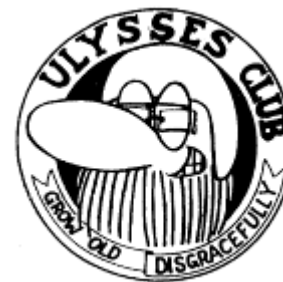




**TOP END BRANCH  
ULYSSES CLUB INC**



# NEWSLETTER

**Special 2009 Annual General Meeting Edition**

Visit our Website at: [www.ulysses.org.au/branches/topend](http://www.ulysses.org.au/branches/topend)

## OUR 2008 TOP END BRANCH ELECTED OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

<b>President:</b>	Dave Alford	0435-116-813	<a href="mailto:ulysses.topend@gmail.com">ulysses.topend@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Pauline Buxton	8985-2398	<a href="mailto:pbuxton59@gmail.com">pbuxton59@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Graham Buxton	8985-2398	<a href="mailto:gbuxton3@bigpond.com">gbuxton3@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Ride Leader:</b>	Fred Vanda	0411-152-696	<a href="mailto:fivanda@dodo.com.au">fivanda@dodo.com.au</a>
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Ray Swann	8985-3427	<a href="mailto:contact@rayswann.com">contact@rayswann.com</a>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Dave Alford	0435-116-813	<a href="mailto:ulysses.topend@gmail.com">ulysses.topend@gmail.com</a>
<b>Committee:</b>	Dave Alford; Graham Buxton, Pauline Buxton, Vicki Hulands; Tony "Gramps" Pearson; Ray Swann; John Allwood		

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## President's Report

A very warm welcome to our Special '09 AGM Newsletter.

It came as a big surprise at last year's Toy Run to be approached by Brian with the offer to "take over the reins" as the Branch President. As you are all aware, due to onerous work-commitments at the time, Brian decided that he was unable to do the position of President justice due to extended absences.

I was very excited to undertake the job, but it was not without a whole swarm of butterflies in the stomach, especially at the first Tuesday Night Meeting after the change, when only a few people knew I was the new Pres! Boy, did I get some strange looks when I stood up to start.... "What's HE doing up there???" It still needs a deep breath every Tuesday night, but hey, they're getting shallower as time goes by! It feels like we've already had a pretty busy year and it's not even half gone yet!

With Chris Raines sad passing, it was decided to rename the "Tri-Branch Challenge" and it became the "Chris Raines Memorial Weekend". We also decided to hold it in his honour again this year, instead of in 2010 as originally scheduled. The event was a huge lot of fun and very popular, with thirty-three bikes and fifty-five people attending from the three branches.

Fred and Mal did a wonderful job as the judges, but I'd still like to know who won the tic-tac-toe competition! Their sartorial efforts were extremely gutsy, to say nothing of shocking – well done guys for organising such a great event. Thanks also to Jill, Vicki, Brian and all the other who assisted and made the event so special.

Our next big "Do" was the Ladies Night at the Darwin City RSL. This gave us all the opportunity to don our "glad rags" and have a somewhat more high-brow evening than normal! Brian outdid us all in his stunning Mess Dress. I think the blokes felt a bit shabby next to him; although Fred gave it a good go and looked very posh indeed (was that really you, Fred?) A great evening was had by all and we've decided to run another such evening towards the end of The Dry.

On the same evening, we were all saddened to hear of Chris and Keren Bell's accident just north of Adelaide River, when their bike left the road. They suffered some very nasty injuries but are now well on the road to recovery. It makes me very proud to see how the Branch members have rallied around – this is the sort of reaction that makes the Ulysses Club such a special outfit.

Our other major event was the Branch's 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday, which we celebrated on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May. We re-enacted the first meeting which was held down at Adelaide River in 1994. On that occasion, the fledgling Branch watched as the inaugural (and ill-fated) Cannonball Run passed through the town. This year we had a scrumptious breakfast at the Adelaide River Inn and it was pleasing to see so many members turn out on that lovely Dry Season day.

That evening we held our 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday BBQ at our normal abode, the North Darwin Sub-branch of the RSL. Due to a double-booking, we were obliged to "camp out" around the ack-ack gun, but it actually turned out to be an excellent venue and, in many respects, preferable to having it "inside". We were honoured to have Kim Kennerson and Helena Gritton in attendance from NatCom and it was also lovely to see a couple of the original members there (Rob and Mike). My apologies if I've missed anybody!

Brian and Garry did a great job of cooking our meal and I'd also like to thank Graham (Master of Ceremonies), Jill (victualling), Frances, Karen and Pauline (raffle-tickets and general running around), Fred and John (karaoke and other organisation) and all those who helped set-up and pack away. I'd also like to extend a special thank you to those who donated prizes and especially all those who attended and made it such a fun event. We managed to raise over \$700.00 for UCARF on the night and we are still running the major raffle until the 7<sup>th</sup> of July.

