



The Beavertown News

March 2018

BRANCH COORDINATOR

Kelvin Watson Ph; 577 6822
143B Maxwell Road, Blenheim 7201
Email; Marlborough@ulysses.org.nz

VICE COORDINATOR

John Laing Ph; 577 6663

SECRETARY

Melissa Wills Ph. 579 2363
94 Howick Road, Blenheim 7201
Email: marlborough.sec@ulysses.org.nz

TREASURER

Bob McCrindle Ph; 579 5350

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jock Woodley Ph, 579 5554
Jane Laing Ph. 577 6663
Tom Brown Ph, 579 3106
Joan Robinson Ph; 027 2904352
Tim Wills Ph, 579 2363
John Sinclair Ph, 578 7110
Kevin Bright Ph, 572 8588
Jeff Champion (Communication Assistant)
Ph, 027 4374368

RIDES COORDINATOR (Sunday rides)

Tom Brown Ph; 579 3106
Jock Woodley Ph; 579 5554

WELFARE OFFICER:

Chris Donaldson Ph; 574 2421
Email; donaldsons@gmail.com

RETREADS RIDES (Thursday rides)

John Sinclair Ph; 578 7110
Grant Johnson Ph; 578 0901

BRANCH SHERIFF

Jock Woodley Ph; 579 5554
Email; jockow@xtra.co.nz

BRANCH QUARTERMASTER

(Ulysses Gear Orders)
VACANT—Ring Kelvin Watson

BRANCH HISTORIAN

Jane Laing Ph. 577 6663

COMMUNITY NOTICES ORGANISER

Evan Teale Ph. 578 7323

WEBMASTER

Bob Marks Ph, 574 1177
Email; marksy@ihug.co.nz

Branch Web Page:

www.ulysses.org.nz/marlborough

BRANCH RIDER MENTORS

Chris de Wagt Ph. 577 7238
Kevin Bright Ph. 572 8588

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jane Laing Ph.577 6663
Email; johnlaing.mt@xtra.co.nz
Post; 75A Weld Street, Blenheim 7201

Refer all membership enquiries to the Coordinator or a Committee member



ABOVE: Marlborough Branch Committee for 2018/19
Back row left to right; Bob McCrindle, Jane Laing, Kevin Bright, John Laing, John Sinclair (JG), Jock Woodley, Tim Wills.
Front row; Kelvin Watson, Melissa Wills, Tom Brown.
(Absent are Joan Robinson and Jeff Champion).

BELOW; Retreads enjoyed catching up with familiar face's (Noel Duff) when they met the Canterbury Knitting Group at Kaikoura for a picnic lunch. (Hope that thing isn't loaded Bob!)





Max Lichtnecker

0274 321 449
or 03 578 1331
Box 938
BLENHEIM

Ulysses Members Trades Directory



PAIN BUSTERS
Expert in Pain Relief

Dr GRANT JOHNSTON

Specialist in

Acupuncture, Musculoskeletal Medicine, Acute and Chronic Pain

Springlands Health Ltd

139 Middle Renwick Road, Blenheim

Phone: 03 578 0979 for an appointment

You can advertise your business in this publication for \$75 per year
(12 Adverts - Business Card Size)

Contact: Jane; Ph. 577 6663 OR Kelvin, Ph. 577 6822 for further information

MARLBOROUGH MOTORCYCLE RIDING SCHOOL



Working with Bikers in Marlborough since 2011

Contact us

Home; (03) 577 6663

Cell; 021 0828 8713

Email; johnlaing.ml@dra.co.nz

Check out our Web site;

www.motorbikeschool.co.nz



- NZTA approved and certified.
- Basic Handling Skills course and test for Learners.
- CBTA training and assessment for Restricted and Full Licence.
- RIDE FOREVER Bronze Silver and Gold courses.
- Scooter lessons.
- Group and Individual training sessions on demand.

Coordinators word...

Coordinators Annual Report to the Annual General Meeting, 2018.



Thanks to you the members, I feel that Ulysses Marlborough has had a very successful year. Our membership in Marlborough has increased slightly this year which is pleasing and I have certainly felt more comfortable in the Coordinator's role in my second year.

Our financial position is good and we have been able to subsidise a midwinter dinner for the members during the year, and provide them with a Christmas Dinner free of charge in December.

We conducted a Rescue ride in April and were able to present the Nelson /Marlborough rescue helicopter with a cheque for \$1000.00, and in December the branch held their annual Toy Run for the Salvation Army which attracted around 90 bikes. Thanks to Tim and Melissa Wills for organising this.

Sadly we have said goodbye to two of our members this year, John King 958, in October, and Peter Unger 8871, in December.

Our Saturday coffee mornings are consistently well attended, and the Retreads Thursday rides go from strength to strength. Unfortunately attracting a good turn out for the Sunday rides doesn't seem to have an easy answer.

At the National AGM last year held in Masterton our magazine editor Jane Laing stood for and was elected to NAT-COM, our congratulations to her. Our Branch magazine is one of the best in the country and is the envy of many other branches.

This club doesn't run by itself and our Committee have been co-operative and hardworking. I would like to acknowledge their help in running our club. Jeff and Melissa have shared the secretary's role this year, and that has worked well for both them and us. Kevin our treasurer who is stepping down from that roll has kept us on the straight and narrow financially. Gisela has chaired meetings when I have been unable to attend and helped organise both the Midyear Dinner and Christmas functions. Evan has made sure the newspapers receive our rides calendar. Tom and Jock have continued to organize good rides and help out whenever they're needed. I would like to thank them, and all the other members of the committee who make my job a lot easier.

Outside of the committee I would like to thank John Sinclair and Grant Johnston for the effort they put into organizing the Retreads, and Bob Marks our local webmaster who runs our website so efficiently. Thanks also to Jim Barrett who sponsors our local magazine, and Julia for helping Gisela with both the midyear and Christmas functions, they were both very successful events.

In conclusion, I would like to thank any outgoing committee members and welcome the incoming ones, if everyone does their share it makes it so much easier.

