



# wheezy Rider

*Newsletter of the Fremantle group*

Feb 2017  
No 182

Newsletter of the Fremantle Branch of the Ulysses Club of Australia Inc.

Price  
\$1.00

Hi Everyone,

2017 is now in full swing. There has been some great riding weather. The rides that I have been on (and others) have been well supported, that is a good sign and is also appreciated by Ride Leaders.

Tony led a Magical Mystery Tour, Geoff Bloomfield led the fundraising ride for the cancer walkers and it was a very successful day. Steve Zeretzy was the leader that copped the rain (lucky it was not Bloomers ride!). You are meant to get away from the cloud Steve, not ride along under it.... We have just completed Andy's ride today, again well supported. It was an interesting way to get to Gidgegannup and then onto Toodyay and the weather near perfect. A full review will of course come from TEC at the meeting on Wednesday night.

We also had some Australia Day celebrations at Tony Collins house, thank you Tony for your hospitality. The cool pool was very much appreciated by all on the hot day.

As you are all aware Alf Bridle, known as WA's #1 has ridden on. Our condolences are with his family. You have all been sent details of the Memorial Ride to honour him next weekend. We are re-arranging the ride calendar so everyone who wishes can attend. Riders should start to assemble at the Armadale Start Point at 9:30am, for a 10:00am departure. The ride will follow Albany Highway, ending up at the Gleneagles Rest Area. One of Alf's last outings with Perth Branch was to this particular Rest Area, for a breakfast BBQ. More details on the calendar.

Walk for Women's Cancer fundraising is continuing for the team of Ladies that are walking this year on May 6th. The next event is on Saturday February 25 –

**'Walking on Sunshine' Fundraiser Party.** Kay and Steve Zaretzy's at 81 Wolfe Rd Banjup. COST: \$10 pp

**Cheap & Cheerful Rides** – The committee wants to get these up and running again. We are going to pick a few places so we can do some while the daylight hours last. We will be asking for people to lead them, if there is no leader appointed one will be selected on the night. The first one will be to Alfred's Kitchen in Guildford on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Leaving from Gateways @ 6.30 aiming to be at Alfred's Kitchens around 7.30. I will lead this one J Alfred's Kitchen is the longest running roadside burger kitchen in Perth.

If you have any suggestions of good eatery's let us know.

## More things in the planning –

Weekend away – March Long Weekend – Manjimup or Quindanning are the options so far.

If you have any ideas send them to me so we can get something organised.

We won't force you to lead the ride so any ideas are appreciated J

Any other ideas you may have for social events or rides away please send them to the committee. The more events we have throughout the year, the more chance you have to catch up with other members you may not have seen for a while.

See you at the Social Meeting.

That's it for now

Remember— It's not what you ride, it's your attitude that counts.

Colin Booth 61215

President Ulysses Fremantle Branch



*We don't care.... We ride there*



## Proud Web Sponsors



Chain Reaction : Call 08 9258 5600



Custom Bike Electrics : Call 08 93542270



Willetton Exhaust : Call 08 9354 5004





**FREMANTLE BRANCH MEETING**  
**2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE**  
**LEOPOLD HOTEL 326 CANNING HWY BICTON WA.**  
*The committee is the servant of the Group, not the Master*