Sunday Rides have been held weekly instead of fortnightly this year, and it has been gratifying to see such good turnouts. Fred had done a top job as the Ride Captain, but even he must be getting sick of Mandorah by now! We will soon be starting Thursday evening rides, and these should be very pleasant – a gentle ride around town then coffee and a bit of socialising somewhere nice.

We've had a bunch of visitors to our meetings this year including the "Rumble To The Top" mob, the two guys riding around the world on a couple of KLR's, old Branch members, prospective members and other Ulyssians who are passing through the Territory.

The website has proven very popular with over 1,400 unique visitors and it's starting to hold a lot of information. It's now fairly straightforward to maintain, so new content is easily added. If you've got anything you'd like to see put up there, please get it to me.

As we near the 2009 Branch AGM, we are already starting to plan ahead for the 2009 Toy Run, the 2010 National AGM in Albany and the 2010 Darwin Odyssey, just to name a few.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful Branch members and especially my Committee for all your support this year. It's a big job following in Brian's footsteps, but with your assistance, I think I can give it a good run.

Take care and Ride Safe!

**Dave Alford #48719**  
**President**

## **Secretary's Report**

At the time of writing this report, I can advise Members that the Top End Branch currently has 176 financial members. I am constantly updating our Member's data base, so if your contact details change, please advise me on [pbuxton59@gmail.com](mailto:pbuxton59@gmail.com)

### **Handbook for Members**

The 2nd edition of the Handbook for Members has been published and I have still have some copies available. I encourage members to seek a copy to view in order to gain a better understanding of the mechanisms of our Club.

A reminder that the following documents can be viewed on the Ulysses Top End Website:

TEB 2008 AGM Minutes  
TEB Committee Meeting Minutes  
TEB Ride Calendar  
TEB Newsletter  
TEB Tuesday Notes

During my term as your Secretary I believe I have fulfilled the elected role with efficiency, dedication and enthusiasm, and have effectively carried out the duties associated with this role. I don't claim to know the answers to every question; however I do know a lot more than I did last year.

I remain enthusiastic about the Club and look forward to another year as part of the team.

Pauline Buxton # 50779  
Secretary  
Ulysses Top End Branch

## Treasurer's Report

### Un-audited Accounts for Year Ended 31st December 2008

<u>Profit and Loss Statement</u>	2008	2007
<b>Income</b>		
Badge Sales	\$2,255.00	\$3,310.00
Bike Run	\$114.40	\$365.40
Donations	\$855.55	\$1,127.00
Investment Income	\$1.92	\$0.93
Membership Payment	\$80.00	\$172.00
Merchandise Sales		\$80.00
Nat Com Reimbursements	\$100.00	\$50.00
NC Membership Payment	\$160.00	
Odyssey Dinner	\$350.00	
Odyssey Registrations	\$5,410.00	
Quartermaster Income	\$617.00	
Reimbursements		\$50.00
Snacks Donation	\$306.70	\$93.50
Christmas Party Fines	\$705.00	\$20.00
Christmas Party tickets	\$600.00	\$600.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$11,555.57</b>	<b>\$5,868.83</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
Advertising	\$351.50	\$341.24
Badge Expense	\$3,537.50	\$1,022.80
Bank Charges	\$29.00	\$10.00
Catering	\$48.96	\$1,289.31
Charitable Donations		\$2,558.00
Consumable Reimbursement	\$923.61	
Gifts Reimbursement	\$165.00	\$239.85
Membership Fees NC	\$160.00	\$172.00
Odyssey Entertainment	\$3,034.56	
Odyssey Merchandise	\$39.28	
Odyssey Refund	\$240.00	
PO Box	\$75.00	
Quartermaster Expenses	\$535.15	
Stationary	\$252.40	\$160.65
Taxes	\$62.71	\$296.56
Toy Run Expense	\$59.50	\$26.00
Christmas Party expense	\$1,357.27	\$710.61
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$10,871.44</b>	<b>\$6,827.02</b>
Opening Balance for Period	\$2,609.66	\$3,567.85
Closing Balance for Period	\$3,293.79	\$2,609.66
<b>Profit / Loss from Activities</b>	<b>\$684.13</b>	<b>-\$958.19</b>

## Ride Report

All rides have been well patronised so far but with the start of the dry season I expect we will see more riders and pillions attending.

The change over to the dry season start time of 8.30am hasn't caused much confusion and as the weather cools, should provide a bit of riding comfort for all. The Easter weekend at Renner was, once again, a resounding success and enjoyed by all who attended, it was good to see such a large turn-out with about 30 bikes and 50 people. Due to events beyond my control, there have been a few alterations to the ride calendar so it is advisable to check the website occasionally for any updates. For more information about the rides undertaken- come along and join us !!!

There have been a few overnights so far this year and we could do with more riders on these fun weekend outings. So come along and join your fellow Branch members for a great time in some of the beautiful spots in our Territory. Most areas cater for people who either don't want to rough it or don't have camping equipment. Our annual weekend at Grove Hill is coming up in August and that is always a great overnights. If you want hard bed accommodation, you may need to book soon.

