

THE ODYSSEIAN

October 2023 Issue 53

www.odysseusmc.co.za

Our Home for 20 years Plus!

Carp Rally CTMCC Nov 2023

THE BUFF 2023

New Beginnings for 2024 Pineland Bowling Club

BREAKING
NEWS

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU FROM ODYSSEUS MOTORCYCLE CLUB



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See the next issue!!!!



OUR OBJECTIVES AS A STRONG CLUB

To help aging bikers to stay active, alive and well. To encourage others who look like they could be getting old to stop it and to do things to enjoy life, preferably on bikes. To encourage members to keep on biking or to enjoy biking activities. To foster an interest in motorcycles and to promote unity amongst bikers. To encourage and support all forms of road and off-road biking activities. To enhance relationships between bikers and those less fortunate. To organize social biking events

EDITORS NOTE!

NOTE: The editor or any club member shall not be held liable for errors and / or omissions in any article and / or drawing contained in this newsletter. Furthermore, any view expressed is not necessarily that of the Editor, and committee member or other members of the club. If copyright is infringed, it is not intentional but, is published as a free service to the Odysseus Motor Cycle Club (Cape Town) Member and friends, and is not for profit or gain.

Having just stepped in as interim spokesman there is not much to report on except for a few events and happenings of recent, the first of which to report on is the closing of Jaggers clubhouse which we occupied for over 20 years.

The whole clubhouse will shut down on the 23rd of December meaning that we will need to find a new home, I have been in discussion with the Pinelands Bowling Club and in all likelihood this will be our new home as from January.

Besides a few interesting and well-planned breakfast runs a group of 20 members have just attended the Buffalo rally which by all accounts was well enjoyed by all.

The time has come where I urge ALL members to seriously consider new committee members for next year's AGM, at present we have members on the committee who have already served a second term and will be stepping down. Remember without a committee there is no club!!!!

ROBBIE D

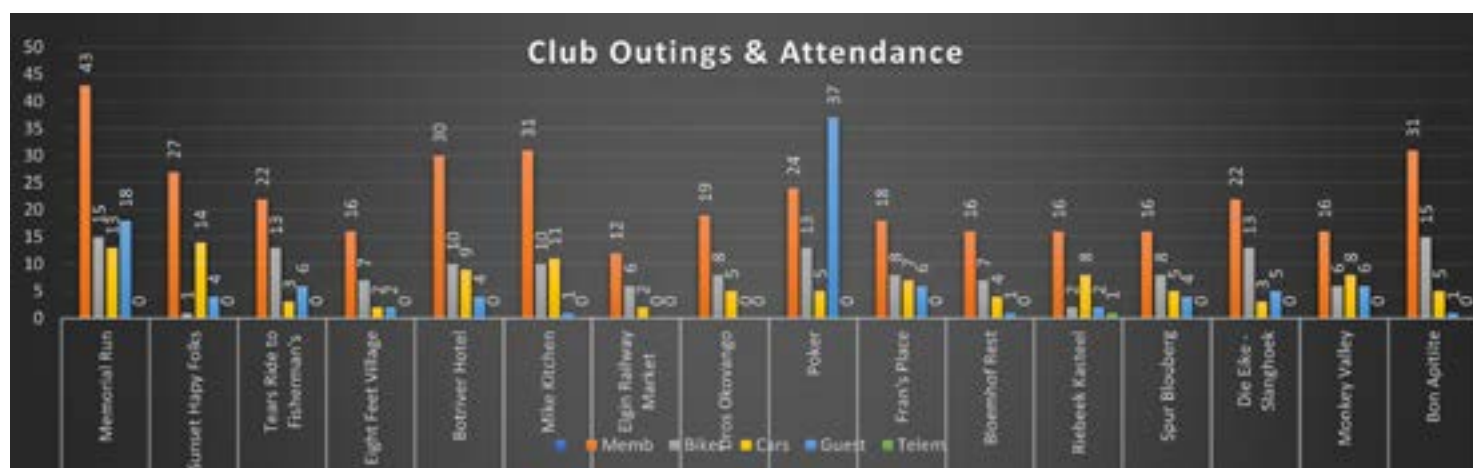
Membership : Melissa Coleman welcomed by all present as new member- Welcome pack to be presented at next Gen meeting.



STATISTICS REPORT on Outings

Odysseus Members partaking in Rides for 2023

25% vs Members																							
Date:	28-Jan	22-Jan	19-Feb	26-Feb	19-Mar	16-Apr	30-Apr	07-May	28-May	11-Jun	25-Jun	09-Jul	23-Jul	27-Aug	10-Sep	01-Oct							17-Dec
Where	Memorial Run	Sunset Hapy Folks	Tears Ride to Fisherman's	Eight Feet Village	Botriver Hotel	Mike Kitchen	Elgin Railway Market	Dros Okovango	Poker	Frian's Place	Bloemhof Rest	Riebeeck Kasteel	Spur Blouberg	Die Eike - Slanghoek	Monkey Valley	Bon Aptiite							
Memb	43	27	22	16	30	31	12	19	24	18	16	16	16	22	16	31							22
Bikes	15	1	13	7	10	10	6	8	13	8	7	2	8	13	6	15							9
Cars	13	14	3	2	9	11	2	5	5	7	4	8	5	3	8	5							7
Guest	18	4	6	2	4	1	0	0	37	6	1	2	4	5	6	1							6
Telem	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0							0
Average																							
25% vs Members																							