**2015/2016 COMMITTEE:**

**President** Colin Booth Member 61215  
President@ulyssesfremantle.com

**Secretary/Treasurer** John Pepper Member 40751  
SecTreas@ulyssesfremantle.com

**Committee** Glenda McGregor Member 32282  
Pat Tinnelly Member 61165  
Mark Gilbert Member 62437

**Ride Coordinator** Pat Tinnelly Member 61165  
RideCo@ulyssesfremantle.com

**Wheezy Rider Editor** Mick Katarski Member 55306  
Editor@ulyssesfremantle.com

**Web Master** Ron Spencer Member 53780  
Webmaster@ulyssesfremantle.com

**Quartermaster** Paul Turner Member 61557  
Qm@ulyssesfremantle.com

**AROUND THE BRANCHES**

**ARMADALE BRANCH**

Richard Peddel 93908764

**BUNBURY BRANCH**

Trevor Rose 0407998872 trevrose@westnet.com.au

**ESPERANCE BRANCH**

Steve Smith (Homer) homers@westnet.com.au

**GERALDTON BRANCH**

Bruce Ralph 08-99642392 0427-642-392

Bruce Ralph ralphy@wn.com.au

**JOONDALUP GROUP**

Ken Eaton 0893012727 ken@eatondesign.com.au

**MANDURAH BRANCH**

President mmugpres@hotmail.com

Secretary mmugsec@hotmail.com

**PERTH BRANCH**

John Gliddon 93320440 0417-945-789

**WARNBRO SOUND WANDERERS**

Dianna Glover, Branch President, 0419 919 275

Julie Wilcox, Branch Secretary, 0402 955 399

**GREAT SOUTHERN BRANCH**

Ray Prior 0898429293 guzzirider@aapt.net.au

**KALGOORLIE**

Andrew Mason 0890914220 0419922860

**WEB ADDRESSES**

National Ulysses site: [www.ulyssesclub.org](http://www.ulyssesclub.org)

Fremantle Ulysses site: [www.ulyssesfremantle.com](http://www.ulyssesfremantle.com)

**Note: Next meeting, Wednesday**  
**8th**  
**March 2017**

**Plods and Saturday morning coffee**

Wednesday morning Plods meet at South Beach for a 9:30am start.

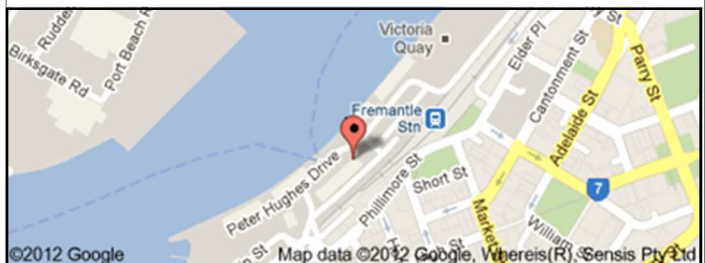
Any enquiries regarding plods can be directed to any of the following:

Will Duncan 0403014197

Patrick Hayes 0414756452

Mick Webb 0893396874

The Saturday morning coffee get togethers will also continue to take place at the Victoria Café, however commencement will be from 10.00am.



DISCLAIMER. All expressions of opinion are published on the basis that they are not to be regarded as expressing the official opinion of the Ulysses Club but are included for general interest only. The Ulysses Club Fremantle Branch accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of any of the opinions or information contained in the Wheezy Rider and readers should rely on their own enquiries in making any decisions touching their own interest. Errors and omissions excepted. Publication of articles at Editor's discretion.

## A big thank you

### Walk for Women's Cancer

Thankyou for all who supported our fundraising for Women's Cancer this month. The sausage sizzle raised **\$192.50**. A big thanks also to Jeff for leading the ride and Lee who donated the amazing lunch.

An impromptu Australia Day raffle raised **\$180**. Thanks to the anonymous prize donor and congratulations to Alison who won the lovely hamper.

### Upcoming event - Walking on Sunshine Party

**When:** Sat 25th Feb, 7pm

**Cost:** \$10/head, all funds go to Harry Perkins Institute  
BYO: Drinks, nibbles, glass & chair.

**Where:** Steve and Kay Zaretzky's  
81 Wolfe Rd, Banjup

Live music from 7.30 until late.

RSVP: 0457 036 094 or [kaylenesteve@gmail.com](mailto:kaylenesteve@gmail.com)

Come along and have a fun night.





*You're invited to the*



# **"Walking on Sunshine" Party**

*All money raised on the night will go to **Women's Cancer Research** at the Harry Perkins Institute, Perth.*

- 
- When:** Saturday February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- Time:** 7:00pm 'till late.
- Cost:** \$10pp
- Entry:** Tickets at the door.  
You are welcome to make up a table of friends and family
- Venue:** Kay & Steve Zaretsky's  
81 Wolfe Rd, Banjup
- Live music:** Double header live performance for dancing  
Dreamers  
Sax and the Single Girl
- BYO:** Drinks, nibbles, a glass and your chair  
Coffee and tea available for a gold coin donation.
- RSVP:** Kay 0457036094 or  
[kaylenesteve@gmail.com](mailto:kaylenesteve@gmail.com)

*Leonita, Eileen, Shani, Kay, Chris are doing the Walk for Women's Cancer,  
which raises funds for research into women's cancer.*