Thankyou.

Kelvin Watson #3602 Marlborough Branch Coordinator.

And on behalf of the Branch members, I would like add our Thanks to you Kelvin for all your work over the past year. The Coordinators role can sometimes be a challenging one. A committee is only as good as it's Leader and the smooth running of our Branch over the last 12 months has rested largely with you.

Thank you, we're delighted to have you back in the role for another year.

Jane #6361



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!.... March 2018

Christian Fletcher-Firks

Max Lichtnecker
Bruce Morton

Melissa Wills

DISCLAIMER; While contributions and adverts are welcome, no responsibility can be accepted regarding claims or statements made by members or advertisers in respect of products or services offered. The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Committee, but are those of the writer/s. The Editor reserves the right to edit, abridge or decline some contributions.



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.



the vines village cafe

& EXPRESS KITCHEN

193. Rapaura Rd
Blenheim 7273.

p 03 572 7170

e info@vinesvillagecafe.co.nz

vinesvillagecafe.co.nz

10% discount for Ulyssian's

Saturday Morning Coffee with Ulysses at
The Vines Village on Rapaura Road from 10am.



Open 7 days a week for breakfast, lunch and great coffee.

Phone 572 7170 for group bookings, Birthdays or visiting guests!

enjoy.

MINUTES of the last Committee meeting...

Meeting Minutes for the Marlborough Branch, Ulysses Club NZ Inc.

Meeting 1st February 2018

McDonalds Main street, Blenheim

Meeting started: 7.04pm.

Attendees: Kelvin Watson, Gisela Schulze, Tom Brown, Jane and John Laing, Tim and Melissa Wills, Jock Woodley, Kevin Bright, Bob McCrindle.

Apologies: Evan Teale, Jeff Champion, Joan Robinson.

Minutes of previous Meeting: True and Accurate record, Tom Brown moved, Jock Woodley seconded.

Matters Arising: Toy Run Badges (6 Left). Refund for (funeral) flowers from Natcom received. Tim Wills moved, John Laing seconded.

Inwards Correspondence: Salvation Army letter of thanks.

Outwards Correspondence: None.

Treasurers Report: December Balance sheets. Audit will be checked by Bob McCrindle, Kevin will bring 20 copies of the report to the Branch AGM this month.

Invoices to pay: Pak n Sav: \$70 to Gisela Schulze for Christmas Party and \$104.99 for ink to Kevin Bright. Kevin Bright moved, Jock Woodley seconded. Pete Carrington refund due for Kaituna Rally.

General Business:

Kaituna Rally: Toilet on Wheels \$120 to pay, Tom Brown will tow out. 50 members registered so far for the Rally. Kelvin will contact Muff Newton for numbers for the meal.

Marlborough Branch AGM: 15th February 7.30pm Redwoodtown Hall. Names of attendees will be added as members come to the meeting. Please bring a plate to share.

Other Matters:

Gisela Schulze has invited all members to a BBQ bacon

and Eggs Breakfast at her house on the Morning of the Sunrise to Sunset Ride \$5 per person. (10 March)

Tim Wills has organised the monthly meal to the Yard Bar: 17th February 6.30pm. Next months meal on the 17th March has been changed from the Havelock Hotel to the Speight's Alehouse due to the Havelock Mussel Festival being on as they could not fit us in.

Jock Woodley said that he did not want to be paid for the BBQ costs that he incurred for last months BBQ at his place. Kevin Bright moved that Jock should be paid for this, John Laing seconded.

Jock Woodley would like to talk about the 25th Anniversary Island Classic after this months branch AGM. He will hire a screen and projector for this. We suggest could Jock contact Jeff Champion to see if the Branch Laptop is suitable.

Tom Brown said that there have only been a few riders coming on the Sunday rides.

Jane Laing said the Newsletter is a bit late this month but on its way out now. Jane needs a member profile for next month's newsletter. Jane discussed the Rescue ride coming up in April. There is an option of supporting either the Marlborough Life Saving or the Blenheim Fire station. Kelvin Watson will report back next month.

Kelvin Watson is going to email all members about Dave Moss coming tomorrow.

Kelvin asked if anyone had a name for the Ulysses Remembrance Album, it was agreed that it is going to be called the "Ulysses Marlborough Remembrance Book"

Bob McCrindle has some new ideas for the Accounts for our Club.

Kelvin Watson moved that we will buy a Lap Top for the Treasurers position for our club, Tom Brown seconded.

Kelvin Watson closed the meeting at: 8.22pm. Next Committee Meeting 1st March McDonalds 7pm.

SUNDAY RIDES WITH TOM

Sunday 4th was Bike Fest day at the Trafalgar Centre.

12 bikes at the station so off we went. Had light rain at Pelorus Bridge to the top of Gentle Annie.

Arriving at the event there was so many bikes that there was organised bike parking.

Lots of trade stalls and events going on.

Even stuff for small children.

The stunt riding by the four Harley guys was very good.

Then it was time to eat up the road to the Riverside Cafe.

A nice ride home with a stop at Rai Valley for an ice cream.

Tom 5314

Sunday 18th Ride to Foresters Cafe Rai Valley.

A nice sunny day with 12 bikes at the station rearing to go.

I was in my tin top so I went on the tail end.

It was great meal and lots of laughter and it was nice that there was two non Ulysses members with us. Tim's work mates

Then it was time to go and to soon back at home.

Any members wanting to take their cars its ok, for the shorter ride as I was only minutes behind the bikes at the cafe.

Tom #5314



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



ULYSSES GEAR

If you would like to purchase any item of Ulysses Gear, check out

the Gear on the Ulysses NZ website,
www.ulysses.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.

Joan Robinson

Branch Quartermistress.

Joan's contact phone # 027 2904352

Joan's email : cretebunny@hotmail.com

AutoCare

Full Mechanical Service!

