



THE ODYSSEIAN

November / December 2023 Issue 54

www.odysseusmc.co.za

30+ PAGES OF ADVICE AND NEWS



Ninja ZX10RR

2024 ANNIVERSARY EDITIONS

TOY RUN 2023

YEAR END FUNCTION 2023

CARP RALLY 2023



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.

As the year draws to an end, we reflect back on the successes - for which we can only be thankful to our Committee, who went out of their way to put on some exciting and enjoyable events.

To mention a few:

- * Cycle Tour
- * Poker Run
- * Brass Monkey
- * Some excellent Breakfast Runs
- * And in addition, some great Rallies & Day Jols

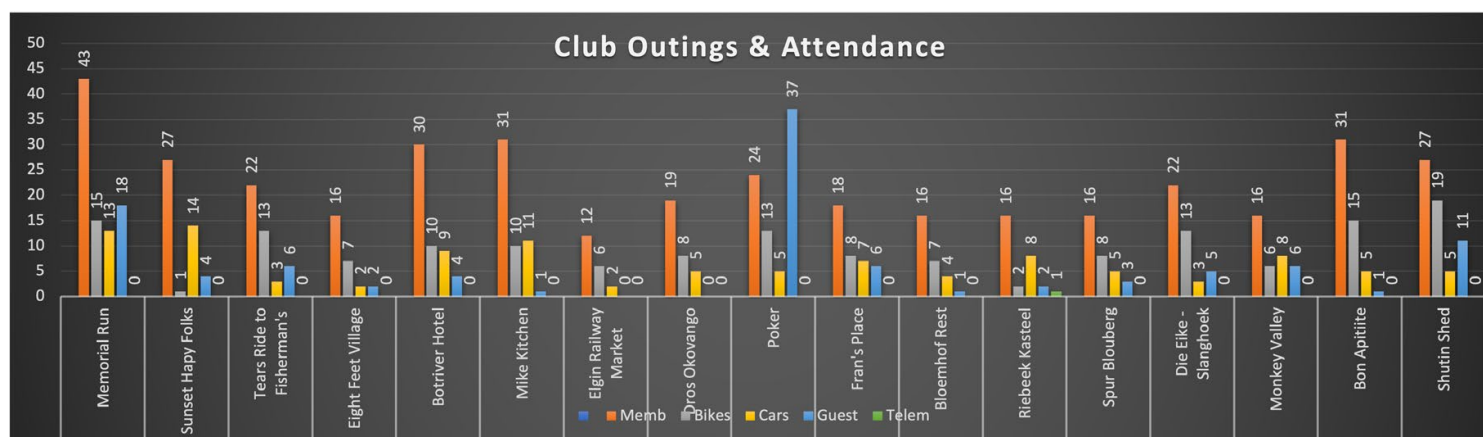
On the downside, we recently lost a very dear friend and club member in Mark Walker - and what a loss that is! Mark was a fun-loving, ever-smiling, respectful gentleman who left us way too early. We will forever savour the memories and legacy he left behind. We as a Club send our deepest condolences to Cheri and Basil, as well as the rest of the family. May his dear soul rest in peace.

