

Rule 1: There shall be no rules.

Rule 2: See Rule 1.

wheezy Rider

Newsletter of the Fremantle group

Feb 2023
No 248

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

Price
Free

Hi All

Into February and so much happening already this year.

I had a glorious solo ride in the deep south for a little break before getting back to work (hence not being at the January meeting – thanks Mick for covering). Seeing silo art, long walks by the coast, peering at rusty old farm machinery in country museums, reading EVERY plaque in EVERY town is my idea of bliss – but I do not recommend using Wave Rock as a slide when wearing shorts... lucky I teach wound care at uni! Also, kudos to Bremmer Bay nursing post for supplying the necessary dressings.

We had a fun BBQ / pool party at TCs which was perfect on a hot night. Then a ride to Bunbury for an overnighter on the Australia Day public holiday. Was lovely to catch up with our Bridgetown buddies for lunch in Balingup. Great scenery and great company. We found Upper Capel Road – need to do that one again!!

Words cannot describe the grief many of us are experiencing this month at the loss of our dearly loved Tail End Charlie – Geoff Ball. Our hearts go out to Jill and the family as they say their farewells. In honour of Geoff our Fremantle branch is making a donation of \$100 to MND WA to support research into this ruthless condition. Geoff's family have requested that rather than flowers, we support this cause.

Remember that Tony C is constantly collecting second-hand gear for RFDS fundraising, so if you are looking for some kit or have something to donate, speak to Tony.

As always, a big thank you to our ride leaders, for leading us all over our beautiful countryside. Remember to **check the calendar** to see where we are going and if there is a change in starting point. We need to be sure where to be....

Also remember, if you or a member you know is going through a rough patch, please do not hesitate to let our Welfare Officer know if we can offer any support, or just someone to have a friendly chat with. Thoughts are with those on the sick list at present – even if you are not out and about you are still part of our Ulysses family.

Upcoming events

Keep an eye on emails and the calendar for details:

- **September 22 – 25 2023:** We are hosting the Odyssey. Seaspray Beach Holiday Park in Dongara. BOOK NOW – they have a range of accommodation but will fill up due to school holidays and other events. There is also the Dongara Hotel just a kilometre up the road. Planning is well under way, but more volunteers are always welcome...
- National rally in Mandurah 2024. Start thinking ahead. Volunteers see Tony C.

Rides

As usual, we need ride leaders. Even if it goes wrong, it is still fun!

See you out there!

Julie Dally

67503
President - Fremantle Branch
Ulysses Club Inc.
M: 0409505392
www.ulyssesfremantle.com



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(Please Note: Retro Moto Co has now moved to 25 Queen Victoria Street, Fremantle)



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
BEACONSFIELD HOTEL, CORNER OF
WRAY AVE AND HAMPTON RD FREMANTLE WA .

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

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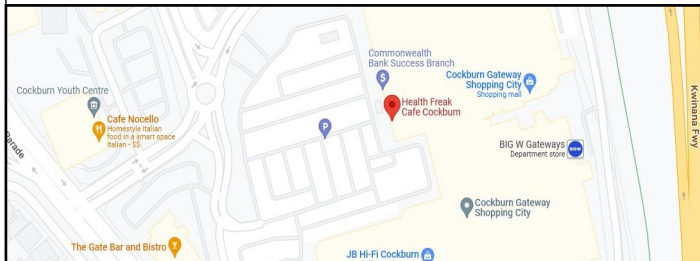
National Ulysses site: www.ulyssesclub.org

Fremantle Ulysses site: www.ulyssesfremantle.com

Note: Next March meeting,
14th March 2023

Plods and Saturday morning coffee

Wednesday morning Plods meet at The Health Freak Café, Cockburn Gateway Shopping City Shop G333/816 Beeliar Drive, Success Western Australia 6164 for a **9.00am** start.