MotoCare

**Looking after your
motorcycling needs.**

*Ulysses Members
receive a 10% discount*on most Items.
At Both Autocare & Motocare
*some conditions apply**

**Wayne Brock 2929 (Owner).
5 Freswick Street, Blenheim 7201
Ph: 03 578 2542. Mobile: 021 370 745
Email: autocare@brock.net.nz**

MARLBOROUGH BRANCH AGM

20 members turned out for our AGM meeting on 15 February, there were also several apologies.



It was pleasing to have 12 nominations for Committee this year, - many hands make light work! Well done and Thank you to all these people for putting their hands up to have a role in operating our Branch.

Kelvin Watson, John Laing, Melissa Wills, Bob McCrindle, Tim Wills, Tom Brown, Joan Robinson, Jane Laing, Kevin Bright, John Sinclair, Jock Woodley, Jeff Champion

Thanks for the yummy supper dishes everyone!



Adventuring with JG, - 2018

A South Island adventure with JG

Now as we've discussed before, I'm one of those blokes who thinks that if you are not planning a ride or actually riding, then everything else you are doing is probably a complete waste of time. Once a year I get to ride with a mate from Taranaki who flies A320s for Air NZ as his day job. This year we'd planned a ride north in his February holidays but events saw this change to a ride south.

With Murray Brooks kindly offering to look after the Marlborough Retreads on Feb 8th Richard and I headed south from Blenheim. The planned route down the West Coast was changed at the last minute as the road there was blocked in a number of places following their big storm. So into the teeth of a southerly we headed down the East Coast. It rained steadily from Kaikoura to Amberley then we rode under an overcast sky to Geraldine. The highest temperature we saw this afternoon was 12° and this came as a shock given the record "hot" we'd been experiencing.

Next day we headed to Cave then down to St Andrews via the Pareora Gorge followed by Waimate then Kurow where we started our evaluation of the southern cheese roll. Down the south side of the Waitaki to Duntroon then the inland route to Maheno provided some awesome twisties. We followed the main drag to Mosgiel then did the inland loop round the highly recommended King George Memorial Drive. This circuit has a habit of bringing out disgraceful behaviour and today was no exception. Then we continued to Gore where we would stay for a couple of nights. The air was still cool and once again 12° was tops.

Sunday was a beauty. We left our luggage behind and headed south to Bluff then around the Catlins. We had coffee and today's cheese roll at Fortrose. For the first time on this trip we had a tail wind. This road was deserted until we struck oncoming tourists later in the morning and there was more disgraceful behaviour. The Catlins road is top of the list for a revisit. It's a cracker! From Balclutha we headed up river and crossed it at the Clydevale bridge with the intention of crossing back over on the ferry at Tuapeka Mouth – so we hadn't refuelled at Balclutha as we would do that at Lawrence. Bad call. We found the ferry but the operator was nowhere to be seen. It was 1245 so we figured we'd wait while Old Mate finished his Sunday roast and then get a ride across the Clutha. We gave the wait away after half an hour and rode up to Beaumont then to Millers Flat where we crossed the river again and rode up the twisties on the east bank to Roxburgh where a welcome refuel showed that my tank had less than a litre remaining. We backtracked to Ettrick then rode numerous fun roads to Tapanui then on the worst gravel road ever to Knapdale and Mandeville. We went south and intercepted the Dipton-Gore Road which is arguably the best gravel road in NZ. And so back home to Gore. The forecast for Monday was a shocker so we elected to have a lay day. I visited friends and did some washing while Richard shot down to Bill Richardson's collection of bikes. We did however, sample another cheese roll in Gore.

So on Tuesday after an extra night in Gore we headed off to cross Southland's western side. The weather was shocking. 6° for the first two hours in horizontal rain – then it soared up to 7°! Not everyone would realise we were having so much fun. We went west via Winton, Otautau, Scotts Gap and Clifden before heading north to Te Anau for a well earned coffee and a fabulous pie. Now the only South Island road that I know for sure I haven't travelled is the road to Mavora Lakes – so we set off to put that right. The weather cleared and warmed to 12°. We had 37km of fast gravel road then a bush track so we were ecstatic! Then we rode it all again on the way out to Mossburn. This road was noteworthy for the number of cyclists and their undeveloped sense of survival! More coffee and today's cheese roll at Five Rivers then onto Frankton and over the Crown Range to Wanaka.

Wednesday was what every day on a bike should be. Perfect sunny sky, a gentle southerly and a blast over the Haast. I had the only incident of the trip going down the Haast River. Richard was in front and we'd worked our way through a slow "train" of cars when I took on the culprit at the front – an obvious Asian visitor doing 65kph. The gaps weren't too big so overtakes were spirited. As I passed this guy he swapped lanes with no indication whatsoever. I managed to brake my way out of that one and noticed that he'd swapped sides of the road to avoid a dead possum on his side! At the next opportunity I made another attempt and the same thing happened. Another possum!!!

When I did get by I saw this tiny elderly Asian breast feeding the steering wheel and 120% concentration - but still at 65kph. I headed off in pursuit of Richard and that's when I spotted a black cattle beast standing on the roadside. The brakes needed the next 40km down to Haast to cool off! We stopped there for a brew and I swore if old mate turned



ABOVE; The obligatory photo at Bluff.

BELOW; Stranded by the Tuapeka Ferry



BELOW; Stranded by the Tuapeka Ferry



Mavora Lakes

JG's adventure continued...

up I'd pocket his keys and carry on the ride. He didn't. No cheese rolls here and we were disappointed not to be able to include Haast in the now open whitebait pattie stakes. No whitebait.

We left SH6 and did a loop around Lake Kaniere before stopping at Greymouth for the night. Thursday started with a ride up the coast to Westport. Man there's some damage to the road here and a big commitment is needed to restore (replace) large sections of road claimed by the sea. We refuelled bikes and riders then went up to Denniston and tried to get through to the Mackley River on the old Hydro Road but mining interests have erected a locked gate so it was back to Westport and over to Murchison for lunch. We then elected to go up the Matakaitaki on the gravel and over the Maruia Saddle which joins the main road south of the Shenandoah. The saddle ride saw the bike in 1st and sometimes 2nd gear for long periods and I met Wally the wasp here when he hit my left eye on the full. He survived and I now hold the new record for the time it takes to get a helmet off! And so to the Motor Camp at Hanmer Springs.



