well done and thank you. Having said that, I obviously need to brush up on my doughnut eating skills and what's that about the bike raffle?

Life in the Far North has been going along pretty much as usual while we enjoyed the last throws of what has been a beautiful riding summer. It's this time of year when we are reminded just what a wonderful place we live in. However, rumour and repeated false comments can impact us (and any area). I met up with a member from the South Island who was doing a trip and wanted to go right up top to Cape Reinga. He had met some guys on the ferry who had warned him against travelling around on his own that far north, with tales of all manner of things



*Pete, rides organiser  
enjoying the beach*

and gangs on every corner. He asked the question on our Facebook page, and we met up for a pint, where I was able to put his mind at rest, help him plan his route and I know he really enjoyed it. Moral of the story, if you are travelling in an area you don't know and have any concerns, contact the local Ulysses co-ordinator, who will help and advise you — that's why we are a national organisation and, in my view, is one of the real benefits of being a member. If any other branches feel the desire to come up and explore what lies north of Auckland, get in touch and we can help with route planning and meet up.

As always, the rides are our guys' main attraction and these have continued every Wednesday and Sunday. In my last submission I joked that we ride all year although we might have a bit of a think if a cyclone is forecast — well, one turned up so we cancelled the Wednesday ride and a group of us met up in a local café for coffee and a chat. That actually worked really well and is something we will think about developing further. Although not a cyclone, the weather did bugger our planned ambulance run, so we are re-organising that as I write. I don't recall two rides being cancelled previously so that is a measure of how serious the weather events were.

Some of our guys have been supplementing the regular rides calendar (they never get enough riding) by organising a weekend in Coromandel and a ride along the beach from Bailey's to Pouto Point on the West Coast. All got back safely and had a blast.

Pete Groves, our rides co-ordinator is a resourceful bugger, and he managed to find a local bike enthusiast developing a motorcycle museum in a shed on his land and arrange a viewing. The collection was started by the current owner's father and includes a number of Triumphs (one in an unopened crate), Broughs, Vincents, BSAs, Nortons and Matchless. A very interesting day out right on our doorstep. Here's a few photos.

Looking forward, May is AGM month so we will be planning for that. We are anticipating some committee changes this time and it's a big thankyou to those who have served to support the local branch - we wouldn't have a branch without you. Also, in May our local quiz nights restart for the winter so we get the chance to exercise the grey matter under the grey and show just how much we thought we knew.

That's it for this one. Ride Safe everybody, and don't forget to continue to "grow old disgracefully"

Malcolm Perry

**FAR NORTH CO-ORDINATOR #10115**



## Waihi- Thames Valley WAFFLINGS

CHRIS BROWN #4797

Our summer and autumn up here in the Coromandel have been pretty good and we are not really thinking about winter. Thursday rides, Friday coffees, bike nights and meetings have been well supported and nice to see new members coming along.

A couple of interesting Thursday destinations included Adrian Worsley's sculpture museum in Te Aroha and a cute little church in Waerenga in the middle of nowhere. Yes, sometimes we go to church on a Thursday.

Just recently we had the 25th Beach Hop in Whangamata, which was the last one for local man Noddy Watts. He's world-famous in Whangamata and has even been on TV's Seven Sharp. The event brought in 120,000 people, 2000 registered cars, 1000 unregistered cars. A local collector brought in two of his late 1940's Indian Scouts to display in my shop. The town was heaving, gridlocked and was great fun with little to no trouble. God I love V8 petro carbons, used to sniff petrol down on the farm when I was a kid. Which probably explains a thing or two.

Also just got back from a brilliant National Rally & AGM in Taranaki. Well done Taranaki Ulysses. We had a good number of WTV members attend, but we didn't win the bike so we ripped up all of our tickets and threw them on the table. I enjoyed the lap around the mountain and the meals were excellent. Including the doughnut I had to force down my throat in competition with some big heavy-eaters. A few too many red wines and dancing to a great band saw me miss all the shuttles. But a nice local chap took three of us back to our hotels in his ute. Disgracefulness has to be done sometimes.

The planning for our November event is well underway with the route now being put down on paper. It will involve lots of winding roads and checkpoints for you to find and photograph, with points off for incorrect km's travelled. Should be a bit of fun. The councils are on board, advertising will start in a couple of months and hopefully a poster in the Spring *Ulyssian*. Until then keep dry and keep safe.

Cheers,

Chris Brown #4797





# Auckland's Answer

**CLIVE THOMAS**  
#2383

**Hi folks, and welcome to Auckland's Answer.**

**First off I would like to welcome Grant Johnstone onto the committee, and he has agreed to take up the role of vice president. Grant is a new member but he is full of enthusiasm to do good things for the club.**

It has been a terrible start to this year with the passing of seven current or past club members from the greater Auckland region; and I had a personal family tragedy so this year's Remembrance Service is going to be an extremely tough one on many levels. As far as I'm concerned 2025 can F off any time it likes.

I was unable to attend the national AGM. I understand that a great time was had by all of that did go. A big thank you to Nevelle Kerr for being my representative at the coordinators meeting. I was very pleased to hear that Lorraine Lindsay was given a life membership. Congratulations, Lorraine, it is very well deserved.

I was also very pleased to see that we will not be replacing the "Old Man"

logo. It is something that I have worn very proudly for 32yrs.

Here in Auckland we are still looking for a welfare officer, this requires someone who has great empathy for your fellow club members, is happy to make phone calls and possibly do hospital visits to check up on people. We also still need a new runs coordinator to replace Chris ,who did a fantastic job for 17 years. I am eternally hopeful that someone will put their hand up to take on this position and help your branch out.

Please remember that due to unforeseen circumstances the North Island Remembrance Service will be held on Saturday 16/8/2025, a week later than normal, so if you made reservations when you checked out of your motel last year please phone them and change the date. I hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Keep the shiny side up folks.

Cheers

**CLIVE THOMAS #2383**  
*Auckland President*

## North Harbour



**JOHN SHEARER**  
#9242

**In our last North Harbour Notes we had an obituary noting the passing of Sheriff Peter Web. In this edition the news is just as saddening with the death of Niki Morrison, who was a friend, colleague and foundation member of the branch and was our club administrator.**

Niki was an amazing woman. I remember when I first joined Ulysses going on a group ride and she and Paul (her husband) just annihilated the road. So quick. I thought she was on a low flying scud missile rather than on a bike. Twice we would reach waypoints where she was comfortably resting, coffee finished, ready to go and I just arrived. Lol. She told

and events, updating what we were up to, putting our newsletter together. She spent hours on it but she loved the club and its people and she just kept on keeping on. At our last meeting Niki made it a point to sit with a new member and make her feel

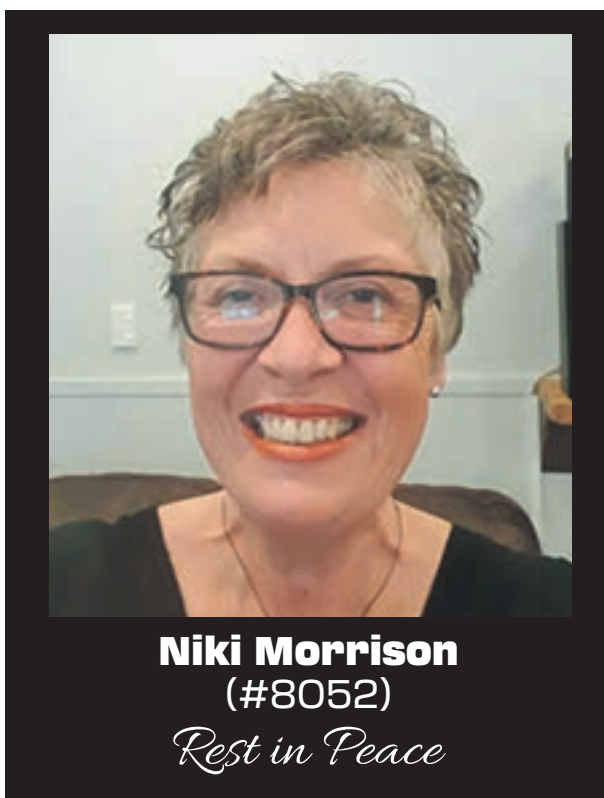


me she had been on track days and learnt how to race and passed on a couple of tips. She had a great riding skill set.