*Can't come but want to support cancer research? Ask us how.*

## (Odyssey Update)

Odyssey 2017

Team Contact List

Role	Name	Phone	E-Address
Event Co-ordinator	Tony COLLINS	0428 487 805	Co-ord@wa-odyssey.com
Secretary & Entertainment	Pippa LEAHY	0418 940 766	Sec@wa-odyssey.com
Treasurer	Steve SAWTELL	0438 912 039	Treas@wa-odyssey.com
Sponsorship & Promotion	Alan LEAHY	0419 953 327	SandP@wa-odyssey.com
Webmaster	Ron SPENCER	0405 060 201	webmaster@wa-odyssey.com
Venue & Facilities	Steve ZARETZKY	0457 036 085	VandF@wa-odyssey.com
Registration	Kirsten COLLINS		Reg@wa-odyssey.com
<b>Ex Officio</b>			
Fremantle President	Colin BOOTH	0413 050 739	President@ulyssesfremantle.com
Ride Co-ordinator	Eric ILETT	0418 950 755	ericilett@gmail.com
Catering	Allison BOOTH	0428 965 868	Allison.Booth@westnet.com.au





# Alf Bridle

## RIP

It is with great sadness that we inform West Australian members of the Ulysses Club of the passing of Alf Bridle, Life Member and Dearnley Medal holder and one the founding members of Perth Ulysses. He was a great friend to all and well respected throughout the whole club across Australia. He passed away on Sunday after a short illness. *(Mark Dixon)*



The following invite is from Mark Dixon Secretary for the Perth Branch of Ulysses Club.

Many WA Ulyssians wish to participate in a remembrance service. To celebrate and commemorate the life and passing of WA's #1, Alf Bridle, a combined branches ride, hosted by Perth Branch, will be held on **Sunday 12 February 2017**.

Riders should start to assemble at the Armadale Start Point (<https://goo.gl/YOTTP1>) at 9:30am, for a 10:00am departure. The ride will follow Albany Highway, ending up at the Gleneagles Rest Area. One of Alf's last outings with Perth Branch was to this particular Rest Area, for a breakfast BBQ. We should arrive there by 10:30am.

Ride leader, and master of ceremonies for this event is Bill Westerhuis (9378 3383). Ride Coordinator is John Morrison (0415 198 183).

The ceremony will have speakers from the Perth Branch, the Plod Riders, Branch representatives, and possibly a representative of the Ulysses National Committee. [If you wish to contribute to the speaking segment of the ceremony please contact master of ceremonies Bill Westerhuis (9378 3383)].

We invite your participation in the remembrance of Alf Bridle.

The following article has kindly been written by Tony Collins in reference to the recent trip by a group of Ulyssians to Vietnam. The story will be presented in three parts in three Wheezies starting with this edition. Thanks Tony

## Vietnam Ride with Platypus Foundation Nov Dec 2016

### Part ONE

We arrived to the chaos that is Hanoi on 18<sup>th</sup> November and were immediately visually overwhelmed by the teeming mass of people and vehicles. We stayed in the Quoc Hoa Hotel which was clean, comfortable, cheap (US\$40 per night) and well located in the French Quarter to allow exploration of the old city on foot.

Hanoi has a population of 9 million people and over 7 million scooters and small motorbikes – at times it felt like they were all on the road at the same time. The majority of scooters are Honda and Yamaha 110 to 150cc - being light and nimble they are the ideal vehicle to manoeuvre through the mass of vehicles on the road.

Two wheeled vehicles are everywhere with some carrying impossible loads and the road rules are obviously there just to give someone a job of writing them because no rider or driver obeys them. Very few roads in the old French Quarter of Hanoi have white lines and a large proportion of intersections do not have traffic control signs – this turns out to be a very sensible cost saving exercise because no one would take the slightest bit of notice of any of them. Crossing the road on foot is like taking a leap of faith – you make a decision to cross, quick check and then cross - do not vary your pace or stop and amazingly all of the vehicles go around you. Scary stuff but you had to do it eventually or be forever trapped on the side of the road.