At Redgate Molesworth

Friday morning the fine weather continued and we finished off the ride with a blat through the Molesworth and home for lunch after 3300km.

And just some observations to finish. The condition of all roads in the South island has to be commented upon. I have never seen so much bleeding tar. In the wet this stuff is lethal. Add to that a strong and gusty crosswind and all the elements are there to catch us motorcyclists. The maintenance of our roads is a national disgrace. The Aussies can build chip and tar roads that withstand 40°+ yet NZ ones can't withstand 30°. In the wet, and sometimes in the dry, it was just like my old trail riding days where you spend all your time and a lot of concentration looking for the best traction. Not good enough NZTA.

The number of revenue collectors seen over the week was three. (No we didn't have to buy them any ice creams).

The number of oncoming bikes hanging over the centreline on *their* right hand blind corners was alarming.

The new KTM 1090 has a bigger fuel tank than the DL1000.

The Valley Cafe at Kurow provided the best cheese rolls by a country mile. We noted though that all were made to order at every stop. They don't leave them stewing in the heated display cabinet as is the practice here.

And finally if your left arm needs some exercise, I can recommend a northbound route when everyone else is heading south to the Burt.

Now where to next?

JG # 9272

Oh the pain!

Kelvin Watson

An angry wife was complaining about her husband spending all his free time in a bar, so one night he took her along with him.

"What'll you have?" he asked.

"Oh, I don't know. The same as you I suppose," she replied.

So, the husband ordered a couple of Jack Daniel's and threw his down in one shot.

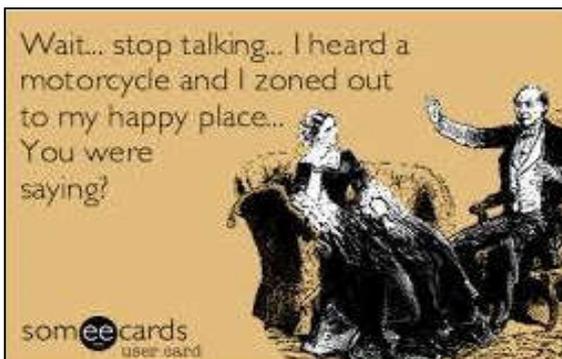
His wife watched him, then took a sip from her glass and immediately spat it out.

"Yuck, that's TERRIBLE!" she spluttered.

"I don't know how you can drink this stuff!"

"Well, there you go," cried the husband.

"And you think I'm out enjoying myself every night!"



Mountain Oysters—sort of....

JG Sinclair

A big Texan Dude stopped at a local restaurant following a day roaming around in Mexico.

While sipping his tequila, he noticed a sizzling, scrumptious looking platter being served at the next table. Not only did it look good, but the smell was wonderful. He asked the waiter, "What is that you just served?"

The waiter replied, "Ah, Señor, you have excellent taste! Those are called Cojones de Toro, bull's testicles from the bull fight this morning. A real delicacy!"

The cowboy said, "What the heck, bring me an order."

The waiter replied, "I am so sorry, Señor. There is only one serving per day because there is only one bull fight each morning.

If you come early and place your order, we will be sure to save you this delicacy."

The next morning, the cowboy returned, placed his order, and that evening was served the one and only special delicacy of the day.

After a few bites, inspecting his platter, he called to the waiter and said, "These are delicious, but they are much, much smaller than the ones I saw you serve yesterday."

The waiter shrugged his shoulders and replied, "Si, Señor. Sometimes the bull wins."

Burt Munro Challenge Rally 2018

Burt Munro Challenge rally 2018

This year the Rally date was changed to February hoping for improved weather to encourage a better turnout both of rally participants and competitors, this decision was certainly the right one, it was a hugely successful event.

I left home on Tuesday morning prior to the rally. It was Waitangi day and there was heavy traffic, the temperature was 19* leaving Blenheim but by the time I got to Kaikoura it was down to 11* and raining. Riding into a southerly wind I had already stopped several times to put on more warmer layers.

Even though it was wet I enjoyed the ride. A bit slow though the road works due to earthquake repairs and lots of traffic including HEAPS of motorcycles – most going my way.

The rain eased off about Cheviot so I stopped for a bite of lunch, just ready to leave and I meet Stu Wyness. we rode together towards Christchurch where I stayed the night. Early next morning I rode to Glentunnel where I had arranged to meet up with some friends. We travelled the scenic route down to Geraldine where they carried on via Tekapo to Invercargill, I turned out to the main road to head to Dunedin.

I stayed two nights in Dunedin before heading off to Invercargill on Friday morning. It was a beautiful day, warm and sunny, great weather for riding along with the hundreds of other bikes all heading for the 'Burt'. For once there seemed to be more bikes than cars around the streets once I arrived in Invercargill, and it was the same all weekend.

I headed to the rally site at Oreti Park, picked up my rally registration, then set up my tent at the area I like to camp in. This year the rally site was really packed out with campers, the date change from November to February has improved the rally attendance.

The Beach Racing on Friday evening was brilliant. It was a warm night with only a light breeze, terrific racing and a huge spectator crowd. Saturday breakfast at a cafe in town then out to Teratonga Raceway for the road racing event again it was brilliant, close racing with full fields and huge numbers of spectators.

The speedway event starts at 4.00pm but the word was you needed to get there about 2pm to get a good viewing spot, and it was good advice as the place was absolutely packed. The thing with watching speedway is, the last viewing spaces available are usually near the corner entry points which, when racing starts, you get sprayed with gravel from the track as the bikes start the slide into the corners,- sometimes you need experience even if you're a spectator!

Speedway racing is a spectacular form of motor sport with short races, lots of heats run off quickly so there are few delays during the evening. Again it was a well run event with exciting racing.



Continued over page.....

Burt Munro Rally continued...