Over the past few years as treasurer and last year as president I got to know Niki more in her administration roles. Working on the calendar, posting photos

welcome. She didn't need to, it was extra, she just did it. Similarly she and Paul would host BBQs and open their home to all. With a chin wag, a smoke and a glass of wine in hand she made sure everyone was all connected and enjoying themselves.

Niki also loved her dogs and her puppies. When you first saw her wolf pack your eyes would roll off the beautiful gardens which she built, to look at some massive dogs galloping



**Niki Morrison**  
(#8052)

*Rest in Peace*

towards you. A little intimidating but Niki had them all under control. She had Paul make dog houses which were almost luxury apartments, and for the more nervous she would put the dogs away. She raised puppies and worked tirelessly on Saving Hope, a dog rescue programme.

Niki had a big heart for all strays and she and Paul fostered teenagers. Teenagers are not easy. Not even those who have normal life backgrounds. But some of the kids, by the time they got to her, had had an awful beginning in life and it took months and months with relapses to

help sort out these young people. That was Niki, and even though it took a lot out of her, she kept going and wanting to help.

Without saying, Niki's death is going to leave a huge hole in the life of her husband Paul, her family, all her friends and everyone who knew her. As with Peter we will grieve. All grieving is traumatic, the loss and echo of someone can not be just switched off. It takes time and processing and slow healing. To everyone affected and touched by Niki you have my condolences and sincere sympathy. Every peace and blessing.

# Westland CO-ORDINATOR'S DISCOURSE

**KERRY CHAPMAN #3443**

Once again, Westland has been dry and hot this year. Gwen and I had to make do with Harley and sidecar as the Honda Valkyrie decided to take a four-month visit to the doctor; the main bearing in the gearbox decided to tear itself apart and migrate throughout the engine, a hell of a mess. But we made it to the AGM at New Plymouth, after running in the fully rebuilt motor. It now runs as it should.

Our weekly coffee morning meetings are averaging between 12 and 15 members. 30 to 50 percent of the branch, which is rather good considering how spread out the members are. We have had several good rides including Kid's Day Out, Burt Munro Rally, rides to Punikaiki, Reefton, Westport, Hari Hari, to name a few of the short rides.

This is the driest weather that the coast has had in many years; even the Cantabrians that come over the hill say that it is warm on the coast for cruising, and like all the highways in NZ, the potholes are getting bigger. This is the reason the speed limits are being reduced instead of repairing the road, just slowing everyone down (how boring). We have had a couple of new members join and a couple have left due to age and no longer able to ride safely. I have been having doubts myself with my left eye fading fast. I am having trouble keeping an eye on the blue light gang. Not that I speed or do crazy shit on the road.

Off for another ride keep the shiny side up.

**KERRY CHAPMAN #3443,**  
*Ulysses Westland Coordinator*



North Harbour has been especially active in the last of this brilliant autumn weather. Our Wednesday Riders and our Sunday groups are going strong. Destinations like Raglan, Matakohē, Waipu, South head, Mangawhai heads to name a few. Great lunches and coffee at the destinations with some fun motorcycle and non motorcycle conversations sprinkled in for good measure. Blue sky and dry roads, wow such great riding conditions. And this mysterious fob too has appeared to tell a story. Over 50k down the motorway just hanging on the edge of the brake lever of a boxer R12...

**JOHN SHEARER #9242**



## Southland "Scribbles"

**ROSS L #1177**

**Hi all. It is pleasing to report that branch activities have been receiving encouraging support. On the social front, we have continued to hold our monthly dine-outs at a variety of venues and these have attracted good numbers. Our monthly coffee mornings have also been well supported, the only problem has been finding a suitable venue after our usual café closed its doors.**

Our regular branch rides have also been receiving pleasing support and members appear to have been enjoying the rides organised for them. The rides have been quite varied and have included a trip around Western Southland on what was probably one of the hottest days of the year. I have to say that riding in leathers when the temperature is 30C is a little challenging. In March the ride included a visit to a historic flax mill located near Riverton. The mill was actually operating on the day which was very interesting,

it was observed that "health and safety" did not appear to have been a major consideration when the mill was in full production all those years ago. The most recent event saw a small group head into the Catlins area for lunch at the Whistling Frog Café. The roads in this area always provide the opportunity for an interesting and fun ride.

We had also hoped to have another meet up with our fellow Otago branch members, however the weather intervened and disappointingly the planned event had to be cancelled at the last minute. Hopefully we will have better luck next time!

Well, I hope I have covered most of our branch happenings over the past few weeks, therefore I will close off, regards to one and all from "sunny" Southland.

**ROSS L #1177**

## Kapiti Kapers

PAUL NEES #6782

**It's completely my fault Kapiti branch has been missing in action the last couple of issues. My apologies. Life has completely got in the way, and I haven't even been riding motorcycles enough, even though the Kapiti/Horowhenua weather has been stunning. Them's the breaks, I guess.**

The branch has been continuing to function despite my distractions, thanks to the efforts of our wonderful members. Rides and trips have continued.

An impromptu very short ride to Ground Up Café in Pauatahanui, organised by our rides coordinator Glenn Hewett, attracted a large number of riders; a group had a few days of fantastic riding in the Taupo area; the popular coffee mornings continued; a highly successful April BBQ and film evening courtesy of Pete and Lea Whittington and a ride

to Ngawi for fish and chips was finally held (after two weather-affected attempts)

A select group of riders headed north about a week before the national AGM, having a fantastic few days riding and storytelling. The even made it to New Plymouth on time for the AGM! Thanks to Simon Margrett for stepping in for me at the national coordinator's meeting. He's our resident nerd/geek whose bright idea of a Ulysses app was, by all accounts, well received. Watch this space!

Our Ulysses Half Hour Radio Show continues to go from strength to strength with listener numbers increasing. We are aware of members across the country tuning in (the power of the internet!). Many thanks for listening. Recent episodes include a rundown of how a newbie rider with zero experience progresses to his/

her full licence; father and daughter bike racers Jade and Peter Bogusz. Find the episodes here <https://www.coastaccessradio.org.nz/Programmes/Details.aspx?PID=3cffde27-3718-4539-b01a-e3e2abcf7fa>

One of our valued members, Rick Barber #8921, sadly passed away on Sunday 27 April in Palmerston North. We thank Rick for his contribution and service to our club and send our condolences to his family.

By the time you read this I will have hung up my coordinator's helmet and begun to enjoy being a member and participating in lots of events and trips. I have enjoyed the role immensely (everyone should do it IMHO). I'm sure to catch up with you on the road.

PAUL NEES #6782



Film, food and booze at Pete and Lea's



Kapiti Crew in New Plymouth

# Marlborough Musings

JOHN (JG) SINCLAIR #9272

**Greetings from paradise everyone. Things are trucking along pretty well in Marlborough. Once we'd said goodbye to the January clag, the weather became much more favourable for riding, with lots of sea breeze days to keep the temperatures comfortable. Then we've had an awesome autumn, which is the season best suited to motorcycling in my humble opinion.**

Our Thursday rides continue to attract big numbers. In March we finally ran this year's MU (Marlborough Ulysses) 1000. We wanted to base this ride at Reefton but it wasn't until the fifth attempt that we had a favourable weather forecast. We all ride in the rain when we have to get home, but there's not a lot of support for heading out into wet weather that's forecast to last three days. In the end we made a short notice call when we could see a weather window and this meant a few were unable to come but we still managed 15, most of whom stayed at Dawsons Hotel, who also provided the meals. Whilst the 1000km route could have been ridden in a day, we took a leisurely three days. The first day was Blenheim, Murchison, Springs Junction, Reefton. Day two was Reefton, Pike River Memorial, Blackball, Moana, Lake Brunner circuit, Kumara for lunch then Westport, Denniston then back to Reefton via the Lower Buller Gorge. Day 3 was home via Flat Rock Café at Kohatu. There's no doubt about it that overnighting with your mates is a grand way to do a bit of bonding. On Day 3 morning, a number commented they didn't want to go home!

On 12th February we had our AGM and returned almost all the previous committee. The big change was that Kelvin Watson retired as coordinator after a period of six years. Poor health meant that Kelvin had been unable to carry out his role for the previous year. He was thanked profusely for his tremendous generosity of time over the previous seven years and for his service on the committee prior to that. We also have to have a

shout out for wife Julia who is also a member and been a great support to Kelvin throughout. You know how it goes; behind every man there's a good woman. Wendy Champion came on board as our new treasurer, and we are so lucky that she volunteered because she has a lifetime in accountancy. She will be a big asset to our branch.

