



The Beavertown News

February 2018

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*HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Ray Beard*



*RIP
Peter Unger*





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Coordinators word...

Hi everyone,

Hope everyone has survived the holiday season & looking forward to a few rides around the district.

Sad news about Peter Unger who passed away right on Christmas. On Saturday 10th February in the afternoon there will be a memorial for Peter down at Ngakuta Bay foreshore in the form of a BYO picnic with Liz his partner. Hopefully lots of our members will attend. I would like to thank John Sinclair for writing a Eulogy for the Branch.

Our Branch AGM is being held on Thursday 15th February at The Redwoodtown Community Hall in Weld St from 7-30pm. I would like to see some of newer members put their nominations in for the committee. Attending members please bring a plate of supper to share & we will supply tea & coffee.

Our Back To Basics Kaituna Ridges Rally is shaping up to be another successful event. Currently I have 42 registrations. Look forward to a few more locals coming, so hurry along & get those registrations in to me with your money.

Charlie Brown #4 in NZ will be there. 18th February is the cutoff date for catering purposes.

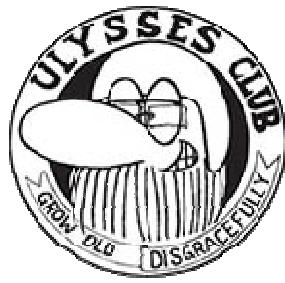
For those members including Julia & myself who rode down to Kaikoura recently on the newly opened SH1 it was a pleasure, and how good to have it open again. Lots of new scenery and some new road to travel on. Travel times haven't increased very much even with stop/go & some road works. Good to catch up with a couple of our Kaikoura members after all this time too!

Julia & I are looking forward to attending the National AGM in Mosgiel in March along with other Marlborough members who are attending.

Our February mid-month dinner is at The Yard Bar on Saturday 17th. They have a great menu there and an even better chef, so why not give Tim Wills a call (before 15 Feb) and put your name down as attending. There is a notice about it further on in this newsletter.

Everything else in the Branch is "Ticking" along pretty well, & we still get to welcome the occasional new member which is great. Happy Riding.

Till next time, Kelvin #3602.



There is an island which is disputed territory between Canada and Denmark. The militaries of both countries periodically visit to remove the other guy's flag and leave a bottle of Danish schnapps or Canadian whiskey. This is what happens when nice countries fight.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!.... February 2018

Peter Bedborough
Lester Hope
Graeme Howarth
Paul Knight

Iain MacDonald
Louise Pearce
Rob Pears

Gerald Slatherly
Ivan (Grumpy) Stewart
Gary Tyson
Sandra Wright

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Kawasaki



Marlborough Motorcycles
53 Grove Road
Blenheim
New Zealand
Ph: 03 579 2500
03 578 1213
Fax: 03 579 2504
M: 027 230 3151

Marlborough Motorcycles, owned by locals Brendon and Cathy Wadsworth for 15 years here in Marlborough, has recently added Kawasaki to their line up. They now stock road bikes and accessories in store, along with road bike servicing by qualified road bike technicians with over 40 years experience in the industry.

So for all your road bike, motorcross, enduro, trail riding and trials requirements see the experienced local team at Marlborough Motorcycles. Farm four wheelers, side by sides and on site servicing of farm bikes is also their speciality.

Marlborough Motorcycles is open Monday – Friday 8am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am – 12pm.



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enjoy.

MINUTES of the last Committee meeting...

Committee Meeting 4th January 2018 McDonalds, Main Street, Blenheim.

Meeting start: 7.02pm

Attendees: Kelvin Watson, John Laing, Tom Brown, Jane Laing, Evan Teale, Tim Wills, Melissa Wills, Jeff Champion.

Apologies: Joan Robinson, Kevin Bright.

Minutes of previous meeting; True and accurate, Evan Teale moved, Tom Brown Seconded.

Matters arising: Christmas Party was Brilliant, lovely food, good location everyone really enjoyed themselves.

Toy run was a success, Santa suit fitted Tim perfectly, a good turnout of bikes (98) and a good number of Toys given to the Salvation Army.

Inwards correspondence: Receipt from Blenheim School for \$50 for Carpark use for the Toy run. Email from Robyn Blackburn regarding advertising for the Newsletter.

Outwards correspondence: None

Treasurer's report: Accounts to pass for payment: Plastic plates etc for Christmas Party: \$30.60, Bowling Club hire \$80, Flowers sent to Peter Unger wife \$50, Natcom gear \$348, Refund for Peter Unger registration for Rally \$60, Receipt for Toy run Badges \$820, \$147 to pay for gear payment, John Sinclair \$15 payment to be repaid back, Gill McVie membership to be paid back also. No MYOB Balance sheet report for December. We will ask Kevin Bright to apply to Natcom for a refund for the flowers sent. John Laing moved, Jeff Champion seconded.

General business;

Kaituna Back to Basics Rally: 29 Registrations so far, Procrastinators have had one band practice, more to follow, Kelvin will organise portable toilet \$90 for the campers, Raffles for the rally also.

2020 National AGM: The Secretary has booked and

confirmed the Convention Centre. John Laing discussed the budget, activities and Raffles for this. Jane Laing said that we could apply for a funding grant for the National AGM. Natcom would like us to have a separate bank a/c for the National AGM. The Subcommittee will have a meeting in January to start organising this.

Marlborough Remembrance Photo album. Wendy Anderson is going to donate a Photo Album to the Marlborough Branch which we will gratefully receive. She has offered to pay to engrave this also, we will think about what we would like to put on the front cover of this and discuss it at the next meeting.

Marlborough Branch AGM February: Jane Laing is going to put the minutes in the newsletter, everyone please bring a plate, tea/coffee provided.

Melissa Wills will be away on holiday the week of the 22nd January so she will send the weekly email out before she goes and will get Peter Sinclair to send the email for the Retreads ride straight to Kelvin Watson to forward to all members.

