

Rule 1: There shall be no rules.

Rule 2: See Rule 1.

# wheezy Rider

*Newsletter of the Fremantle group*

Jan 2021  
No 225

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

Price  
Free

Hi members

## Happy New Year Everyone!!

Well, it was good to see the back of 2020, unfortunately a lot of last year's bad baggage is still hanging around so we still need to Register on arrival at various places including The Hamilton Tavern for our Social Meetings.

The Christmas Party at Steve and Kaylene's was a great success, great weather with wonderful decorations, great food, and great company.

There have been some good rides over the last month and many thanks to Paul Turner who has led several of the "Free Rides". A very long ride was held on New Year's Eve to attend John Hilton's funeral in Busselton the round trip being around 550 – 600km. It was good to hear that a good number of our members were able to attend. Unfortunately, due to a health issue, I was not able to go.

## Ulysses Rally 2021 in Mandurah

As most of you are now aware, the 2021 Ulysses Rally at Mandurah has now been cancelled due to Covid. It is a pity as so many people have put an extraordinary effort into the planning of this event, with many long hours of travel, research, costings, and contingency plans going into the organisation. Personally, I feel that cancellation was the only option at this stage due to the possibility of border closures, and not just ours, as well as the risk to the Ulysses members especially as many of us are now "older".

We West Australians have been very fortunate in that we have not had to endure the harsh lockdowns of other States or indeed other countries. Nor have we had the huge death toll of so many other nations. Although even our current restrictions may seem hard at times, let's be grateful for the fact that our restrictions are at the moment light and our freedoms great.

## Rides

We have some interesting rides coming up in the next six weeks so stay tuned for some "special events". As usual, we need more ride leaders.

Stay safe

**John Pepper 40751**

**President Ulysses Fremantle Branch**



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



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Barry Webb has kindly sponsored Tony Collins with the supply of parts for his trailer that is to be used for raising money on an Australia-wide round trip to support the Royal Flying Doctor Service



**FREMANTLE BRANCH MEETING 7:30pm**  
**2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE**  
**HAMILTON TAVERN 330 CARRINGTON ST,**  
**HAMILTON HILL WA.**

*The committee is the servant of the Group, not the Master*

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

**Note: Next meeting,**  
**9th February 2021**

**Plods and Saturday morning coffee**

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

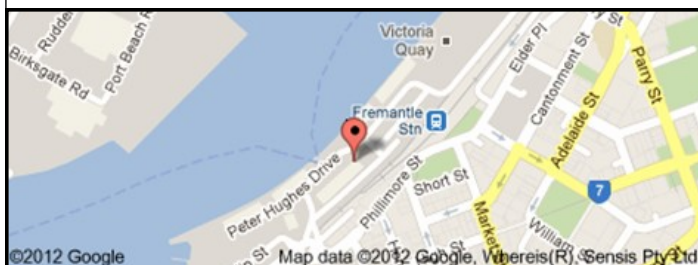
Any enquiries regarding plods can be directed to any of the following:

Will Duncan 0403014197

Patrick Hayes 0414756452

Mick Webb 0893396874

The Saturday morning coffee get together takes place at the **ECafé** situated near the eastern end of the E-Shed Markets commencing from 9.00am.



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.

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For those dealing with depression before/during/  
after addiction rehab we have been requested to  
promote Dr Keenan's guide for those requiring  
more information.

Dr Keenan's guide can be accessed via the  
following link:

<https://www.inpatientdrugrehab.org/depression/>



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**Some shots from the 2020 Christmas Party at the Zaretsky's**









2013 US Crew catch-up at the Booth's new farm at Winnejup









The following is an excerpt from [www.exhaustnotes.com.au](http://www.exhaustnotes.com.au)

## 2020 BMW R 18 First Edition (bike review)

By Andrew Jenkin    December 16, 2020



BMW's R 18 First Edition has arrived, signalling its intentions as a serious player in the big cruiser segment. There's a lot to like about it, and perhaps its greatest asset will be its appeal for those who don't want to follow a crowd, but rather blaze their own trail.

Long, sleek and stylish, with huge amounts of boxer motor protruding like biceps from each side of the bike, is what greets you at first glance. And on closer inspection, you'll notice the finer details, like the elegant double white line pinstriping.

You'll also notice the fresh looking black metallic paint, and then you'll get smacked in the face, by the look of the exhaust pipes that run down the length of the bike, on both sides.

We're not going to dance around the fact that these are going to be polarising when people form their initial opinions on this bike, and they are not going to be everyone's cup of tea. They're different. Very, very different.

But that's okay. For us, this is where BMW Motorrad have put some serious thought into not only designing the bike, but making sure there's the opportunity to customise your ride, thanks to partnerships with the likes of Roland Sands Design and Vance and Hines.

Cool bits aside, we know you want to know what it's like to ride, so let's flick the ignition on. The bike starts with a slightly violent kick and pull to the left, reaffirming you are on a serious, big capacity cruiser.

There's a good amount of vibration through the handlebars, reminiscent of a Harley-Davidson big twin, and a thump under your bum. Thank Christ BMW have not over engineered this bike, it has a heap of character and charm to boot.

The 1802cc produces 67kW of power and 158Nm of torque from its two-cylinder boxer engine. Power delivery is smooth and responsive as you push out of the corners or leave the traffic lights from a standing start.