STATISTICS REPORT on Meetings

Odysseus Members Meeting Attendance

[illegible]

STATISTICS REPORT on Ride Attendance

Odysseus Members Rides Attendance

Surnames Members		Attendance																Total Runs & Meet			
Surname	Name	14-Jan	22-Jan	19-Feb	26-Feb	19-Mar	16-Apr	30-Apr	14-May	28-May	11-Jun	25-Jun	09-Jul	23-Jul	27-Aug	10-Sep	01-Oct	12-Nov	24-Nov	17-Dec	20 Runs for 2023 vs Actual Below
43	Memorial Run		Sunset Happy Foks	Tears	Eight Feet Up	Bother Hotel	Mike Kitchen	Elgin Railway	Dros Olovang	Poker	Frans Place	Bommed Rest	Ruben Katsnel	Spur Blouberg	Die Elke	Monkey Valley	Bon Appetit	TBC	TBC	CHARITY	16
47.78%	30.00%	27	22	16	30	31	12	13	21.11%	26.67%	18	16	17.02%	16	22	16	31				27.78%
		47.78%	30.00%	24.44%	17.78%	33.33%	34.44%	13.33%	21.11%	26.67%	20.00%	17.02%	17.02%	16	22	16	31	32.98%			

STATISTICS REPORT on Ride Attendance

CORNEY	DEVIN	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16	100%
CORNEY-----JAMES	SUZAN	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16	100%
GROVES	HECTOR	M	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	94%
GROVES	LINDA	F	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	94%
FORBES	BASIL	M	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			14	88%
COWMAN	JACQUI	F	1		1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1		1	1	1			12	75%
COWMAN	PETER	M	1		1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1		1	1	1			12	75%
MURTAGH	ERROL	M	1	1		1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1	1		1		12	75%
CAMACHO	RODNEY	M	1	1			1	1		1		1		1	1	1	1	1		11	69%
CAMACHO	ANNETTE	F	1	1			1	1		1		1		1		1	1	1		10	63%
DOIDGE	ROBBIE	M	1	1	1	1		1	1		1		1			1		1		10	63%
FORBES	CHERILEA	F	1	1	1	1	1	1		1				1	1		1			10	63%
CLARKE	DESMOND	M	1	1	1		1	1		1				1	1		1			9	56%
CLARKE	DENISE	F	1	1	1		1	1		1				1	1		1			9	56%
DOIDGE	THERESA	F	1	1	1	1		1		1		1			1		1			9	56%
BAREHAM	ANNE	F	1	1			1	1		1			1		1			1		8	50%
BAREHAM	ROB	M	1	1			1	1		1			1		1			1		8	50%
GILBERT	HANNELIE	M		1	1	1			1	1	1			1		1				8	50%
GILBERT---COETZEE	ERASMUS	M		1	1	1			1	1	1			1		1				8	50%
YOUNG	ROBERT	M		1	1	1		1		1	1					1		1		8	50%
YOUNG	ISABELLA	F		1	1	1		1		1	1					1		1		8	50%
REEVES	KEITH	M	1					1		1	1	1	1			1				7	44%
COLEMAN	HEATH	M										1	1	1	1	1	1	1		6	38%
ROUX	DAVE	M	1		1				1		1	1						1		6	38%
ROUX	ELLANOR	F	1		1				1		1	1						1		6	38%
RULE	TERENCE	M	1	1				1							1		1	1		6	38%
WALKER	MARK	M	1	1	1	1	1	1												6	38%
BENTLEY	STEVEN	M		1				1				1					1	1		5	31%
FERGUSSON	IAIN	M		1							1		1				1	1		5	31%
ALDIS	GRAHAM	M	1		1		1			1										4	25%
BENTLEY-----RANDALL	PENNY	F		1				1			1						1			4	25%
DODD	GAVIN	M	1				1			1								1		4	25%
DODD	FREDA	F	1				1			1								1		4	25%
MAKEPEACE	JOHN	M	1				1		1			1								4	25%
SCHUTER	PAUL	M	1	1	1										1					4	25%
THOMPSETT	JULIE	F			1		1				1						1			4	25%
WALLIS	BOB	M	1	1				1			1									4	25%
DAVIS	MICHELE	F	1				1						1							3	19%
GILBERT (YOUNG)	TIAAN	F						1		1						1				3	19%
KYLE	TONY	M						1		1								1		3	19%
MAKE--COETZER	KATHY	F	1				1		1											3	19%
NOY	BRUCE	M									1	1						1		3	19%
RULE-----GOCH	PAULINE	F	1	1														1		3	19%
WILSON	RINA	F	1				1	1												3	19%
BOTES	BRIAN	M	1	1																2	13%
BOTES--BOTH	MEGAN	F	1	1																2	13%
ERASMUS	ANNA MARE	F					1								1					2	13%
ERASMUS	PETER	M					1								1					2	13%
McGEEAN	MALCOLM	M	1								1									2	13%
ROSSOUW	DELVA	F					1		1											2	13%
ROSSOUW	TIKI	M					1		1											2	13%
TODD	ROBERT	M	1					1												2	13%
TODD	LIZL	F	1					1												2	13%
WILSON	CRAIG	M	1					1												2	13%
ARMSTRONG	CHAVONNE	F	1																	1	6%