Jane Laing moved a vote of thanks to Julia Watson and Gisela Schulze for organising the Christmas Party and to Tim and Melissa Wills For organising the Toy Run.

Reminder that Jock Woodley is having a BBQ on Sunday the 21st January- just bring drinks.

Jeff Champion and Evan Teale put their apologies in for the February Meeting.

Meeting closed: 8.12pm

**Next meeting will be at 7pm on 1st February 2018
McDonalds on Main Street, Blenheim.**

**Melissa Wills
Secretary, Marlborough Branch**

All members are asked to attend our

Branch ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 15 February 2018

Redwoodtown Community Hall

Weld Street, Blenheim

7.30pm

PLEASE BRING A PLATE OF Food to share for supper



**Remember.... The DEADLINE
for the next newsletter is 20th February**



ULYSSES GEAR

If you would like to purchase any item of Ulysses Gear, check out the Gear on the Ulysses NZ website, www.ulyses.org.nz and make a note of what you want. Then get in touch with me to order.- That way you don't have to pay the freight.

Quartermaster/mistress position is vacant.

If you can take on this role—contact our Branch Coordinator Kelvin Watson

In the meantime, you can order gear directly from National Ulysses Admin, OR, contact Kelvin (he is holding the gear stocks held by our Branch).

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Never let a bit of rain hold you back!

Puns Murray Brooks

A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, a nurse said, 'No change yet.'

A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.

The short fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

The man who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.

A backward poet writes inverse.

*In democracy it's your vote that counts.
In feudalism it's your count that votes.*

When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.

Don't join dangerous cults: Practice safe sects.

You'll love Napoleon Chicken ... it's so tender you can pick the Bonaparte.

Member Profile; Meet Lindsay Learmonth #6264

Lindsay tells me he was born in 1938 and is one of 3 brothers. Their Father left them when Lindsay was quite young and his Mother raised the boys on her own. Lindsay left school at an early age, he first worked on a farm then held various other jobs until he joined the army where he did four years service.

Lindsay is retired, he is a widower, he and his wife did not have any children.

Lindsay what first sparked your interest in motorbikes?

As a child we lived on the front straight of the Cust Grand Prix circuit. Couldn't help but be inspired by motorbikes!



What was the first bike you owned?

An ancient 350 Triumph and since then, a 1936 500 Norton (see photo), 500 B31 BSA, 1982 Honda CX500, 1984 Honda CX400, Suzuki Marauder 800, Honda ST 1300, Honda Goldwing 1800, Yamaha XT1200

What are you riding now?

Yamaha MT09 Tracer.

In an ideal world, what would be your 'Dream Machine'?

A Honda Goldwing.

Any memorable moments to share?

Yes, a great trip I did with 6 or 7 others down to Warbirds over Wanaka, where we stayed at the gun club. Cant remember when it was but it was a few years ago now. Pete Rendall and Malcolm Honour were part of the group. It took us about 6 or 7 days all up and we rode home up the West Coast. I had a wee spill on one of those notorious west coast one way bridges. No damage done and thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

What brought you to join the Ulysses Club Lindsay?

I was influenced by Murray Brooks. I joined in March 2005. I like the friendships and interests of those of a similar age. I wish I had joined earlier!



LEFT; Lindsay at a Ulysses get together in 2016.

RIGHT; Lindsay and his good mate Dave, aboard the Norton 500 around the mid 1950's. The bike had been stored in a shed for quite some time so they hauled it out, dusted it off, fixed it up and they were away!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY RAY BEARD. 13.01.18



For those of us lucky enough to make it that far, an 80th birthday is not something to be ignored!

When Ray Beard's 80th birthday loomed and there were no plans in place to celebrate the occasion, Vic Wotton took the matter to hand and organised a bit of a 'do'.

Lots of Ulyssians turned out (you were all invited, read your emails), along with a group of Rays cycling friends.

BYO everything was the order of the day. Kelvin leant a BBQ for us to use, Melissa Wills made a cake and Vic's Son-in-laws front garden was all we needed to make sure Rays birthday didn't go uncelebrated.

Chairs and tables sprawled, drink flowed and all sorts of different food consumed. A couple of speeches, a ton of laughs—Rays a good man, well liked in Ulysses circles and tonight we were pleased to show him that.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY RAY, and Thanks Vic—good one!



Next mid-month dinner....

All members are invited to join us for the **FEBRUARY Mid-month Dinner and Social evening at**

THE YARD BAR
30 Maxwell Road, Blenheim

On Saturday 17 Feb at 6.30pm

To book in, please contact Tim or Melissa Wills on or before Thursday 15 Feb.

Phone; 5792363



KAITUNA RIDGES BACK TO BASICS RALLY

23 –25 February



This is our own Branch Rally—in a magic little spot, not to be missed!

Tenting, Caravans, Motorhomes OR sleep in the shearing shed.

Swim in the river, Walk the hills, Gymkhana, Raffles, Friday evening socialising, Dinner on Sat evening, meet members from other Branches. DJ Kelvin and Music by our own 'Procrastinators'. BYO everything except dinner on Sat night. Free Tea/Coffee available all weekend.

Loads of fun!

Even if you want to just come out for the Saturday evening dinner, please help the organisers out and register your intention to attend ASAP.

Registration forms can be downloaded from our Branch web-site or by contacting Kelvin Watson.

Obituary; Peter Unger #8871

Peter Unger #8871 (03.11.42 – 26.12.17)

The Marlborough Branch of Ulysses NZ recently lost one of its more interesting characters. Peter Unger was born 3rd November 1942 at Oberstdorf (near the Austrian Border), a German rural township close to the Alps. The eldest of three, he had two other brothers. The family had apartments there that they rented to skiers in winter and trampers in summer.