Sunday morning and I had to start my trip home so was going to miss the Invercargill Street Races, but perhaps I didn't miss much as they were called off by the organisers, due to a major oil spill around the track.

The weather finally turned as I was leaving Southland the rain started and continued until about Timaru, with quite heavy showers at times, I stayed in Christchurch overnight, dried my gear then the next day was hot, sunny and 30 degrees which made it a fantastic ride along the new Kaikoura Coastal road arriving home about 4.30pm.

This was a great trip, the Burt is a well organised event, the racing was superb with full fields of top competitors in all events. Numbers of spectators and rally goers attending this year made it the biggest rally yet.

John #5083



BITS AND BOBS You need to read and remember...

SUNDAY RIDES

A discussion took place at our AGM about the lack of support for our Sunday Rides.

The general feeling was that there needed to be some change to the format of these rides and it was decided to ask you, the Branch members what you want.

Please take the time to email Kelvin Watson and outline what you would like from our Sunday rides.

What format do you think these rides should take? Do you want the rides to be long, short, social, lunch, coffee, picnic's, BYO, early, late, distance, destinations,?

Are you prepared to support the Sunday rides? Would you be prepared to help Tom as an additional Rides Coordinator?

We really want to hear your thoughts, experiences, ideas etc. We don't want to lose the Sunday rides from our events calendar, we want to cater for everyone.

We need you to TELL US what you want.

Kelvin is waiting to hear from you....

Email; marlborough@ulysses.org.nz



JOIN GISELA FOR BREAKFAST

SUNRISE/SUNSET RIDE
On the 10/3/18

Come and join me for a great ride After you have enjoyed an amazing SUNRISE in Rarangi, I will provide a yummy breakfast at my house (toast, eggs, bacon, sausage, coffee and tea, as much as you like).
Breakfast: from 8am

Address; 34A Adams Lane, Blenheim
Cost: \$5 per person

RSVP: to Gisela BY 7/3/18

ACCOMODATION: in Westpaort, McManus Hotel - some still available
Looking forward to catching up with you. Gisela, Ph; 578 1618. Cell; 027 3882591

CONGRATULATIONS!

To Evan and Margaret Teale who won 2 Silver & 1 Bronze medals for their dancing, at the recent Masters Games held in Dunedin.

GUSS RALLY

Nelson Branch of Ulysses NZ regrets to inform you that the 2018 GUSS Rally on March 17th, has been cancelled due to insufficient registrations. An attractive alternative has been offered to all who have registered so far. If you would like to information about this please contact Allan at nelson.sec@ulysses.org.nz

Allan Smith
Secretary,
Nelson Branch, Ulysses Club of New Zealand Inc.

PLEASE JOIN US...

The **MARCH** mid-month dinner will be at

SPEIGHTS ALE HOUSE

Saturday 17 March

6.30pm

Please RSVP to Tim and Melissa Wills on or before Friday 16 March

Phone; 579 2363

Prank Call....

Kelvin Watson

*The phone rings, and the wife answers. A pervert, with heavy breathing, says, "I bet you have a tight ass with no hair."
The woman replies, " Well yes I do. He's watching TV. Who shall I say is calling?"*

THURSDAY RIDE REPORTS

25th January 2018 – Foresters Café, Rai.

It's been a great spell of weather over the last few days and today was no exception. All the early indications were that another stinking hot day was about to evolve, great for riding but not so great for wearing bike jackets, pants and helmet. All of a sudden a day spent lounging next to a swimming pool with a cooling drink or three seemed like a more sensible way to while away the day. I had a trailer load of lawn clippings to dispose of first up so arrived at the green waste resource centre around 8-45am, paid some outrageous sum for the disposal of grass clippings, and had a wee chat with the guy in charge as no one else was around. That was short lived when a couple of vehicles turned up so we cut short our chit-chat and I started to get into my Ute to move on when a torrent of abuse was hurled at me from some stupid git in the second vehicle. Turned out the stupid git was none other than JG himself complete with a piddly little trailer containing maybe one catcher of lawn clippings and a minute pile of general green garden waste. He could have saved himself some dollars if he had simply acted disgracefully by leaving it all on the trailer and driven up Taylor Pass Road at speed!

Today's merry Mob included Grant Johnston, Bruce Windleburn, Rob Patterson, Terry Molony, Peter Nelson, Bryan and Louise Pearce, Allan Graham, Dave Jackson, Chris Donaldson, JG and me. It was a relief to get on the road and generate a cooling breeze after a stop/start briefing from JG who had to be reminded about a catch up stop outside Renwick. Upon arrival at Foresters it was a relief to discard our external bike clothing and hopefully get some respite from the heat inside the Café'. Unfortunately that was not the case; there wasn't the slightest hint of a breeze outside, no doubt as a result of the Café being surrounded by hills which are covered by a pine plantation. The Café provided us with several large bottles of iced water which were most appreciated and had to be replenished a couple of times. I didn't hear any complaints about the food on offer; in fact several ordered toasted sandwiches and were pleasantly surprised when they turned up complete with a side salad. I think Peter Nelson took the prize for the largest meal; mind you I never got to see what the Doc ordered!

After a very hot but enjoyable hour or so of good food and conversation – some constructive and some not so flash, it was time to think about hitting the road for home with no one keen on the idea of extending the ride in the heat. JG confirmed that it was 31 degrees at Rai and stayed at that level all the way back to Kaituna. Once again I opted to ride Queen Charlotte Drive to Picton before heading back to Blenheim where I stopped to get a warrant of fitness for the bike which only had a couple of days to go before expiring. I then headed for home to follow JG's suggestion of checking out the bottom of the swimming pool in an effort to cool down.

Obviously the heat managed to befuddle JG's mind as I subsequently got an email from him which stated - "No photos were taken I'm sorry." The fact that he actually apologised is a first as far as I am concerned as it is so out of character!

1st February 2018 – Mega Mitre 10 Café, Blenheim.

Well it couldn't last could it. The approaching remnants of a sub-tropical cyclone had made their presence felt over the last 24 hours so JG decided to err on the side of caution in light of the predicted strong winds and heavy rain. And that's where Murphy's Law kicked in. About five minutes after getting comfortably seated inside the Café the rain ceased, the sun came out & the wind eased.