Early in the year, one of our members, who is ill, donated his two scooters and his riding gear to our branch with a requirement that the sale proceeds be spent on upskilling riders on riding and First Responder responses. This was a wonderful gesture and a very practical gift. Together with the help from Natcom, we hope to see even more of our riders trained and we'll definitely be into the offer of Israeli Dressings and tourniquets that Natcom is providing FOC.

Since our last report we have welcomed seven new members into the branch. We hope they have long and enjoyable stays.

In respect of fundraising, we've taken part in two events so far this year. The Hospice Vehicle Display and Bike, which netted some \$9000, was our first and we had a large number of members display their bikes. The big attraction was Sheriff Jock Woodley who shows, demonstrates and rides Britten #2. He's an awesome advocate for motorcycling and has a lot of success on the track as the photo shows.



The second event was the Ambulance Ride which we ran on 26th April. Numbers were down but we still managed to raise \$700. We call it Rescue Ride and we support St John one year, Blenheim Volunteer Fire Brigade the next year and Nelson/Marlborough Rescue Helicopter the third year.



Two of us attended the National Rally and AGM and were blessed with fine weather riding both ways. Full marks must go to Taranaki Branch for such a wonderful and well organised event. Once the business was done, the disgraceful behaviour flourished, culminating in the Saturday night dinner and high jinks.

Thank you Taranaki.

And thank you too to Natcom for developing the Coordinators' Information Pack. This is a great initiative and a big help for those of us new to the role.

We have a happy little branch that thrives on riding, fun and compassion

**JOHN (JG) SINCLAIR (aka Parish Priest from Pongarehu, SH45)**

#9272

## Tauranga Titbits

MEL #7873

**Some of the happenings over the past couple of months from the sunny Bay of Plenty. Rides go on any day that someone posts on FB and invites others to join in. Saturdays, Sundays and any other days as the desire arises.**

There was a great turn out for a February ride to the Thames Wharf café on the 23rd with 12 bikes, one trike and a couple of four wheelers. A nice temperature day and a fun route. Travel was over the Kaimai hill (SH29) and via

some Waikato 'alternate' roads to the lunch stop, with the return thru the Kopu Hikawai to Whangamata. A short stop at the beach car park for a break and then to Waihi beach for an ice-cream before we headed back home. A very enjoyable day out, we covered around 300 kms.

Our first rest gone visit for this year was on the 7th of March and saw some 13 bikes on a mix of two and three wheels visiting the Cedar Manor in central Tauranga. A good turn out

for a weekday, and what a perfect day for it too. Paul obliged by giving a good number of residents rides on his trike. The rest home staff were very grateful for our attendance (we were very grateful for the afternoon tea) and we plan to make it an annual event.

The Taranaki branch did a great job running the National AGM weekend. Thank you for your efforts. The event was enjoyed by those from our branch who attended and got lei'd. This year we ordered more

Ulysses Bike Raffle books than previously, and branch members really got into the vibe and all tickets were sold. I was in New Plymouth and witnessed the draw. The eventual winner was sitting there in the audience as the raffle was drawn, which resulted in great jubilation at the Taranaki table. It was great to see and good to know that the proceeds from the raffle go to a specific fund for rider safety training.

The Tauranga branch AGM was held on 15th of



April. With no changes to last year's elected office holders from the SAGM. We're either doing something right or haven't yet had a chance to stuff up completely. There are also a number of our branch members who are eligible for length of service badges, so the first of two special branch meetings is coming up especially for

presentations. We have had several new member enquiries, which is great for the branch, and after contacting some members who had somehow 'disappeared' but have now reappeared, we are on the up with growing the branch. Our Waihi Beach rally (2nd - 4th May) is now only days away. and it looks like the weather gods are

looking down on us. A good number of registrations were received as it's always a great weekend to catch up with old acquaintances and make new friends. A great social atmosphere prevails. To that add in a quiz night, music and great catering and now we have our new flag up and ready to show our visitors the way. We still have our social

meetup at Columbus in Bethlehem town centre on Sunday mornings. If you're visiting feel free to pop in and say "Hi". On that note I wish you and us all a great autumn of riding. Cheers all, nga mihi and stay safe and warm.

**MEL (7873)**  
*Co-ordinator, Tauranga*



# Manawatu Murmurs

MURRAY CROSS #7908

**The Manawatu Branch has been active in several different ways over the summer months. Social events like coffee mornings have been well attended and we are seeing new faces turn up to find out what Ulysses is about. The standard branch rides have been OK, but the big growth is in our gravel rides. These are bringing in new members who want to use their adventure bikes as intended, while enjoying the camaraderie of the Ulysses group. We have also had new female members join our branch, and this has had a positive influence.**

We have had a couple of members making hospital visits. Colin Worsley for a long awaited hip replacement and Brian Hobson, who unfortunately had to be helicoptered out of an adventure ride near Greymouth with a badly broken leg. The offending limb had a rod inserted and Brian was last seen in a moonboot after the plaster was removed. The bike is doing OK

and enjoying its stay in Greymouth.

The February branch ride was a combination event. Kerry Ploen had organised an overnighter to Whangamomona. This was great, but the catch was that due to bookings on the Whanga Pub it was for Sunday night!! The intended audience was the retired members who wanted to have a leisurely exploration of this awesome area. To complement this the Sunday branch ride accompanied the overnight group up the Parapas and as far as the lunch stop in Taumarunui. The branch ride group then headed home via Tokaanu and Whakapapa while the overnighters trialed the fully sealed road on the Forgotten Highway.

March began with the Gathering of the Clans at Tui HQ in Mangatainoka. There was a large group of Ulyssians from all parts of the Lower North Island in attendance. Manawatu has accepted the responsibility of running the next event in March

2026. The following weekend a Sunday afternoon fish & chip ride was held to Mr Grumpy's at Foxton Beach. The ride had a great route and good attendance, but suffered with a disjointed group after a small "off" saw the cohesion break down. A good learning for all and those who took part still enjoyed the concept and the food.

The branch ride in March was organised by Michael Dittmer and was a Scavenger Hunt Challenge. While the attendance was modest, only six riders, the event was well run and tiki-toured around some great landmarks in the Manawatu.

The April ride was a group ride for those going to the AGM in New Plymouth but not taking part in the National Rally. The three amigos started early to make the meeting start time. Rod Anderson joined in on the rally ride to the lunch stop in mania and then headed home to Whanganui.



*Des Legg being presented with his 20-year badge at the March meeting.*



*Welcoming visitors from South Africa to our March branch meeting.*



*A couple of strays on the March Scavenger Hunt.*

Gavin Croad has been leading a number of weekday Retreads Rides for those retired members with time on their hands. These rides are generally shorter and slower paced than the normal branch rides. This enables new or returning riders to find their feet without the pressure of keeping up in a larger group.

The branch AGM will be held on 7th May with most of the committee staying on for another term. The main change is Howard Asplin standing down from the secretary/treasurer role after five years on the committee.

He has been the glue that kept the branch together over that time and he will be missed. Thankfully he is not disappearing completely and will still look after the newsletter and txt alert system. Past co-ordinator and treasurer Bruce Ebbett is also taking a break, having served on committee for over half of the time he has belonged to Ulysses. Big thanks to the other committee members for all their efforts to make our branch relevant and an enjoyable organisation to belong to.

The next big thing is our branch Mid-Winter Dinner, which is the

social highlight of the year. The new committee will be meeting soon to develop the ride and social event calendar through to Xmas. Our bi-annual NI (4 Points) Compass Rally is planned for October this year and the entry form is in this *Ulyssian*. We hope to see members from all around NZ enjoying our branch's feature event. Lots to look forward to.

Be safe on the roads.

**MURRAY CROSS #7908**

*Manawatu Co-Ordinator*



Scavenger Hunt.



Half of those present at the April coffee morning.



Off on another gravel ride in March.



March gravel ride lunch at Riversdale.



Regrouping on a Retreads Ride April 2025.



An impromptu gravel ride in April.

## Taranaki Tails

**BLAIR CAMPBELL #2772**

**The Taranaki branch has been very busy over the past few months with planned events, both local and hosting the National Annual General Meeting.**

Our monthly ride was well attended by our branch members and a couple of prospectives. The route taken is well-known to most riders, allowing for a smooth ride over the passes and varying terrain. Arriving at Whangamomona, several other riders decided to complete the same ride, which made for quite a congested lunch break at the pub. The sky changing to an uncomfortable shade of grey had riders donning wet weather gear and breaking away to head home before the heavens opened up. A great day with all returning home enjoying the day out and most of all dry!

