



MOTORCYCLE TOURING CLUB OF VICTORIA INC.

P.O. Box 453, Richmond 3121, Victoria

# January 1999 Itinerary

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Dams Ride

Wayne Grant leading

9.30 am KBCP, 10.30 am Whittlesea

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>

**Buningyong Fire Tower** 

Geoff Jones leading

9.30 am KBCP, 10.30 am Whittlesea

Thurs. 14th

**Social Sip -** Baden Powell Hotel, 61 Victoria Parade, Collingwood, 7 pm Come and have a game of pool or two. Good food, good company.

Sunday 17th

Arthur's Seat

Darryn Webster leading

9.30 am KBCP, 10.15 am Hallam

This is a leisurely ride along the picturesque Mornington Peninsula. This is Darryn's first time lead so make an effort and support him. Roads and scenery are interesting and varied. Expect around 250 km for the day.

Weekend

Victoria Hotel, Tallangatta

Ben Warden leading

22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> Friday 2.30 pm Whittlesea

More details in Who's News. Places are filling fast. Twenty dollars reserves you a room. Best roads, best weather, best scenery, cheap accommodation, free oranges and plums, good company. As many or few kilometres as you wish. It will be a big weekend! Expect not much change out of 2,000 km.

Sunday 31st

Cape Patterson

DannyVits leading

9.30 am KBCP, 10.15 am Hallam

Cape Patterson is on the coast between Wonthaggi and Inverloch, along a fantastic sweeping road which skirts around the coast affording magnificent lviews. It is a popular vacation area so look out for errant car drivers, and Mr Plod patrolling the 40 km/h zone approaching Inverloch. Otherwise Gippsland roads are some of the best in Victoria. Expect about 400 km for the day. This ride is not really suitable for inexperienced riders, despite it not being advertised as such.

### February 1999

Thursday 4th General

General Meeting, Club Hall, 8.15 pm, Inglebys Road

Theatrette at rear of Camberwell Town Hall, Melways Ref 59J2

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>

Reefton Spur

Tim Walker leading

9.30 am KBCP, 10.30 am Yarra Glen

Weekend 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>

Port Campbell, Motel Accommodation

leader required

We will be staying overnight in the Twelve Apostles Motel, 6 km from the Great Ocean Road. It has a games room, indoor pool, and evening meals. We have stayed there twice before and found it to be an excellent venue. See Ian Payne with a deposit of \$30.

### Dams Ride – January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1999

Wayne Grant	ZX9 (leader)	Rhys Williams	ZX7R	Dave (1st ride)	ZX7R
Allan & Shelley	Triumph Trophy	Ray Walker	GSXR 750	Derek Atkinson	FZR1000
Jack Youdan	Triumph Trophy (rear)	Ben Warden	ZXR750	Mark Blashki	GSXR600
John R & Zara	BMW LT1100	Cathy Robinson	CBR600 (rear)	Dianne Welsford	CBR600

Well this was the first ride for '99 and was close on the heels of the Christmas camp so I didn't have any big expectations. At King Bridge Car Park Allen & Shelley, Rhys and Ray were waiting. Often when the second pick up is Whitlesea nobody much bothers with KBCP. However, as Rhys was the only one who rides with the Club regularly, its understandable that newer riders head for the city. The Whitlesea pickup was quite busy with most people heading straight out there.

The first dam was Yan Yean, and only just down the road, about 6 km away. The tricky bit was going to be the journey from Yan Yean to the second of the dams, Sugarloaf. Thankfully John R had lived in this area at one stage and was familiar with the roads linking the two dams. He was happy to lead this section of the ride and I was very grateful. It was just two early in the ride to be lost.

Sugarloaf, it must be said, is probably the most interesting of the dams in the sense that there is a well built and located look out post. Models have also been built to show the dam and network of linking rivers and streams. Quite a complex arrangement.

After leading the ride to Sugarloaf John and Zara went their own way as it was starting to hot up. The good thing was we were heading into the mountains ie. Black and Reefton Spurs. It should be cooler up there. It was fairly familiar ground from Sugarloaf to the Maroondah Dam via Yarra Glen and Healesville. On the journey there were a few hero Harley riders going really hard and pushing their bikes ie. doing about 80-90 km/h. Thankfully none of us were, or had any desire to be, on Harleys and thus we were able to pass them with ease while enjoying both the road and corners at the same time.