## Social Reports

**“Ladies Night”** – We need to think of a more inclusive title for this event because it looks as if it is to become a permanent feature on our calendar. The 15 couples that turned out for this event at the CBD RSL Club in Cavenagh street had a great time. The atmosphere was great. This was created in part by the effort to “bung it on” in terms of the dress up. Imagine Fred Vanda in a suit with very stylish waist coat and matching cravat. Fred assures us that it all came from Saint Vinnies for the princely sum of \$15. Brian Hulands turned up in full dress uniform – very suave Brian. And all of the ladies looked very beautiful indeed in their after five wear. Bit of a change (and a culture shock) to see them all in something other than motorcycle gear and “helmet hair”.

It was an evening enjoyed so much that there appears to be a lot of support for doing it all again at the end of the Dry season. So it looks like a twice a year thing at the end of the Wet and the Dry.



NatCom President Kim Kennerson and Top End Branch President Dave Alford cutting our 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday cake



Some of the Top End Branch still doing it disgracefully 15 years on. L to R standing Mike Graham, President Kim Kennerson, John Allwood, Dave Alford, Rob Hall, sitting Secretary Helena Gritton, Pauline Buxton

## [Our Raffle](#)

### The UCARF Raffle

#### **1<sup>st</sup> PRIZE NOLAN FLIP TOP HELMET.**

Thanks to NT MOTORCYCLE CENTRE (\$499.00)

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> PRIZE 12 MONTHS PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP.**

Thanks to AANT (\$162.00)

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> PRIZE BMW MOTORAD COMMUNTER BAG.**

Thanks to HONEYCOMBES BMW (\$145.00)

Raffle to be drawn 7 July 2009. All proceeds to UCARF.

**\$5.00 per ticket**

**GET YOURS NOW FROM PAULINE**

## [2010 AGM Trip Plans](#)

What follows are some alternative routes for travel to and from the Albany AGM. I have recently driven the Western Australian leg of this route and have better intelligence on the whole matter so will be reporting further to members. For instance, I think we should try to avoid having to deal with low loaders carrying 250 tonne dump trucks.

Ray Swann



**ULYSSES CLUB INC**  
**27TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**ALBANY - WESTERN AUSTRALIA**  
**MONDAY 8 TO SUNDAY 14 MARCH 2010**  
**TOP END BRANCH TRIP PLAN**

**PREAMBLE**

The Trip Plans provide alternative routes for travel to and from Albany via the West Coast and Central Australia. Choice of route may be dictated by the weather as it will be wet season for us and there may be road closures. The aim is to attempt to cover all contingencies in an effort to get us there for registration on Monday 8 March.

The suggested dates are aimed at:

- getting us there on time
- making reasonable way each day without turning the thing into an endurance ride
- attempting to put us in a place each night with at least some amenity although it has been suggested already by some of our alleged hard arses that we could simple “circle the wagons” at the side of the road if required.
- Having a R&R day off the bike at points of interest to some folk.
- Getting us to Albany on the morning of Monday 8 March 2010 so that folk have enough time to register and set up camp before it gets dark.

**DARWIN TO ALBANY - CLOCKWISE DIRECTION - Total Distance 5,221 kms (est)**

<b>Departure Point</b>	<b>Arrival Date/Destination</b>	<b>Distance (Kms)</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Alternate Route</b>
Darwin	28/2 Renner Springs	838	Overnight	
Renner Springs	1/3 Alice Springs	708	Overnight	
Alice Springs	2/3 Coober Pedy	688	Overnight	
Coober Pedy	3/3 Whyalla	610	Overnight	
Whyalla	4/3 Streaky Bay via Port Lincoln Streaky Bay via Kimba – “direct route”	559 419	Overnight (2 nights)	Whyalla to Streaky Bay via Port Lincoln – 559 kms – scenic route – follows the west coast of Spencer Gulf through some great old towns – Cowell, Arno Bay, Port Neil, Tumby Bay to the very pretty town of Port Lincoln. Then on to Coffin Bay (Oysters) Elliston, Venus Bay where we have very beautiful coastline, seal colonies etc – suggest overnight 2 nights at Port Lincoln. This would mean an earlier departure date from Darwin.
Streaky Bay	6/3 Eucla	494	Overnight. There are things to see along this coast – Great Australian Bight, whales, old telegraph stations, caves etc etc and so some may want to take more time in this region	
Eucla	7/3 Norsman Cocklebiddy	714 349	Cocklebiddy Motel is an alternative destination at 349 kms for an Overnight. This would mean an earlier departure from Darwin. Cocklebiddy to Norsman is 366.	
Norsman	8/3 Albany	610	Fuel is available at easy distances between Streaky Bay and Albany.	Long days ride when one has to register on arrival to get into the AGM camp venue. Alternative could be to break it up by overnighting in Esperance (203 kms or Ravensthorpe (391)

**ALBANY TO DARWIN - CLOCKWISE DIRECTION - VIA INLAND ROUTE** Total distance 4,182 kms (est)

We are likely to “make our own way home” and so I have not made any suggestions on daily distances. My suggestion is that the South West region of WA has so many attractions that some folk could well take a week or more to get to Perth.