The bustling atmosphere of the past months culminated in the hosting of the Ulysses National AGM, an event that brought together club members from the far North, Otago, and the West Coast of the South Island and other Ulysses branches from throughout New Zealand. The participation was overwhelming, highlighting the camaraderie and shared passion among the members. Our coordinating committee had worked tirelessly leading up to the event. Their effort was supported by the rest of the branch members, their wives, and partners to ensure it went well. Camouflaging the bowling green and transforming it into a stunning function setting surprised many and created an unforgettable experience.

Amid the celebration, a rapturous applause echoed through the hall as the Ulysses Motorcycle raffle draw reached its climax. The winner was announced: Mark Lundt from the Taranaki Branch. The excitement intensified when it was revealed that Mark was present in the event hall—an occurrence that hadn't happened for several years, eliminating the need for

the customary phone call. Mark stood up from his seat, his face radiating with a smile that captured the thrill of the moment. He gained ownership of the bike on Saturday 2 May, a large group from the branch and members of Mark's family were there to see the handover.

Our St John Ambulance charity run was a great success with 35 riders, some with pillion passengers, making the effort. The ride has us riding from New Plymouth, around Mount Taranaki and finishing with a BBQ at the St Johns building in Opunake. Taranaki had not held this type of event for approximately 20 years, and feedback comments were supportive of the initiative to conduct this event. The work arranging the event was credited to both Andrew and Suzi Pentelow and receipt of the money was acknowledge by a member of the Regional St John staff.

Our upcoming events and rides include an overnight to Raglan 24-25 May, with our Friday coffee sessions continuing.

**BILL KIDNEY #7217**

### Winter Storage for the motorcycle.

As we transition into the colder months, it's crucial to prepare your motorcycle for winter if you don't plan on riding it regularly. Proper winterization will ensure that your bike stays in top condition and is ready to hit the road when the warmer weather returns. Here are some key steps to follow for winter prep:

- **Clean Your Bike Thoroughly:** Dirt and grime can cause damage over time, especially when left on a bike for months. Wash it thoroughly and apply a coat of wax to protect the paint and metal surfaces.
- **Change the Oil:** Old oil can contain contaminants that may harm your engine if left for an extended period. Fresh oil will help protect your engine during the storage months.
- **Fill the Tank:** A full tank of petrol prevents moisture from accumulating inside the tank, which can lead to rust.

- **Disconnect the Battery:** If you won't be riding for a while, it's best to remove the battery to prevent it from draining. Store the battery in a cool, dry place and consider using a battery tender to keep it charged.

- **Protect the Tyres:** Inflate the tires to the recommended pressure and, if possible, store the bike on a stand to take weight off the tires and prevent flat spots.

- **Cover It Up:** Use a breathable cover to protect your bike from dust and moisture. Avoid using plastic covers that can trap condensation.

By taking these steps, you'll ensure that your bike remains in excellent condition throughout the winter, ready for your next adventure come spring. Happy riding!



# Rotorua RAMBLIN'

SMILEY #10243

**It's that time again to sit down and create some news for the *Ulyssian* magazine. A lot of action has been packed again into three short months and now it's time to recap.**

Actually, most of our happenings are always recorded on social media. Our branch joke seems to be 'what goes on tour' will end up on Facebook!

So how do we write something else that hasn't already been said?

We have had a great summer with impromptu get togethers, BBQs, rides and coffee get togethers. I find our monthly branch meetings are well attended and most bring new ideas and suggestions to the table. Our rides coordinator has a list of rides coming up and then we also throw in extra things to do as well. It is a challenge at times, to keep track of what is going on, but we know that communication is the key to connecting with each other.

Aside from our own activities there are the outer

BOP branches also creating rides and places to go to. If I had more time to attend them all... I would never be home. Works for me, living on my bike, two wheeling around the country with Kebin, however, don't know that my front door key would still work, when I finally returned home. Work is a necessity to put fuel in the tank and that's just the way life is! So, everything in moderation I s'pose and therein lies the answer to why I am not constantly two wheeling.

Anyway, the annual AGM hikoi, heading, this time, to the coast. We had about thirteen Rotorua members arrive in the 'Naki bro' for the NatCom AGM. That was a great weekend and we came away with a range of raffle prizes and our own Sean Wilson, proud as, under the yelling and yahooing of encouragement from the dining room floor, winning the donut competition. Who knew members could get that excited about a donut! And

then our cutest couple, Flash n Pam, who won the dress up competition with a swimming costume from the early ahh ... a long time ago

The Gin Trail was an experience. Mal didn't want to waste any gin, so he promptly consumed the bucket of tipped-out gin, so it didn't go to waste. Needless to say he had a shine on, lots of smiles, once we were on our way back to the motel. The weekend was another great time for re-connecting and making new connections, with other Ulyssians. A successful event, well worth the effort to attend with the chance to get some more kms on our bikes. Congratulations to the Naki branch, a team effort that was very well done.

Back to our branch news. Colin Berryman organized our first Dice Run, which was very well supported, not only by Ulyssians but other local motorbike clubs. We raised \$1,141.00 for Piripi, who has CP. Piripi is a local lad who is fundraising to be

able to purchase equipment to enable him to stand for longer periods.

We also took Elizabeth, who also has CP, for a short ride to the Bull Ring. Some bikes arrived outside her house and she was so happy. We popped her in Kelly's sidecar and we did a group ride, riding the highway, the wind in her face. Elizabeth had an absolute blast, she was smiling and so happy. How wonderful that small gestures of kindness can bring such happiness. By all reports, she is still reminiscing.

Our branch will also be holding another rally in 2026. Changing things up a bit so if you are keen to join us, we look forward to seeing you.

Date, venue, times and costs - we are busy working on some things... I have an idea!

That's about all I for this edition.

Stay upright, ride safe.

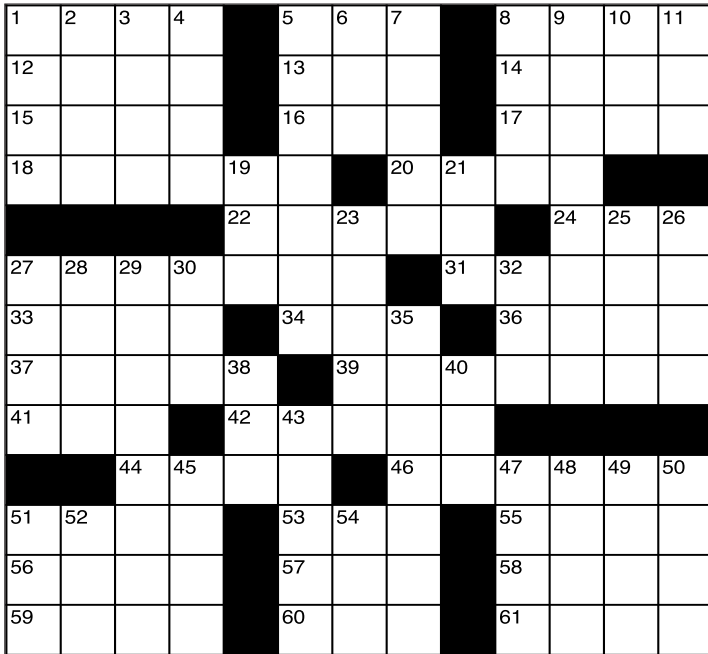
Cheers,

**SMILEY & KEBIN #10243**



# COFFEE BREAK

## PUZZLE NO. 161



- 8. Flip through
- 9. Large parrot
- 10. Citrus refreshment
- 11. Sleeping place
- 19. \_\_\_\_ foo yung
- 21. Purpose
- 23. Island greeting
- 25. Bicycle part
- 26. Nothing more than
- 27. Loaf
- 28. Pause
- 29. Brochures
- 30. Tall plant
- 32. Opposite of fore
- 35. More agile
- 38. Burro
- 40. Mountain resort
- 43. "\_\_\_\_ My Line?"
- 45. On a voyage
- 47. "\_\_\_\_ and Lovers"
- 48. Sycamore, e.g.
- 49. Attain
- 50. \_\_\_\_ machine
- 51. Grand Coulee or Hoover
- 52. United
- 54. Flower necklace

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### ACROSS

- 1. Farce
- 5. Consumer lures
- 8. Wound covering
- 12. Cuckoo
- 13. "A Boy Named \_\_\_\_"
- 14. Secret writing
- 15. Belongs to us
- 16. Cultivating tool
- 17. Got a perfect score on
- 18. Arranged in advance
- 20. Basketball shot
- 22. Drab colors
- 24. In the past

- 27. Forbidden by law
- 31. Chowed down
- 33. Combat of honor
- 34. Hither and \_\_\_\_
- 36. Stable baby
- 37. Pack animal
- 39. Record of events
- 41. Pixie
- 42. Wetland
- 44. Tie
- 46. Sews loosely
- 51. Fawns' mothers
- 53. Whole
- 55. Unwritten
- 56. Chip in a chip

- 57. Ball holder
- 58. Fiddling emperor
- 59. Tableland
- 60. Form of address
- 61. Exported

### DOWN

- 1. Spill liquid
- 2. 60-minute period
- 3. Piece of farmland
- 4. Forest-floor growth
- 5. Smoker's need
- 6. Twins
- 7. Poorly kept

## SUDOKU

### HOW TO PLAY:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: you must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column or 3x3 box.