The Maroondah Dam was surprisingly busy and Healesville was no different. I have no idea what the hell so many motorists were doing around this area. Shelley thought there was a market on for the day. The Maroondah Dam requires you to walk to the look out so I quickly lost interest in all that and continued. Ben and Rhys did the touristy thing heading to the look out. I figured both would catch up pretty quickly anyway so most of the group started to head off. By this time the stomach was grumbling and the bakery in Marysville was awaiting. This section of road up to Marysville is one of the best in the state in my opinion and is just a purer indulgence.

During lunch Dave Ward, Darryn Webster, Brony Manifold, Nick Prapas and Dave Moore stopped in before heading down the Black Spur. At this point Dianne was thinking a pool to be more inviting than the Reefton Spur and left for the day. At the top of the Reefton Spur the police were pulling ALL motorcyclists over to get their licence details. I have no idea why. Perhaps it makes it easier for them to identify you later in the day for speeding, who knows.

The next stop was the Upper Yarra Dam which most of us have seen. Cathy decided she would participate no longer after riding her new CBR600 very well and confidently for the day. Great to see! I expect Cathy will be on more Club rides in the future. Derek, however could not help himself and after threatening to leave stayed on just to get the last bit of value from that rear tire of his.

The final dam, Cardinia, was reached via Woori Yallock, Cockatoo and Emerald where I made a wrong turn. The worst thing about making this wrong turn was I had no idea how to subtly get out of it without having it look like a mistake. U turns during rides only mean one thing. After reaching the dam it was nearly 4.30 pm. Allan & Shelley had to travel back to Werribee and myself to Essendon, so it was a good time to end things. Thanks to JR for leading a section of the ride where I would have struggled badly and to all those who participated with thankfully no incidents.

### January Who's News

The Club welcomes new member Ray Walker riding a GSXR750F – "F" for first model. Ray crashed on his first ride, the great Ocean Road, December 13th – bad gravel roadworks, unsignposted, leading up to, and around a corner. He survived the 38 deg C Dams Ride, and was nearly skittled on the Western Highway on Geoff Jone's Buningyong ride when a car pulled in front of him, saw him, stopped, and then went again! His address is 36 Winifred St Pascoevale South and home phone number 9383-6929.

The MTCV Home Page has taken another 150 hits last month and 2,878 since April 1996.

Club Assets. The Club is interested in locating its various assets. If you have, or know where such items as the Club flag(s), the Club tent, etc. are, please notify any of the committee. This is the last time I will post this request as the response has been dismal. Maybe whoever has the gear is no-longer a member.

Seen at the **December Social Sip**: Lyn Duncan, Jon Riddett & Zara, Davorin Zivkovic, Ian Payne, Les Leahy, Dianne Welsford, June Baker, Glen, Rob and Mandy Matricciani, Ron and Julie Johnston, Darren Morecombe, John Willis, and Nick Casemore.

The Club Christmas Camp was held at Mt Buffalo Caravan Park, Porepunkah, as per last year. For those of you who have never stayed in the caravan park, it is situated at the base of Mt Buffalo, a fantastic motorcycle road. Mt Hotham and Falls Creek are within an easy half day ride, and Bright township is a few km away, with all amenities available. Seen at the camp were Les Leahy (TT350), Rob Langer (Dominator and van), Ben Warden (ZXR, car, trailer), Julie, Robert, Laura, and David McCall (car), Ian Payne (RF900), Kerrie Gooding (car), Derek Atkinson (CBR600), Kathy Robinson (car), Dave Ward (Ducati 748, van), Bronwyn Manifold (RGV250), John Willis (TL1000), Steve Leyland and Sue Wells (R1100RS), Jon Riddett and Zara (SZR600, 4WD), Davorin Zivkovic (K100RT), Wayne Grant, Dianne Welsford (car), Oswald the dog, and Paul Tallents (YZF600). 22 people.