GENERAL MEETING

Held on
24 OCTOBER 2023,
19H00 @ JAGGERS

Invitees: Total 28 people present- 2 Prospects, 1 Telemachus

Welcome & Apologies:. Rodney Camacho, Peter & Jacqui Cowman, Hannelie & Erasmus, Rob & Lizl Todd, Graham Aldis.

Unwell member: Colin Pike not well.

Older member Jeremy Salt passed away.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes: None

Previous Minutes Acceptance: Anne/Paul

Correspondence: Email received from Secretary Andrew Baird inviting all Odysseus club members to attend annual CTMCC Carp rally - Swellendam 17-19 November- Entry form distributed to all members.

Social Responsibility: Lily Rose until end 2024- Robbie reported Lily Rose urgently needs Corrugated roof sheets and suggested these be purchased and handed over in lieu of the usual groceries etc. All accepted and Robbie will make necessary arrangements.

Odysseus Financial Report from

Account Balances up to 24 October 2023

Investment R 62173.11

Savings R 31720.86

Petty Cash R 2575.00

Current Total R 96468.97 (incl. R1930 Charity fund)

Birthdays

Jacqui Cowman 3,
John Makepeace 4,
Denise Clarke 7,
Heath Coleman 14,
Rodney Abrahams 20,
Jan Reynhart 25.

Rides & Events:

Past Rides: Oct 1 - Bon a Petit- Philadelphia- Good turnout with 32 people in total, new venue with good food, accommodating hosts. Worth another visit in future. Devin to write a report for Odysseian.

Future Rides: Nov 12 - Shunting Shed - Devin Ride to Station Pub Franschoek (Iain) will be postponed till later.

Future Events:

Oct 29 - Buff - Robbie prepared to set up Odysseus Camp again as in the past. Steve & Heath to do Buff reports

Nov 17- 19 Carpe Rally

Nov 26 - Toy Run-To be incorporated into our usual Sunday ride.



MEETING

Held on
24 OCTOBER 2023,
19H00 @ JAGGERS

FUTURE RIDES CONTINUED:

Dec 9 - Odysseus Y/End dance- Invites will be finalized by 27.10.2023- Basil

Dec 16 - Public Holiday- Robbie to check on availability to arrange family get together @Jaggers (farewell)
(2024) March 10 - CT Cycle Tour being held - Appeal to all members as more volunteers needed as this repeat event becomes a major fundraiser for boosting our Club coffers.

General:

General:

Club house- Robbie identified Pinelands Bowling Club as the most central location & suitable premises for 2024. Ample parking available, Bar facilities @ R600 rental pm . Committee to meet with Pinelands Club soon in order to inspect & secure. (Next AGM will be held at new premises) Committee for 2024-

New committee members are required next year and Robbie appealed to members stepping forward/nominations must be submitted before AGM. Club cannot operate efficiently without a strong committee

Nominations for Clubman, Penelope, Samaritan, Male rider, Female rider and Pillion- Linda to send out Nomination forms.

Awards will be presented at Y/E Function..



OUR 2023 COMMITTEE

SPOKESPERSON



TREASURER
SUSAN JAMES
082 353 7531



**CHIEF
RIDE COORDINATOR**
Devin Corney
083 310 2485



SECRETARY
LINDA GROVES
083 626 8796



RIDE CO ORDINATOR
TERENCE RULE
082 673 0513



RIDE CO ORDINATOR
IAIN FERGUSON
083 555 5787

MONEY MATTERS FINANCIAL REPORT

Funds Paid Out **Bank Charges R90**

Funds received

September meeting lucky draw R150.
New Membership fee R100.
Interest on Savings Account R1.30
Interest on Investment Account R393.53.

Account Balances as of 24 October 2023

Investment R62173.11
Savings R31720.86
Petty Cash R2575

Current Total R96468.97

Liabilities

THE TOTAL FUNDS WE HAVE IN THE BANK INCLUDES:
Charity Fund Total R1930

CLUB BANKING DETAILS:

BANK: ABSA **ACC Name:** Odysseus Western Cape
Account: 9263536308
Savings Account **Branch Code:** 632005