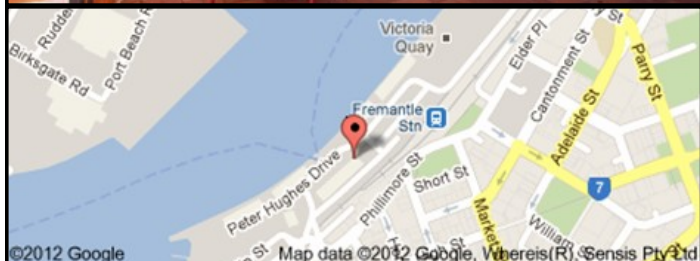
Any enquiries regarding plods can be directed to any of the following:

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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(Please ensure you supply Club ID)

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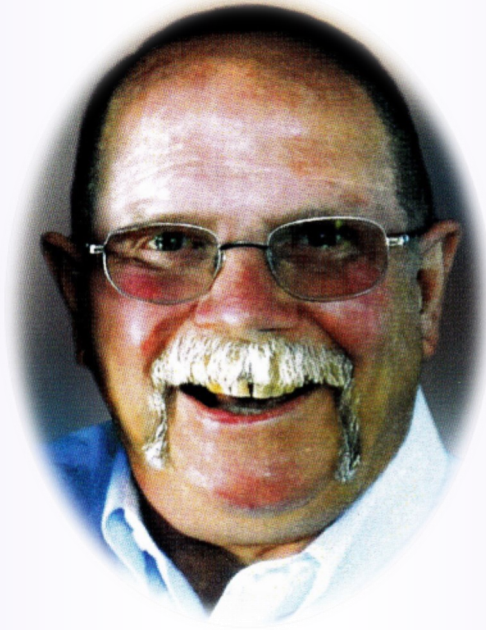
Tyres for Bikes

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

Retro Moto Co

25 Queen Victoria Street, Fremantle, WA 6160
Tel: 08 9336 7590. 10% Discount on services

Vale Geoffrey Ball



14th October 1946— 20th January 2023

Above photo kindly supplied by Mareena Purslowe

For those who were unable to attend Geoff's funeral, a copy of the heartfelt tribute from our Fremantle Branch President Julie Dally, on behalf of the branch is included below.

Eulogy for Geoff Ball Feb 8 2023

We all know that Geoff was a keen motorcyclist and an absolute stalwart of the Ulysses Club Fremantle branch for many years.

Geoff and Jill joined the Ulysses Club in 2007 and quickly aligned themselves with the Fremantle Branch. Geoff and Jill brought with them a wealth of experience and stories from their lives, particularly as coach tour operators, and often regaled us with absolutely hilarious stories about the different adventures they encountered along the way. I have so often wished I could have been on one of their tours - although I would never be sure what of Geoff's commentary would be fact, and what would be apocryphal - such as him telling us that in a certain area there are about 50 caves but only 16 of them have been discovered so far.

Geoff brought his humour into the Fremantle Branch and gave us a monthly review of rides with his regular "tales from the rear". He and Jill were frighteningly observant, which led to inciteful, incisive and hilarious descriptions exposing our various foibles and follies. No one was safe, but the stories were delivered with love and great good nature. You knew you had done something particularly gooseish if Geoff awarded you MUG of the month with a full description of your stuff up!

Geoff and Jill were the 'heads and tails' king and queen at each monthly meeting. This was done with great flourish and style, with Jill being a superb barrel girl - always a kiss for the winner and there would be some clever comment from Geoff.

Their big role was to be Tail End Charlie (TEC) at EVERY Sunday ride. This was no sinecure role - come rain, hail or shine, 'rounding up the chickens' who would so often get in a muddle trying to follow that week's ride leader, was not an easy task, but did provide plenty of fodder for 'tails from the rear'. The TEC role also meant being the main moppper-upper of issues, breakdowns, and 'offs'. We know we felt that bit safer with Geoff and Jill behind us complete with competence, care, and a first aid kit.

Geoff and Jill were the first to put their hands up for any volunteering - whether corner marking for cancer research fundraisers, participating at gear sales for the RFDS, helping at events, or a host of other activities. Always reliable, always with a smile AND continuing for as long as Geoff was able.