On the Australia Day Weekend, at the end of January, we will be heading for Tallangatta, staying in the Victoria Hotel as per previous years. Accommodation costs are of the order of \$15 per night. Leaving Melbourne late Friday 22nd will give us three solid days of exploring the Snowy Mountains Highway and the delights of south eastern NSW. Day 1: Kiandra via Khancoban and the Murray Valley Highway, Thredbo, Corryong. Day 2: Kiandra via Elliots Way, Tumut, Tumbarumba loop (easy day). Day 3: Thredbo, Bombala, Tathra and return. The die hards wanted to return home via Omeo last year but were thwarted by the rain and fog. This could be an option, now that the Omeo Road is completely sealed. You'll need <a href="new tyres">new tyres</a>. There hasn't been a Tallangatta yet where someone hasn't worn down to the canvas, myself included. Tyre wear rate (fun indicator!) is horrific, to put it bluntly. The roads are sensational, the weather usually fine and hot, and the scenery spectacular. See Ben with \$20 to reserve your accommodation. Book those annual leave days now.

President Ian Payne underwent an operation on his left elbow in early December to remove some of the metal placed in there after his April 1997 accident. He is back riding, concentrating on improving his skill level. He is riding better than ever, regular trips up and down Mt Buffalo at the Christmas Camp no doubt adding to his confidence.

Theo Kalkandis (crashed TL1000S) has purchased a new Yamaha R1. We look forward to seeing him out on a few Club rides with his new bike.

Don from Nova Honda wrote off his Ducati 916 Senna when he crashed on the 45 km/h right hand corner heading up out of Marysville towards Lake mountain. He suffered serious injuries and is in Epping Hospital. It is expected he will make a full recovery. This information was supplied by a non-member and has not been confirmed.

Danny Vits has replaced his aging Kawasaki ZX9 with a new BMW R1100RS – the ones that look like Ducatis from the rear. He's clocked up 5,000 km already, without going on a Club ride!

The Club extends its condolences to Tom Saville and family. Tom's mother died recently.

**Darren Hosking** crashed his yellow Honda VTR1000 on the Meeniyan Ride, Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December, on the 3 km Arawata dirt section, 200 metres before the end. It was raining and a section of clay had become exposed. It was diabolically slippery. Darren fell off at almost walking pace, but still incurred considerable cosmetic damage to the bike. He was able to ride home. Expect to see him mobile again in February.

Seen at the Club Xmas BBQ, Fairfield park: Patrick Davies, Nick Casemore and Christine, Ju Johnston and 2 kids, Lyn Duncan, Darryn Webster, Kerrie Gooding, Wayne Grant, Mark Turner, Jon Riddett and Zara, Theo Kalkandis and son, Ton Schrader, Ron Johnston, Darren Hosking, Paul Tallents, Steve Leyland, Peter Philferan, Danny Vits, Julie, David, Laura and Robert McCall, Craig Morley, Darren Morecomb, Tim Walker, Dave Moore, Rob and Mandy Matricciani, Ben warden, Ian Payne, Sue Wells, Dave Ward, Bronwyn Manifold, and Davorin Zivkovic.

This was a sensational turnout – 38 people (only 7 less than last year) – considering it was a blistering 42 deg C and declared a day of total fire ban. Gas BBQs were banned but we were able to use the free electric one. And as there was not another living soul within sight, gaining access to the BBQ was not a problem. First incident of the day was a very keen parking attendant setting about the business of booking the various bikes and cars parked on the grass. Wayne Grant did some fast talking, but not fast enough as a short time later a pair of blue clad members of the constabulary appeared walking briskly towards us. Wayne strode out once more to tackle them head on. He somehow convinced them of our net worth, and had they considered shares as part of their investment portfolio? Incredible.

Second incident of the day was Patrick Davies suffering severe dehydration after catching a lift down from Ballarat on the back of a mates bike to the city, then walking to Fairfield Park and arriving early, then walking the length of the Boulevarde and back in search of the Club. He was dry retching continuously near the end of the day. Danny Vits dropped him off at a friend's house in Richmond. They took him to hospital where he was put on an intravenous drip and kept overnight. His mother collected him the next day. Meanwhile the rest of us were having canoe fights in the river!

There has been a vehicle safety recall on 1998 Suzuki GSXR750Ws and TL1000RWs. The fuel pump may suffer from a loss of pressure leading to an unsafe riding condition.