In the 15 days we were in Vietnam we only saw three traffic accidents – one a serious head on collision between two scooters (one was passing a truck), one scooter versus rear end of truck and one scooter that pulled out unexpectedly and was knocked down by a car. The latter scooter rider checked it was OK and just got back on and rode away leaving the car driver ranting for a short time before he also drove away – no names exchanged it was just part of the cost using a vehicle in Hanoi.





The French Quarter is a teeming mass of humanity with unbelievable number of businesses operating out of small shop front premises. Land is owned by the Government and people pay a land fee based on the width of the property so almost all buildings are very narrow and very tall – some are up to five storeys with a business downstairs and living quarters above.

Businesses seem to cluster together so one can find yourself on streets specialising in particular goods - locks and door handles, metal fabrication, Xmas decorations, toys, bags, clothing and even underclothing.

The other members of the group arrived over the next few days and we felt like old hands passing on advice we had been given about the technique for crossing the road, best place to exchange currency for the Vietnamese Dong (16,000 to the AUD\$) etc.

On the first day we were collected and taken for a briefing, to select our bikes and demonstrate to the ride leader that we could ride on loose surfaces without falling off.

The bikes were mostly Honda 150cc road trail bikes that turned out to be the perfect choice as they were easy to handle in the gnarly off road tracks and still had enough power to “Safely” (I will come to that later) pass vehicles such as trucks, buses, cars etc.

### **Day 1 Hanoi to Mai Chau**

We were bussed 20 km out of Hanoi and picked up our bikes as it was obviously too dangerous for novices to attempt to make our way through Hanoi traffic. To survive on the roads you had to forget the majority of road safety rules etc. and just go for it the same way everyone else does.

The first 10km or so to the fuel stop was somewhat terrifying with all manner of vehicles on the road. Vietnamese traffic travels on the RHS (to us wrong side) of the road. You very quickly learnt to interpret and understand the meaning of bike, bus, car, motorcycle and truck horns – these are used to inform other people on the road of the driver's intention. A quick toot-toot as you come up behind another vehicle means that I am going to pass so hold your line. Vehicles behind you do the same so you do not make any radical variation to your travel line because you can be passed mostly on your LHS but two wheelers might pass you on either side.

You know what – the system works!

After the fuel stop we settled into what is a high speed ride in Vietnam – sometimes reaching 90kph as the bikes did not have much more in them.

At first morning tea stop Paul Turner did an excellent imitation of a turtle by falling off his bike and lying on his back with arms and legs in the air.



In later days one of our group did reach 110kph downhill with a tailwind.

Ended the day at a homestay in Mai Chau though some of us opted for a nearby hotel for a bit more privacy.

Dinner was followed by entertainment by local dancers and ended up with “talking water” which is a local home brew made from rice.

## **Day 2 Mai Chau to Phu Yen**

Back on the road and then off onto tracks, through rice paddies with the trails at times no wider than a goat track. Good practice for what was to come in later days.

The villages we passed through highlighted the tough rural lifestyle and almost abject poverty in which some people lived. Houses were little more than shacks with dirt floors and gaps between wall boards.

In spite of all of this the people still came out to see the crazy white people riding through their villages – smiling and watching us like we were the best entertainment they had seen for a while.

Climbed into the mountains and rode into low cloud that obscured vision to the point that you just had to follow the taillights of the vehicle in front and hope for the best- Scary stuff and not something I wanted to repeat.



Navigating traffic on the roads does not mean just watching out for vehicles of all types but also people, chicken, ducks, dogs, cats, cows, buffalo and anything else that can move.

You may come around a corner and find a dog that has decided to have a sleep in the middle of the road, or a duck crossing the road with a trail of ducklings, pigs with piglets etc. it was never ending so you had to keep your wits about you.

Motorbikes were carrying all sorts of items including pigs, chickens and ducks in baskets with the show stopper being a full sized live cow trussed and lashed on its side to an oversized carry rack on a 110cc scooter.

The responsibility is on everyone to avoid everyone else.

We ended the day at a hotel in Phu Yen, with most of us opting for an early night as we were worn out from the day's riding and concentration. Great fun.

This is not a town that sees many tourists so we were a curiosity to the locals yet they were still smiling and friendly as a bunch of motorcycles rode into town.

What a sight we were – covered in dust and dirt with mud spattered boots and pants – ambassadors for clean Aussies!