Weekends away were not complete without Geoff and Jill. Evenings would devolve into fits of laughter thanks to Geoff. When those pewter wine goblets came out, we knew it was 'game on'.

In 2013, the value of Geoff and Jill was recognised when they were nominated and subsequently awarded, the Telemachus Medal for their contribution to the Fremantle Branch. The award is named after the son of Odysseus and Penelope, and a central character in Homer's Odyssey from which we get the club name of "Ulysses". (Yes - we are classical scholars in Ulysses...!). The Telemachus Medal is a significant award and nominations are subject to very close scrutiny by the National Committee (NATCOM). To be nominated is an honour, to be awarded is something very special and rare. There are only a handful that have been presented in WA. Geoff and Jill were such deserving recipients.

There are so many stories that pre-date my time with the club, but I am so honoured to have had the privilege of knowing Geoff, and being able to call Geoff and Jill my friends.

I and my fellow Ulyssians have frequently laughed until our faces hurt thanks to Geoff. He embraced the club motto of 'grow old disgracefully' and enriched our lives in so many ways. My goodness - we will miss him.

Ride on Geoff. May there be no more wet roads or gravel - just sunshine, scenery, and twisty roads.



Oddity



Biggest motorcycle in the world??

S.O.S

An Airbus 380 is on its way across the Atlantic. It flies consistently at 800 km/h in 37,000 feet, when suddenly a Eurofighter with Tempo Mach 2 appears.

The pilot of the fighter jet slows down, flies alongside the Airbus and greets the pilot of the passenger plane by radio: "Airbus flight, boring flight isn't it? Take care and have a look here!"

He rolls his jet on its back, accelerates, breaks through the sound barrier, rises rapidly to a dizzying height, only to swoop down almost to sea level in a breathtaking dive. He loops back next to the Airbus and asks, "Well, how was that?"

The Airbus pilot answers: "Very impressive, but now have a look here!"

The jet pilot watches the Airbus, but nothing happens. It continues to fly stubbornly straight, with the same speed. After five minutes, the Airbus pilot radioed, "Well, what are you saying now?"

The jet pilot asks confused: "What did you do?" The other laughs and says, "I got up, stretched my legs, went to the back of the flight deck to the bathroom, then I went to the galley and got a cup of coffee and a cinnamon cake."

The moral of the story is: When you are young, speed and adrenaline seems to be great. But as you get older and wiser, comfort and peace are not to be despised either.

This is called S.O.S.: Slower, Older, Smarter.

Dedicated to all my friends who, like me, like the S.O.S. approach!

Pics from Paul's ride to Logue Brook Dam





Some pics from Paul's Ride to Toodyay via Bullsbrook



Morning Tea at Bullsbrook





Lunch at Toodyay



Mick's Ride to Redcliffe on the Murray





The Following is an excerpt from www.yesterdays.nl

MAGNAT DEBON 1935 VMA 748CC 2 CYL



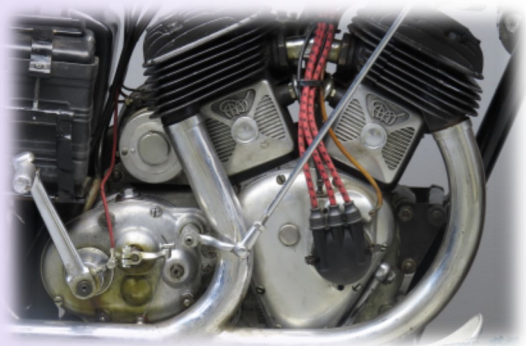
Magnat-Debon 1935 'VMA' 748cc side valve v-twin

In the year 1900 Joseph Magnat and Louis Debon founded a firm in Grenoble that started to produce bicycles. In 1902 the first motorcycle was produced, equipped with a De Dion Bouton engine. In the years before the first world war the firm prospered: the machines had many novel features such as telescopic front suspension and overhead valves. Both founders died at the end of the war and in the early twenties the company got into financial problems. In 1922 the firm was taken over by the Terrot company. For a number of years the machines of Terrot and Magnat-Debon kept their own identities: the Magnat-Debons were mostly equipped with English Blackburne engines while some of the the Terrots had JAPs. In this way separate agencies could be kept and in the market the two makes operated as separate companies.