For Sale: GSXR600 new original standard tyres, clip-on handlebars, brake pads, rear sets. Also rear Michelin High Sport 170/60/17 race, near new \$150. See Ben for details.

Ron Johnston and family moved house recently. His new address is 22 Birkenhead Drive Kilsythe 3137. His phone numbers have not changed.

# Christmas Camp Mt Buffalo Caravan Park 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. to 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan. '99

- Les and Rob arrive. Rain and snow on Mt Hotham, hail and rain in Melbourne. Ben and Ian consult and defer departure from Melbourne due to weather conditions.
- Ben, Julie and kids arrive and set up 4 tents. Ian and Kerrie arrive. Les and Rob reading bike magazines and eating sausages under gazebo. Ben rode up Mt Buffalo in evening. BBQ tea, camp fire, port, Christmas cake. Bliss.
- Rob & Les overland to Harrietville. Ben, Julie, Ian, Derrick & Kathy over Tawonga & Dederang Gap. 140 km loop. Up Mt. Buffalo in the evening. BBQ dinner. Fresh rainbow trout from Smoko, 4 km before Harrietville. \$8/kilo (gutted), catch your own. Potatoes in ashes and silver foil.
- Les off home via Metung, Rob to explore Buckland & Wonnangatta Valleys. Kerrie & Kathy bushwalking up on Mt. Buffalo. Julie & kids sightseeing around gourmet tourist attractions (venison, cheese, berries, nuts, wines, etc). Ben, Dave, Bron, Ian & Derrick 380 km round trip to Dartmouth Dam via Tawonga Gap. Rob got booked \$20 for riding his pushbike without a helmet (had already been warned the previous day). Usual evening run up Mt. Buffalo. Pizza dinner in Bright.
- 30/12/98 Kerrie & Bron bushwalking on Mt. Buffalo. Jon & Zara sightseeing. Rob pedals to Bright then dirt ride to Harrietville. Ben, Ian, Paul, John, Dave, Derrick & Kathy over the new sealed section to Omeo. Julie and kids yabbying (to no avail). Swimming in river in afternoon. Dave and Ben rode up Mt Buffalo. BBQ trout for tea.
- Dave & Bron to Wodonga. Ian & Kerrie Milawa & Beechworth. Jon & Zara to Bright. Rob overland to Abbeyard. Steve, Sue, Derrick & Kathy to Falls Creek. Dav & Paul home. Ben, Julie & family up to Hotham for chair lift and sight seeing and soccer game. Then onto Dinner Plain for lunch. Swimming most of afternoon in river, floating on inner tubes. Usual strop up Buffalo. Dianne and Wayne arrive by car. Dianne sets up tent by torch light and Wayne sleeps in car. Bronwyn produces the very popular "Pass the Pigs" game. Ben and Julie and kids to the "city" centre for the "action". See in the New Year then bed about 4am for some!
- Wayne, Dianne, Ian & little Rob and Jon, Zara & Rob (in cars) and Derrick to Mt. Hotham. Kerrie swimming, Kathy visit relatives. Ben, Julie, Dave & Laura to horse riding. Steve, Sue, Dave Bron & Oswald head home. More trout, scrabble.
- 02/01/99 Ben and Julie last ride to Tawonga Gap lookout. Pack tents and all home.

On 3 January 1999, geoff jones (gval@ozemail.com.au) visited the MTCV Home Page and had this to say:

"new crank, new imac, no new bike, see you on the road."

On 14 December 1998, Richard van Beveren (richard.emly.vb@bigpond.com) visited the MTCV Home Page and had this to say:

"Good site! My wife, FZ-750 and I are looking for some good rides and we've all decided that good day rides are the way to go... That's after a trip to Mallacoota carrying a week's worth of gear. Tank bag, gearsack + sleeping bags, panniers, two adults, cold weather, a low slung 4-1 pipe and an old FZ do not make a great combination. Still, it was character building. So anyway, all three of us are looking forward being able to join you on a ride or two...or more. Have a great Christmas!"