Peter travelled extensively and when his family moved to South Africa he became a Policeman then a Military Policeman. They moved back to Germany after 12 years but Peter went on to Australia where he married Robyn and brought up two sons. He drove trucks, then had an IT business and he purchased his two BMW motorcycles. Sadly, Peter lost his wife to cancer whilst in Australia. Some years later he was lured to NZ by Liz whom he'd met in the outback on one of his rides. And so 9 years ago Peter came to NZ and settled in at Liz's place in Ngakuta Bay. Peter joined Ulysses NZ in 2013, previously he was a member of the Australian Ulysses Club and had qualified for his Australian 25 year service badge.

Peter had a party for his 75th and this seemed a suitable occasion to award him NZ citizenship – at a very tongue in cheek ceremony.....

His two BMWs were a 1982 R100 and a 1984 R80GS which he fitted with an 1100 engine. The R100 has accumulated 417,000km and the GS 329,000. He was riding both of these continuously, with his last ride being just three days before he died. He used these two bikes extensively in Australia. The R100 was used for his many business road trips and the R80 was his weapon of choice for the numerous off-road adventures. He quite literally rode all over Australia from his Perth base and was a great help to me when I was planning an off-road adventure over there too. He was an accomplished rider and not frightened to cane the bikes when the need or inclination arose.

Peter was talented in many fields. He was an intelligent man but will be remembered for being one of life's real characters. He was a loyal supporter of our Thursday Riding Group and was a popular member. He didn't suffer fools and he was great at handing out the banter - but equally good about taking it – which was just as well! He was a great friend to many. One of Peter's misdemeanours featured on Page 49 of the December 17 Ulyssian.

Peter died of a massive stroke and his passing was a huge shock to his family and friends. But consider this. He suffered no pain, no illness and he rode his bikes right up to the end. He is survived by Partner Liz, sons Mick and Chris, his brothers Harold and Huns and his father Robert (Opa) now 105.

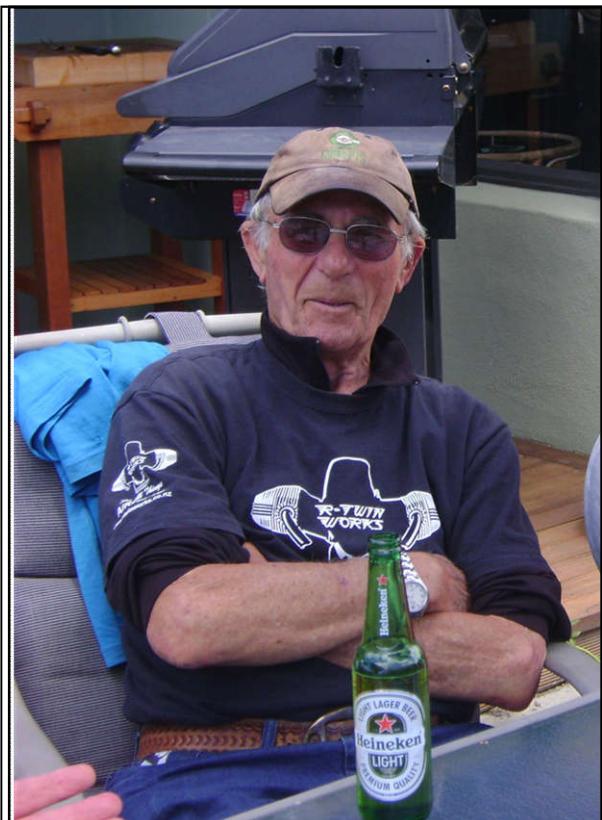
The family would like to acknowledge condolences sent from National President Mike Dew and Canterbury Coordinator Stephen Orpwood.

Peter's son Mick read the following message at the private send off for Peter. It is very appropriate:

Life is not a journey with the sole purpose of arriving quietly and safely in one pristine piece, but a chance to twist the throttle, leap over, slide under or hammer through obstacles.

*To look fear in the eye and backhand it in the head.
To skid, slip or stumble across the finish line, out of petrol, leaking oil and blood, covered in dirt and free from regrets and croak,
"Damn what a ride".*

John Sinclair # 9272



QUANTAS PILOTS...

After every flight, Qantas pilots fill out a form, called a "gripe sheet" which tells mechanics about problems with the aircraft. The mechanics correct the problems, document their repairs on the form, then pilots review the gripe sheets before the next flight.

Never let it be said that ground crews lack a sense of humour. Here are actual maintenance complaints submitted by Qantas pilots ("P") and solutions recorded ("S") by maintenance engineers:

P: Brakes spongy
S: Sponge removed

P: Left inside main tire almost needs replacement.
S: Almost replaced left inside main tire.

P: Test flight OK, except auto-land very rough.
S: Auto-land not installed on this aircraft.

P: Something loose in cockpit
S: Something tightened in cockpit

P: Dead bugs on windshield.
S: Live bugs on back-order.

P: Autopilot in altitude-hold mode produces a 200 feet per minute descent
S: Cannot reproduce problem on ground.

P: Evidence of leak on right main landing gear.
S: Evidence removed.

P: DME volume unbelievably loud.
S: DME volume set to more believable level.

P: Friction locks cause throttle levers to stick.
S: That's what friction locks are for.

P: IFF inoperative in OFF mode.
S: IFF always inoperative in OFF mode.

P: Suspected crack in windshield.
S: Suspect you're right.

P: Number 3 engine missing.
S: Engine found on right wing after brief search.

P: Aircraft handles funny.
S: Aircraft warned to: straighten up, fly right, and be serious.

P: Target radar hums.
S: Reprogrammed target radar with lyrics.

P: Mouse in cockpit.
S: Cat installed.

P: Noise coming from under instrument panel. Sounds like a midget pounding on something with a hammer.



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all and any comment would be appreciated

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Then contact Bob and tell him what you think

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CAN YOU HELP?