### Puzzle 917

		4		3			5	
	9		2			3		
					4			2
			5	6				
3		1			9		8	6
					5		6	
	7		9				4	
		2						8

Answers to these puzzles are on page XX



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ALL EYES ON YOU**

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# BOOK REVIEW

**BY CLIVE LANE #10479**  
*from the Ulysses Nelson Newsletter*

**Stories from our BACK ROADS  
the South Island**  
*By Ray Stone*

*Published by Bateman Books 2020*

The gold rush is on, and miners from across the world are coming to New Zealand with the hope of striking it rich, followed closely behind by thieves and murderers. And following closely behind them is the hangman with his rope!

This book takes you on a discovery of the early settlers days of New Zealand, and the wonderful part about it is that you can travel there in the comfort of your armchair. Or you can get on your bike and visit the places in this book, like Murderers Rock or Butchers Point.

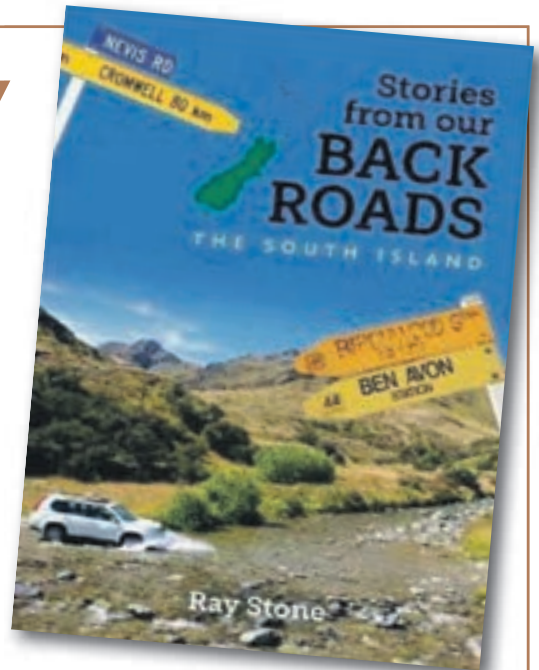
I have been on the look out for a book which not only has back roads/trails which I can explore but also a good description on what to expect if I decide to tackle a road or trail. This book is written for 4wd vehicles and each road/trail is broken down into categories - easily translatable to motorbike.

Type of 4wd: group A, Subaru Forester light SUV; group B, Toyota Prado medium 4WD; and group C, Toyota Landcruiser serious 4WD.

Type of tyres recommend:  
HT High way terrain tyres, AT All Terrain tyres and MT Mud Terran tyres - serious stuff.

To give you an example on how you could translate this to a motorbike: The Cob Valley, Motueka to Trilobite Hut ride is classed as group A 4WD and recommends HT tyres; this could translate to a scrambler or naked bike with road tyres, to tyres that are 80% road 20% dirt. The other end of the spectrum would be Reefton and the Big River Road. The author says it may be possible in a group B 4WD but group C is recommended using tyres in the MT group. This could translate to a KTM type bike using 50%/50% type tyres.

Now I could be totally wrong with my car to bike translations - I have not done either ride. I have been over to Golden Bay a few times with Ulysses but have not gone much further a field than a café. I am looking forward to a opportunity to do so and also enjoy the hospitality of a local café. So please if I am wrong with my comparisons, feed back would be fantastic.



In summary this book has all the right ingredients, with good descriptions of the back roads and trails including maps, references and a little bit of history behind each road or trail. Perfect for those of us who would like a little adventure but also enjoy learning a bit more about the places we visit.

You can contact Tony and borrow this book from the Ulysses library, I've had a read but feel I've only skimmed the surface so will definitely be borrowing it again.

Happy Riding

*Clive Lane*

## Member Discounts

### Butt Buffer

info@buttbuffer.co.nz 15%

### Bluebridge Ferry

**Ulysses10** 10%

Valid to 31/10/2025

### Ezibed NZ

www.ezibed.com

### Interislander

**JULYSSES1** 10% Valid to 15/12/2025

### Kiwi Fuelcards

Ulysses Sign up online

### Kiwi Motorcycle Rentals

info@kiwimotorcycl rentals.co.nz

10%

All relevant information is on the Ulysses NZ website.





ULYSSES CLUB

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NEW ZEALAND



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Address: \_\_\_\_\_



Please tick desired style(s) and circle colour, size and print colour

**LADIES TEE SHIRT** - \$35 plus postage  
Colour: Grey Marle / Sage / Light Blue / Black / Navy  
Size: XS / S / M / L / XL  
Print: Black / White / Silver

**MENS TEE SHIRT** - \$40 plus postage  
Colour: Black / Grey Marle / Petrol Blue / Cobalt / Coffee /  
Size: S / M / L / XL / XXL / XXXL  
Print: Black / White / Silver

**LADIES POLO SHIRT** - \$50 plus postage  
Colour: Red / Pink / Royal / Silver / Black  
Size: 8 / 10 / 12 / 14 / 16 / 18 / 20 / 22  
Print: Black / White / Silver

**MENS POLO TEE** - \$50 plus postage  
Colour: Silver / Royal / Navy / Slate / Cyan / Black  
Size: S / M / L / XL / XXL / XXXL / XXXXXL  
Print: Black / White / Silver

**To Order:** Scan this page and email to [administrator@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:administrator@ulysses.org.nz)  
Or phone our National Admin, Debby on **0800 859 772 (2:30 - 5:30 pm)**

# GEAR UP

## SENA PHANTOM

Introducing the Sena Phantom Helmet, the pinnacle of smart helmet innovation. This full-face helmet seamlessly integrates advanced communication features, premium audio, and enhanced safety measures into a sleek, aerodynamic design. With Mesh Intercom™ 3.0 and WAVE Intercom™, riders can enjoy crystal-clear group communication and extended connectivity via cellular networks. The Harman Kardon speakers deliver studio-quality sound, ensuring an immersive audio experience even in noisy environments. Safety is paramount with dual certification under DOT and ECE 22.06 standards, integrated LED lighting for visibility, and a built-in flashlight for practical illumination. The Sena Phantom Helmet redefines rider safety and convenience, offering an unparalleled experience on the road.

**WHITESPOWERSPORT**

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## TRIUMPH RAIN JACKET

Size: XS-XXL

The Triumph Rain Jacket is designed to go over your current riding jacket and has been sized to fit. Featuring tape sealed internal seams and elasticated hem and cuff, this packable top layer is designed to keep you dry when the weather is anything but.

