

**Club Membership** stands at **65** after one month of renewals. Welcome to new member Simon Wastney riding a Honda VFR800. He is already in the top ten for attendances. Ask him about sailing. He is pretty good at it! We wish him many fun and safe rides.

If you are reading this magazine, that means you have renewed your membership – thankyou. A new access password will be generated for the Members' area at the next Committee meeting and you will receive an email notifying you what it is – via the email address you have supplied to the Club (your Google Group email). If you change provider or change your email address for any other reason please let us know so that continuity of service can be maintained. Note: non-financial members will be weeded out of the Google Group and Facebook Pages shortly.

The **Club web site** at [www.melbsportsbike.net.au](http://www.melbsportsbike.net.au) accumulated **570** hits during **July**, up 130 on last month. Total site visits are **76,486** since April 1996. The counters on the other pages after another month indicate that the 2012 Ride Calendar page took **504** hits (total **23,693** since 28<sup>th</sup> October 2008) and Great Roads **101** hits (total **5971**). All counters are significantly up, the five ride month and slightly better weather helping.

For July the official kilometres (sum of ride lengths) for the month is **1649 km** (down 193 km on last month). Official Club kilometres for the month (people x ride length) is **26,639**, up 8,189 km on last month. That means shorter rides but with higher average attendances. The shorter rides makes sense in the middle of winter. The higher average attendance is weird though we did have two Sunday's where the weather forecast was brilliant (ie no rain) predicted a week out. Euroa with 24 people and Mirboo North with an amazing 26 people certainly bumped the averages. There were no rides in 2011/12 that had more than 25 riders – Licola in November 2011.

The average calendar yearly total is 336,393 km since 2005. This year we are up to **201,154** km with a total of ten crashes. President Ian Payne had a minor spill (22/7) on a roundabout/traffic island just out of Healesville, his CBR1000 snapping a footpeg. He appeared to lose the front end (right in front of me) though Ian felt it was the rear losing traction. Quite a strange crash as the road appeared to be clear of gravel and not unusually slippery, and his tyres were warm to touch.

Seen at the **Annual General Meeting** at The Tower (Hawthorn) on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July: Ben and Julie Warden, Dennis Lindemann, Ian Payne, Ron Johnston, Simon Wastney, Paul Southwell, John Willis, Lou Tickner, Jesvin George, Matt Considine, Peter Philferan, Rob Langer and Cliff Peters. 14 people

The **Club Participant of the Year** is based on aggregate points accumulated at 1 point per ride, an extra point for leading or being rear rider, and 1 point per magazine article (maximum 2 per magazine). Attending one or more days of a weekend event scores 3 points for leading, 3 for rear riding duties and 2 points for participating.

The 2012/13 count is up and running and after **one** month the top eleven positions are: **Ben Warden** (8), **Cliff Peters** (6), **Pina Garasi** (5), **Paul Southwell** (5), **Jesvin George** (5), **Simon Wastney** (5), **Ron Johnston** (4), **Geoff Jones** (4), **Rob Langer** (4), **Andrew Newbury** (4) and **Willem Vandeveld** (4). The usual suspects are in the mix though it is good to see some newer members becoming addicted and getting amongst the points.

**Front Cover:** 15<sup>th</sup> July, **Nagambie Weir**: Back row: Simon Wastney, Cliff Peters, Andrew Newbury, Tony Stegmar, Geoff Dick, Rob Langer, Aiden Baker. Front row: Ron Johnston, Misho Zrakic, Pina Garasi, Paul Southwell, Willem Vandeveld, Jesvin George and Josh Letson (1<sup>st</sup> ride). Ben Warden behind the lens. Fiona Warden banner artwork.

**Back Cover:** 22<sup>nd</sup> July, **Darnum**: Back row: Aiden Baker, Paul Ripepi, Tim Emons, Quinn Myers (1<sup>st</sup> ride). Middle row: Ron Johnston, Geoff Shugg, Rob Langer, Cliff Peters, Tony Stegmar, Jesvin George, Fred Stolk, Yvette Stolk. Front row: Misho Zrakic, Pina Garasi, Pierre Ong. Ben Warden behind the lens.

Email from **Kurn Bridgeman** 10/7/2012: Hope you are well Hey, I think I may have mentioned before but no need to send out the Club magazine. I'll check on line as I am overseas till probably the end of October driving coaches around Europe. Stay cool.

Email from **Rob Langer** 87/2012: Today I had a really enjoyable Sunday out riding with the Club to Euroa. With a large contingent in tow, Geoff led us to Violet Town in glorious sunshine. Even though the morning was extremely cold (2 degrees), by lunchtime it had warmed up to 13 degrees. I am sick of wet and cold Sundays, so today was a real treat for a winter ride. Thanks to Geoff and everyone else who came along.