Kelvin is looking for raffle prizes for our 2018
Kaituna Rally

If you can donate a prize, please contact Kelvin -
Phone (03) 5776822

*A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center;
'Keep off the Grass.'*

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....

[Media Releases](#) Fri, 01 Dec - 12:19

[Media Release: New life-saving Australian Design Rule to protect motorcycle riders](#)

Riding a motorcycle in Australia will soon be much safer following new regulations requiring advanced braking systems to be fitted to new bikes from November 2019. Federal Minister for Urban Infrastructure Paul Fletcher approved the Australian Design Rule this week and said the requirements will ensure new motorcycles sold in Australia feature the same life-saving braking technologies currently required in Europe, Japan and a number of other major markets around the world.

"Motorcycle riders represent around 18 per cent of all road deaths and 22 per cent of hospitalisations. This means that per kilometre travelled, an Australian motorcycle rider faces 20 times more risk of being killed in a crash than that of a car occupant," Mr Fletcher said.

"Providing bike riders with machines capable of slowing and stopping more quickly and safely is one way we can help ensure that the risks associated with motorcycle riding are significantly reduced.

"Over a 15-year period, we anticipate these systems will save close to 600 motorcyclist lives, while providing a net benefit to the community of over \$1.6 billion."

The advanced braking technologies to be required as standard motorcycle equipment in Australia include Anti-lock Braking Systems (ABS) and Combined Braking Systems (CBS).

"Research has shown that ABS and CBS can reduce motorcycle related road trauma in Australia by more than 30 per cent," Mr Fletcher said.

"With motorcycles currently the fastest growing vehicle type, widespread fitment of this safety technology will make a real impact on reducing fatalities on Australia's roads each year by ensuring that the safest motorcycles are made available to Australians at the lowest cost."

The introduction of advanced braking systems for motorcycles was agreed to under action item 16c of the National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020, and action item 7 of the National Road Safety Action Plan 2015-17.

[20171201_Media Release_Fletcher_New life-saving design rule to make motorcycles safer.pdf](#)

THURSDAY RIDE REPORTS

21st December 2017 – Brick Oven, Rai Valley.

Ever had one of those days where you wake up to a glorious day, know you are going out on the bike for a sizeable chunk of the day and are basically in an euphoric state of mind right from the word go only to have it all come crashing down around you within five minutes. Well that's how my day started! I woke up just as "She who must be obeyed" climbed out of the scratcher and pitter-pattered down the hallway to put the jug on for a cup of tea. I decided to play possum thinking I might just get a cuppa in bed and couldn't believe my luck when a cup of tea was gently placed on my bedside table. But wait – there was more – as I was lying there I heard the rustling of paper being placed there as well so I surreptitiously opened one eye to see what the hell was going on to find a very nicely wrapped bottle of wine and a wee parcel lying beside my cup. Now this was so out of character as was the wee kiss I got and that's when it all turned to custard as the kiss was followed with the words "Happy Anniversary Darling". Oh shit I had completely forgotten – let's face it, after 49 years things like that fade a bit. Rather than getting the usual bollocking however, "She Indoors" was rather philosophical and confided in me she forgot her hairdressing appointment yesterday but had managed a 9am appointment for today. Good I thought, I might just be able to slip into town & get her something before going on today's ride; which for the record JG is why I was rather late turning up at Brayshaw Park today.

Today's mob included Murray Brooks, Lindsay Learmonth, Andy Noble, Louise and Brian Pearce, Terry Molony, Graeme Howarth, Peter Unger, Derrick Stripling, Pete Nelson, Grant Johnson, Evan Teale, Malcolm Honour, Ray Beard, Bruce and Alistair Windleburn, Dave Jackson, John Sinclair and a somewhat late but relieved me. All up 19, which is not a bad effort given the onslaught of the silly season.



The ride out was a bit of a stop/go affair for those of us at the rear of the group as we got stuck behind a large tanker truck from the Wairau River Bridge right out to Rai Valley thanks to the large volume of traffic on the road travelling in both directions. After waiting in the queue to place our orders, we all took up residence outside to consume our food and indulge in conversation with those around us. At first I couldn't put my finger on why everyone was a little subdued and polite to one another; there was none of the raucous laughter or bad mouthing of anyone we

usually get each week however it eventually dawned on me that either the Christmas Spirit is alive and well in our Retreads group or the usual ringleaders were suffering from over indulging in pre-Christmas parties. The two stand-out things for me were the size of the Doc's "All Day Breakfast" which got a round of applause when it was delivered to his table and the size of the ice creams the "Fat Man" section of our group, and ably lead by JG, consumed!

After a very leisurely hour and a half or so and a lot of "Merry Christmases" and "Best Wishes" it was time to hit the road and either travel further afield or head for home. I guess that's just about it for the year which seems to have slipped by rather quickly. Let's hope the New Year will be as good as this one has been and State Highway One will eventually provide us with some great riding in the not too distant future. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year everyone.

Bob #8033

Jolly Roger, Waikawa. 28.12.17

Our Merry Mob was very subdued today as everyone was coming to grips with the sudden loss of our South African Australian Kiwi Kraut. Peter was certainly a real character and a colourful one to boot. He will be sorely missed and no longer the butt of our scribes' attentions.

The day was fine and we departed for the Jolly Roger at Waikawa right on 1100. Those attending were John Newport and Pam from New Plymouth, Lindsay Learmonth, Alistair Windleburn, Bruce Windleburn, Terry Malone, Paul Marks, Mark Newman, Derrick Stripling, Rob Patterson, Evan Teale, Ray Beard, Karl Marshall, Lionel Graham, Chris Donaldson and me. So 16 Retreads had shown they had had enough of the Christmas festivities and needed to break out.

The ride was noteworthy for the amount of traffic and the number of slow drivers who obviously see safety being achieved by driving at 70kph in the 100 zone. You can't blame them – it's the message the Police are advertising. Let's not dwell on the overtaking risks some take to get past them.....