Available from:

**TRIUMPH DEALERS OR  
TRIUMPHOUTLET.CO.NZ**

**\$219**



## CF MOTO MT450 CUSTOM SHOCK REVALVE

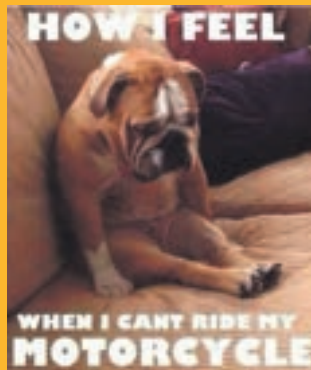
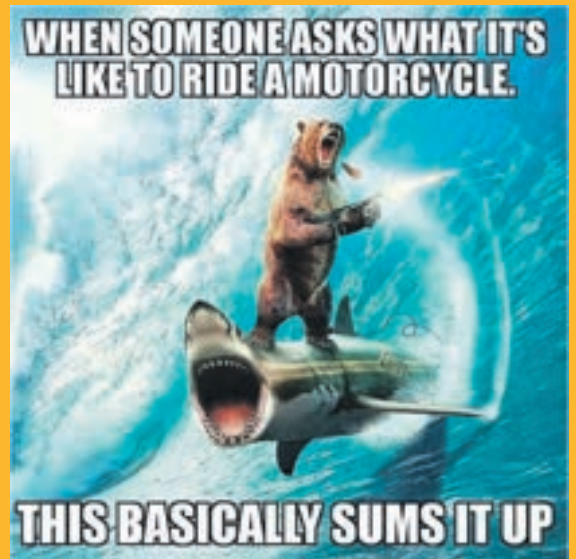
by Moto SR Suspension. Improve your ride. Fast turn around.

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# JUST FOR FUN

"It's better to grow old with a sense of humour, than to grow old with no sense at all!"



## COFFEE BREAK SOLUTIONS

### XWORD

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 161

S	H	A	M	A	D	S		S	C	A	B
L	O	C	O		S			S			
C	O	D	E		S			S			
A	C	E	D		H	O	E				
P	R	E	S	E	T	D	U	N	K		
I	L	L	E	G	A	L	S				
D	U	E	L		Y	O	N				
L	A	M	A		H	I	S				
E	L	F		S	W	A	M	P			
					B	A	S	T	E	S	
L	A	S	H								
D	O	E	S		A	L	L				
A	N	T	E		T	E	E				
M	E	S	A		S	I	R				
S	E	N	T		S						

### SUDOKU

7	2	4	6	3	1	8	5	9
6	9	8	2	5	7	3	1	4
1	3	5	4	9	8	6	2	7
9	8	6	3	1	4	5	7	2
2	4	7	5	8	6	9	3	1
3	5	1	7	2	9	4	8	6
4	1	9	8	7	5	2	6	3
8	7	3	9	6	2	1	4	5
5	6	2	1	4	3	7	9	8



# CO-ORDINATORS' CONTACT DETAILS

To update your branch's information contact: [editor@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:editor@ulysses.org.nz)  
or for website changes contact: [greig.neilson@web21.nz](mailto:greig.neilson@web21.nz)

## ADMINISTRATION:

P O Box 40218,  
UPPER HUTT, 5140  
**Debby Morgan**  
0800 ULYSSES  
021 072 3636  
[admin@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:admin@ulysses.org.nz)

## AUCKLAND

Manukau Cruising Club,  
Orpheus Drive, Onehunga,  
First Wednesday every  
month, 7.30pm  
**CLIVE THOMAS**  
[auckland@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:auckland@ulysses.org.nz)  
027 481 2700

## AUCKLAND N.HARBOUR

1st Thurs of the month,  
5.30-9pm, Hobsonville  
RSA, 114 Hobsonville Road,  
Hobsonville.  
**JOHN SHEARER**  
[n.harbour@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:n.harbour@ulysses.org.nz)  
Ph 027 482 2565

## BULLER

Contact for  
next meeting details.  
**PETE GRAHAM**  
[buller@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:buller@ulysses.org.nz)  
021 271 2846

## CANTERBURY

RSA Hall, 55 Bellvue Avenue,  
Papanui, Christchurch.  
Second Thurs every month.  
7pm  
**CHRIS CAREY**  
[canterbury@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:canterbury@ulysses.org.nz)  
021 497 155

## FAR NORTH

Rides every Wednesday and  
Sunday mornings. Depart  
10am from Burger King,  
Whangarei.  
**MALCOLM PERRY**  
[far.north@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:far.north@ulysses.org.nz)  
027 438 0052

## GISBORNE

1st Tuesday of the month.  
Bushmere Arms Public Bar,  
7.30pm  
**CHRISTINE (CHRIS)  
CAMERON**  
06 868 9661 / 027 460 2430  
[gisborne@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:gisborne@ulysses.org.nz)

## HAWKE'S BAY

Taradale RSA, 1st Wednesday  
of the month at 7.30pm  
**TREVOR WYLIE**  
[hawkes.bay@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:hawkes.bay@ulysses.org.nz)  
0275 226 830

## KAPITI COAST

2nd Tuesday each month,  
7:30pm. Manukau Bowling  
Club, 10 Mokena Kohere  
Street, Levin  
**PAUL NEES**  
[kapiti@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:kapiti@ulysses.org.nz)  
022 571 9381

## MANAWATU

1st Wednesday each month  
(except January) at the  
Bunnythorpe Tavern  
at 7.30pm.  
**MURRAY CROSS**  
06 323 2660 / 027 702 4455  
[manawatu@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:manawatu@ulysses.org.nz)

## MARLBOROUGH

3rd Wednesday monthly,  
Portacom A&P Park. Coffee  
Morning Runway Café, SH6  
every Saturday 10am.  
**JOHN SINCLAIR**  
[marlborough@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:marlborough@ulysses.org.nz)  
027 314 2151

## NELSON

Coffee morning, every  
Saturday 10am-12noon.  
Alioke Eatery, 4A Central Park  
Lane, Appleby, Richmond. All  
welcome, with space to park  
your bike or car.  
**JOHN JOHNSTONE - Secretary**  
[nelson.sec@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:nelson.sec@ulysses.org.nz)  
027 416 4666

## NORTH OTAGO

Various venues.  
3rd Wednesday of each  
month. Contact Glenda  
**GLENDA HAGENSON**  
[n.otago@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:n.otago@ulysses.org.nz)  
021 162 8110

## OTAGO

First Tuesday. each month,  
7pm at the Otago M/C Club  
(OMCC) rooms, 3 Clark St  
**MIKE WYATT**  
03 453 5287 / 027 642 8400  
[otago@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:otago@ulysses.org.nz)

## ROTORUA

Mcds room, Fenton Street,  
Rotorua, 7pm last  
Sunday of the month  
**LEIGH-ANN CRANE**  
[rotorua@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:rotorua@ulysses.org.nz)  
021 0266 0528

## SOUTHLAND

Contact co-ordinator for next  
meeting and ride details  
**ROSS LAWRY**  
03 218 2900 / 027 227 2522  
[southland@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:southland@ulysses.org.nz)

## SOUTH CANTERBURY

3rd Thursday of Month at  
7pm  
Ascot Sporthouse and Eatery  
Washdyke, Timaru  
**GAVIN BARKER**  
021 468 979  
[s.canterbury@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:s.canterbury@ulysses.org.nz)

## TARANAKI

New Plymouth Club,  
49-55 Gill Street,  
New Plymouth. 6pm,  
3rd Wednesday monthly  
**BILL KIDNEY**  
[taranaki@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:taranaki@ulysses.org.nz)  
021 264 9598

## TAUMARUNUI

RSA, 1st Wednesday each  
month. 7pm. Rides 10am,  
Mobil, Sundays  
**TONY RITCHIE**  
[taumarunui@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:taumarunui@ulysses.org.nz)  
027 475 0428

## TAUPŌ

Taupō Cosmopolitan Club,  
Taniwha Street, 7:30pm.  
2nd Thursday each month.  
**BART RHODES**  
Ph 027 522 7866

## TAURANGA

Tauranga Citizen Club,  
13th Ave; Upstairs at 7.30,  
3rd Tues monthly.  
**MEL THOMPSON**  
Ph 027 646 3084

## WAIHI-THAMES VALLEY

2nd Sunday monthly  
2pm at the Paeroa RSA  
**CHRIS BROWN**  
[waihi.tv@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:waihi.tv@ulysses.org.nz)  
027 257 6602

## WAIKATO

Hamilton Cossie Club  
32 Claudelands Road,  
Hamilton East. First Tuesday  
of every month except Jan.  
**ALLAN BRUNSKILL**  
[wai\\_kato@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:wai_kato@ulysses.org.nz)  
022 438 0627

## WAIRARAPA

Club Carterton (RSA), 35  
Broadway Street, Carterton.  
3rd Monday monthly, 7:30pm  
**TONY ALLEN**  
[wairarapa@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:wairarapa@ulysses.org.nz)  
027 432 5075