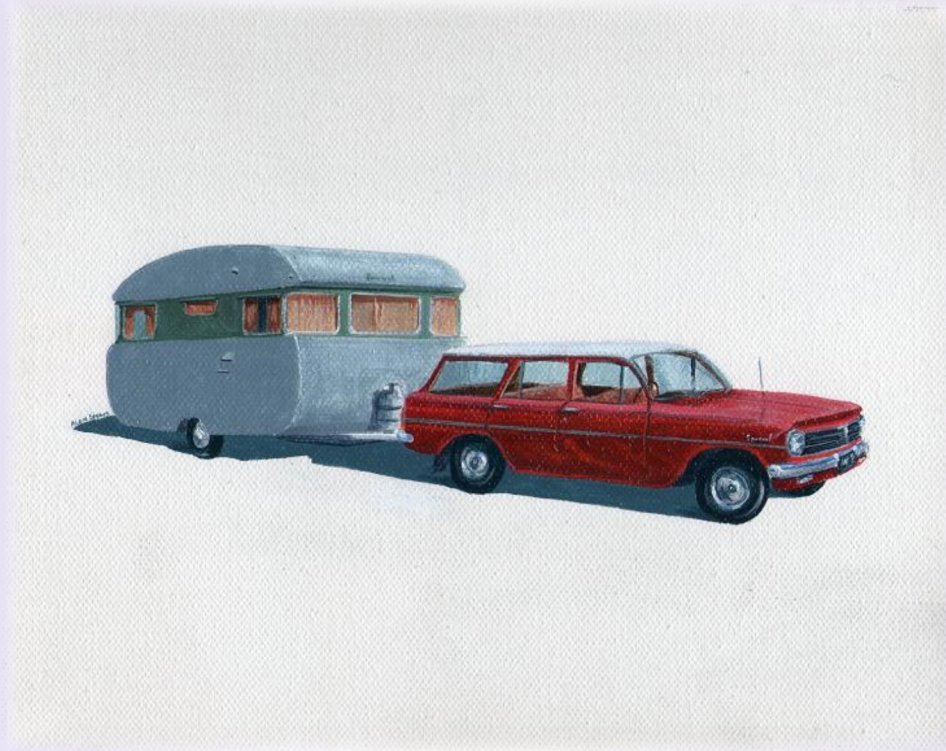
From 1929 on the machines were practically identical, including the side valve power source of Terrot's own manufacture. In the mid-thirties the Magnat-Debon range comprised some 16 models, ranging from a humble 100cc "Véломoteur" priced at 1425 Francs, to a luxurious 748cc heavy tourer V-twin which was about five times as expensive.

Both makes survived the depression, finally ceasing production in the early '60s. The top-of-the-range V-twin was designated VMA, and was virtually identical to the Terrot VA. There were a number of detail differences though, a notable was the different headlight. The 50 degree unit-construction side valve engine had bore x stroke dimensions of 70x97mm and comprised a four-speed, hand-change gearbox. Ignition was by battery and coil. The VMA was a compact and extremely good-looking, large-capacity range-leader. The model was aimed at a wealthy and enthusiastic clientele who preferred to motor-cycle rather than drive a car. The V-twins were produced from 1934 till 1939 and a number of Terrot VAs saw military service. The twins were sold in very modest numbers to the general public and it is believed that no more than 10 have survived, most of them being Terrots.