Depart Albany Sunday 14 March Albany	Denmark	54		
Denmark	Pemberton	186		
Pemberton	Margaret River	182		
Margaret River	Bunbury	144		
Bunbury	Mandurah	106		
Mandurah	Perth	76		
Perth	Mount Magnet	569		
Mount Magnet	Newman	166		
Newman	Port Hedland	451		
Port Hedland	Broome	613		
Broome	Halls Creek	502		
Halls Creek	Kununurra	359		
Kununurra	Katherine	450		
Katherine	Darwin	324		

**ALBANY TO DARWIN – CLOCKWISE DIRECTION - VIA COASTAL ROUTE** Total Distance 4,219 kms (est)

We are likely to “make our own way home” and so I have not made any suggestions on daily distances. My suggestion is that the South West region of WA has so many attractions that some folk could well take a week or more to get to Perth.

Depart Albany Sunday 14 March Albany	Denmark	54		
Denmark	Pemberton	186		
Pemberton	Margaret River	182		
Margaret River	Bunbury	144		
Bunbury	Mandurah	106		
Mandurah	Perth	76		
Perth	Overlander Roadhouse	704		
Overlander R/H	Nanutarra Roadhouse	568		
Nanutarra Roadhouse	Karratha	297		
Karratha	Port Hedland	201		
Port Hedland	Broome	613		
Broome	Halls Creek	502		
Halls Creek	Kununurra	359		
Kununurra	Katherine	450		
Katherine	Darwin	324		

**DARWIN TO ALBANY - ANTICLOCKWISE DIRECTION** 4,785 kms est

Departure Point	Destination	Distance (Kms)	Date	Comments
Darwin	Katherine	310	26/2/2010	Depart Darwin 0630 26/2/2010
Katherine	Timber Creek	281		
Timber Creek	Kununurra	169	26/2	Overnight 760 kms
Kununurra	Turkey Creek	197		Turkey Creek is a tiny settlement located 3019km from Perth and 858km east of Broome on the Great Northern Highway. It is one of the principal access points to the beautiful Purnululu National Park and the famous Bungle Bungle ranges.
Turkey Creek	Halls Creek	162		
Halls Creek	Fitzroy Crossing	289	27/2	Overnight 648 kms Today, Fitzroy Crossing is a small settlement that services local stations and acts as a stopover destination for those exploring the rugged Kimberley and its nearby attractions of Geikie Gorge, Tunnel Creek and Windjana Gorge, or those en-route to the Bungle Bungles Purnululu National Park, or Kununurra and Darwin.  The current townsite has expanded recently due to mining operations 80km southeast, the growth of Aboriginal communities and the increase in popularity of the Kimberley and Gibb River Road as tourist destinations. Fitzroy Crossing is the closest large outback town to Broome or Derby in the vast remote Kimberley wilderness, and can also be reached via the Gibb River Road at the Windjana Gorge turnoff.
Fitzroy Crossing	Derby Turnoff	213		
Derby Turnoff	Broome	178		Optional overnight 391 kms <b>Broome</b> is a pearling and tourist town in the <u>Kimberley region of WA</u> , 2200 km north of <u>Perth</u> . The year round population is approximately 14,436, growing to more than 45,000 per month during the tourist season. <sup>[2]</sup> <u>Broome International Airport</u> provides transport to several regional and domestic towns and cities
Broome	Sandfire Roadhouse	323	28/2 & 1/3	Overnight 714 kms Burnt down in April 2007 but expected to be rebuilt "this year" (2009). Will definitely be in operation by February 2010??? – it all moves slowly "out west"
Sandfire Roadhouse	Port Hedland	290		
Port Hedland	Newman	261	2/3	Inland route – overnight 713 kms The town of Newman was established by Mt. Newman Mining Co. Pty Ltd (a subsidiary of BHP) in 1968, however, Aboriginal occupation of this area extends to around 26 000 years.
Newman	Kumarina R/H	162		
Kumarina Roadhouse	Meekathara	257		
Meekathara	Mount Magnet	197		
Mount Magnet	Paynes Roadhouse	144	3/3	Overnight 760 kms. This area renowned for its wildflowers – shame we will be 6 months too early to see them
Paynes Roadhouse	Wubin	153		
Wubin	Perth	268		
Perth	Bunbury	185	4/3	Overnight – 606 kms. Sin City of the south when I was there last in 1980
Bunbury	Busselton	53		
Busselton	Cape Leeuwin	285	5/3	Overnight – 338 kms. Via Margaret River wine region. Spectacular coast
Cape Leeuwin	Pemberton	166	6&7/3	Overnight (2 nights) Valley of the Giants (trees)
Pemberton	Albany	242	8/3	

**ALBANY TO DARWIN ANTICLOCKWISE DIRECTION – 4,975 kms est.**

**No time frames provided for the return trip as people will likely go their own way - based on experience they will do that in any event but at least having a plan means that one knows what one is deviating from (old army proverb associated with battle plans)**

