



ROTORUA RAMBLINGS March 2022

EDITORS COMMENTS

I mentioned last month in relation to the Ulyssian, that the club has now put in place new arrangements which saw the printed magazine being sent in March to all members in hard copy. Hopefully you have all received your copy. It is different to what we have had previously, and I know that Natcom are looking for any comments from members on the magazine format. If you have any, please make them constructive.

In relation to the club 2022 AGM, you all will have received a copy of the AGM documents and voting papers by now. If not please contact the club administrator, Debby Morgan. There are some important remits to consider and as such I urge you to complete the voting papers and return them before 21 April 2022.

What a difference a Month makes!!

Andrea and I have been thinking of moving to Rolleston for a little while and decided to list our home for sale in early March in anticipation of a move. Well, 5 days later it was sold and as a consequence we head south at the end of April. Unfortunately, it has become a not too straightforward move due to the delayed completion of our home in Rolleston, The handover date is now late August (originally late May) and as a consequence we will initially be renting an apartment in central Christchurch for 4 months and have our personal effects in storage for a similar time.

We certainly did not expect to be moving from Rotorua in such a short timeframe.

For Andrea and me our whole Ulysses membership has been with the Rotorua Branch we cannot calculate the distance we have travelled on branch rides, however, we have enjoyed the fun, support, and camaraderie from all of you.

We hope that we can catch up with everyone before we head South and knowing the popularity of the South Island as a riding destination we look forward to catching up with many of you in the future.

All the very best for the future wherever it takes you.

Stuart(Smokey) #3703

THOUGHTS FROM HARTLEY



Hello Ulyssians

You will see that us travellers to the South island all had a great trip. All home safe now.

Our visit to the Papanui Club in Christchurch where the AGM is to be held next year is an excellent facility so I'm looking forward to that.

You all will have received the National AGM Documents and voting papers by now and I urge you all to have a look and complete and send back the ballot vote paper. The 3 remits to be voted on are all well explained.

On a local level our own branch AGM is to be held on the Sunday the 1st May and all positions within the branch are needing to be filled.

Andrea will be stepping down as Secretary and Treasurer as her and Stuart are moving to Rolleston in the South island. I do not seek re-election as I am now residing in Cambridge pretty much full time. The position of newsletter editor needs to be filled also with Stuart leaving.

I urge all members to consider putting their names forward for any of the positions.

I have fitted in a couple of rides on Sundays over the last month.

One notable event that some Rotorua Ulyssians attended was a combined Ulyssian ride for a 4 year old Whakatane boy Tu who has cancer and unfortunately not long to live. A large number of bikes and rods came together to support Tu and his whanau. The Whakatane Ulysses Branch put on a lunch at Lake Aniwhenua. Thanks to the Tauranga and Whakatane branches for an awesome day.

The Sunday just gone I had organised a ride to Nourish Cafe Te Puna. Stuart joined me on this ride. We travelled some interesting back roads. Great day. It is good to see other branch members adding kilometres to their bike's with some big rides carried out by Leigh-Ann and Eugene.

We need some more ideas for Sunday rides so if you can think of a destination please get them into the rides committee.

Stay safe.

Hartley #6974



RUNS UPDATE

COFFEE

Join us for a coffee and chat each Saturday at the [Aroma Café](#), 1126 Fenton Street, from 10.00am.

RUNS

Runs leave from various petrol stations depending on the route out of Rotorua.

Please read each ride with care as the times and leaving place may be different. If you are not sure if the run may be cancelled because of inclement weather, phone Gordon (Flash) on 027 345 8634.

Obviously, rides will be weather-dependent.

NOTE: You currently need your Vaccine Pass for entry to the Cafés

April

Sunday 3rd - Club meeting St John Hall Pererika St 7pm. (Note your Vaccine Pass will be required for entry to the building.)

Sunday 10th – Opotiki. Depart BP Fenton Street 10.00am.

Sunday 24th- Manwaru Café 77. Depart BP Fairy Springs 10.00am.

May

Sunday 1st- Club meeting and AGM St John Hall Pererika St 7pm. (Note your Vaccine Pass will be required for entry to the building.)

Sunday 8th – Raglan. Depart BP Fairy Springs 10.00am.

Sunday 22nd – Arapuni, Rhubarb Café. Depart BP Fenton Street 10.00am.

Further Ahead- start planning now!