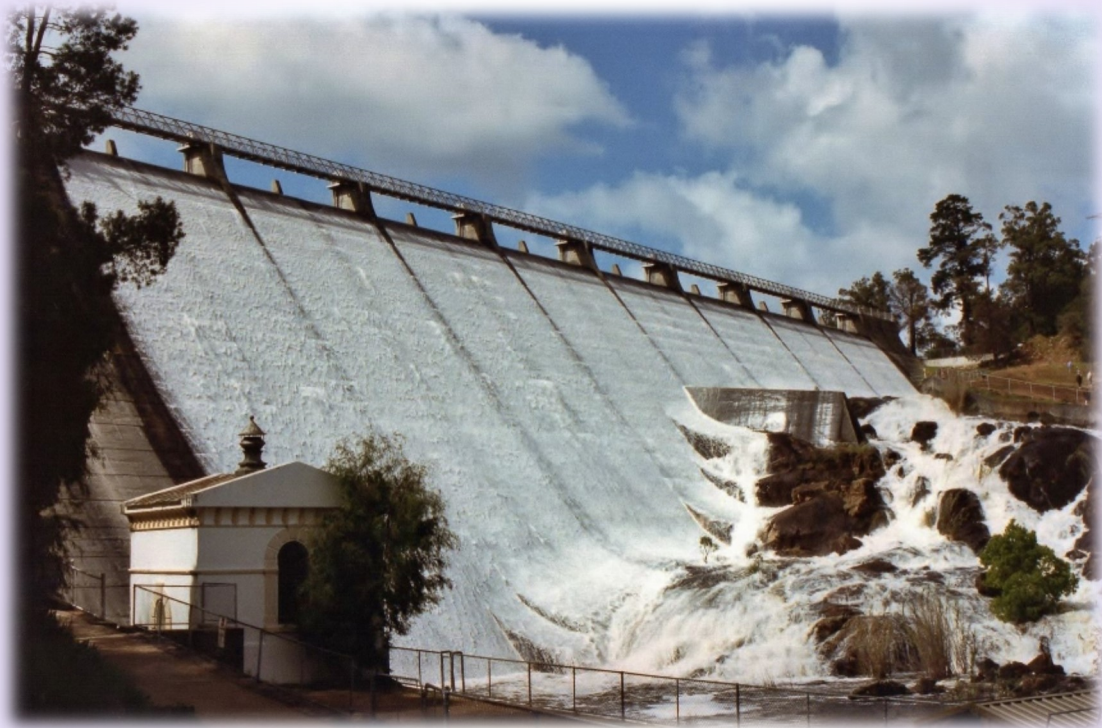
This example has received a high-quality restoration to the original specification in black, red and chrome, retaining such period-correct items as the metal toolboxes and the distinctively-badged cast aluminium silencer. The design of the petrol tank and silencer, together with the gracefully curved rear mudguard clearly show an Art Deco touch. Some of the interesting details are the illuminated number plate, the built-in Jaeger speedo, the aluminium primary chain case and footboards and the French Terry saddle. This very rare and well-finished machine is a good runner and comes with maintenance manual and current registration.



Photos compiled courtesy of Lost Perth and SLWA (Facebook)



Mighty EH Holden



Mundaring Weir overflowing



South Fremantle Power Station



State Library of Western Australia

Barrack Street Jetty

SOME LIGHT HUMOUR

Country Doctor

A young doctor had moved out to a small country community to replace a doctor who was retiring.

The older doctor suggested that the young one accompany him on his rounds, so the community could become used to a new doctor.

At the first house a woman complains, "I've been a little sick to my stomach."
The older doctor says, "Well, you've probably been overdoing the fresh fruit. Why not cut back on the amount you've been eating and see if that does the trick?"

As they left, the younger man said, "You didn't even examine that woman? How'd you come to the diagnosis so quickly?"

"I didn't have to. You noticed I dropped my stethoscope on the floor in there? When I bent over to pick it up, I noticed a half dozen banana peels in the waste bin. That was what probably was making her sick"

The younger doctor said "Pretty clever. If you don't mind, I think I'll try that at the next house."

Arriving at the next house, they spent several minutes talking with a younger woman. She said that she just didn't have the energy she once did and said, "I'm feeling terribly run down lately."