THIS MONTHS **BIRTHDAYS**



Jacqui Cowman 3,

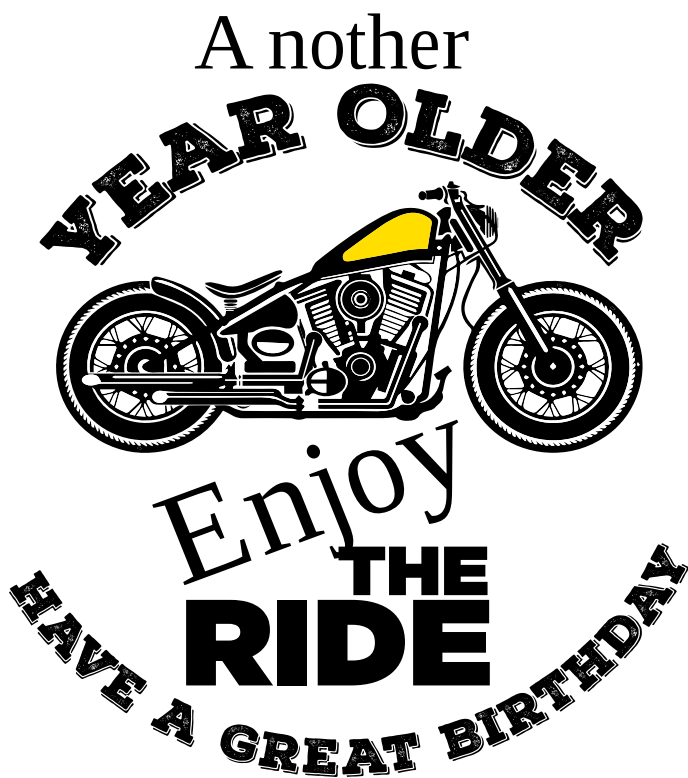
John Makepeace 4,

Denise Clarke 7,

Heath Coleman 14,

Rodney Abrahams 20,

Jan Reynhart 25.



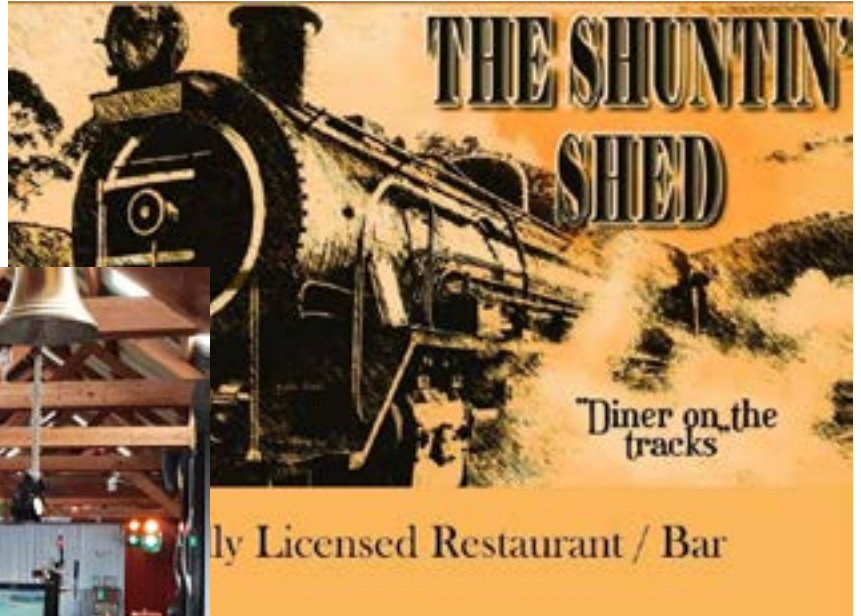
THIS

November



RIDES

Nov 12 - Shunting
Shed - Devin



Diary 2023

MEETINGS 2023

23 November
14 Dec

UP COMING CLUB RIDES

12 Nov TBC

17 Dec Charity Ride

Club Events

9 Dec Year End Party

Up coming Rally & Events:

Sat Nov 18, 2023

[All day Elite Rebels Overberg Sleepover](#)

Where: R43 Botrivier Opposite Shooting Range

[2pm Day Of the Dead Day Jol](#)

Where: Stikland Industrial

Sun Nov 19, 2023

[All day Elite Rebels Overberg Sleepover](#)

Where: R43 Botrivier Opposite Shooting Range

Thu Nov 23, 2023

[7:30pm Biker night & Meet and Greet](#)

Where: The Scrumpy Jack

Fri Nov 24, 2023

[All day ROCKABILLY RALLY - NOVEMBER 2023](#)

Where: De Bos Backpackers & Camping Montagu

Sat Nov 25, 2023

[All day ROCKABILLY RALLY - NOVEMBER 2023](#)

Where: De Bos Backpackers & Camping Montagu

[2pm Arrogant Few Day Jol 2023](#)

Where: Stikland Driving range

[2pm Solo's Day Jol](#)

Where: Cellars Lounge, 138 Lady Grey St, Paarl

[Mari White Biking](#)

Sun Nov 26, 2023

[All day ROCKABILLY RALLY - NOVEMBER 2023](#)

Where: De Bos Backpackers & Camping Montagu

[All day Toy Run Cape Town 2023](#)

Where: Killarney International Raceway, 6 Potsdam Rd, Table View, Cape Town, South Africa, 7441

Mon Nov 27, 2023

[All day Toy Run Cape Town 2023](#)

Where: Killarney International Raceway, 6 Potsdam Rd, Table View, Cape Town, South Africa, 7441

Thu Nov 30, 2023

[All day Cape Phoenix Rally Tour 2023](#)

Where: Cape Town

A look back at Jagers

Seeing as last night was our 2nd last club meeting ever at Jagers Bowling Club, I thought I would take a few photos for prosperity's sake. It's been the home of Odysseus since I joined the club just over 12 years ago.