The bike is well balanced with the big boxer engine hanging out each side, and while the exhaust note is a little quiet, that's the norm with standard pipes on any cruiser in this segment. Heat from the engine is more than acceptable.

Even when riding on a 30-degree day we found no issues, and that fact only adds to the riding experience. Weighing in at 345kg dry, the R 18 does carry some beef though, especially when up against some of rival Harley-Davidson Softail models.

That said, handling is very good, although you will still scrape the foot pegs when pushing hard through the twisty stuff. It sports a double-cradle steel frame with screwed on under-beams.

These are matched to telescopic fork front suspension, and a steel swinging fork with central shock strut at the rear. This translates into a solid ride which still gives you the pleasure or displeasure, depending on your riding needs, of feeling every bump.





Twin disc 300mm diameter 4-piston calliper brakes provide the stopping up front and work particularly well. On the rear, and somewhat uniquely, the same brake package is offered. Both have BMW Motorrad ABS.

BMW's R 18 First Edition is a great step into the large cruiser segment for riders of all shapes and sizes too. With a seat height of 690mm and mid mount controls, the R 18 can accommodate short and tall riders alike.

There is however one shortfall, with the existing peg and motor positioning seemingly not allowing for the installation of forward controls, which will be a little bit of a disappointment for some potential purchasers.

There is a factory floor board option though, which will be a huge plus for riders planning on touring this bike. It's a bike that feels long and sleek, and the streamlined tank and upright seating position combine for an almost bobber-ish riding experience.

That's not a bad thing, and it puts the rider in a great position to pilot the R 18 and move body weight through the tight stuff, while remaining comfortable for city and highway riding.

BMW have managed to combine the best parts of their technology and engineering, and still maintain a true large capacity cruiser character, which is quite an achievement. This is best illustrated in the simplicity of something like the speedo.



It has a proper classic look while still displaying an array of information, including the selected ride mode (which includes Rain, Rock and Roll).

Rock mode was the pick for us, enabling full power and all 1800cc of goodness that it has to offer. Rain and Roll modes offer restrictions in power delivery, but for our testing purposes we didn't really have a need for either option.

The speedo screen also houses trip information and the settings for the heated grips. It's all controlled via a menu button on the left side handlebar. Cruise Control is also fitted to the R 18 adding to its impressive list of features.

BMW Motorrad have done an exceptional job creating the R 18 First Edition. It is a more than willing competitor to take on the big names and bikes of Indian and Harley-Davidson.



As we said already, it will appeal to those who want to carve their own path and be a little different. Presently only available in black, the 2020 BMW R 18 First Edition is priced from \$29,155 ride away. It comes with a 3-year warranty.



***Our test bike was provided by BMW Motorrad Australia. To find out more about the 2020 BMW R 18 First Edition, contact your local BMW Motorrad dealer. Pictures courtesy of Jessica Jenkin Photography.***

## REVIEW OVERVIEW

Riding experience	9
Style and comfort	9
Braking and handling	8.5
Technology and connectivity	8
Overall bike performance	9
Value for money	9

## SUMMARY

**Pros** - great alternate to a Harley-Davidson or Indian; good character; handles well; plenty of power; range of aftermarket accessories.

**Cons** - pillion seat not comfortable for long rides; only available in one colour; could do with better pipes.

**8.8OVERALL SCORE**



Photos compiled courtesy of Lost Perth (Facebook)







## SOME LIGHT HUMOUR

**This is a genuine Ad from 1964 when WD-40 was first released. If you don't read anything else today this one just might make you laugh out loud.**





# Testiculate

To wave one's arms about while talking bollocks

It's got a wooden frame, wooden engine, wooden wheels, and a wooden gas tank. Did he ride it? No, wooden start...







*Turns out it was a marble in the ashtray...*



For those who travel, often the best food is a truck stop.

I wonder what the waitress would have to say if someone actually ordered their breakfast as this guy did?

A trucker came into a Truck Stop Cafe' and placed his order.

He said, "I want three flat tires, a pair of headlights and a pair of running boards."

The brand-new blonde waitress, not wanting to appear stupid, went to the kitchen and said to the cook, "This guy out there just ordered three flat tires, a pair of headlights and a pair of running boards. What does he think this place is, an auto parts store?"

'No,' the cook said. 'Three flat tires mean three pancakes; a pair of headlights is two eggs sunny side up; and a pair of running boards are two slices of crisp bacon.'

'Oh...OK!' said the blonde. She thought about it for a moment then spooned up a bowl of beans and gave it to the customer

The trucker asked, 'What are the beans for, Blondie?' (I love this one!)

She replied, 'I thought while you were waiting for the flat tires, headlights and running boards, you might as well gas up!

**FOR ONCE THE BLONDE GETS EVEN!**

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Five surgeons from big cities are discussing who makes the best patients to operate on.

The first surgeon, from Melbourne, says, 'I like to see accountants on my operating table because when you open them up, everything inside is numbered.'

The second, from Sydney, responds, 'Yeah, but you should try electricians! Everything inside them is colour coded.'

The third surgeon, from Brisbane, says, 'No, I really think librarians are the best, everything inside them is in alphabetical order.'

The fourth surgeon, from Adelaide chimes in: 'You know, I like construction workers. Those guys always understand when you have a few parts left over.'

But the fifth surgeon, from Canberra shut them all up when he observed: 'You're all wrong. Politicians are the easiest to operate on. There's no guts, no heart, no balls, no brains, and no spine. Plus, the head and the ass are interchangeable.'