Bike n Car “Shine n Show” Rotorua Lakefront 1st October 2022 (Details Below)

National AGM & Rally 18th to the 20th of March 2023, Papanui Club, Christchurch (Details Below)





Birthdays

ROBERT REWITA
RON VAN DER VLUGT

Membership

CARL PLUSS 16 YEARS

Rides

“Not the AGM” South Island Tour

I returned from my brief 9 day trip to the South Island on Wednesday the 23rd of March. I would have travelled a bit over 2,000km but I have not got an exact figure as I accidentally cleared the trip meter on the bike in Nelson. I was trying to change the riding mode on my bike to wet.

I, Mal, Lynda Graeme, and Sandy left Rotorua on Tuesday the 15th of March and made our way South, with the first stop being Waiouru for a comfort stop and then on to Taihape for fuel. From there we proceeded down SH1 a bit further and then turned off at Vinegar Hill on to SH57. It was at aptly named Stormy Point Lookout that we first felt the wind. On to Feilding for lunch and we then made our way through to Shannon and then back on to SH1 at Ohau which is just south of Levin.

It was a blustery ride through to Wellington to our accommodation at the Waterloo Hotel which is just across the road from the Blue Bridge Ferry terminal. Normally there is no parking at the hotel, but they let us put the bikes in a service alley at the back of the kitchen that was secure. The hotel was comfortable, but we were woken at about 2pm with noise from the port across the road.

Wednesday morning, we caught the early ferry and had a fine crossing, arriving in Picton just before midday. After a fuel-up in Blenheim it was South on SH1. This is where the rain settled in, and we donned our wet weather gear before pressing on to Kaikoura for a late lunch of the best fish and chips ever.

By this time the rain had passed. We were going to take the Leeder Road inland route but unfortunately it was closed so we went further down SH1 to Greta Valley where we turned off and followed Scargill Valley Road to SH7 and on up to Hanmer Springs. We booked into the Top10 camp. By this time, it was too late to go to the hot springs, so we used the wood fired spas they had at the campground which were great.

We had a leisurely start the next morning with breakfast in the village and a bit of a wander around and then travelled a 130km trip to our motel in Christchurch. That evening we were joined by Stuart and Andrea at a fantastic restaurant called the Thai Orchid across the road from the motel.

The next day we had organised a Tranz-Alpine scenic train trip from Christchurch to Greymouth and back. Tracey and Brian joined us for this excursion. It was a very enjoyable day, and I can thoroughly recommend it. It was a nice way to see some south island scenery.

The next day on Saturday we did a day trip to Akaroa. Brian joined us for this ride. The weather was fine, roads were good, and the scenery was great. That night we joined some of the Canterbury Ulyssians and Tiny Stewart, our Ulyssian president and his wife for evening drinks and a meal at the Papanui club which will be the venue for the AGM 2023. Paddy and Robert also joined us making it 11 members from Rotorua.

The next day we all went in different directions with Mal, Lynda, Graeme, and Sandy heading back up to Picton for a crossing on Monday morning.. Paddy and Robert continued down the island and Brian and Tracy stayed on in Christchurch.

I made my way over Arthurs Pass on to Moana on the shore of Lake Brunner, very picturesque place, then on to Reefton, Murchison and on to Nelson for the night. All good dry roads. It rained that night in Nelson so the next day I had a wet ride through to Picton where I stayed the night. The next day I caught the afternoon ferry to Wellington arriving in Wellington at 5.30pm. The plan was to get as far north as daylight would allow as I am not a fan of riding at night.

I decided to find accommodation at Paraparaumu as I could see very dark clouds and lightning ahead. Within half an hour of settling in at the motel the heavens opened up with very heavy rain, thunder, and lightning. Motel was OK but I did get woken at about 1pm by knocking on the door. I opened the door to find a Police Officer standing there. He wanted to know if I was Jamie and how long I had been staying there. Rather strange.

I got away early the next day and managed to get to Waiouru before I had to ride in heavy rain on through to Rotorua. I needed to get back by 2pm as I had a dentist appointment to repair a large filling that had fallen out when I was on the ferry.

Mal and Lynda along with Graeme and Sandy travelled back the previous day from Wellington and had rain all the way.

Looking forward to next year when I can explore more of the South Island.



Hartley #6974

Mal's Bit

Here are a select few photo's, from the hundreds I took, of our South Island adventure trip.

For Lynda & I the 655cc Yamaha travelled 1,969 km used 77.78 litres of 91 @ a cost if \$214 71.

Graeme, Sandy, Lynda & I, crossed over to Wellington the same morning, got absolutely soaked on the trip home on Monday, March 21.