Albany	Esperence	299	
Esperence	Norseman	203	Statue of a horse – Ainsbury's horse???
Norseman	Balladonia	106	
Balladonia	Caiguna	178	This run contains the longest stretch of road in Australia without a bend – 146.6 kms. Note ruins of telegraph repeater stations in this region (usually part buried by sand)
Caiguna	Cocklebiddy	65	
Cocklebiddy	Madura	90	
Madura	Eucla	65	
Eucla	Nullarbor Motel	182	
Nullarbor Motel	Yalata Road House	93	
Yalata Road House	Ceduna	202	
Ceduna	Streaky Bay	110	Great fishing from the town jetty – use small gear for Whiting and Tommy Ruffs – mince steak is good bait
Streaky Bay	Elliston	125	
Elliston	Port Lincoln	169	Note war memorials in the towns in this region. They were settled early in the history of SA as wheat ports for the export of food to the Pomes – in 1914 and 1939 they had very small populations and some families lost more than 3 – respects to the Ryan's of Pennsylvania
Port Lincoln	Port Augusta	340	Town now has an aquarium at sea (near Boston Island) where one can swim with the blue fin tuna – seems you can even feed them if you don't mind 20 kgs of fish coming straight at you at 70 kph
Port Augusta	Glendambo	283	Can get fuel at Pimba
Glendambo	Coober Pedy	252	Long stretch – no fuel
Coober Pedy	Cadney	153	Cadney has good accommodation and meals
Cadney	Marla	81	Try to miss Marla – last time I was there the place needed repair and the food is grease +
Marla	Kulgera	179	
Kulgera	Erldunda	74	
Erldunda	Alice springs	201	
Alice Springs	Ti Tree	198	
Ti Tree	Barrow Creek	89	
Barrow Creek	Wycliffe Well	109	
Wycliffe Well	Tennant Creek	138	In Feb 2009 fuel was 10cpl cheaper in TC than at Three Ways
Tennant Creek	Renner Springs	127	
Renner Springs	Elliot	92	
Elliot	Dumurra	107	
Dumurra	Larrimah	171	
Larrimah	Mataranka	79	
Mataranka	Katherine	105	
Katherine	Darwin	310	

## Where are they Now

### **From Wayne Callahan**

G-day all,

It was good to receive an email from someone from the "Top End" especially now that he is residing in a great part of this country. I lived in Cairns for over 10 years and loved it, climate not as sever as in Darwin and the winters are great. Riding is also great on those roads that Pedro described having done them all on a few occasions.

I understand the feeling of going up and down the Gilles, it was the only mountain range where I would get car sick driving up it. Went on a couple of Poker Runs doing the full loop, run by one of the "Bikie" clubs who home is up at Mareeбра. As I recall all went well for a while, stopped at the Club and a few pubs of course and on the return there had to be someone who cocked it up coming down the Rex range and then a big loss at the roundabout at Smithfield (where the road dissects to Kuranda). What a way to treat a Harley.

As for myself I have settled into downtown Yacka about the only small village in the whole State of SA that does not have a PUB - a pub without beer what's worse a town without a pub and no Ulysses club for 200+ kilometres. I can either go South to Adelaide or North to Whyalla and as far as I know there are no other mc clubs around - if anyone knows of one please let me know. If you don't know where Yacka is it is about 40 kilometres North of Clare - the wine country. I am thinking of canvassing interest in starting a Branch in this area, I know there are a lot of bike riders around from my days at Port Augusta.

Weather is starting to cool off <10 c at night and < 20c during the day. Lawn bowls is a way to have a bit of fun, club is just across the road and is the one spot where you can have a beer during the summer. With bowls over until November golf is just up the hill and again beer on when the comps on. I spent quite a bit of time on Christmas Island in the past and I thought that it was the only place that had an honour system at the clubs etc however if you play bowls or golf "you poor when it's your shout". Folk are great, mostly farmers or retirees or both just true honest country folk who can spin a yarn better than most.

As I myself will be retired officially in a few weeks and my own email address is [waycall50@me.com](mailto:waycall50@me.com) as I will be finally off this system after 39 years. Best regards to all and good safe riding and hope to catch-up with you all at sometime in the future and if not before at the next AGM.

Cheers,

Wayne "Ace" Callaghan

### **from Peter "Pedro" Jurik**

**The one with the Noisy white Harley that hated NT motorcycles soooooo much...Its OK now the Harley is going OK... LOL.**

Well I moved to Cairns with my partner Heather, she had a job that she couldn't refuse and her Daughter was moving to Cairns and she wanted to be with her grand kids.Well Cairns is lovely similar to Darwin, bit cooler. less humidity, less traffic, foods cheaper, fuel is

cheaper (\$1.12 ltr) and the roads and ride up the mountain range is great. There are 4 ways of going up and down the range with multiple choices. The roads up to the table lands are graded LOL..Easiest.. Palmerston Hwy from Inersvale.. level 3 to 4 nice sweeping long fast corners very lazy road. Bit harder is Kuranda range road level 5 to 7 more corners, trucks, tourists / terrorists keep you eyes open. Next is the Rex range road from Mareeba to Port Douglas - level 7 to 10 - lots more corners with opposite camber, long sweeping corners that come to a stop. Little traffic but some tourist buses. Then there is the Gilles range road from Gordonvale south of Cairns...level 10 to hang on I am in the shit here !!!!!