"You've probably been doing too much for the Church," the younger doctor told her. "Perhaps you should cut back a bit and see if that helps."

As they left, the elder doctor said, "I know that woman well. Your diagnosis is almost certainly correct, she's very active in the church, but how did you arrive at it?"

"I did what you did at the last house" he said. "I dropped my stethoscope and, when I bent down to retrieve it, I noticed the vicar under the bed."



Funnies for Old(er) Music lovers



I just found this old tape, so I gave it a play. I don't recommend it at all.
Head Cleaner - worst band ever...



Yeah, right. You have *no intention* of seeing me later.



The awkward moment when you drive your Chevy to the levy and the levy isn't dry.



*This is what happens
when you're drinking
whiskey and rye.*



A group of women were at a seminar on how to live in a loving relationship with their husbands.

The women were asked, *"How many of you love your husband?"* All the women raised their hands.

Then they were asked, *"When was the last time you told your husband you loved him?"* Some women answered today, a few yesterday, and some couldn't remember.

The women were then told to take out their mobile phones and text their husband: *"I love you, sweetheart."*

Next the women were instructed to exchange phones with one another and read aloud the text message they received in response to their message.

Below are 11 hilarious replies. If you have been married for quite a while, you understand that these replies are a sign of true love. Who else would reply in such a succinct and honest way?

1. Who the hell is this?
2. Eh, mother of my children, are you sick or what?
3. Yeah, and I love you too. What's wrong?
4. What now? Did you wreck the car again?
5. I don't understand what you mean?
6. What the hell did you do now?
7. Don't beat about the bush, just tell me how much you need?
8. Am I dreaming?
9. If you don't tell me who this message is actually for, someone will die.
10. I thought we agreed you wouldn't drink during the day.
11. Your mother is coming to stay with us, isn't she?

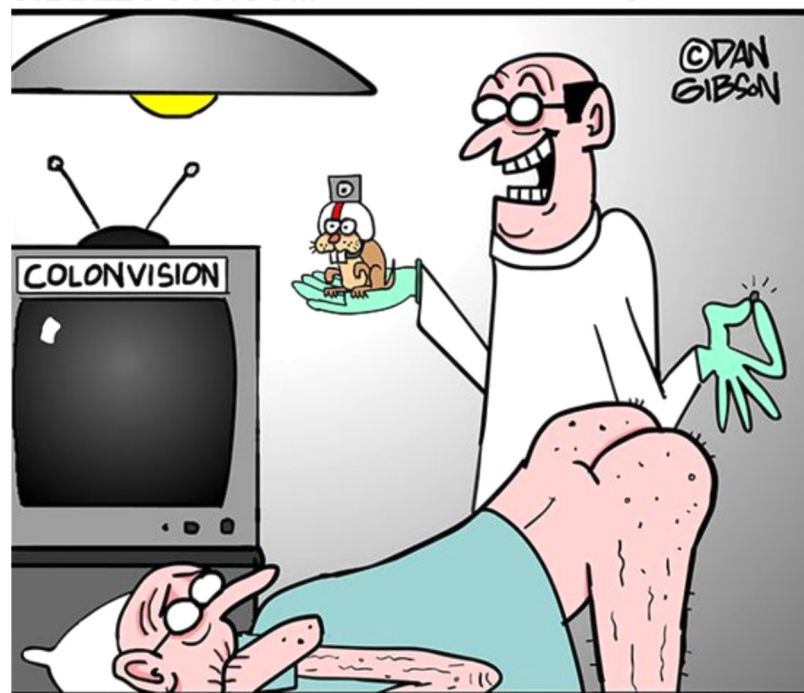
Kinda tugs at the heart, doesn't it?



"I admit, I didn't handle that well, but I don't want this to discourage you from being honest with me in the future."

GIBBLEGUTS.COM

By Dan Gibson



Do you want to go with the deluxe colonoscopy using a tiny fiber optics camera, or the economy procedure using the hamster and GoPro helmet?