Both the Yamahas were fitted with a set the latest Michelin Road 6 tyres, awesome in the wet, thanks Westie.

Would we do it again, in a heartbeat.



Mal "Axel" #8688







Nourish Café, Te Puna - 27 March

I had checked with Hartley that the planned ride was still on, email this fact to club members and expected a great turnout on such a fine day. But alas, no it was not to be and just Hartley and I left BP Fairy Springs just after 10am.

As always I knew the route to Te Puna with Hartley as RIC would travel through a wide variety of back roads with little time on the main highway.

So, it was over the mamaku's then a variety of back roads before heading over the Kaimai's and then onto Poripori Road followed by Junction and Minden roads arriving at the café around 11.45am before the lunchtime rush.

As usual the Nourish lunch was great. We decided to have a look at the Minden lookout, so we retraced our earlier steps back to State Highway 29 and then home via the Tauranga Direct Road.

Another great ride organised by Hartley, not too short and not too long but full of variety.

Stuart "Smokey" #3703



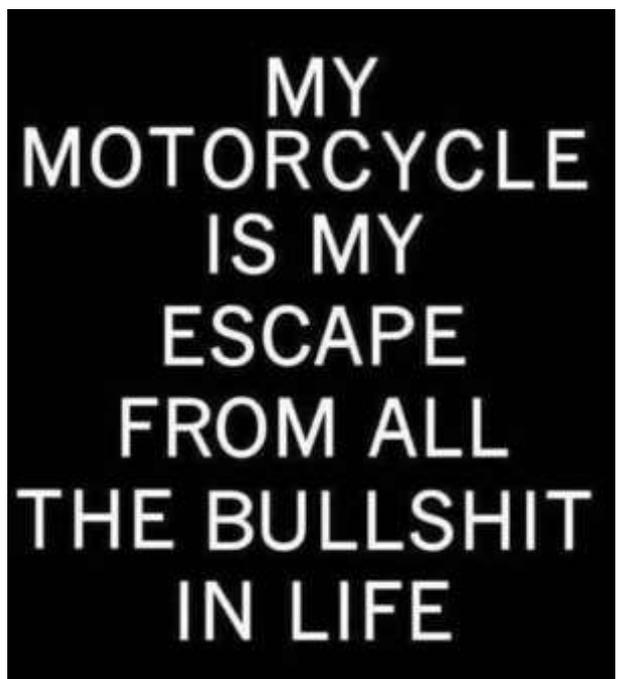
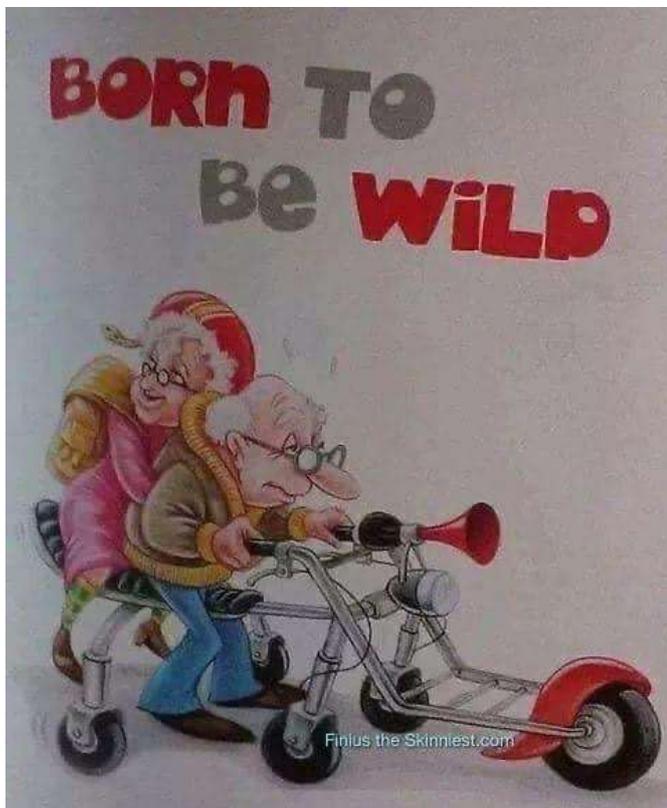
“That new bike smile” - Good one Flash



I bet that was exciting.