It's a big laugh here to send a virgin Gilles rider up or down the range. The other Ulysses members say they can see the whites of your eyes getting bigger and the lump in you Dragging Jeans get bigger.... Why did they build such a road .....WHY 275 corners in a steep up hill battle to get to the top... I asked why do they number the corners (there is a number painted in white for each corner) Oh!! that was the reply it's so the ambulance knows where you are when they come to pick you up..... That's a comfort to know....LOL. So you can go up the Rex and down the Gilles or up Kuranda and down Palmerston its mix and match.... I went once on the Gilles and that was the last call me chicken but I was shitting myself...Living in Darwin for nearly 2 years you forget about cornering and breaking hard and getting the right line for that corner and you think that the big f...ken truck is going to stay on his side of the road LOL...But on a better note its a lovely place to own a motorcycle....even better if you don't have to work.

Yep; I am still on compo for my right foot....last months medical check up report was that its stable but a permanent disability.... 18 months and still going...Oh well, as long as they keep paying me, I will keep going on rides... the only sad part is I don't get to enjoy the weekends !!! Why you ask? Well, every day is a week end for me LOL. If I do eventually go back to Chefig (cooking) I will have to be re-trained...all my knives are blunt...LOL. I am working part time light duties limit of 4 hours per day standing or walking on my right foot... I am an instructor for STAY UPRIGHT PTY LTD in Cairns / Smithfield about 5 minutes from my home... I am casual until I get a full clearance from my Doctor... So I work maybe 2 or 4 days per week. and I still get paid from compo...Heather and my Partner are getting married on the 7th June 09 Queen's Birthday long week end...no it's not a joke...So if any of you are free that weekend come on over to Cairns and join in our celebration... there is a limit of 100 Ulysses members otherwise it will be turn out to be another AGM LOL...

I've been on a few rides with Ulysses Cairns. What a weird mob...There are no ride rules There is no tail end Charlie They don't ride in formation you are undertaken by rides from your left - scary stuff. You meet on Sunday morning and then they decide where they are going and at 9 am every one races off to the next stop. Bloody great for me... I get lost in my Driveway... so after riding for 2 hours I am so lost I see a sign Cairns and I follow it home...

They don't have Tuesday night meeting. They have Saturday meeting coffee and bickies and have a chat. Social events and get togethers are done on overnight rides. I have been on other club rides and I spot a fellow Ulysses member and say G'day and he would reply Hello or G'day and totally ignore you and keep chatting to who ever he was chatting to... not a very warm or open club. The wet season has finished now and there are a lot more rides so hopefully they might take me under their wing. To all the TOP END DARWIN member you really don't know how lucky you all are to have such a great club I REALLY DO MEAN THIS It's that old song you don't know what you have got until it's gone...I know what I had in Darwin Top End was special – it's not the club, it's the fantastic people.. it's true.. you should all gather on a ride some where and say a big thank you to each and every member of Top End branch of Ulysses... The committee,

and members, those who attend every meeting every ride and thanklessly help each and every time, to those who make 1 ride a month and can't make the meeting to those who provide snack for the meeting to those who stop and help others (me and my poor old girl when I lost a drive belt ) it doesn't happen in Cairns !!!! to those who visit our sick and not feeling well. To those who share the trip they just went on. To those who receive visitors an make then apart of the TOP END BRANCH. PLEASE DON'T TAKE FOR GRANTED WHAT YOU HAVE IN THE TOP END CLUB. IT IS UNIQUE AND VERY SPECIAL..I don't know if it's the weather or the beer up there but what ever it is, keep doing it forever...Love to see you all one day... maybe next AGM or Odyssey. All the best STAY UPRIGHT and see you in Cairns one day.  
PEDRO.

**Mr. Peter Jurek**  
**39 Periwinkle Avenue**  
**TRINITY BEACH 4879**  
**CAIRNS QUEENSLAND**  
**AUSTRALIA.**  
**Phone 61 0420813154**

## Joke Junction

A crusty old biker out on a long summer ride out in the country pulls up to a tavern in the middle of nowhere, parks his bike and walks inside.

As he passes through the swinging doors, he sees a sign hanging over the bar:

COLD BEER: \$2.50

PLAIN HAMBURGER: \$3.25

CHEESEBURGER: \$3.75

CHICKEN SANDWICH : \$3.50

HAND JOB: \$25.00

Checking his wallet to be sure he has the necessary cash, the old biker walks up to the bar and beckons to the exceptionally attractive female bartender who is serving beers to a couple of sun-wrinkled farmers.

She glides down behind the bar to the old biker. "Yes, sir?" she inquires with a wide, knowing smile, "May I help you?"

The old biker leans over the bar to her, "I was just wondering, young lady," he whispers, "Are you the one who gives the hand-jobs?"