Today's participants clearly fell into two distinct groups:-

Wusses in Tin Tops: JG, Louise and Brian Pearce, Peter Nelson, John and Heather Hadfield, Lindsay Learmonth, Graeme Check, Allan Graham, Ray Beard, Dutch, Terry Molony, Grant and Lis Johnston, John Neal and me.

True Blue Ballsy Ulyssians: Dave Jackson

The staff had set out four tables together in a row and had to add an extra couple to cater for our mob. It was not difficult to find a culinary delight to your liking from the menu and I know my meal was spot on and I certainly didn't hear any complaints from anyone else with the possible exception of Heather & Louise. I was still a tad hungry after my main so I went up the counter and ordered a piece of Apple Slice for dessert and was offered the choice of cream or yoghurt to go with it. I opted for the cream and when I returned to my seat both Heather & Louise started to drool over my dish. It eventually got the better of Heather & she went off and returned with an Apricot Slice which she cut in half to share with husband John. As she was cutting it in half she realised she forgot to get some cream or yoghurt to go with it and for a moment things got a little septic. In the meantime Louise was getting rather pissed off Heather and I would not share our slices with her. Come on Louise it's all about behaving disgracefully!

Speaking of Louise, she and Brian are about to embark on a four wheel trek over back country Stations, etc. from Blenheim to the Cardrona Valley. That should be a great trip and I know Brian will be right in his element. During the course of lunch today he was reminiscing on his time deer culling in Fiordland which I found extremely interesting.

JG seemed to have his tits in a tangle today. He was constantly moaning about how busy he has been today and to top it all off he had a run in with IRD over some cock up they had made. To make matters worse he was heading off early tomorrow morning with a mate to spend 10 days touring around the South Island on their motorbikes. Poor old JG, my heart bleeds; life can be a bitch at times can't it! And on that note I will call it quits.

Bob #8033



Checking out the Doc's Tee Shirt!

THURSDAY RIDES continued....

8th February 2017 – Slip Inn, Havelock.

With both JG & the Doc AWOL today, Murray Brooks assumed the role of "Big Daddy". I arrived at Brayshaw Park about 10-50am which is quite early for me and upon taking my helmet off was greeted with all sorts of comments as a result of having had my face re-arranged. I was riding my mountain bike a little too quickly on the lower Wither Hills Farm Park track last Monday trying to catch up to the guy in front of me and erred slightly off the track as a corner loomed up. I did not see the ditch the track went over and the bike came to an abrupt stop when the front wheel fell into it. Unfortunately I can't say the same about myself, I managed to fly over the handle bars and face plant into the unforgiving terra firma. I can remember thinking this is going to hurt before I landed and I was not wrong. I had a fairly bloody face which paled into insignificance compared to the large dent in my pride and supposed bullet proof bike riding skills! I had Don Best on my tail and he came to my aid pretty quickly. No broken bones, just a very messy face and Don produced a micro fibre cloth for me to try & stem the bleeding. Having partially achieved that I picked myself up, dusted myself off, hopped on the bike & followed Don back to the Munro Street entrance to the Taylor River Reserve where I had parked my Ute. Once I had convinced Don I was OK to drive I headed for home while he headed back to join the rest of the cycle group. Needless to say there was absolutely no sympathy for me from today's group; it was obvious they all thought justice had been served as payback for all the nice things I have written about them over the last three or four years.



The gloating participants today included Murray Brooks, Terry Molony, Andy Noble, Ray Beard, Don Best, Jude & Jeff Eales, Alistair and Bruce Windleburn, Lionel Graham, Chris Donaldson, Lindsay Learmonth, Jeff & Wendy Champion, John Hadfield, Iain MacDonald, Graham Howard, Gary Stuart and Dave Jackson. The only non-gloating participant was no-mates me!

Now as I have mentioned above I owe a debt of gratitude to Don Best for helping me out last Monday so I have very reluctantly agreed to include this paragraph as a result of extreme pressure put upon me by Murray. It seems both Don Best and Bruce Windleburn have some difficulty working out how to read what time it is on their watches. Apparently they both turned up at Brayshaw Park at 10am rather than 11am, and upon finding no one there assumed the mob had headed off so they thought they could catch them up at the catch-up stop at the Wairau Bridge layby. Naturally no one else was there so they pushed on to Havelock only to find the mob was conspicuous by its absence! However they ran into Jeff Eales there, who having listened to their tale of woe politely broke the news to them that they were simply an hour too early. In my view and to give credit where credit is due this was not a case of absent-mindedness, rather it shows how enthusiastic and resourceful both Don & Bruce were. Being such a great day for a ride they simply got away early to have a leisurely ride out and while away some time enjoying the ambience of the Havelock marina and lovely views from the deck. And if they had any sense they might just have partaken of a glass of light ale to complete the picture!

It was a good ride out and Murray had warned us to look out for a couple of unmarked police cars patrolling the route we would be taking. They did not bother our extremely law abiding group today!

Upon arrival at the Slip Inn we were conducted to the larger banquet section of the Café where a series of tables had been set up in a row. Once we were all ensconced the efficient and pretty waitresses took our orders and before long our meals started to arrive. In the absence of both JG and the Doc, there was no unruly or raucous behaviour, just polite and intelligent conversation which proves we can be civilised occasionally.

It was with some reluctance to take our leave after lunch and we all slowly dispersed. With the memorial function for Peter Unger looming up this weekend I opted to head around Queen Charlotte Drive to Picton to enjoy a cup of coffee and spend some quiet time reflecting upon my friendship with Peter at Le Café where Peter always headed after our weekly Retreads rides before heading home to Ngakuta Bay.

Bob #8033



Marlborough Retreads meet Canterbury Knitting group

IT'S NEVER STRAIGHT FORWARD...

14th Feb 2018 – Marlborough Retreads meet Canterbury Knitting group, South Bay Kaikoura.