### Billy's Road house - Meeniyan

### Sunday 20th December

ZXR750	Ben Warden (leader)	YZF750	Craig Morley
TRX850	Jeff Servaas (1 <sup>st</sup> ride)	XTZ660	Les Leahy (rear rider)
TRX850	Ken (1 <sup>st</sup> ride)	VFR750	Paul Burns
Camry	Wayne Grant	VTR1000	Darren Hosking

Only Les Leahy standing patiently and forlornly under the bridge greeted me as I arrived at the 9.30 am KBCP scheduled start. Alas, it was pouring rain again, the forecast for rain followed by showers. This Melbourne weather (on Sunday's particularly) is either stinking hot or pouring rain. Ho-hum.

Off we tootled down the freeway to Hallam to meet a surprising large contingent of riders sheltering from the latest downpour under the service station canopy. Even more eyebrow raising was the appearance of two first timers, Jeff who I knew from a work environment, and his mate Ken. Wayne Grant was there in the company vehicle, figuring as Club Captain he had better at least get to one ride for the month, even if it was in the car. It turned out to be a very fortuitous decision for some. Rhys Williams had made the trek from home but only laughed at the suggestion of continuing with the ride. He had been riding in the wet with me before, memories of 500 km and 5 inches (125 mm for you youngsters) on the Orbost weekend came flooding back.

First stop Drouin via the normal back roads parallel to the Princes Highway. Wayne was keeping up. True to form Criag's rear tyre was cactus and I suggested he continue on in the warmth and comfort of the car with Wayne. He wasn't adverse to the idea, leaving his bike parked at the servo for collection later in the day. Paul decided he was wet enough and left for warmer climes.

Southwards to Poowong, the rain continuing unabated, the roads bumpy as ever. At least the roads were eerily empty of vehicles, the light soft and diffused. It wasn't particularly cold, just wet.

Around the fast sweepers to Ranceby picking up the Arawata Rd. The three km of sandy dirt at the end of the twisties had deteriorated marginally, much to my surprise, when I found the front end light on more than one occasion. Still, a steady 60 km/h was safe and comfortable. All of a sudden the front wheel washed out right, then left and then right. We were heading for the gutter and deep gravel, heart pounding. No brakes, slow reactions and good luck saved the day. Not so for Darren who slid off at less than walking speed, sustaining significant cosmetic damage including the fairing and tank. Patches of slippery clay had been exposed by the heavy rains, and even attempts to walk on them proved challenging. Attempts to straighten the gear change lever failed when it snapped off. Darren was escorted to Leongatha by Wayne and Craig from where he limped home via the freeway.

The ride pressed on to Dumbalk and Meeniyan for lunch of fish and chips, or pies depending on preference. Billy's highly sort after fried shark belly flaps weren't on the menu. At least it was warm and dry! At about 1.30 pm it stopped raining and would remain dry for the rest of the day.

We refuelled, squeezed out our gloves, emptied our boots, and headed north to Dumbalk, Mirboo North, Thorpdale and Trafalgar, along the highway for 6 kms, then down through Lardner and back to Drouin. Everyone now had a smile on their faces and tyre wear again became the topic of conversation. Situation normal! Craig collected his bike.

We broke up at Packenham, Jeff and Ken looking for more twisties amongst the Dandenongs. Home to home about 450 km. Thanks to Les for rear riding and Wayne for putting in the effort of driving and generally helping. Good luck to Darren with the bike repairs. Unluckily his bike insurance is a few days past the 1 year replacement cut off date. Ho-hum.

Ben Warden (ZXR750)

### Great Ocean Road

# Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December

It was bucketing rain as I left home, the forecast miserable. I met first time rider Ray Walker hiding under the King's Bridge Car Park railway bridge, sheltering from the rain, but even it leaks profusely when provoked. Though just the two of us, I figured I couldn't let the good name of the Club down. This bloke was ready to ride, so I had better go do it.

Miraculously at Laverton the rain disappeared, and while it rained all day in Melbourne, the Great Ocean Road and its tributaries were completely dry. It started to rain again when we reached the West Gate Bridge 4.30 pm that afternoon. The best place to be was on the ride.