Prior to that, I was a member of the Nomads Motorcycle Club for 19 years and it was their home and clubhouse too. So, I have been going to Jagers Bowling Club every month for the last 31 years of my life. November will be our last meeting there.

December the doors will close and Jagers will be no more. It's a rather emotional moment for me - like the decommissioning of an old ship.



Devin



Past

OCTOBER



RIDES

Die Eike Restaurant

1 October: Philadelphia

Odysseus Club Run - Bon Appétit – 01 October 2023

Has summer arrived? After a long, cold and wet winter this year, the 1st of October dawned and finally we had a nice warm and dry day. I had been scouting for new venues and Steve Bentley had



recommended Bon Appétit in Philadelphia, as he had been there recently with the Land Rover Club. Thanks Steve – good call.

I am not sure if it was the weather, or the new venue, but for a first time in a while, we had a great turnout.

We had 32 people on the day, consisting of 29 members, 1 visitor and 2 prospects. These folks travelled on/in 15 bikes and 5 cars.



The venue itself was everything that Steve said it would be – a quaint old place filled with all kinds of interesting knickknacks. The owner's were on-hand and very accommodating. Upon arrival, we were shown to a table with (help yourself) coffee and homemade rusks. The breakfast was good and the bread was home baked. And to top it all, after breakfast, I asked if they had a liquor license, which they did not, but... "Volg my." I was led down a short, dark corridor and to my delight, found a fully stocked fridge and was told to "take what you need and just let us know".

Bon a Petit- Philadelphia



It really was a good day out. Thanks to those who attended and let's hope we have similar numbers for the rest of the summer.



There were no further official runs in October due to the upcoming Buffalo Rally. The next ride is to The Shunting Shed in Botrivier and I hope we have as good a turnout to this one. If you haven't been there before, it's also a great venue.

Until next time, stay safe out there.

Devin



Flash Back by Steven & his buddy BL - BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 1977

Hard tailed Harley's with their equally hard tailed chicks on the back roared into Port Elizabeth from all parts of Southern Africa, occasionally emitting an ear shattering bark to serve notice of arrival and a weekend of mayhem. The Kawas, Honda's, and Yamaha's, made a more strident entrance, racing between robots but the attitude, the chicks, the leathers, and the long hair were all the same. My buddy Black Label was a lesser-known foe, as brandy, or rum and a little Coke was the order of the day.

It was a cloudy and wet September 1977 and about 4000 leather clad bikers, including the organizers, the Nomads Motorcycle club amongst others, had descended on PE for a weekend of exhaust fumes and burning rubber, fueled by high octane petrol as well as high octane chicks, brandy, and rum with Coke an optional extra. The campsite was the Humewood caravan park above Happy Valley and, given the amount of dope being smoked, the camping ground became known as Happy Heights.

The local traffic cops tried to contain the bikers by placing speed trap gasometers cables on both sides of the road leading to the PE beach front one being opposite the Apple Express station but that was vain hope. The only point in the city where bikers would behave themselves, was directly over the speed trap gasometers. Even then, bikers would give zap signs and scream, "Pigs!" before riding off again.

Riding like maniacs was particularly so when towards the beach as the S-bends ahead were like the local race track beckoning them. Other bikers raced over the speed trap gatsos with a heavily booted foot skimming the road surface to pick up and rip the cables to pieces and others still jammed on back wheel brakes to full lock and skid over the lines. The cops soon gave up and ended up merely observing the antics with bemused detachment.

PE is known for its September floods, and the rain fell heavy, this was as biblical as the 1968 floods. For some residents though, it was rather a plague of noisy, dirty, anti-social misfits and loose women, alcohol, and bad attitude. To bikers, it was life affirming, giving every other man in authority the middle finger.

One biker set fire to his stubborn motorbike in Main Street out of frustration when it refused to start.

On Saturday morning bikers from up far north were still being towed in by other bikers. Engine failure and crashed bikes were seen in the camp, as amateur mechanics worked to repair the bikes. Especially busy was the tyre changer, fitting old and new tyres on bikes used in doughnut burnouts.



Spontaneous drag racing was the order of the day and at least one person was reported to have been killed over the weekend.

Traffic light signals became drag strip lights. The bikers would assemble at the lights, hold back the traffic until the length of road to the next traffic light was clear, then on the green light drag down to the next traffic light. Not once but waves of bikers trying their drag racing skills. And then came the scantily clad chick, who would ride with all and sundry flapping in the breeze. Black Label my buddy was super impressed, as he was gulped down in awe.

Flash Back by Steven & his buddy BL - BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 1977

Bikers relaxed in Main Street, sitting on their bikes probably looking for action, while giving the local yokels something to gawk at. Lock your daughters away was the City byword, and don't be caught staring at a biker! Some bikers rode on Marine Drive and opposite the King's Beach they loved pissing off the "Pigs" by doing mass illegal U-turns at the traffic lights, bringing all the car traffic to a halt, and causing traffic jams.