She looks into his eyes with that wide, knowing smile and purrs, "Why yes, yes, I sure am."

The old biker leans closer and whispers softly into her ear, "Well, wash your hands real good, love, 'cause I want a cheeseburger."

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Lovers of the English language might enjoy this. It is yet another example of why people learning English have trouble with the language. Learning the nuances of English makes it a difficult language. (But then, that's probably true of many languages.)

There is a two-letter word in English that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that word is 'UP.' It is listed in the dictionary as being used as an [adv], [prep], [adj], [n] or [v].

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP ? Why do we speak UP, and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report? We call UP our friends and we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver, we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car.

At other times the little word has a real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses.

To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed UP is special. And this up is confusing: A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP.

We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night. We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP !

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP , look the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4 of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions

If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP . When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP. When it rains, it wets UP the earth. When it does not rain for awhile, things dry UP.

One could go on & on, but I'll wrap it UP , for now .....my time is UP , so time to shut UP!

Oh...one more thing: What is the first thing you do in the morning & the last thing you do at night? U P  
Now I'll shut up.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Our Health

Blood Clots/Stroke - They Now Have a Fourth Indicator, the Tongue

STROKE: Remember the 1st Three Letters....S.T.R.

My nurse friend sent this and encouraged me to post it and spread the word. I agree.

If everyone can remember something this simple, we could save some folks.  
Seriously.. Please read:

### STROKE IDENTIFICATION:

During a BBQ, a friend stumbled and took a little fall - she assured everyone that she was fine (they offered to call paramedics) .she said she had just tripped over a brick because of her new shoes.

They got her cleaned up and got her a new plate of food. While she appeared a bit shaken up, Ingrid went about enjoying herself the rest of the evening

Ingrid's husband called later telling everyone that his wife had been taken to the hospital - (at 6:00 pm Ingrid passed away.) She had suffered a stroke at the BBQ. Had they known how to identify the signs of a stroke, perhaps Ingrid would be with us today. Some don't die. they end up in a helpless, hopeless condition instead.

It only takes a minute to read this...

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke...totally. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed, and then getting the patient medically cared for within 3 hours, which is tough.

### RECOGNIZING A STROKE

Thank God for the sense to remember the '3' steps, STR . Read and Learn!

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke.

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

S \*Ask the individual to SMILE.

T \*Ask the person to TALK and SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (Coherently)

(i.e. It is sunny out today)

R \*Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call emergency number immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

New Sign of a Stroke ----- Stick out Your Tongue

NOTE: Another 'sign' of a stroke is this: Ask the person to 'stick' out his tongue.. If the tongue is 'crooked', if it goes to one side or the other,that is also an indication of a stroke.

A cardiologist says if everyone who gets this e-mail sends it to 10 people; you can bet that at least one life will be saved.

I have done my part. Have you?

Kind regards,

Catrina Wakefield

## QUICK RIDING TIP: A TOE IN THE WATER

The great Australian drought has ended! Or has it?

Depending where your favourite trails take you, water-crossings will be a necessary and exciting part of your off-road experience ... just so long as you tackle them correctly.

On shallow causeways with a firm concrete base, pick your line and keep a constant throttle all the way into, across and out of the crossing. Just watch for moss-covered concrete, which can be as slippery as riding on ice, so don't accelerate too hard, too early on the exit!



When the crossing is deeper and the ground surface is looser, be even more careful with your line choice. Stop, get off and check the depth if you have to. Select a low gear, stand up, grip the bike with your knees and trials-ride your way across. Keep a constant throttle and keep one or two fingers on the clutch, ready to give an instant burst of drive, if required.

If you're a hardcore off-roader and the river crossing is deep and running fast, you should walk your bike across, with the engine running and first gear selected, crossing with the flow of the river. If the crossing is just too deep and fast-flowing to ride, grab a couple of mates and a couple of solid tree branches and poke them through the wheels and carry your bikes (engine off) across, keeping the airbox opening and muffler above water level!

Good luck – and don't forget to stash a snorkel in your Cam

## Discounts

The following Darwin motorcycle dealers provide discounts for Ulysses members and their support is greatly appreciated. The NT Motorcycle Centre and Precision Honda also support the annual Toy & Tucker Run.

DEALER	PRODUCTS	CONTACT	ULYSSES OFFER
<b>NT Motorcycle Centre</b> 1143 Stuart Hwy 11 Mile Pinelands	Agent for Yamaha, Triumph, Suzuki & Harleys motorcycles. Tyres @ accessories	8939 0390	10% discount on parts & accessories (not labour)
<b>Precision Honda</b> 436 Stuart Hwy, Winnellie	Honda Agent, tyres, parts & accessories	8984 4876	10% discount on parts & accessories (not labour)
<b>Honeycombes Prestige - Motorcycles</b> 544 Stuart Hwy, Winnellie	BMW motorcycles - parts & accessories	8947 3888	10% discount on servicing, parts & accessories

<b>Darwin M/C Wreckers</b> 1 Durand Court, Coconut Grove	Tyres, Parts, Accessories & repairs	8948 0995	10% discount on parts, accessories & labour
<b>NT Spoilers</b> 1/11 Tannadice St, Winnellie	Agent for Super Charge Batteries	8947 1913	10% on all M/C batteries, brake pads & other products

If members know of other dealers/organisations that provide discounts to Ulysses members please advise the editor and they will be included in the next Newsletter.