We made good time to Anglesea via Lara and Moriac, the usual big sweepers running into Anglesea providing us with a taste of things to come. A coffee scroll at the bakery, a visor clean and squeeze some water from the gloves and we were away again. There was barely a car on the road, no police apart from one on-coming 4WD of which we were flashed mercilessly. A long, leisurely lunch at Apollo Bay outside *The Arab*. Handed out a couple of itineraries to likely lads before heading north up the Skenes Creek Road and the tight swervery. The tyres, suspension and self were as one and the road flowed pleasantly curling and twisting this way and that. It is almost a religious experience riding a bike sometimes.

Coming into Forest the reverie was abruptly shattered by a nasty piece of road works: fine, invisible gravel leading up and around a tight 30 km/h corner. With the front on the point of lockup I decided to go straight, as they say, discretion the better part of valor. Ray wasn't as fortunate and dumped the GSXR after a rear wheel lockup, crunching a blinker and a sustaining a few more scratches.

We continued on to Moriac and Lara for fuel. Ray's fairing was flapping so out with the duct tape and a couple of 6 mm nuts and bolts to secure the plot before continuing to the West Gate servo and dispersion. Ray seemed keen and undeterred. An eventful day as always with the MTCV.

Ben Warden (ZXR750)

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# Fourteen (14) Years of MTCV Committee

YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	TREASURER	SECRETARY	ASSISTANT SECRETARY	SOCIAL SECRETARY	CAPTAIN	VICE CAPTAIN
1986	Vince Green	Hans Wurster	Ray Thomas	Tony Gustus	Ross King	Janet Towns	Ben Warden	Ken Wurster
1987	Hans Wurster	Tony Gustus	Peter Dwyer	Ross King	Geoff Webb	Sue Moreland	Rod Miskin	Peter Moreland
1988	Hans Wurster	Ben Warden	Peter Dwyer	Ross King	Geoff Webb	Kerrie Gooding	Gary Osborn	Ken Wurster
1989	Hans Wurster	Ben Warden	Vicki Piller	Ross King	Tony Gustus	Kerrie Gooding	Murray Browne	Gary Clifton
1990	lan Payne	Murray Browne	Vicki Piller	Tony Gustus	Graeme Frampton	Kerrie Gooding	Steve Leyland	Ben Warden
1991	lan Payne	Tom Saville	Andrea Siminger	Trevor Harris	Luke Richardson	Rita Sirianni	Steve Leyland	Sam Sirianni
1992	lan Payne	Garry Breare	Angus Parker	Luke Richardson	Margaret Shelley	Rita Sirianni	Steve Leyland	Sam Sirianni
1993	lan Payne	Ben Warden	Gary Clifton	Margaret Shelley	Tom Demosthenous	Dot Schwarze	Michael Chan	John Barta
1994	lan Payne	Ben Warden	Kylie Hillier	Daryl Cole	Les Davis	Ferdi Buddingh	Michael Chan	Andrew Kennedy
1995	Ben Warden	Steve Leyland	Jon Riddett	Les Davis	Thomas Athanasakos	Dot Schwarze	Tony Schrader	Pat Tayeh
1996	Mark Dennis	Steve Leyland	Dianne Welsford	Danny Kosinski	Rob Matricciani		Tony Schrader	Pat Tayeh
1997	Mark Dennis	Steve Leyland	Rob Matricciani	Davorin Zivkovic	Luke Richardson	Sue Wells	Danny Kosinski	John Willis
1998	Jon Riddett	Stewart Forster	Bronwyn Manifold	Luke Richardson	Dianne Welsford	Kathy Robinson	John Willis	
1999	lan Payne		Darryn Webster	Ben Warden	Danny Vitts		Wayne Grant	
Partial Term	Martin Thompson				Rykk Budd			Lyn Duncan

## Captains Report for January 1999

Sun, 6th Leader Ian Payne Sun. 20th Leader Ben Warden Destination Kilmore Tram Museum Destination Meeniyan Weather cold Weather very wet No. of Riders 6 bikes, 6 people No. of Riders 7 bikes, 8 people Incidents none Incidents 1 minor crash Distance 250 km Distance 420 km Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Leader Dec 26<sup>th</sup> Leader Destination Fairfield Park Xmas Party to Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> Destination Porepunkah Weather extremely hot Weather mainly fine No. of Riders 38 people No. of Riders 22 people Incidents see Who's News Incidents none Distance n/a Distance  $2000^{+} \text{ km}$ Sun 13th Leader Ben Warden