Our weekly Retreads Ride was changed from our usual Thursday to a day earlier so we could join up for a picnic lunch with our Christchurch counterparts known as Bob Tanner's Knitting Group. It's been at least a couple of years since we last had a similar encounter, so as far as I was concerned it was yet another sign that things are well on their way to normality following the Kaikoura earthquake. It was also a golden opportunity to break the shackles and venture a little further afield.

Unfortunately I got off to a bad start by running a tad late to get to Brayshaw Park by 10am and needed to put some air in my tyres and top up the fuel tank. I had a brainwave and headed to the new NPD Petrol Station on Redwood Street as I knew the group would be passing by on their way out of town. Like most brainwaves I have this one quickly turned to custard as NPD do not have the equipment installed to inflate tyres at this stage so I had to go elsewhere. I then headed direct to the layby opposite the old Montana Restaurant & Cellar Door at Riverlands to wait for the mob to arrive. As I was heading there I shot past a flashing sign and didn't read it properly but the words "alternative route" registered after a minute or so that suggested that maybe the road south had been closed again. I duly stopped and waited at the layby and after 5 minutes or so decided the planned ride had been cancelled so I turned the bike around and started to head back home only to see the troops heading south at a great rate of knots with no intention of stopping for a catch up. So now the boot was on the other foot and it was me having to do yet another U turn and play catch up.



The first leg of the ride to Kekerengu was pretty good, just a few minor holdups for roadworks and not a lot of traffic. We had a brief catch-up stop at Kekerengu, however from Clarence onward we were faced with several stoppages and 30km or 50km per hour stretches of road which delayed our ride but this was a small price to pay when one comes face to face with what mother nature can do and the sheer scale of work being undertaken to rectify things. Poor old JG got his knickers in a twist over the ride however. He has only just returned from a 10 day odyssey on his bike around the South Island and spent all day yesterday cleaning it up only to have it return to its grubby state before we had even got to Kaikoura.



When we arrived at South Bay there was absolutely no sign of the Christchurch contingent so we decided that they had called things off as a result of the road between Goose Bay and Kaikoura being temporarily closed, we understand, by a truck getting stuck in one of the road tunnels on that stretch of road. No sooner had we started munching away on our picnic lunches when two or three bikes from Christchurch turned up and were followed by several more over the next 5 minutes or so. The poor buggers had to travel from Christchurch to Waipara then inland to Waiau and on to Kaikoura via the Inland Kaikoura Road which added a lot more distance & time for them. To make matters worse the Inland Road is in a bad state and they were held up several times by trucks which needed to utilise the entire width of the road to negotiate several of the corners. Despite that frustration they were all bright and cheerful and pretty soon everybody was yakking away and enjoying their tucker. The one thing that caught my attention was the fact that most of those present today all suffer from "Old Man's Disease" judging by the non-stop procession of bods beating a well-worn track across the park to the public loos. Some of us including me had to make the rather long trek twice!



Marlborough/Canterbury at Kaikoura continued...

Continued from page 14

It was great to catch up with our Christchurch counterparts, they are a great bunch and very easy to get along with. The only thing that disappointed me was the fact that they outnumbered our lot quite considerably. After an extremely enjoyable hour or so it was time to bid each other farewell and head off on our respective ways. With the lack of traffic heading north as a result of the road closure, the ride home was quicker than the ride out earlier today. We stopped at the Flaxbourne Tearooms at Ward for a coffee which gave us the chance to reflect on today's outing, the general consensus being that it was a great success and we should do it more often. The only common complaint was that a lot of us had very sore arms as a result of waving to other motor cyclists on the road today. It seemed every man and his dog was returning home from the Burt Munro Rally held down south last weekend.



Today's participants included:

From Blenheim - Dave Jackson, Jeff Eales, Lindsay Learmonth, John Hadfield, Lionel Graham, Graeme Howarth, Gisela Schulze, Susie Pouwhare, John Sinclair and me.

From Christchurch - Bill & Jennifer Gaskell, Bob Buchanan, Peter Milner, Brian Massie, Brian Bowkett, Murray Craig, Meg Cameron, Graeme Hancox, Graham Sutherland, Dick Gurney Keith McColl, Roger White, Dave & Diane Davies, Allan Richards, Noel Duff and Bob Tanner.

A group of the Cantabrians will be making their way north next weekend to join us for our Kaituna Rally. Looking forward to catching up with them again. I hope the road is open and they get a reasonable run for that trip.



Bob #8033

Photo's courtesy of Bob Tanner, Canterbury Branch



Mid Month Dinner... at the Yard Bar



There were 13 of us for this Ulysses evening out. My apologies to Tony who arrived after the lovely Waitress had taken the photo for me. It was good to see you and everyone else.

We were in fine form, not the least John and Heather Hadfield. I had thought John was a clandestine Italian but no, this time John arrived and asked—"have you got room for a couple of Chinese people?"!! And poor Heather, slipped on the nasty little step between outdoors and in, and broke the heel off her shoe, John was quick to grab it, chuck it over the little hedge behind the table, telling Heather "it's bugged"!

Heather wanted it back, she was certain she could glue the heel back on the shoe and she didn't let up until John bush-bashed his way through the hedge to retrieve the offending shoe part. Oh dear, it wasn't over yet, - the Waitress arrived to

take their order and John announced to her that he was going to sue the Restaurant because his wife had broken her shoe on their step. Quick as a wink, the Waitress replied, and we will sue you Sir, for wrecking our decorative hedge!! Well, that did calm things down a bit, John went quiet for 5 minutes, the Waitress took the dinner order and the photo for me and the usual convivial Ulysses atmosphere was restored. Whew! - Haven't laughed so much for ages!!

John and Heather are off on a cruise soon, I just know they will be the life and soul of the ship. Happy travels to you!

When you come along to these social get-togethers you just never know what will transpire, it's a laugh a minute, I do enjoy it. Thanks to Tim and Melissa, another good meal out!