**Fremantle Branch Ride Leader Steve Zaretsky**  
**2017 Ulysses AGM Trek**  
**Port Macquarie and Return**

**Departs Perth Saturday 6 May 2017**

**Arrives Port Macquarie Sunday 14 May 2017**

**Week 1:** Overall seven days riding plus two days leisure probably Ceduna or Streaky Bay.

**Week 2:** Have a week of your own time or volunteer to help with AGM setting up.

**Week 3:** AGM Week. Plenty of Rides and Socialising.

**Week 4:** Overall seven days of riding plus one leisure day getting back to Perth.

**Return Date Sunday 4 June 2017**

**WANTED - 2x Support Vehicle Driver/s (Beer wagon drivers/cooks)**  
**(May be rider interchange)**

I am happy to provide a vehicle for the return trip but it will need a driver or two. Here is **WHY**:

- A Pint of Beer will cost about \$11.00.
- If 6 people have three pints each every night then the cost of beer alone will be around \$3400.
- If we have a support vehicle we can drink 6 cans each per night at @\$2 / can for \$1200.

This unbudgeted cost saving alone will pay for the support vehicle. The savings are even greater if we factor in the support vehicle carrying our tents / stretchers and other cooking gear and food supplies. We can also reduce our riding distances by cutting out our leisure days.

8 days riding @ 525km / day

9 days riding @ 460km / day

With support vehicle and sleeping in Tents on cots we have greater control over where we stop for overnight camps. We can eat reasonably healthy and fresh food and can have hot coffee, cold beer or cheap red at our own price.

Provide own tent and cot ( <b>assume currently owned</b> )	\$0	(also reduces AGM accom cost)
The occasional Caravan park fee ( <b>Return</b> )	\$400	



Fuel for Support vehicle	(Return)	\$2200
Food per head /day \$20 x 17 x 8	(2x drivers)	\$2700
	Sub total	\$5300

Item	Nights / KMS	Total approx
Fuel @ \$1.40/ltr	8400km	\$850
Meals	17 days	\$340
Occcasional C/van pk fee		\$50
Support vehicle fuel / 8	\$2200	\$275
	Total per rider return	\$1515

Add 6 cans of beer per person per night @\$2 can - \$200 (\$1715 each total)

The savings increase exponentially if Red Wine is consumed.

The support vehicle driver's share of cost is approx. \$765

How it works. Each person deposits \$800 (rounded for contingency) into a specified credit / debit card account. Two cards are issued. All costs associated with Support vehicle (including wear and tear costs like blown tyres), with food and caravan parks / camping are to be drawn against the card balance.

Unsupported costs as follows

Accommodation (to Port Macquarie) – Budget about \$120 per night for a double bed or twin share in Motel style.

Food – if you carry your own brekky cereal and stove for coffee

Lunch as a burger or similar about \$15

Tea - a pub meal or roadhouse about \$20 - \$30 per night depending on choice. Obviously if you have a stove you can cook / reheat your own food a lot cheaper

Fuel - I think the most expensive fuel I paid for was \$1.68 per litre. A big cruiser doing 14.25km/ltr would use about 600 litres, return. Average that at \$1.40 /ltr and you will need to allow \$850 for fuel for the return trip. Average ride day is 600km.

AGM - Accommodation – best on offer is a Tent City Tent on site at Port Macquaire. Each tent has two camp stretchers / cots and full rubber floor and usually a 12v light and two chairs. See AGM Registration. If you volunteer for a few days starting the Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May you will usually be allowed to camp for free (to be confirmed) at the AGM site in set up week.

Item	Nights / KMS	Total approx
Fuel @ \$1.40/ltr	8400km	\$850
Lunch	17 days @ \$15	\$255
Evening meals	17 days @ \$25	\$425
Motel accom	17 nights @ \$120/2	\$2000 / \$1000
	Total per person Share	\$2530

Add \$560 for an allowance of 3 pints of beer per person per night (\$3090 each Total)

