

Club Membership stands at a very healthy **96** after six months of renewals, up four this month. Looks like the membership has been increasing faster than I can keep track in the Magazine and the following people get a belated mention: renewals from Ben Fuller, Renzo Cunico with a few years break but still riding his Ducati 916 collectable, Kurn Bridgeman back from sunny England driving tour buses around Europe, Danny Hawker still fencing out Portland way and probably fighting bush fires this week and Raphael Alikakos, keen as mustard until he ran in to the back of a car stopped to let a wombat cross. Welcome to new members this month, Scott Bowden on a geared down Honda 929 to make it even more thirsty (see article) and Ronny on a Kawasaki ZX6. We wish everyone many long, safe and fun rides with the MSR.

The **Club web site** at www.melbsportsbike.net.au accumulated **631** hits during **December**, down 30 on last month. Total site visits are **79,698** since April 1996. The counters on the other pages after another month indicate that the 2012 Ride Calendar page took **625** hits (total **26,117** since 28th October 2008) and Great Roads **124** hits (total **6360**). Status quo is maintained with the Home page taking slightly more hits than the Calendar page. Note 2013 Calendar page is now the default page.

For December the official kilometres (sum of ride lengths) for the month is **4,961 km** (up 1,087 km on last month – Dargo and Xmas Camp distorting the figures). Official Club kilometres for the month (people x ride length) is **65,216**, down 6,339 km on last month which was huge with 33 people on the Melbourne Cup Weekend ride to Corryong.

The average calendar **yearly total** is now 346,862 km (was 336,393 km) since 2005 with another year's totals in the equation. In 2012 we reached **420,139 km** with a total of twenty-four crashes (up two this month), total 23 minor and 1 serious. A full discussion on the Crash Statistics is elsewhere in the magazine. The good thing is that last year we rode over 140,000 km between serious crashes, more than twice as good as 2011 bringing the long term average up to 106,727 km.

Seen at the **Social Sip at Il Gambero** on Thursday 6th December: Ben and Julie Warden, Ron and Daniel Johnston, Trevor and Barbara Rolfe Harris, Paul Southwell, Ian Payne, Tony Stegmar, John Willis, Simon Wastney, Rob Langer, Tim Emons and Kurn Bridgeman. *14 people*

At the **February General Meeting** we will be calling for a vote on a motion to reduce the minimum quorum of members required at any General Meeting from 15 to 12. In particular, the AGM in July. We have been meaning to do it for years and got caught out one year and had to call a Special General Meeting a week later. Though we get good attendances on rides, our core business, it is a struggle to get people to attend meetings. So if we get this vote over at a summer General Meeting, it will take the pressure off the winter AGM – we will only need 12 people minimum. We have to give you 21 days notice. Hence, the following **Special Resolution** is proposed by the Committee:

“Twelve (12) members personally present (being members entitled under these rules to vote at a General Meeting) constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a General Meeting. A minimum of four (4) members of the Committee must be included in the quorum.”

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 after **six** months sees the top ten positions as: **Ben Warden** (59), **Rob Langer** (36), **Pina Garasi** (34.5), **Cliff Peters** (34), **Paul Southwell** (30), **Ron Johnston** (30), **Ian Payne** (29.5), **Tony Stegmar** (25), **Misho Zrakic** (25) and Jesvin George (23). Ron is working his way slowly down the list as his suspension bites and Tony had a quiet month, also dropping a place.

Front Cover: Opposite Dargo General Store, 9/12/2012. Standing: Lyn Duncan, Paul Southwell, Aiden Baker, Cindy Lee, Steve Mudford, Andrew Newbury, Paul Ripepi, Damir Djikic, Pina Garasi, Phil Hotschilt, Glenn Aspden, Misho Zrakic, Tony Stegmar, Rod Merrett, Geoff Dick and Rob Langer. Kneeling: Tim Emons, Kurn Bridgeman, Pierre Ong, John Willis, Cliff Peters. Photo by Ben Warden. Fiona Warden banner artwork.

Back Cover: Mt Baw Baw summit, 6/1/2013. Standing: Bek Harper, Eric Makin, Cindy Lee, Adrian MacGeraghty, Glenn Aspden, Paul Milo, Paul Robinson, Ian Payne, John Willis, Rob Langer. Kneeling: Pina Garasi, Misho Zrakic, Tim Emons, Dave Chisma, Geoff Jones, Cliff Peters, Ben Warden and Fred Stolk. Photo by Jason Wilson!

Email from **Garry Boucher** (13/12/2012) reflecting on the Dargo Weekend. Thanks to Ben, Tim and all the other riders for a great weekend. I nearly blew a head gasket, mine, not my bikes, on Saturday in the heat but survived to have a more comfortable and cooler ride on Sunday. Thanks to Pina for the company on the last leg into Dargo. I managed to take a photo of John Willis on Sunday morning paying homage to his bike for not spitting him off when he grounded it, or is he praying for more ground clearance? I look forward to the next adventure with MSR.