## WELLINGTON

Petone Workingmen's Club,  
Udy Street, Petone, 7.30pm,  
2nd Tuesday monthly  
**JIM FURNEAUX**  
021 244 2091  
[wellington@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:wellington@ulysses.org.nz)

## WESTLAND

Coffee every Sat, 1000hrs at  
the Honey Café, Kumara.  
**KERRY CHAPMAN**  
[westland@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:westland@ulysses.org.nz)  
027 472 8289

## WHAKATANE

Ohope Chartered Club,  
Ohope, 7.30pm,  
2nd Wednesday monthly  
**JEREMY NEWELL**  
Ph 022 625 5935

# UPCOMING RALLIES

***To avoid missing out and having our rallies the same weekend as another branch, we are planning ahead for November rallies.***

*1st Friday of November Taranaki Rally  
- every second year so next will hopefully be 2026*

*2nd Friday of November Waikato Rally*

*3rd Friday of November Auckland Rally*

***We hope to adhere to these dates but of course we are reliant on venue availability. Remember this is not locked in concrete, it is an idea we hope will work for each of the three branches.***



## **AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL RALLY 2026**

**For your information and possible planning of holidays: The Ulysses Club Australian National Rally 2026, will be held from 15th - 25th of May, at Nambour on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland. The theme is: "Sun, Surf and Sand"**

The Ulysses Club Australian National Rally 2027 will be held in April (date to be determined) at a place some of you may have heard of, Mt Panorama (famous race track) at Bathurst in New South Wales. The Grande Parade for the 2027 event will be three (3) laps of the circuit. Maybe more, but officially only three for the actual Grande Parade.

**For more information, please go to the Australian website at: [www.ulysses.org.au](http://www.ulysses.org.au)  
Allan Pratt #9186 D.M#22  
President, Ulysses Club Inc. Australia**

# ULYSSES CLUB MANAWATU

## COMPASS RALLY - MOTORCYCLE POKER RUN

### REGISTRATION FORM 2025: CLOSING DATE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND

(Badge orders for hand-out at prize-giving close 12th September)

**\$50 per Card Hand (includes light refreshments and a \$10 donation to Hato Hone St John. Badge please add \$10 Pillion at Prize-giving (if not playing poker) add \$5**

Complete all or any 5 points in any order from Wednesday October 1st and finish with the drawing of the last card in Palmerston North on Saturday 1st November.  
Point photo may be required in lieu of a point card (eg dealer shut).  
All points are currently accessible. Best 5 cards counted.

Prize-giving is in Bunnythorpe. Winners must be present. All riders welcome!

**Rider Name** .....

**Ulysses# (if member)** .....

**Pillion Name** .....

**Ulysses# (if member)** .....

**Address:** .....

**Branch (or other club)** .....

**Year and Make of Motorcycle** .....

**Rego (for photos)** .....

**Cell Phone:** ..... **Home phone:** .....

**Email address:** .....

#### INTERNET BANKING 03 0726 0495751 00 "Ulysses Club Manawatu"

Please include **4Points25** in 'Particulars' and your **Name (and Ulysses number if applicable)** in the 'Reference' field, then email this form to the email address below.

I have paid \$\_\_\_\_\_ being \_\_\_\_\_ hands, and \_\_\_\_\_ badges\* on \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

Incl pillion if not holding a hand and attending the prize-giving @\$5.00

\*Badge orders have to be in with the supplier by 3 September. Later entries requiring badges may have to wait for them to be sent after the prize-giving.

Email preferred (or post) your completed form once internet payment is done to:

**The Secretary, Manawatu Ulysses Branch, 361 Ruahine St, Palmerston North 4410**

**Email: 4pointsrally@gmail.com Text (Enquiries): 021 102 8855**

Postal address and cell contact subject to change due to pending Branch AGM.

Email is the simplest way to communicate, please.

**Further information for the event and destinations, including your score sheet will be sent by email in the 2 weeks prior to the rally commence date. Let us know of any bike changes if necessary.**



# ULYSSES AUCKLAND RALLY

## “RIVER MEETS THE SEA”

Start planning now... Lock in these dates on your calendar and make sure you are coming to our 2025 Auckland Rally.

**Friday 21 - Sunday 23 November 2025.**

### We have:

- ✓ Our great chefs feeding us again
- ✓ A raffle table
- ✓ 24/7 tea and coffee
- ✓ Fridges to store your BYO
- ✓ Home baking

**Rally details will be in next Ulyssian.**



## 37th Waikato Branch Annual Rally

### 7-8 November 2025

**Entry Fee - \$25.00 per person, Tea, Coffee, Hot water, Gas rings, Breakfast. BYO food, utensils, refreshments & accommodation. Tin tops and caravans OK.**

The Ulysses Club's first Back to Nature Rally and still going after 36 years.  
No bands. No organised entertainment.

Directions – From Whakamaru, travel south on SH32 (Western Access) for approx 24kms.  
Turn right into Kakaho Road (Look for Ulysses sign) then 3km to campsite.

**Enquiries to N Tyler 078288230, 0274943506, nevt Tyler@xtra.co.nz.**  
**Registration and payment (cash) on site please.**

Ulysses Members. Family & Dearest Friends only.

I agree to hold the organizers blameless for any injury or accidental damage while attending or travelling to or from this event.



# South Island Remembrance Service

Hosted by Canterbury Ulysses

**Kaikoura Top 10 Holiday Park, 34 Beach Road, Kaikoura  
1pm, Saturday, September 13, 2025**

We have the use of the conference facilities.

Afternoon tea and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided after the reading of names.

At 6pm, join us for a meal at the Black Rabbit Pizza Kaikoura. Ph (03) 319 6360.

[blackrabbitkaikoura@gmail.com](mailto:blackrabbitkaikoura@gmail.com)

Bookings later than 3rd September will not be taken, so first in, best dressed.

Later on, after dinner, an 'after match function' for recovery and rehydration will be held in the TV lounge. Members are asked to BYO a plate and whatever type of plonk 'tickles ya fancy', to put the world to rights whilst striving as best we can to get back to core values by behaving disgracefully.

Those whose names have been read out would expect nothing less of us.

Punters are urged to book accommodation, tent sites, etc at the Top 10 sooner rather than later. For bookings: (03) 319 5362, or email: [reception@kaikouratop10.co.nz](mailto:reception@kaikouratop10.co.nz) and use Ulysses as the reference.

Ride badges are \$20 and must be paid for online. Email Debbie Macfarlane at [canterbury.sec@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:canterbury.sec@ulysses.org.nz) and she'll take your order.

Online payment to:  
Westpac 03-1594-0041946-00

Please include your name and 'Rembadge' in reference fields.



# **NORTH ISLAND** *Remembrance Service*

**Saturday 16 August 2025, 2:00 pm at Great Lake Centre, Taupo  
(Tongariro North Domain, Story Place, Taupō)**

**YES, ONE WEEK LATER THAN USUAL, this year 3rd Saturday of August, 2025**

Ulysses Auckland branch, in association with Ulysses Taupō branch, invite all Ulyssians to come together at our annual Remembrance Service and remember members who have passed away.

If you intend staying in Taupō, please make your own accommodation arrangements.

An organized social event is intended for the Saturday evening. Once planning is finalised, details will be available on the Auckland Ulysses website.

Badges and embroidered cloth badges will be sold on the day, both at the morning organised Taupō ride and at the venue. Hot drinks and biscuits will be available in the main foyer on your arrival in the afternoon. A donation will be appreciated.

**The Remembrance Service starts at 2pm; please be early so you can be seated in the hall before that time.**

*A group ride on Friday 15 August from Auckland to Taupō is being planned. A formal ride of respect through Taupō will be held on the day of the service. All ride details will be available in the branch newsletters and websites closer to the event.*

Any questions, please contact:  
Auckland branch president,  
or Peggy O'Neal at  
[remembrance@ulysses.org.nz](mailto:remembrance@ulysses.org.nz).

Please also keep visiting our website  
[www.ulyssesauckland.org.nz](http://www.ulyssesauckland.org.nz) for further  
information.