**Contact details: 0457036085 or email [steve.zaretsky@gmail.com](mailto:steve.zaretsky@gmail.com)**

*A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU*  
*AT THE YERECOIN TAVERN*  
*GREAT HOME COOKED MEALS*

*COLDEST BEER FOR MILES*

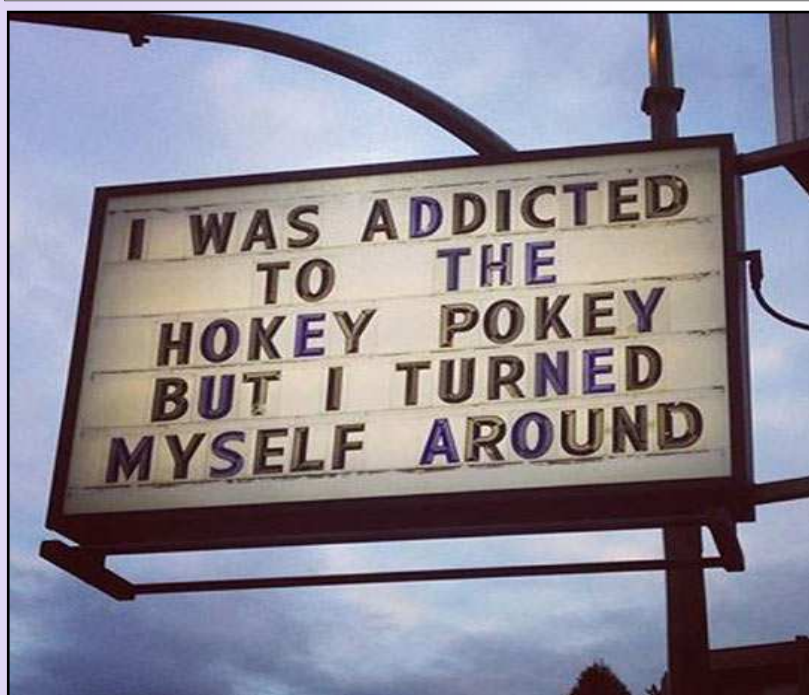
*B B Q FACILITIES. LIMITED*  
*OVER NIGHT ACCOMMODATION*  
*DISCOUNT ON ADVANCE GROUP*  
*BOOKINGS*

*SECURE PARKING FOR BIKES*

*CONTACT YOUR HOSTS CHARLIE*  
*& DI CLARKE [Ulysses members]*

*PHONE 9654 6032*

*E MAIL [checkpointsystems@bigpond.com](mailto:checkpointsystems@bigpond.com)*



## WA Companies who support the Ulysses Club

*(Please ensure you supply Club ID)*

### American Motorcycles.

211 Albany Highway Victoria Park WA 6100  
Tel: (08)9361 4884. 10% Discount on most after  
market parts and workshop

### Five Star Yamaha.

54 Rockingham Rd Hamilton Hill WA 6163  
Tel:08 9430 4090  
Up to 20% Discount on parts and accessories

### Hoon's Workshop.

U3/5 Church Road, Maddington WA 6109  
Tel: Vince 9493 5444. Trailer, Towbars, Bike  
Modifications & Custom Parts painted or chromed &  
more..... By a Ulyssian for Ulyssians

### In City Used Motorcycles Pty Ltd.

614 Albany Highway Victoria Park WA 6100  
Tel: 08 9470 4446. Special Ulysses discount

### Kim Britton Kawasaki.

2/91 Dickson Road Rockingham WA 6168  
Tel: 08 9592 1113  
Special Ulysses price on application

### Mack 1 Motorcycles.

237 Great Eastern Highway Midland WA 6056  
Tel: (08) 9250 2522. 15% Discount on access and  
5% Discount for tyres plus free fitting

### Motomax.

Dealer for Royal Enfield, Benelli, Sherco, SWM and  
Cfmoto. Motorcycle sales, service and parts.  
28 Hutton St, Osborne Park WA 6017. Ph. 9244 4441 or  
Ric Steele 0417 977 937. <http://www.motomax.com.au/>  
15% Discount

### Motorcycles Plus.

126 Kewdale Road, Kewdale WA 6105  
Tel: (08) 9353 4567. 10% Discount on parts, labour and  
repairs and tyres

### Rockingham Powersports.

59 Dixon Road Rockingham WA 6168  
Tel: (08) 9527 5093 10% Discount

### Total Motorcycle Accessories.

1028 Albany Highway East Victoria Park WA 6107  
Tel: (08) 9472 3030  
Special Ulysses price on application

### Tyres for Bikes.

621 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA 6100  
Tel: 08 9362 6262. 10 % Discount

### Witch Cycles Suzuki.

109 Day Rd Rockingham WA 6168  
Tel: (08) 9527 2398. 10% Discount

## Lighten Up!

### A look at the latest developments in sub 350 cc motorcycles

As the motorcycle industry continues to change, two things are abundantly clear:

1. Dual sport/ADV motorcycles are here to stay, and
2. Riders are demanding lighter-weight, lower-power alternatives to heftier 650 cc + machines.