Casanova Ray was up to his old tricks. He was just through the cafe door (he was first in) when he was spied by a certain lady who immediately fell into his arms. They



stayed in urgent and confidential conversation until Ray came to the table 30 minutes later after claiming the last meal.

Welfare Officer, Chris Donaldson very kindly said some

THURSDAY RIDERS SHENANIGANS cont...

words about Pete and gave all of us some advice in respect of maintaining our physical, mental and spiritual health. Bruce reckoned he'd be OK given he checks his own prostate regularly!

There were some poignant moments as we recounted some of Pete's antics.

The Jolly Roger was doing a great trade so we exited to help seat the second shift.

JG # 9272 filling in for Bob McCrindle who is loafing in the Sounds.



Photo Caption:

How could anyone eat this just three days after Christmas? Evan justified it by claiming he had eaten noodles on Christmas Day. Yeah Right!

Honour, Bruce and Alistair Windleburn, Graeme Howarth, Louise and Brian Pearce, Evan Teale, John Sinclair and me. All up around the fifteen mark which is not bad for this time of the year. Lou Jowers also turned up briefly on his way out to his beloved Forestry Block but did not have lunch at the Vines. The Café was very busy so by the time my meal arrived the rest of the crew had either finished



theirs or were savouring their last few morsels and thinking of heading off.

As most of you are aware we lost one of our more colourful mem-

bers, namely Peter Unger, on Boxing Day which was a huge shock to those of us who not only bore the brunt of Peter's wit and humour but also gave back to him in great dollops which he always accepted good-naturedly and without malice. I was fortunate to share a room with Peter at the HariHari Rally last September and on the Saturday night after the All Blacks had yet another win, both of us decided the public bar was far too noisy so we called it quits and headed off to our room for some peace and quiet. It was far too early to hit the pit so we stretched ourselves out on our respective beds with our bottles of whisky, please note Peter's bottle was never removed from its paper bag, and proceeded to yarn and sup away for the next three or four hours. Our conversation was rather deep and philosophical at times and I feel I got to know the real Peter. He had certainly led a very interesting and varied life over the past 74 years. Likewise Peter took a genuine interest in what I had been involved with during my lifetime. I will always remember that night as being the start of a true friendship between us which unfortunately only lasted for such a brief time.

One of Peter's favourite idiosyncrasies was to stop off at Le Café on the foreshore at Picton and have an Americano Coffee on his way home from our weekly Thursday rides. JG, Ray Beard and I regularly joined him and it was rather amusing to watch him interact with the locals as they passed by. It became rather obvious to me that both JG and I were not the only people in this world Peter took great delight in taking the mickey. So today when JG quietly said he and Ray were going up to Picton to have a coffee at Le Café in memory of Peter I had no hesitation in joining them. I arrived at the Café shortly after JG & Ray and as I turned the corner and could see the outside tables and those sitting around them I had to stop for a second and compose myself. It was rather a poignant moment when I realised that it was not just JG and Ray at the table but also Peter's partner Liz, her daughter Amanda and Liz & Peter's immediate neighbours from Ngakuta Bay. And to complete the scene the Café proprietor brought out an Americano Coffee and placed it on the table in memory of Peter. I'm absolutely positive Peter would have been looking down at us at that moment with a wry smile on his face, and at the same time telling his maker to sharpen up his coffee making skills as the coffee up there is not a patch on what we were having down here.

Rest in Peace Peter, you were a great mate and will be sorely missed.

Bob #8033

4th January 2018 – Vines Village Café.

Rocked up to Brayshaw Park at 11am as per usual and was somewhat surprised to see only two people there – namely Ray Beard in full bike kit along with his humble stead and JG dressed in civvies alongside his Ute.

Strange, I thought there should be more than three of us however as the silly season is still in full stride I assumed most of our usual group were otherwise engaged so lunch will be a very quiet and subdued affair. How bloody naïve and gullible of me to not smell a rat and sure enough no sooner had I removed my helmet when JG launched into a tirade of abuse and laughter about my ability to properly read weekly emails about ride destinations and departure times. Sure I had glanced through the email to ascertain the destination but I didn't read any further otherwise I would have found out there was to be no formal meeting prior to the ride, simply just travel independently and meet at the Vines Village at 12 noon. OK fair enough so why the hell wasn't Ray included in the verbal diarrhoea addressed at me and furthermore why on earth was JG there? It turned out that Ray had a few things to do in town before heading out to the Vines so that let him off the hook & JG indicated he was only there as a precaution that the odd dumbkoff like myself with little or no literacy skills would turn up as per usual. Fair enough I wasn't going to argue the toss but like Ray I had a few things I needed to do around town as well so turning up early was in fact a stroke of genius as I managed to get everything I wanted to do in town done earlier rather than later thus freeing me up to extend the ride after lunch.

Arrived at the Vines Village about 12-15 and strutted out to the garden area at the back of the Café to see where our group was. That was a fatal mistake. Obviously JG had told everyone that I had turned up early at Brayshaw Park so I had to grin and bear the verbal crap directed at me for a couple of minutes. Bearing this in mind it is with considerable reluctance that I should include in this report the names of today's participants, but for the sake of the integrity of the Retreads Group I suppose I must, so here they are: Murray Brooks, Don Best, Graeme Check, Derrick Stripling, Lindsay Learmonth, Ray Beard, Malcolm

THURSDAY RIDE REPORTS cont...

11.01.18 Cosy Corner—Seddon.

Today was Day 2 of a predicted 4 days of rain but, although the numbers were down a bit, it didn't stop our Merry Mob from going out on a mixture of bikes and tin tops. Because of the adverse weather a short ride to the Cosy Corner at Seddon was the order of the day.