This was heady stuff for the locals and the rumors of their behavior ran riot – some true and some a little wishful fantasy. Whatever animosity the city fathers and the city residents harboured was nullified by the massed bike ride through the city on the Saturday morning. There was a deep base rumble as more than 4000 bikes sedately and innocently rode through the city. It took more than half an hour to pass any given point. No one had ever witnessed such a parade before. Even the chief of the traffic department, dressed in full uniform and cap stated over the megaphone that, "The bikers were extremely well behaved" He certainly was not referring to the non-wearing of helmets, the scanty clad females as passengers holding two glasses of brandy & coke, or the motorbikes with straight thru exhausts that shattered the silence.

Saturday was the wild night, as bikers competed for the best body tattoos, Mr Big Boep, longest jalong, while Miss Wet T-Shirt was more a striptease. Panty clad chicks were encouraged to 'Wys jou muis" and the prize a case of beer or a box of brandy. Lucky ticket draws were a shambles and nobody really knew who won. The main tent was so full of smoke, that non-smokers also became high on the weed. The revving of motorbike engines went on all night, with the red-hot exhaust pipe being used to ignite a cigarette. Also popular was reversing the motorbike into your buddy's tent while he was sleeping, and then starting the motorbike, and shutting off the kill switch with a big bang.

Sunday morning looked like a battle field, motorbikes were standing with the rear wheel deep in the ground from a sandy burnout. Tents had been flattened by motorbikes riding in the campsite, and the toilets were better used on the external walls. Bikers and chicks looked for each other, as the hangover cleared, and bikes had to be found.

Clad in wet clothes, helmet, a chick and then bikes left the campsite. Tents and bedding abandoned for the locals. The first stop was the local fuel station for a fill up, and to empty the half jack still in the back pocket. But all things, must come to an end eventually, and by early Sunday evening, PE returned to its usual slumber. This was to last for



a year before the hibernation of the city was again rudely shattered by the sound of highly strung Japanese motorbike engines and the insistent bark of the Harleys. The bikers had enjoyed terrorizing the Pigs so much that they asked to come back to PE.

Being The Friendly City, or should that be "rainy city", and with an eye to the big business opportunities in a slow time of the year, the city fathers apprehensively agreed. This time though the city's gods were not caught napping, and it rained on bikers with the usual September earnestness.

But bikers are made of sterner stuff particularly when protected by a half jack of brandy in the back pocket. In fact, the rain just made for more sports in the camp ground with bikes sliding under the slightest of provocations. Even a 50cc could ride around speedway style in the mud. And if your clothes were too wet, then nudity was the order of the day. Luckily the nude riders were constrained to the caravan park, and the grundies of the city were not traumatised.

Flash Back by Steven & his buddy BL - BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 1977

The city was a glutton for punishment and so too were the riders given the predisposition for floods at that time of the year. The bikers returned in '79, '82 and '83 with Maseru enduring their bravado in '80 & '81. Every Buff in PE was rain soaked, as if the weather gods knew the bikers were in town. In one year, the Buffalo Rally was responsible for breaking the annual drought, both in rain and beer consumption.

At that point, the city probably had enough of the bikers, and the bikers probably had enough of the rain gods.

The dead hand of the Nationalist Party also came out of the wings with the declaration of the State of Emergency in 1984 that disallowed open air gatherings (except for rugby, jukskei, and horse racing) and riotous assemblies which was an apt description for The Buffalo Rally, meant no rallies.

The result was that The Buff disappeared off the social calendars of bikers until the legislation was repealed in 1992. The city's knees quaked but with relief when they heard that the Nomads had decided to hold their revival gathering in Oudtshoorn in 1993. I always wondered what the bikers did in the intervening years, but my buddy Black Label thinks they took up macramé?

PE did not escape the attention of the Buffalo Rally bikers for long and the bikers improved their earlier forays into the city with even hotter and faster Japanese machinery, not to mention hotter chicks, over the next few years. However, the jolliness had reduced, and a sort of maturity had started setting in.

Much to Port Elizabeth's relief, The Buff has found its spiritual home in Mossel Bay, where the bikers have been consistent welcome visitors, depending on your outlook of motorcyclists. My buddy Black Label thinks bikers are a great crowd and has promised me to attend as many rallies as possible, I must just meet him at the bar.

Must Have Beer.



BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 2023 - Odysseus Style

The thrill of being a motorcycle rider is one of a kind. Starting from your first motorcycle, riding is an experience that is unforgettable and filled with great memories. No wonder millions of people have so many things to say about it.

What is it that inspires you to ride?



BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 2023 - Odysseus Style

BUFFALO RALLY THOUGHTS 2023 – by Steven

What is a Motorcycle Rally? Mr Google says “A motorcycle rally is a gathering of motorcycle friends and enthusiasts. Rallies can be large or small, and recurring. Some rallies involve days of riding and an actual gathering of riders for a party, sometime in the middle.”

So, what is the 2024 Buffalo Rally? Before I answer that question, its important to note that a rally is different for different people, starting from the pre-Buff until the last man closes the door on Monday afternoon. Obviously, I had interference from my buddy Black Label during the week-end so not all is seen through pink rose glasses.