So how have manufacturers responded? Well, for the last couple of years, really, they haven't outside the sport bike category.

To be sure, sales of established models like the Yamaha WR250R and the more tractor-like Suzuki DRZ400 have been steady, but many consumers still find themselves in want of a hybrid motorcycle that does not yet exist.

Perhaps this is a mythical 400-500 cc, fuel injected, 350 lb. motorcycle that can carry you down the highway at 75 mph while being light enough to pick up when dropped on single track. Or maybe it's one of the handful of new lightweight motorcycles that 2017 has in store.



*Photo: BMW's 310GS*

#### **Lighter but Better? - BMW 310 GS**

Perhaps the most anticipated of all the new lightweight revelations is BMW's 374 lb. (estimated) GS. Sporting a 19-inch front wheel, 34 HP single cylinder engine and 6 speed transmission, it's easy to see why this new machine has so many people talking. With that said, it seems that BMW is pushing this more as a commuter, with occasional trips on dirt roads, as opposed to a more dirt worthy adventure tourer ala the DRZ 400. So, while the new 310GS will be unquestionably easier to handle for new riders, will it find a home in many experienced riders' garages?



### **Cross Trained - Kawasaki Versys-X 300**



*Photo: Kawasaki Versys-X 300*

A motorcycle that holds a lot of promise, the new 300 Kawasaki Versys is a lightweight tourer with all terrain potential. Borrowing the Ninja 300's, 296 cc V-twin engine, riders can look forward to smooth cruising speeds up to 70 miles per hour on the highway, while with the appropriate tires, tackling dirt rides that stop just short of the "gnarly stuff." With a nice wind screen, upright seat position, great styling and whopping 4.5-gallon fuel tank, the new Versys is likely to have many takers.

### **Trail Runner - Honda CRF250L Rally**



*Photo: Honda CRF250L Rally*

Though there is an abundance of small displacement dual sports on the market, Honda is the first to step up to the plate in an effort to make one a “stock” adventure tourer. Ok, so you’ll still need to do a little work on it to start roaming the country, but with an adjustable windscreen, 70+ mpg and fuel injection, it certainly represents a step in the right direction. Established off-road performance, additional “rally inspired” fairings for enhanced weather protection and it looks like Honda has itself a pretty good 320-pound motorcycle.