Great Ocean Road

400 km

very wet in Melbourne

1st time rider minor crash

Fourteen (14) Years of MTCV Committee

Destination

No. of Riders Incidents

Weather

Distance

YEAR	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Partial term
PUBLIC OFFICER				Ross Bradshaw	Danny Vitts										
EDITOR	Keith Finlay	lan Payne	lan Payne	lan Payne	lan Payne	lan Payne	lan Payne	lan Payne	lan Payne	Les Davis	Daryl Otzen	Gerry East	Gerry East	Ben Warden	David Byrne

On 28 November 1998, Hans WURSTER (hansmarg@eisa.net.au) visited the MTCV Home Page and had this to say:

"Hi Guys. All the longer serving members will remember me. Still ride my YZF 1000 every working day. This is my 'LAST' bike, my 13th. Will definitely come on a ride again soon. Used to go on every club ride once not so very long ago & I miss the good times. See you.... Hans"

Geoff JonesRZ350Ian PayneRF900 (leader)Lyyne BurnsZX6Ben WardenZXR750Greg BryantGPx250 2nd rideRon JohnstonCB750 (rear)

Decisions! What bike to ride: 400/4 or 750? Decided on the 750. Thought I'd see how it would go after having had work done on it - hydraulic lifters. No more tappet noise. Weather was a bit sus. Started to rain as I walked out of the shed. Came back in, waited a couple of minutes, stuck my head back out the door and thought I have to go to Yarra Glen before I decided whether I'll keep going or not.

Arrived at Yarra Glen 10.25. Ian, Lynne and Geoff turned up same time. Thought not many of us here. Greg Bryant turned up 10 minutes later. Raced down to the toilets. Arrived back at assembled group. 6 people, 6 bikes. Ian was lead rider. I volunteered to go rear rider and do write up to give myself time to get used to the bike.

We headed off in an easterly direction. Turned right Old Healesville Rd, left Chum Creeek Rd to Toolangi. Came across large group of Ulysses Club riders. George left us at Toolangi/Melba Highway intersection. Had to go home for one of his kid's 21<sup>st</sup>. I wave corner marker on.

I turned right into Melba Highway only to see Lynne drop her bike. Did a U turn in the middle of the road and parked my bike on the shoulder and gave Lynne a hand to pick her bike up. In the meantime all the Ulysses Club were going through the same intersection. Lynne couldn't get the bike to go. A policeman in a 4WD across and down the road a bit came over and parked with his lights flashing. He offered Lynne sympathy and talked to her about the bike. Was a nice fellow. I got the bike to start and run. Broke R/F indicator, scraped mirror and scratched fairing. We finished talking to the policeman and headed off. The others were waiting at the Glen Burn pub. Ben came looking for us. We passed him going the other way. We caught up with the others and waited for Ben to return.

Headed off to Strath Creek. Ben left us at Flowerdale. That left 4 of us. Strath Creek stopped for a break. Poor old Lynne. She was a bit depressed about dropping the bike, her pride and joy. There were a lot of bikers about on a variety of vehicles going to the pub. There was even a few sights for sore eyes.

We headed off for Broadford, then Kilmore and on to Bylands to the tram museum. When we got there Greg Bryant left us. Down to three. The weather was hot. It's funny how you can't escape your past. Lynne my with some people she went to school with. Lynne, Ian, myself, and others went for a ride on the tram. The tram museum has been going since 1969 and is situated at the Bylands railway station on the old Heathcote railway line. The tram track is about 3/4 mile long. There are a couple of prefab buildings which are made from aluminium. One houses the office and tea room, and the other, which came from a Ballarat school 2 buildings end for end, houses buses. They had horse drawn trams from the zoo and a variety of trams dating back to the early 1800s. Some of the woodwork and etched glass windows looked really good. They even had leather seats as well as wooden slats. Well worth a look. We were there about an hour.

We headed off to Wallan for lunch. It was still hot when we got there. We had lunch under the shop verandah. After lunch we headed back via Whittlesea, Arthurs Creek, Hurstbridge and Warrandyte to where I turned off for home. It was a great day with good weather.

Ron Johnston (Honda CB750)