Jokes & Other Bits



NEXT BRANCH MEETING SUNDAY

03rd April 2022 AT 7PM

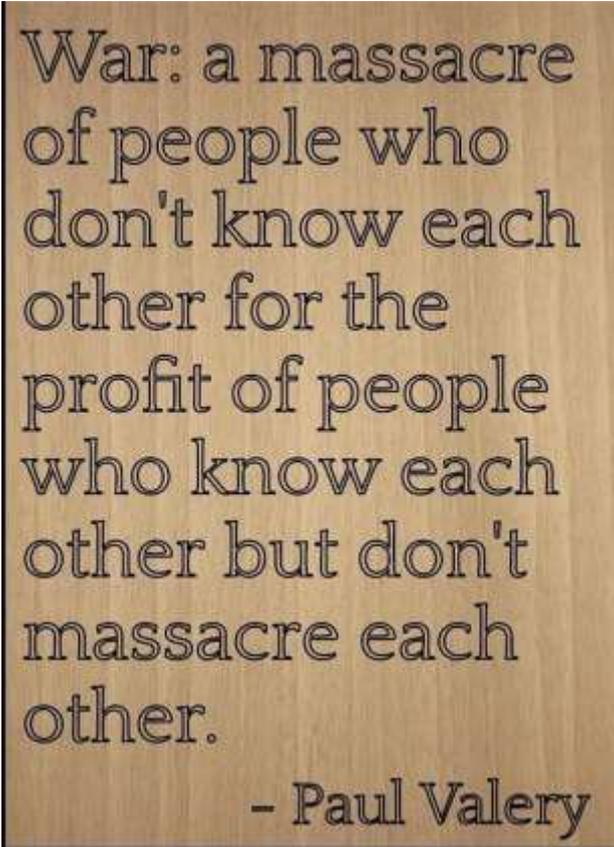
(St John's Ambulance Hall, 31 Pererika St, Rotorua)

2021-2022 Rotorua Branch

Co-ordinator: Hartley Gray	021 916 645	hartleyandteri@gmail.com
Secretary/		
Treasurer: Andrea Thompson	021 137 1808	ad.thompson@xtra.co.nz
Runs Coordinator: Hartley Gray	021 916 645	hartleyandteri@gmail.com
Newsletter: Stuart Burns	021 972 535	stuart.burns@xtra.co.nz
Webmaster: Tony Baker	022 345 7607	tbaker@nowmail.co.nz
Committee: Graeme van Praagh, Sean Wilson, Paul Shaw, Neil Evans		
Photographer: Mal Bain		
Sheriff:	Take your pick at the meeting!!	

Branch address: P.O. Box 1791, Rotorua 3040, New Zealand

Branch website address: www.ulyssesrotorua.org.nz



War: a massacre
of people who
don't know each
other for the
profit of people
who know each
other but don't
massacre each
other.

- Paul Valery

Thought for the Month

GROUP RIDING ETIQUETTE

RIDER-IN-CHARGE :-

- 1/ Designated on proposal of ride
- 2/ Before departure, choose a Tail-End-Charlie (a capable rider).
- 3/ Any new/untrained riders should ride behind RIC, or close to capable riders.
- 4/ Confirm route and destination.
- 5/ Advise major turns, also regroup places.
- 6/ During ride, keep as many headlights in mirror as possible.
- 7/ Carry phone, also maybe 1st Aid Kit.
- 8/ Ride route before date if possible.
- 9/ Stop and regroup if hazards (gravel, slips) encountered, and alter route if necessary.

ALL RIDERS :-

- 1/ Arrive BEFORE departure time with full tank and empty bladder.
- 2/ Listen to RIC information.
- 3/ Maintain staggered riding positions as much as possible.
- 4/ Keep rider behind in mirror at all times - keep checking !
- 5/ Slow down if following rider's light disappears.
- 6/ Stop if following rider's light does not appear in reasonable time.
- 7/ Turn back to locate following rider if he does not appear.
- 8/ If this procedure is adopted, all riders will stop if one rider is lost !
- 9/ If a turn is made, indicate so following rider is aware.
- 10/ Turn off indicator after turn !
- 11/ If following rider not visible at intersection, stop and be visible for him.
- 12/ Don't overtake unless necessary,, don't overtake RIC.
- 13/ When passing other vehicles, pull ahead to make room for following rider.
- 14/ Don't follow other rider passing a vehicle unless enough room.
- 15/ Bear in mind our good Ulysses reputation when out in other traffic !
- 16/ Leave before main group, after getting RIC info, if riding faster than group.

TAIL-END-CHARLIE

- 1/ Watch all riders ahead, offer advice if/when necessary.
- 2/ Carry 1st aid kit (you will probably be early or 1st on scene where it will be used).