## [Noteworthy Notices](#)

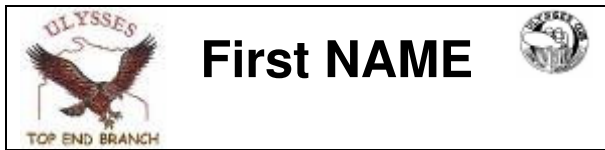
### **The Top End Branch Shop**

#### **Top End Branch Embroidered Badges/Polo Tops**

A must for vests etc, these are available from Ev Ottley for \$10. In addition to badges, Ev will also embroider the badge and your name directly onto polo tops or shirts either supplied by you or Ev will purchase on your behalf. Ev is normally at the Tuesday meeting or can be contacted on 8985 4961

#### **Top End Branch Name Badges**

Let everybody know who you are. Plastic Name Badges as indicated can be ordered from Pauline Buxton – an updated price is on its way. (Thanks Pauline).



#### **Top End Branch Stickers**

The Treasurer has a range of stickers at very reasonable prices for your bike or helmet. In large and small sizes suitable for inside or outside your windscreens (for those who have them). Prices for these can be found on our Notice Board at the Darwin Nth RSL.

#### **Ulysses Gear Shop Purchasing – a way to save you postage costs and assist our Branch**

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Thanks to Vicki Hulands for her efforts as our Branch Purchasing Officer. Vicki is stepping back from this function in the coming year and the new Committee will have to appoint a new Branch purchasing Officer. This will be an ongoing function within the Branch because it is a way of raising some funds because we get a order fee from the Gear Shop.

We place an order with the Ulysses Gear Shop every month. If you would like to make a purchase, you will need to let the Branch Purchasing Officer know the details, and pay for the items prior to the order being placed. If paying by cheque or money order, it will need to be written out to the Ulysses Club TOP END Branch, so we can bank it into the branch account before drawing one cheque to cover the purchases. If you need more information, please see Graham in the interim.

## Our Committee

Please note that the next Newsletter will have a list of Calendar dates for future Committee Meetings. A Committee Meeting is held the first Monday of every month.

Should any member have something they would like to discuss or have brought up at any of our normal Committee Meetings please either send something in writing to the Secretary, Pauline OR feel free to come along to the Committee Meeting to have your issue discussed.

### MEMBER'S SERVICES

#### **Humpty Doo Pet Care**

A personalised service offering boarding for all domestic pets, including dogs, cats, reptiles & birds. All dietary requirements catered for no charge for Hydrobathing or extra play time. 25 years providing quality pet care in the Top End, inspections welcome. Ulysses, Defcom, & Seniors discount applies, contact Helen on 0418881006 or [hdpc@bigpond.com](mailto:hdpc@bigpond.com)  
ABN.58 322 427 562.

#### **Renner Springs Desert Inn**

Roadhouse - Hotel - Motel – Campsites

**Ph:** 08 8964 4505 **Fax:** 08 8964 4525. **Email:** [info@rennersprings.com](mailto:info@rennersprings.com)

**Internet:** [www.rennersprings.com](http://www.rennersprings.com)

Stuart Highway - CMB 7 - Renner Springs NT 0862 - Renner Springs takes pride in the level of service and quality of product it delivers, and clientele can be assured of a memorable experience of hospitality, and "a little bit of desert magic" whenever they visit. **27 Air-Conditioned Rooms Powered Caravan Sites - Shady Campground.** Licensed Restaurant - Lounge and Public Bar - Take Away Food - Homestyle Cooking - Shop and Souvenirs – Home baked Bread - Barbeque Area - Games Area

#### **Litchfield Tourist & Van Park**

**PO Box 218, Batchelor NT 0845 Ph: 8976-0070**

Situated on 35 acres near the entrance of Litchfield National Park, the Litchfield Tourist & Van Park offers excellent facilities for a comfortable stay, including self contained cabins, campsites and the popular Litchfield House (sleeps 12). Take some time off from all the sight-seeing and relax in the pool and spa.

The Finnis River runs through the bottom of the property and you may be lucky enough to catch a Sooty Grunter, Black Brim, Barra or Red Claw. Florence Falls remains open for the wet season and is truly spectacular at any time of the year. There is much to see in this beautiful area, we hope you'll enjoy an extended stay.

**Hayes Creek Roadhouse** – situated 150 km's south of Darwin on the Stuart Highway, the Hayes Creek Roadhouse offers excellent goods and service as a famous wayside stop in the Territory.

**Arafura Catering** offers members discounts. Arafura Catering is a great supporter of the Branch and it is hoped that members will support their company whenever they are in need of the services it offers.