



TUESDAY NIGHT NOTES

14th April 2009



Great to see you all tonight, and it was especially nice to see that those that attended the event at Renner Springs all arrived back (more or less) in one piece.

Snacks

No snacks tonight (although there was some birthday cake; more anon...), but Caroline and Hendry have offered to provide sustenance next week.

Birthdays

It was Hendry's birthday last Saturday whilst we were at Renner Springs, but I imagine it was all somewhat of a blur for him! Caroline brought the cake along to the meeting where many people partook of it.

Sunday Rides

The ride last Sunday was to Corroboree Park for those who weren't at Renner Springs.

The ride this Sunday will be to the Bark Hut and will depart at **8.30am** from BP Palms.

Please note the change in departure time to "The Dry" timing!

Renner Springs

- The second event at Renner Springs was another huge success, with 33 bikes and 55 riders attending from Darwin, Mt Isa and Alice Springs.
- After a very close competition between the three branches, Mt Isa emerged the victors. I guess that means it's Top End's turn next time... I'm sure the fact that the trophy had already been engraved in Mt Isa's favour had nothing to do with the outcome.....?
- Despite a very valiant attempt on the part of Top End to cheat heavily in our chosen "sport", we were pipped at the post by Mt Isa. They're obviously very good at mucking about under their clothes....

- Mal and Fred did a wonderful job as the “un-biased” judges, although I still don’t understand just how they arrived at a final score by playing tic-tac-toe in each others clipboard all weekend? They certainly *looked* the part though!
- A special thank you to Fred, Jill and Vicki who did so much to make the event the success it was and tirelessly assisted with the organisation throughout the weekend. Thanks also to Brian for his stirring tribute to Chris Raines at the dinner on Saturday night.
- I’d like to thank those people who assisted me in getting back to Darwin in one piece after my misadventure when heaving the KLR back onto two wheels after it decided to have a “Nana Nap” on the way down to Katherine on Thursday night. Especial thanks to Steve Kay, Hoppy, Peter, Sue-Ellen, Bob and Clayton (who put up with my moans & groans whilst sharing a room with him) who escorted me and ensured I made it back intact(ish) to Darwin. I felt like a Senior Member with all the assistance they gave me - Thanks again guys! Thanks also to Garry for the loan of the back-brace - it made a huge difference thanks mate! I was amazed how many people came to check-up on me and offer assistance whilst we were at Renner Springs - it really shows what the Club is all about.
- Once I can spend more than 15 minutes sitting on my bum at a time, I’ll be creating a “mini-site” for the Renner Springs event which will contain lots of photos, stories and tall (and not so tall) tales from the weekend. Is nothing sacred? Ummm, since you ask, actually no!
- Please send me your photo’s or give them to me on CD or memory-stick so we can post them up for everyone’s edification.

Other stuff

- Ray is really enjoying his retirement, but we’re a bit worried he might be getting bored, so we’ve given him a couple of tasks.....
- He has volunteered to run the Branch Newsletter and his first one will be published prior to the AGM.
- He has created a draft trip-plan for the Albany AGM and this will be available on the website soon.
- The Ladies Formal Evening is all set for the evening of the 2nd May at the Darwin City RSL. At present it looks like the cost per head will be \$25.00. We would like to get firm numbers at next Tuesday’s meeting so we can plan ahead. Oh, did I mention that Ray is also organising this???
- Brian and Vicki have been busy renovating and have an electric cook-top available free to a good home.
- The RSL is running two Anzac Day raffles at present with one prize being an outdoor setting and the other his n’ hers watches. Please support this worthy cause.
- The RSL Club has called for volunteers to help with the Anzac Day celebrations; they specifically want someone to be the Spinner for the 2-up games. Anyone who’s interested can contact the club over the bar.
- It has been noted Down South that some of the media have mistakenly lumped the Ulysses Club in with the Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs (OLMG) in some of their

articles, so if anyone “hassles” you, please explain to them very politely that we are a social club with an interest in motorcycles and are, most assuredly, *not* a “Bikie Gang”. It shouldn’t become an issue, but you never know.

- Fred is organising another Advanced Riding Course at Hidden Valley. At present he has five or six people interested. If we have eight, we can book our own course. Don’t forget; Natcom will reimburse you 50% of the course-cost on production of a receipt. We’re possibly looking at early June at this stage.
- Vicki will be doing a “Gear Shop” order next week, so please see Vicki with your cash and wish-list next Tuesday night.

Members Benefits Register

- I will be creating a “Member Benefits Register” on the website which will list all those businesses who offer discounts to Ulysses Club members. If you know of any businesses offering discounts that aren’t mentioned, please let me know by E-mailing me at ulysses.topend@gmail.com
- Apparently someone had words with a staff-member at Litchfield Caravan Park recently because they mistakenly believed they should have received a discount on a certain item. When informed this wasn’t the case, apparently it all got a bit nasty and the staff-member in question was most upset. Please don’t act like this!
- If a vendor tells you they don’t offer a discount, that’s it - end of story. If you’re not happy, take your money elsewhere, but please don’t bring the Club into disrepute by arguing with the vendor and causing a scene.

Reminders

- Please ensure that **ALL** correspondence relating to Branch matters is sent to Pauline in the first instance. She is the official record-keeper in her capacity as the Secretary and will record the communications before forwarding them on to the relevant person(s).
- If anyone has any photographs they’d like to see “published” on the website, please get them to me via e-mail, memory-stick, CD or DVD and I will add them.
- Please make sure that you check the Ride Calendar periodically as there are occasionally changes to the schedule.

Upcoming Events

- Ladies Night - 2nd May - at the City branch of the RSL. This is a formal evening for ladies and their partners and is a chance for you all to get dressed-up. If you intend coming, please ensure you get your names to Vicki or Ray as soon as possible.
- Pine Creek Races (overnighter) - 9/10th May. Don’t forget that the 10th is also Mother’s Day!
- Top End Branch 15th Birthday - 23rd May - Brekkie at Adelaide River in the morning and a BBQ at the North Darwin RSL that night.
- TEB AGM - (overnighter) 20/21st June - at the Litchfield Caravan Park.



THE TWO STOOGES

See you all next week!

Take care and Ride Safe,

Dave Alford #48719

***President
Top End Branch
Ulysses Club Inc.***