

The **Club Membership** is **93** after **four** months with **41** hardcopy and **52** e-copy subscriptions.

The **Club web site** at www.melbsportsbike.net.au accumulated **820** hits between October 1st and November 1st. Total site visits are **86,265** since April 1996. The counters on the other pages after another month show the 2013 Ride Calendar page took **594** hits (total **32,304** since 28th October 2008) and Great Roads **92** hits (total **7301**).

For **October** the official kilometers (sum of ride lengths) for the month is **1,121 km** (down 728 km on last month), with 4 Sunday rides during **October**. The official Club kilometers for the month (people x ride length) is **14,416**, down 15,849 km on last month, October having only the four rides and two of them very wet, short and poorly attended.

The average calendar **yearly kilometer** total is 346,862 since 2005. This year we are up to **317,959** after **10** months with **fourteen** minor crashes and **three** serious (broken bones) crashes. So far this year, our average Club kilometres between serious crashes is **105,986 km**. Long term it is 106,727. Last month there was one minor crash, electrical gremlins and a couple of punctures.

Seen at the **General Meeting** (Tower Hotel, Hawthorn) on Thursday **3rd October**: Ben Warden, Ron and Julie Johnston, Ian Payne, Simon Wastney, Tim Emons, Paul Southwell, John Willis and Lou Tickner, Glenn Aspden, Tony Stegmar, Peter Philferan, Rob Langer, Andrew Newbury, Jacinta Thomas, Lyn Duncan, Jesvin George and guest speaker Ron Shepherd from First Aid Management and Training who spoke for 30 minutes on what to do at an accident scene. A lively discussion ensued on the litigious issues surrounding providing help and helmet removal risks. *18 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.

After **four** months the usual suspects are at the front: **Ben Warden (32)**, **Ian Payne (25)**, **Robert Langer (24)**, **Cliff Peters (22)**, **Pina Garasi (19)**, **Jesvin George (16)**, **Simon Wastney (16)**, **Paul Southwell (16)**, **Misho Zrakic (16)**, **Stuart Hosking (12)**. Ben and Ian swapped places, Cliff and Rob swapped places, Jesvin went up a place and Simon dropped a couple of places. Stu made it into the top ten displacing Geoff Jones.

Front Cover: Photo taken at Tumut Pondage Monday 4th November, Melbourne Cup Weekend ride. Back row: Oli Clack, Toby, Marc Marais, Duane Rafferty, Dave Ward, Nigel Oman, Pina Garasi and Misho Zrakic. Middle row: John Marshall, Stu Hosking, Mitar Marescuk, Mikey Henriksen, Pierre Ong, Andrew Newbury, Peter Jones, Ian Payne, Mark Copeland, Steve Mudford and Cindy Lee. Kneeling: Paul Southwell, Rod Merrett, Phil Hotschilt and Scott Bowden. Photo by Ben Warden and banner artwork by Leonie Barnett.

Back Cover: Photo taken at Sue City, Monday 4th November. Standing: Marc Marais, Cindy Lee, Steve Mudford, Mark Copeland, Pierre Ong, Stu Hosking, Dave Ward, Andrew Newbury, Paul Southwell, John Marshall, Ian Payne, Duane Rafferty, John Willis and Phil Hotschilt. Kneeling: Pina Garasi, Misho Zrakic, Stoimen Stojanov, Rod Merrett and Rob Langer. Ben Warden behind the lens.

Email from **Stuart Hosking**, 4th October. I have been thinking about the First Aid and I'm currently doing a course. Two things that come to mind: we ask at each pre-ride brief who is a first aider. It would be good to have all first aiders (and confirmed with renewals) listed as "+" on the ICE list. It may be that one person puts their hand up at the briefing but there are two or more first aiders, and they may be easier to reach during an emergency, so it gives the rear rider (with the list) more go-to options in an emergency. Secondly, first aid usually says leave helmets on, but many people want them off in an accident. Many new helmets have emergency releases on them - red/orange tabs along bottom side of helmet. So check for the tab first. It seems like a minor thing, but it may make the difference between someone walking and not.

CityLink has advised that from 1 January 2014 it will begin tolling motorcycles that ride on CityLink. If you have a motorcycle and it's already registered on your Breeze account, from 1 January 2014 each trip on CityLink by that motorcycle will be charged to your Breeze account.