Ulysses Club - Auckland Branch  
([ulyssesauckland.org.nz](http://ulyssesauckland.org.nz))



**ULYSSES CLUB NZ INC.**  
**2026 NATIONAL  
RALLY AND AGM**

*Hosted by*  
**ULYSSES NELSON**

**27-29 MARCH, 2026**



**VENUE:**

**THE HEADINGLY CENTRE**  
2 Headingly Lane, Richmond 7020

**Come & experience  
Nelson/Tasman like  
never before for  
our National AGM  
Weekend.**

**KEEP UPDATED**

<http://ulysses.org.nz/national-rally-and-agm/>

For all queries or  
questions:

**Lorraine Lindsay**  
**021 276 5656**  
or **Vicki McGhee**  
**021 278 3552**

or email:  
[ulyssesnelson2026@gmail.com](mailto:ulyssesnelson2026@gmail.com)

**ITINERARY:**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026**

9am - 12pm: NatCom Meeting

1pm - 4pm: Co-ordinators' Meeting

12pm - Registrations Open

4.30pm - Bar opens

5.30pm onwards - Welcome,  
Housekeeping, Mix & Mingle, Games

6pm - Dinner starts

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026**

9am - AGM Registrations (new arrivals)

10am - 11.30am - AGM

12pm - 4pm - Ride and other non-ride activities

*Theme: Life's a Beach*

4.30pm - Venue opens for evening

6pm - Dinner starts

6.30pm - 'Don't Fret' band starts

8.30pm - Bike Raffle, followed by other  
raffles & prizes

11pm - Close of Evening

**SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026**

7am - 11am - Breakfast & Farewells at Alioke Eatery

# Ulysses Club NZ 2026 National Rally and AGM

## 27-29 MARCH, 2026

Headingly Centre  
[N.B. ONLY FOR SELF CONTAINED RV's]  
2 Headingly Lane, Richmond  
To book your free site (limited spaces):  
UlyssesNelson26@gmail.com  
Distance: On site

Queen Street Holiday Park  
422 Lower Queen Street, Richmond  
info@holidayparknelson.co.nz  
03 544 7677  
Distance: 0.3 km

Richmond Park Motorhome Camp  
358 Lower Queen Street, Richmond  
manager@richmondpark.nz  
03 544 7181  
Distance: 0.9 km

Redwood Stables Holiday Park  
384 Lower Queen Street, Richmond  
redwoodstablesholidaypark@gmail.com  
021 0912 7868  
Distance: 1.0 km

Oxford Court Motel  
73 Oxford Street, Richmond  
enquiries@oxfordcourtmotel.co.nz  
0800 351 352 / 03 544 8003  
Distance: 1.6km

Gladstone Motel  
19 Gladstone Road, Richmond  
info@gladstonemotel.co.nz  
0800 449 984 / 03 543 9984  
Distance: 1.6km

Queen Street Studios  
244 Queen Street, Richmond  
info@aw.kiwi.nz  
0800 427 844 / 03 544 7164  
Distance: 1.6km

Richmond Motel and Holiday Park  
24 Gladstone Road, Richmond  
stay@richmondmotel.co.nz  
0800 250 218  
Distance: 2.0km

Parkside Motel  
42 Gladstone Road, Richmond  
info@parksidemotel.co.nz  
0800 161 212 / 03 544 2264  
Distance: 2.2km

Room For Two B&B  
77 Champion Road, Richmond  
027 566 4842 (Cindy)  
Distance: 2.5km

Lavender Studio B&B  
222 Hill Street, Richmond  
027 312 3517 (Daphna)  
Distance: 3.4km

Rose Cottage B&B  
83 Hill Street, Richmond  
Distance: 3.6km

The Pear Orchard Lodge  
569 Hill Street, Hope  
stay@thepearorchard.co.nz  
03 544 5361 / 021 022 46501  
Distance: 4.0km

Saxton Lodge  
103 Saxon Rd East, Stoke  
info@saxtonlodge.co.nz  
0800 088 866 / 03 547 1375  
Distance: 4.8 km

Country Retreats on Ranzau  
216 Ranzau Road, Hope  
021 548 373 / 03 547 1375  
Distance: 4.8km

Appleby House / Rabbit Island Huts  
305 Redwood Road  
Rabbit Island  
027 663 2639  
Distance: 6.5 km

Boutique Motel  
7 Bail Street, Stoke  
boutiquemotelnelson@gmail.com  
03 547 1439  
Distance: 6.8 km

The Beachcomber  
23 Beach Road, Tahunanui  
stay@beachcomber.co.nz  
03 548 5985 / 027 625 5116  
Distance: 7.8km

The Honest Lawyer, Ascend Hotel  
1 Point Road Monaco, Stoke  
info@honestlawyer.co.nz  
03 547 4070 / 0800 921 192  
Distance: 8.1 km

The Apple Pickers Cottages  
43 Apple Valley East Road  
stay@applepickers.nz  
021 721 730  
Distance: 11.0km

Redwood Valley B&B  
159 Stringer Road, Redwood Valley  
0275483793 / 035483793 (Maria)  
Distance: 11.0km

Tahunu Beach Holiday Park  
Golf Road, Tahunanui  
huna@tahunabeach.co.nz  
035 452 127  
Distance: 12.0km

## AGM 2026 Accommodation options around Nelson/Tasman

### Example of Rally 2026 Polo Shirt front and back:



**Polo Shirt -  
Colour Grey/  
Green. A  
BIZ COOL™  
performance  
polo. Grid  
mesh  
underarm  
and side  
panels  
for added  
ventilation.**



Example of  
cloth patch -  
size 10cm x  
7cm (100mm x  
70mm)



# Ulysses Club NZ

## 2026 National Rally and AGM

### VENUE:

**THE HEADINGLY CENTRE**  
2 Headingly Lane, Richmond 7020

## 27-29 MARCH, 2026

Name:	Address:
Ulysses Member No:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tick if Coordinator and or <input type="checkbox"/> Tick if NatCom Member	
Phone:	Branch:
Email:	
Partner Name:	Partner Ulysses Member No:
<input type="checkbox"/> Tick if Coordinator and/or <input type="checkbox"/> Tick if NatCom Member	

	Number	Per Person	Amount						
National AGM / Rally <b>Registration Fee:</b> Payable by all attending		\$40.00							
SELF CONTAINED RV overnight limited parking for Friday & Saturday [N.B. ONLY FOR SELF CONTAINED RVs: Any queries email: <a href="mailto:UlyssesNelson2026@gmail.com">UlyssesNelson2026@gmail.com</a> ]		Free							
<b>National Rally Badge 2026:</b> <i>Cut off badge order: 27th January 2026</i>		\$10.00							
<b>Nelson Badge 2026:</b> <i>Cut off badge order: 27th January 2026</i>		\$10.00							
<b>Friday Evening:</b> Meal – The Headingly Centre, light food. <b>Bar Opens:</b> 4:30 pm <b>Dinner Starts:</b> 6.00pm		\$27.00							
<b>Saturday Afternoon:</b> <b>Rally Ride - Banjo Country adventure.</b>									
<b>Saturday Evening:</b> Meal – The Headingly Centre <b>'Smorgasbord Menu'</b> <b>Bar Opens:</b> 4:30pm <b>Dinner Starts:</b> 6.00pm		\$50.00							
<b>Dress Up:</b> Prizes for <b>Best Interpretations</b> of <b>"Life's a Beach"</b> Please make every effort to dress up. It will be fun!									
<b>Sunday Morning:</b> Breakfast 7:00am to 11:00am - <b>Alioke Eatery</b> <b>4A Central Park Lane, off Berryfield Drive, Richmond 7020.</b>		\$25.00							
Please list your <b>Dietary Requirements</b> here:									
<b>Rally Embroidered Cloth Patch- <i>Cut off badge order: 27th January 2026</i></b>		\$30.00							
<b>Rally Polo Shirt</b> – Refer to Accommodation page for polo style <i>Cut off for order: 27th January 2026</i>		\$50.00							
Polo Shirt Sizing: Please circle size required:	<b>Total</b>		\$						
<b>Men:</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>XL</b>	<b>2XL</b>	<b>3XL</b>	<b>5XL</b>		
<b>Ladies:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>24</b>

**Payment** will be by Bank Deposit or Online Banking: **NBS 03-1354-0222852-01**

Please include your **Ulysses Number** and **Surname** in the details.

Scan and email the **Registration** form to: [UlyssesNelson2026@gmail.com](mailto:UlyssesNelson2026@gmail.com)

Registrations will be acknowledged via reply email.

**Cancellation Policy:** In the events of a Covid outbreak or similar related Regional/National lockdown, any payments made will be refunded unless the purchase of items ordered has been committed to, in which case the items will be shipped and the refund reduced accordingly.

**Registrations & Orders Close: 27th January 2026**



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