Today's Mob included Grant and Lis Johnson, Evan Teale, Murray Brooks, Lindsay Learmonth, Bruce and Al Windleburn, Graeme Check, Danny McGowan, Peter Bugler and me. Quite a few of our regulars are AWOL at the moment so 11 was a pretty good turnout considering.

When I contacted the cafe yesterday they asked whether we'd be eating from the cabinet or from the menu to which I answered, both. So the lady said she would hire an extra cook and that she did. Some of our number certainly were grateful for this decision. There were several servings of bacon and eggs complete with chips and two servings of the Doc's favourite All Day Breakfast. But the Doc was on his best behaviour today, no doubt because Lis was in attendance. He stuck to bacon and eggs - this was still a fair enough feed though. Lindsay's plate suggests he'll be dining on salad tonight. But check out Evan's All Day Breakfast will you. These guys are capable of serious grazing!



Sawbones finished off with some carrot cake claiming that carrots are healthy.

Lis showed a large number of photos taken on their South American adventure. It's not hard to see the attraction of this part of the world with some of the most picturesque mountains you'd see anywhere. Quite a lot of the country is similar to NZ but the November temperatures were much less - as in minus 5 for the first few days! Apparently an Aussie showed up in very pretty riding gear but it was totally unsuited to this environment and he came close to succumbing to exposure.

Grant and Lis were the only ones riding two up and apart from one American, were the oldest too. The pictures show some seriously poor roads so I think this couple deserves a medal. Lis was awarded the title, "Pillion in a Million." That is a mark of respect from those who know.

Today's thought. After prolonged dry spells, when it does start raining, exercise extreme care until the road has been thoroughly washed by the rain. Dust, dirt, diesel make invisible grease between your tyres and the road.

Cheers, JG # 9272

18th January 2018 – Flaxbourne Café, Ward.

Last night's weather forecast on TV implied a lot of crappy weather was about to descend upon us however it could be short lived. JG had indicated in his little email

blurb about today's ride that we might get some minor precipitation as we left Blenheim but we would ride out of it fairly quickly. Well for the record both were right on the money, that is exactly how the day panned out. As I was leaving home a very light shower was falling but by the time I got to Brayshaw Park it had stopped and that was the sum total of iffy weather for the day.

Today's attendees included Peter Bugler, John Hadfield, Don Best, Lindsay Learmonth, Ray Beard, Murray Brooks, Allan Graham, Evan and Margaret Teale, JG and me.

With State Highway One back in operation during daylight hours the volume of traffic has increased dramatically so the trip was not as therapeutic as it has been over the last 12 months. A vehicle towing a Jet Ski in one hellava hurry, took every opportunity to overtake all in sundry at breakneck speed kept us on our toes. The ironic part of this little episode was that he started overtaking our group at the double passing lane at Riverlands but by the time we got to Ward we were all right up his bum. The general consensus was that we all hoped he picked up a speeding ticket somewhere along the remainder of his trip.

With the sun out plus the usual warm welcome from Barbara we took up residence around a couple of tables on the Balcony. We had hardly got seated when our meals started to arrive which caught us on the hop a bit however the coup de grace was the lovely birthday cake celebrating two of our octogenarians Ray Beard and Peter Bugler, which Barbara brought out and placed on one of the tables, but only on the proviso that if the cake is a fruit cake she would like a piece of it. Peter's sister in law had made and iced the cake, the general consensus was we would keep her on as a chef as the cake was something to die for and it would be pretty good to do it again in 12 months' time!



During lunch we were interrupted by the sound of a couple of fire sirens obviously heading southward but at a rather slow pace. A couple of fire engines with lights flashing and sirens wailing with a Hearse in between them came into view and turned off towards Ward Beach opposite the Café. Murray informed us it would have been the funeral cortege for Peter Chapman who was the Chief Fire Officer for the Ward Volunteer Fire Brigade, a position he held for many, many years.

Having consumed our meals at a leisurely pace, told a few lies and occasionally tried to have an intelligent conversation within our group, it was time to call it quits and head for home. JG had suggested we extend the ride to Kekerengu for an afternoon coffee but there were no takers so here endeth today's ride report.

Bob 8033

Whatcha been up to Jock?

Hi Everyone,

Well it's getting closer..... Phillip Island International Classic is just around the corner, my biggest supporter and sponsor, Cath, and I leave for the event on Tuesday evening the 23rd January and head to Auckland for an overnight stay for an early departure to Melbourne on Wednesday morning.

The bikes are in transit from Motueka Motorcycles and the crates have spares parts, spare tyres and various tools to hopefully cover us for any eventuality over the week-ends racing.

We have an official practice day on Thursday the 25th which will be our first look at the track. I have been doing plenty of homework looking at on-board footage of others and read a number of articles about the track and how to attack it. Of course the style of bike I will be on will also have some bearing on how to get round the track fast with that horrible tendency of the TZ350's to "chatter" (the low frequency violent vibration caused by chassis and suspension inadequacies) so I will have my hands full. To suggest I'm excited and looking forward to this would be totally correct!

Then on Friday we have Qualifying when it's all decided....grid positions for the whole week-end and we will get to see how we fare up against the opposition and I understand there are plenty of TZ350's that come out of the woodwork for this event so I'll very quickly be shown how much of a Nanna I really am!

Friday night sees us all head to the official dinner, (the Island Classic is said to be the second biggest event held each year at Philip Island) where many dignitaries from the world of motorsport have a say and there will no doubt be some interesting entertainment, Alan Cathgart will be 'mc' at the dinner, Giacomo Agostini is going to be there, and many other interesting people such as Troy Bayliss, Troy Corser, Casey Stoner, Mick Doohan, Robbie Phyllis eh all. Tickets for the dinner were selling at A\$140ea so a big 'toodoo' that's for sure. Will have to be sure to eat my full share!