The chatter on the group was all about the impending rain on the week-end, but finally the hardcore bikers decided that bikes it was going to be. Spread out across the Peninsula and the Southern Cape, brave riders and pillions departed in heavy cloudy weather, only to be clapped at N1 Winelands and Riviersonderend Shell with a huge down pour. Standing about drinking coffee it was evident how people had been leaving the Cape in waves of half-hour intervals. Wet smokes were lit, gloves jammed on top of the cylinder head to dry off, and wet crotches rubbed in an effort to awake the sleeping Tom and his assistants. The atmosphere was electric, the conversation was simple see you at the Buff!



Most riders opted for the du Toits Pass, and lucky that we could follow the bike in front as heavy fog had descended at the top and visibility was down to 20 metres. I smiled at the tiny tunnel, when I stopped and two older men asked if they could follow me thru the tiny tunnel, as their spectacles and visors were both misted up and they could not see into the tunnel.

As I had my wife towing the E-Bike, the meeting spot was the Worcester Total on the left, buzzing with bikes, coffee by the gallon, and sunshine. Robertson, Ashton, and the sharp right towards Swellendam was all in sunshine. At this time, a message on the Odysseus group behind us was that they had not seen the sun, and what was I smoking? I must confess my buddy was waiting in Hartenbos, so he could not influence me.

I smiled in my helmet so wide that I fogged up my visor, and when I wiped clear got nailed by an almighty rain storm in that pass leading down to Swellendam. Lucky

my brain was working, and I remembered that lady at the BP Garage with the rooster koek. Wearing my Odysseus colours was an open invitation for a free coffee, and the comment “where the other guys?” All I knew was that they were ‘swimming’ behind me heading for the Buff.



GATE ENTRY R350 / 18 YEARS ONLY / CASH BAR / LIVE MUSIC

BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 2023 - Odysseus Style



A tank full and the Yamaha 600 was itching to hit the road, straight thru to the Total outside Mossel Bay. What a great stop, free coffee as much as you liked, and a free Monster if you needed a kick. After finding the apartment on Diaz Beach (been using it for many years) it was truly Buff time dressed in slightly more dry clothes. Registration was simple, but more importantly its time to refer to the first paragraph...enthusiasts, all had a long-wet tale to tell, and the OBs was available if you dared take a sip. (Never try that, it is always laced).

Now a group of clubby bikers had travelled up Thursday and set up a campsite and boma. That is the most welcome sight to any biker who has been challenged by the last 5 hours of rain on the road. A big SHOUT-OUT to all those involved. But niggling in my head was my buddy Black Label waiting patiently at the Buff bar for me. I was a bit worried that if I did not rescue him from the rally bar he would get pissed. The marquee was pumping to great 70's disco music, and friends from all over South Africa re-united.



So, what is the Buff?

Firstly, it has matured, and is now more a great social gathering of old friends and enthusiasts. Secondly, it has a quality set up, with a real delightful selection of food trailers in a large circle outside the beer marque. And thirdly, the quality of the merchandise stalls, is all shop-able, with a few bargains like quality biker jackets with ISO stamps for just over R2000.00 Another stall had a vast collection of leather road bike boots (not the steel re-enforced offroad boots) that were well priced.



And you could wear the boots to Church! The CCMA had a tent with free coffee, and I wondered what conversion was taking place when on Saturday morning I saw a group of the Odysseus team in that CCMA tent.

I walked by and my buddy Black Label said I should pray a few good words for my biker buddies.

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BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 2023 - Odysseus Style



I conjured up a few thoughts, and then a smiling lady club member told me the camp gas bottle was empty, so no hot water for coffee, I gulped down my buddy and he was quiet for the next few hours.

The Buff Saturday lends itself to a variety of options, more fully described below. But it also allows for the clearing of the head with juicy vetkoek, and rooster koek from the camp tuck-shop located just outside the main entrance gate. Only the Clubbies can spot such a bargain. First up in the day's programme is the assembly of the bikes in the Concours de Elegance. I had my E Bike at the campsite topping up a few more volts from the camp electricity. It

was great sharing the project with the clubbies, and great to have Rina and Craig, all the way from Tugela River KZN chirping about the E Bike.



The E Bike was not in any category, and could not be scored, however I did receive a plaque from Nomads presented after the judging. Winning is not what its about, its participation and the enjoyment of talking to interested bikers. Refer to paragraph one.

The Concours departure was in a huge rain downpour, and because the access road to Hartenbos is under construction, the ride went out to Groot Brak River on the back roads and returned for display at the Shopping Mall alongside the Rally Camp. Washing, polishing, and telling stories was the order of the morning until judging just after midday.

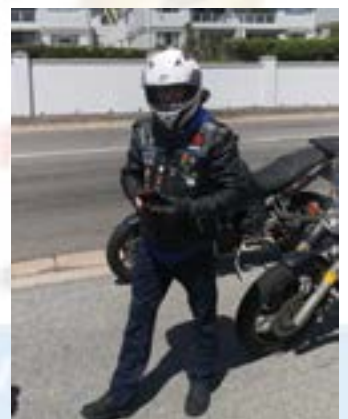


The morning Mass Ride was well attended, starting at the old Buff Santos Bakke campsite. This eased the traffic jam around the Hartenbos Buff campsite, and more that 80 % of the attendees went on the ride, the usual down to the beach, up thru town, and out and around on the N2.