#### **In Theory - Suzuki V-Strom 250**



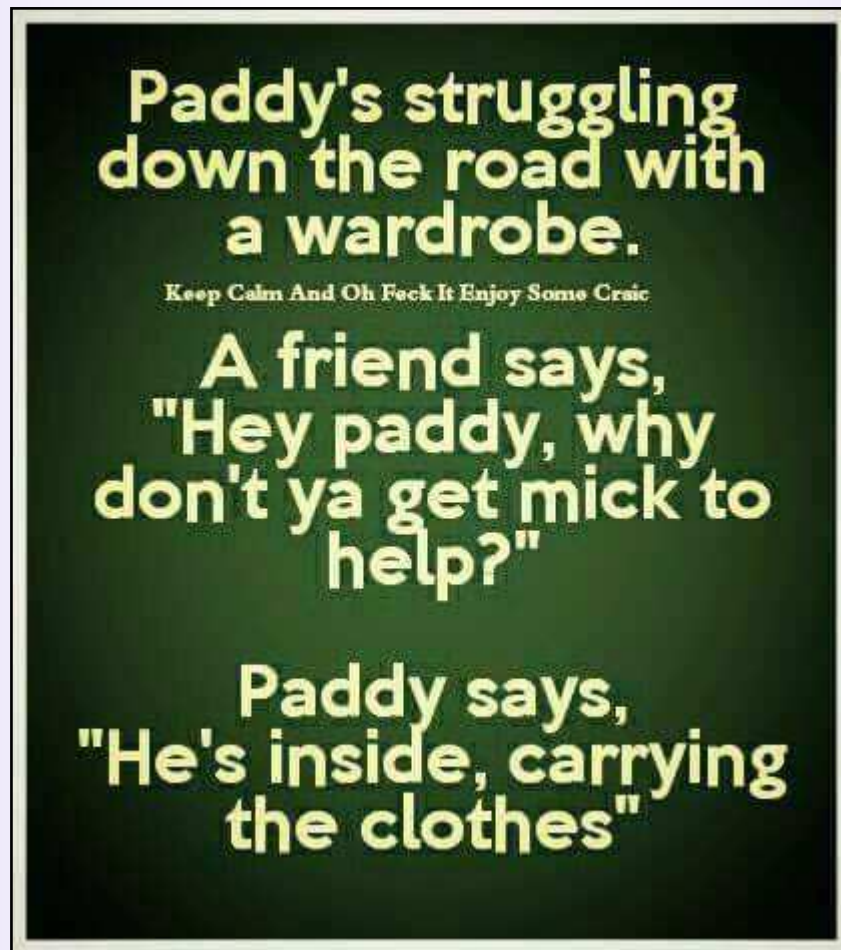
*Photo: Suzuki V-Strom 250*

While Suzuki has not officially committed to adding a 250 cc version to the respected V-Strom line-up, they have gone so far as to showcase the concept at this year's EICMA. Appearing to be something of a city commuter/grocery getter, with built-in luggage and 17 inch wheels, one wonders if this wouldn't be more suited toward the European or Asian continents, where motorcycles often play a more practical daily role. Of course, if the price is right, who knows? Maybe they could find a home here in the U. S, ... in theory.

As the smaller displacement segment continues to evolve, it will be interesting to see how consumers react to the influx of new models. Are manufacturers reading the trends correctly and producing the right types of motorcycles? In 2017 we'll see what the consumers think.

*Derek Roberts/December 2016*

## SOME LIGHT HUMOUR



A husband and wife who work for the circus go to an adoption agency. Social workers there raise doubts about their suitability.

The couple produces photos of their 50-foot motor home, which is clean and well maintained and equipped with a beautiful nursery.

The social workers raise concerns about the education a child would receive while in the couple's care.

"We've arranged for a full-time tutor who will teach the child all the usual subjects along with French, Mandarin, and computer skills."

Then the social workers express concern about a child being raised in a circus environment.

"Our nanny is a certified expert in paediatric care, welfare, and diet."

The social workers are finally satisfied.

They ask, "What age child are you hoping to adopt?"

"It doesn't really matter, as long as the kid fits in the cannon."



A few days after Christmas, a mother was working in the kitchen listening to her young son playing with his new electric train in the living room.

She heard the train stop and her son said, "All of you sons of bitches who want off, get the hell off now, cause this is the last stop! And all of you sons of bitches who are getting on, get your asses in the train, cause we're going down the tracks."

The mother went nuts and told her son, "We don't use that kind of language in this house. Now I want you to go to your room and you are to stay there for TWO HOURS. When you come out, you may play with your train, but I want you to use nice language."

Two hours later, the son comes out of the bedroom and resumes playing with his train.

Soon the train stopped and the mother heard her son say, "All passengers who are disembarking from the train, please remember to take all of your belongings with you. We thank you for riding with us today and hope your trip was a pleasant one. We hope you will ride with us again soon."

She hears the little boy continue, "For those of you just boarding, we ask you to stow all of your hand luggage under your seat. Remember, there is no smoking on the train. We hope you will have a pleasant and relaxing journey with us today."

As the mother began to smile, the child added, "For those of you who are pissed off about the two-hour delay, please see the cranky old bitch in the kitchen."

## Grandpa, What Is Sex?

An 8-year-old girl went to her grandfather, who was working in the yard and asked him, "Grampa, what is sex?"

The grandfather was surprised that she would ask such a question, but decided that if she's old enough to know to ask the question, then she's old enough to get a straight answer.

Steeling himself to leave nothing out, he proceeded to tell her all about human reproduction and the joys and responsibilities of intercourse.

When he finished explaining, the little girl was looking at him with her mouth hanging open, eyes wide in amazement.

Seeing the look on her face, the grandfather asked her, "Why did you ask this question, honey?"

The little girl replied, "Grandma says that dinner will be ready in just a couple of secs."