I have my leathers being repaired after that disastrous slip off at Levels and grinding a big hole in the buttock of the leathers. Video camera is ready and the 'Go-Pro' on-board camera is ready also so my intention is, to be well ready, focussed, and have a great meeting. I hope to have a Ulysses evening and get you all together to do a bit of a talk about the event, and show you some video both on-board and general videoing around the event.

I would like to acknowledge Beatnik and Co, Whitehorse Optical Supplies, PENRITE OILS, BASIS and Elite Tyre and Alignment for their ongoing support and encouragement.

Thanks to everyone for your words of encouragement and hopefully your reward for the great support will be that we will do well. Always remember...the BS stops when the flag drops!

More to come.....

Take care everyone. Jock Woodley (The 250 Guy) #9118



Hospice Vehicle Display

Sunday 11th March 2018

We would like to invite your club and members to participate in the **Hospice Vehicle Display** which is a fund raiser for the **Marlborough Hospice**. This is going to be held on

Sunday March 11th 2018, at the Waterlea Racecourse on McLauchlan Street in Blenheim.

The venue will be open at 9.30am for the display cars, with public viewing from 11am. It is expected cars will be on display until 3pm.

Because the event is a fundraiser for **The Marlborough Hospice**, the cost is \$5.00 per car and all of this money will be donated to them.

General public entry will be at the McLauchlan Street entrance by gold coin donation, and we hope many will take the opportunity to come and view the cars on display.

We encourage entrants to bring along a picnic and join us in this event. As per previous shows, there will be a BBQ selling hot sausages and bread with all the proceeds going to the Marlborough Hospice. Hot drinks and other food stalls will also be available.

The theme for this year's display is 'Jaguar'

For further information please contact:

Pat Pascoe – Phone (03) 573 8964 or (027) 442 1786 p.pascoe@xtra.co.nz

Pat Clay – Phone (03) 972 0244 or (027) 602 0549 pat.clay@xtra.co.nz

MINUTES of our 2017 AGM: Meeting: 23rd February 2017

Redwoodtown Community Hall. Blenheim

Meeting started: 7:33pm

Attendees: 24 members, as per list

Apologies: Allan Graham, John Neal, Ian McKercher, Chris de Wagt, Murray Brooks, Arie Verhey and Malcolm Honour. Moved Don Best, seconded Dave Gill. All agreed.

Minutes of previous meeting: Were read and were passed as a true and accurate record. Moved Tom Brown, seconded Wayne Brock. All agreed.

Matters arising: Nil

Inwards correspondence: Nil

Outwards correspondence: Nil

Co-ordinators Report: Kelvin Watson gave a full and accurate description of our years achievements. He also thanked our 2016 committee and office bearers. Also thanked were members who help the club by looking after our out of committee appointments. His full report is attached.

This report was moved to be accepted by Kelvin Watson and seconded by Jeff Champion. All present agreed.

Treasurer's report: Wayne presented his report. Full report attached. Wayne was asked several question regarding donations. This included a Lap Top purchased for our secretary, with funds from the Local Pub Charity group. Moved this report be accepted, Wayne Brock, seconded Joan Robinson. All present agreed.

General business: There was discussion on:

Parking at The Vines Village cafe - Some members are not happy with the parking arrangements offered by the cafe management. Jock Woodley proposed a motion that this subject should be advertised in our news letter and weekly emails, with open discussion to take place at our April 6th committee meeting. This motion was seconded by John King. The majority won this motion with 3 members against.

The Grape Ride - this is no longer a fund raiser for our club. Another fund raising group took over the running of this event and would not pay us for our day out helping marshalling the riders.

Kaituna Rally - Numbers are well down this year and we may have to look at what can be done to perk it up.

| Election of Officers | Position | Elected | Nominated | Seconded |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| | Co-ordinator | Kelvin Watson | Don Best | Tom Brown |
| | Vice Co-ordinator | Gisela Schultz | Jeff Champion | Wendy Champion |
| | Secretary | Jeff Champion | Kelvin Watson | Don Best |
| | Treasurer | Kevin Bright | Kelvin Watson | Jeff Champion |
| Committee Members | | John Laing Tom Brown Tim Wills Jock Woodley Joan Robinson Evan Teale Jane Laing | Jane Laing Jane Laing Tom Brown Evan Teale Kelvin Watson Jane Laing John Laing | Kelvin Watson John Laing Chris Donaldson Jane Laing Noel Duff Jock Woodley Kelvin Watson |

Out of Committee Appointments

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Newsletter editor | Jane Laing |
| Branch Historian | Jane Laing |
| Quarter Master | Joan Robinson |
| Community Notices Liaison | Evan Teale |
| Branch Sheriff | Jock Woodley |
| Welfare Co-ordinator | Chris Donaldson |
| Web Master | Bob Marks |

Jane Laing proposed a vote of thanks to **Jim Barrett** for the fantastic work he does for us printing our news letter. Joan Robinson seconded the proposal and the members present all agreed

Tom Brown proposed a vote of thanks to **Jane Laing** for her excellent work as our news letter editor. This was seconded by Peter Nelson and all the members present agreed with this proposal.

Meeting closed 8:17 pm

**Ulysses Club of New Zealand Inc.
Marlborough Branch**

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING; (Thursday) 15 February 2018
at the Redwoodtown Community Hall, Weld Street, Blenheim, 7.30pm

All financial Branch members are invited to attend –
(Please bring a plate of food to share for supper).

Nominations are called for the 2018/19 Marlborough Branch Committee

All positions are deemed to be vacant. Signed nomination forms are required for ; Coordinator, Vice Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer and up to 8 Committee members.

A nomination form is included here

Ulysses Club of New Zealand Inc. MARLBOROUGH Branch

NOMINATION FORM for Committee 2018 / 2019

I nominate; Ulysses #.....

Position nominated for;

(Please state one; Coordinator, Vice Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee member)

Nomination accepted by
(Sign)..... Date.....