Next month (March) we're going to the Speights Ale House. Why don't you join us? Give Tim a call and put your name down.
Jane #6361



Helping New Zealanders to do more

For over 45 years we've been making it easier for New Zealanders to get the things they need.

We offer personal and business lending including pre-approval so you know exactly how much you have to work with.



☎ 03 577 5151

📍 9 Redwood Street

mtf.co.nz/blenheim

Whatcha been up to Jock?

Woodley takes sweet victory.

Local veteran road racer Jock Woodley returned from the World International Island Classic feeling well pleased with his efforts within the Motueka Motorcycles Team after spending 4 days on a very hot Phillip island Grand prix Circuit racing for accumulated points in both the 350cc and 500cc “forgotten era” classes.

Motueka Motorcycles sent 4 1970's era Yamaha TZ350 Grand Prix bikes with spare parts, tools and tyres in advance for the event. Two mechanics, Lester Ferdinand and Murray Brown arrived at the Island on Wednesday 24th January along with Paul McLachlan, Jason Howcroft, Steve Brown and Jock Woodley who were to pilot the restored post classic racing machines. Jason was the only rider who had raced at the Island previously.

“We were within the New Zealand International Team of twenty one bikes but we were the only ones riding the two stroke Grand Prix type bikes” Woodley said. “We quickly got down to business and spent Thursday in official practice sessions trying to learn the track and effect bike maintenance to get everything to mesh well.”

The island track is incredibly fast and we all quickly learned that the nature of the track highlighted the, well known, trait of ‘patter’ or ‘chatter’ on the Tz350's. This is where a stress induced resonance makes the bike physically vibrate harshly when pushed into fast corners. The patter can get so violent as to alter how you can get around parts of the track. Woodley in fact nearly crashed after heading off the track at high speed coming onto the front straight. “I was really pushing into the corner but as the patter got worse we went well out towards the edge of the track to the point that I just couldn't hold it so I went grass tracking at 150kmh but managed to keep control and get back onto the track to finish the race.

“What an incredible team effort by all.” Woodley said, “Tyre pressures, fuel, suspension adjustments. We also had some engine issues to sort out, and just for good measure the tyre guys pinched my rear tyre tube while fitting a new tyre and upon repairing the problem actually pinched it again so I came in at the end of one race with only 11psi pressure. We would usually run about 33psi, so lots of work pressure on the mechanics and the team, we all handled it so well.”

“With our four TZ350's all up we fronted for eight qualifying runs and thirty two races between us. We only had two DNFs (did not finish) for the whole four days.”

Woodley and Steve Brown rounded the weekends racing off taking first and second places in the 500cc class and Woodley managed a bonus third placing in the 350cc class. The Team came away knowing they had certainly put on a good show against some rather more costly equipment, and in fact had far exceeded their own expectations to boot.

When asked about going back next year Woodley suggested that “We have already started building a new bike for next year. Meanwhile I would like to acknowledge the people who helped us get there. Beatnik & Co, Sign Images, BASIS and Elite Tyre and Alignment, Whitehorse Optical Centre Melbourne, PENRITE OILS NZ.

Photo L-R Paul McLachlan, Jason Howcroft, Steve Brown, Pete Rundle (of Whitehorse Optical Centre) Lester Ferdinand (Mechanic), Jock Woodley, Murray Brown (Mechanic).



Photo supplied by Andy White Photography.

Coast to Coast Overnighter – Sunrise to Sunset

Sat MAR 10—SUNDAY MAR 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
25 Feb	Sunday	10am	Long ride to Murchison for lunch	Tom Brown
1 March	Thursday	7pm	Committee meeting at McDonald Restaurant. All welcome	Kelvin Watson
4 March	Sunday	10am	Lunch ride to Pier Hotel, Kaikoura	Tom Brown
10-11 March	Overnight	Start 7.15am	Join Nelson Branch to Watch the sunrise at Rarangi Beach, breakfast at Gisela's house then ride to Westport to watch the sun set. Book Westport accommodation at McManus Hotel.	See notice's in March newsletter
11 March	Sunday	10am	Lunch ride to Happy Valley Café, Hira	Tom Brown
17 March	Saturday	6.30pm	Mid month Dinner at Speights Ale House on Nelson street. Please RSVP to Tim & Melissa Wills on or before 16 March. Ph; 5792363	Tim Wills
18 March	Sunday	11am	Lunch ride to Kekerengu	Tom Brown
23-24 Mar	Weekend		National AGM and social at Mosgiel. Register ASAP and talk to Kelvin. See your latest Ulyssian magazine for details.	
25 March	Sunday	11.30am	Lunch ride to Pelorous Bridge Café. Need a RIC for this ride	Tom Brown

FURTHER ON DOWN THE ROAD...

11 March; Hospice Vehicle display. Waterlea Racecourse 11am—3pm

There will be a Branch Rescue Ride in the next couple of months

Maybe an overnighter?

And a Branch Mid-year Dinner?

Loads of great Sunday rides, Thursday rides, Saturday coffee mornings and regular mid-month dinners. Spoilt for choice, why don't you join us.

South Island Remembrance Service later in the year—watch this space.

Make the most of the remaining daylight saving hours—there is only one month left! (1 April)

GO ON, KICK IT, GRANNY!
DADDY SAYS HE'LL BUY ME A
BIKE WHEN YOU DO!





Ray Beard has been having a clear out and he came across these pictures taken back when our Coffee mornings out at the Vines village were just getting started.

Back then we used to sit out in the front courtyard so the riders could keep an eye on their bikes!

Some longer standing members might recognise one or two people here who are no longer with us.

Good times...can anyone recall what year this would have been? I'm guessing around 2002/3?

Thanks for these pic's Ray! - more next month.



Our newsletter is proudly sponsored by.....

**Innovative Copying, Printing,
Colour Scanning
and IT Solutions for Business**

The Copier Company Ltd

61 Seymour St, Blenheim

Ph: 577 5533

*SENDER; Ulysses Club of New Zealand Inc, MARLBOROUGH Branch.
If undelivered please return to The Secretary, 94 Howick Road Blenheim 7201*