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BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 2023 - Odyssey Style



BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 2023 - Odysseus Style

Others took scenic rides to Kleinbrak and Grootbrak, to the leather shoe shops. Others took time to nap and recharge the batteries for Saturday Night.

My buddy did not take long to find me at the Concours, so we shared a few pints, no need for a fridge as the weather was icy and cold. Saturday afternoon saw the usual drags and burnouts on the tar road adjacent the Buff campsite. This was easily ended late afternoon by an enormous downpour of rain. The traffic police officers were at the main exit, and had the large van with the computers, so biker behaviour was well down on previous bad behaviour.

Except for the 400 cc that was revved near the Odysseus boma, thinking it was a 1000cc. Shame even my buddy said they should grow up. Otherwise, a subdued revving of bikes.

The main tent was organised with tables and chairs all laid out like a German Beer-fest. There might not have been many Germans, but by midnight some folk were talking Italian and French.

Odysseus had a big table and clubbies all sat together, screaming, and cheering the Bokke. Singing was the order of the evening, and a stadium experience was had by all.

Halftime saw the men outside the tent, desperately trying to undermine the vibracrete camp wall, while the ladies did the normal twist and turn before diving into the rockets.

That final whistle was echoed by thunderous screaming, and singing, and the spraying of alcohol. The rock band livened up on the Buff stage, and the entire tent sang "we are the champions"

Earlier in the evening the lucky draw was done swiftly with riders finding their ticket numbers quickly, and the various prize winners were quickly on and off the stage. Very slick all done in 20 minutes. There was a limited exodus of bikers, who retreated to accommodation with TV sets, and according to the organisers very few hit the road to Cape Town due to the rain that continued on/off thru Saturday night.

Sunday bikers awoke to sunshine but that was destroyed at 07h30 with a cloud burst that did not stop spitting all the way to Albertina. At the Odysseus boma the tents were struck, and the obligatory photo taken, and various bikers hit the road. Riding a Yamaha 600, other Odysseus riders overtook me, not recognizing me as I had a rain suit on. My head was still thumping as my buddy Black Label had become a Springbok and was jumping about in my head.

All in all, it was a successful Buffalo Rally, living up to the description in the first paragraph, slightly more mature, slightly more slow, slightly more older bikes, slightly more grey beards, and slightly more same old same stories being retold, about the younger Buff days.

So how many Buff badges have you collected, as my buddy Black Label has been to all, and he proudly shows his gold trophy on his can, whether it is Buffs attended or the RWC, I am not going to argue with him!

The Buffalo Rallies have been held at the following venues over the years:

Bathurst 1969/1970/1971/1972

Aliwal North 1973/1999/2000/2001/2008

Oudtshoorn 1974/1993/1994/1995

Bloemfontein 1975/1976

Port Elizabeth 1977/1978/1979/1982/1983/1996/1997/1998/2002/2003/2004

Maseru 1980/1981

Mossel Bay 2005/2006/2007/2009/2010/2011/2012/2013/2014/2015/2016/2017/2018

Hartenbos 2019/2022/2023

That is 44 Buffs to date.

See you next year at Buff 2024, as I must catchup with my friends, my fellow enthusiasts, and my buddy, who will be waiting for me at the bar.

Must Have Beer



Big Shout out to STEVE

BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 2023 - Odysseus Style - Rina Edition

Monday morning Craig says "let's go the the Buff" and visit a family friend that we have know for over 30 years who has Terminal Pancreas cancer. Lives in Sedgfield.

1st call to Robbie, hey Robbie can you keep a big secret even from your wife?

Can my daughter please drop off a tent and stretches as we are coming to the Buff.

2nd call to family in Bloemfontein for a sleepover as perfect halfway stop.

3rd call to Lynn Kettley for a catchup and sleepover. Lynn and Steven (club members) live in Noll which is near Uniondale.

Load the Jimny and left camp Lebotes, Tugela Mouth around 8h30 Tuesday morning. Arrived Bloem around 18h00.



Wednesday another full day of driving to visit the Kettley's.

Thursday off to Sedgfield to visit Alex then off the Buff.

What a warm welcome from our Odysseus family. Surprised them all. We enjoyed all the much needed hugs as have missed our biking family. Thanks Robbie for keeping a big secret.

Saturday 3am my daughter Carrie left CPT to visit us. Carrie also needed some mamabear hugs and could not bear the thought of us being so close and not seeing us.

The Buff was great as usual. The boys did not make as much noise with revving as they used to years ago.

Watching the rugby with a few thousand people was amazing.



Big Shout out to RINA!



BUFFALO RALLY REPORT 2023 - Odyssey Style - Rina Edition



NO - COMMENT!



and what would a buff be with-
out crack....."
or shall we say.....

“or a PINK TATTOO”



Till next year, have a buffing time!!!

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