Nominated by; Ulysses #.....

Seconded by; Ulysses #.....

NOTE; Completed nomination forms must be delivered to the Branch Secretary on or before 10 February 2018

Send to; The Secretary, Melissa Wills,

94 Howick Road, Blenheim 7201

NOTE: All nominations are accepted with no pre-conditions.

Coast to Coast Overnighter – Sunrise to Sunset

SAT MARCH 10—SUN MARCH 11

With Ulysses Nelson

See the sunrise in the east and the sunset in the west on the same day.

The concept:

Ride to Rarangi Beach, Blenheim to arrive at 7.14am to experience a glorious sunrise – BYO refreshments – thermos, coffee, marshmallows etc



At your leisure and at a time and route of your choosing and with your own organisation & ride companions – ride to Westport On the same day (Sat MAR 10th) to be there by 8.43pm and enjoy a glorious sunset. (Actual viewing location to be advised)



The details:

For riders from West Coast:

From West Coast ride to Nelson Friday evening, suggest book in at Tahuna Beach Holiday Park <https://tahunabeachholidaypark.co.nz/>, Get a dinner on your way at café of choice. Arise in time for 5.30am start from Nelson with Nelson riders *Departure 5.30am Peace Grove Car Park just out of town on SH1. You can be lead from the Park at 5.15am.* Return with Nelson riders for brunch at Speights Nelson, ride on to Westport with Nelson riders. Note hard arse option below.

For riders from Marlborough:

Arise early enough to join Westport and Nelson riders at Rarangi Beach 7.00am (sunrise time 7.14am). Return home or to your coffee morning, travel to Westport for sunset at 8.43pm. Route optional. Hard arses may try East coast via Kaikoura / inland route / Lewis pass / Greymouth.

Optional to stay with Nelson / Westport riders for the day and travel to Speight's Nelson as above.

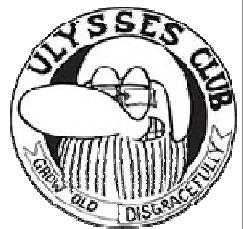
Accommodation: For Marlborough and Nelson riders stay at McManus Hotel – make your own bookings (<http://www.mcmanushotel.co.nz/>) for dinner together then travel to the beach and join Westport riders for sunset. Return to hotel for drinks and socialising.

NOTE: Riders from any branch are welcome to only join in on the sunset part of this overnighter. Also partners welcome for both or either parts.

Contact Allan Smith for any queries nelson.sec@ulysses.org.nz

MARLBOROUGH RIDES & EVENTS CALENDAR

SUNDAY RIDES; Unless otherwise stated, all Sunday Rides leave from the south end of Blenheim Railway Station car-park—check the rides calendar.



MID WEEK RIDES; Thursdays, depart Brayshaw Park car-park 11am—check with John or Grant if in doubt.

Come on your bike or in your car, it doesn't matter, just come along and join in.

If you have an idea for a ride, get in touch with the Rides Coordinators

LOOKING ON DOWN THE ROAD...

| DATE | DAY | TIME | DETAILS | RIC |
|------------|-----------|---------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Every week | Thursdays | 11am | Thursday Group rides . Meet at Brayshaw Park carpark, all members and visitors Welcome | Grant Johnson John Sinclair |
| 28 Jan | Sunday | 10am | Ride to Wakefield Steam Museum, vintage machinery show. Riding via Wairau Valley, Tophouse etc. Lunch at Rhubarb café. | Tom Brown |
| 1 Feb | Thursday | 7pm | Committee meeting, McDonalds on Main Street, Blenheim. All members welcome to attend. | Kelvin Watson |
| 4 Feb | Sunday | 10am | Ride to Nelson for Shiny Side Up Bike Fest. Trafalgar Centre. | Tom Brown |
| 8 - 11 Feb | | | Burt Munro Challenge, Invercargill | |
| 10 Feb | Saturday | Mid afternoon | Peter Unger memorial gathering at Ngakuta Bay. Informal BYO picnic. For more information contact John Sinclair #9272; Ph, 0273142151 | John Sinclair |
| 11 Feb | Sunday | 11.30am | Lunch ride to Kekerengu | Tom Brown |
| 15 Feb | Thursday | 7.30pm | Marlborough Branch AGM. All members asked to attend. Redwoodtown Community Hall, Weld Street. Bring a plate. | Kelvin Watson |
| 17 Feb | Saturday | 6.30pm | Mid-month dinner at The Yard Bar on Maxwell Road. Numbers attending are needed, please let Tim Wills know if you're coming. | Tim Wills |
| 18 Feb | Sunday | 11.30am | Lunch ride to Forresters café just past Rai Valley | Tom Brown |
| 23-25 Feb | Weekend | | Kaituna Ridges Back to Basics Rally. Bring your tent, caravan, motorhome etc. Registration form on our Branch web-page | Kelvin Watson |
| 25 Feb | Sunday | 10am | Long ride to Murchison for lunch | Tom Brown |

FURTHER ON DOWN THE ROAD...

23-25 Feb; Kaituna Ridges Back to Basics Rally. Rego form on our web-site. Don't miss out, - Register now! (still only \$30 pp)

10–11 March; Nelson Branch Coast to Coast overnighter. See notice in this newsletter.

11 March; Hospice Vehicle Display. Waterlea Racecourse 11am–3pm.

23-24 March; National AGM & social weekend at Mosgiel. Always a great weekend!—would like to see a few more Marlborough members attending. Info in Ulyssian magazine. Send your registration in and talk to Kelvin about accommodation.





Want to earn a petrol voucher?

Check out the offer on the Ride to Live web-site;
www.ridetolive.co.nz

Write a story of your fav New Zealand ride and email it to them with at least one photo and a voucher could be headed your way

How easy is that!

While you're at it, send it to me for inclusion in this newsletter—I'd love to hear from you!

Jane

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