New Membership: Huey Walker

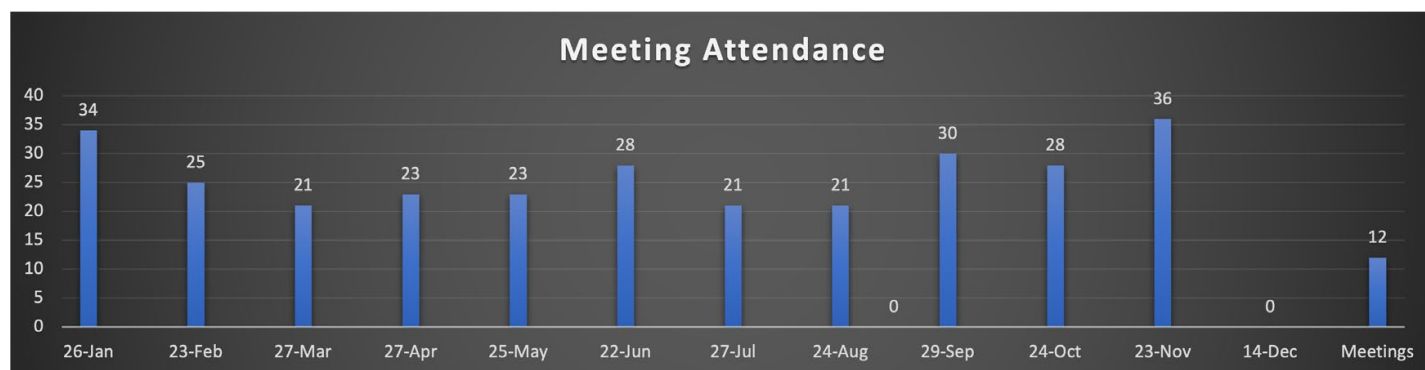


STATISTICS REPORT on Outings

Odysseus Members partaking in Rides for 2023														
Date:	28-Jan	22-Jan	19-Feb	26-Feb	19-Mar	16-Apr	30-Apr	7-May	28-May	11-Jun	25-Jun	9-Jul	23-Jul	27-Aug
Where	Memorial Run	Sunset Hapy Folks	Tears Ride to Fisherman's	Eight Feet Village	Botriver Hotel	Mike Kitchen	Elgin Railway Market	Dros Okovango	Poker	Fran's Place	Bloemhof Rest	Riebeeck Kasteel	Spur Blouberg	Die Eike - Slanghoek
Memb	43	27	22	16	30	31	12	19	24	18	16	16	16	22
Bikes	15	1	13	7	10	10	6	8	13	8	7	2	8	13
Cars	13	14	3	2	9	11	2	5	5	7	4	8	5	6
Guest	18	4	6	2	4	1	0	0	37	6	1	2	3	5
Telem	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Average	25%													
% vs Members	23	9	6	6	0									



STATISTICS REPORT on Meetings



STATISTICS REPORT on Ride Attendance

14-Jan	22-Jan	19-Feb	26-Feb	19-Mar	16-Apr	30-Apr	14-May	28-May	11-Jun	25-Jun	9-Jul	23-Jul	27-Aug	10-Sep	1-Oct	12-Nov	24-Nov	17-Dec	Total Runs & Meet
Memorial Run	Sunset Happy Folks	Tears	Eight Feet Vill	Botriver Hotel	Mike Kitchen	Elgin Railway	Dros Okovang	Poker	Fran's Place	Bloemhof Rest	Riebeeck Kasteel	Spur Blouberg	Die Eike	Monkey Valley	Bon Appétit	Shunt Shed	TBC	CHARITY	20 Rides for 2023 vs Actual Below
43	27	22	16	30	31	12	19	24	18	16	16	16	22	16	31	27			17
47.78%	30.00%	24.44%	17.78%	33.33%	34.44%	13.33%	21.11%	26.67%	20.00%	17.02%	17.02%	17.02%	23.40%	17.02%	32.98%	28.72%			27.78%

GENERAL MEETING

Held on
23 November 2023,
19H00 @ JAGGERS

Invitees: All members

Welcome & Apologies: Keith Reeves, Paul Schuter. Dave & Jenny Sumner, Dick de Kroon, Hannelie & Erasmus, Adrian Knight, Michele Davis.

Unwell member: Colin Pike update

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

Previous Minutes Acceptance:
Malcolm/ Basil

Correspondence: Several emails received re CTCT

Odysseus Financial Report from

Birthdays

Bob Wallis	6 Dec
Wayne Armstrong	9 Dec
Dave Sumner	11 Dec
Errol Murtagh	14 Dec
Gillian Green---Liddell	26 Dec
Rina Wilson	12 Jan
Chavonne Armstrong	21 Jan
Wilfred Cole (Jock)	25 Jan
Lyn Kettlety	27 Jan

Rides & Events:

Past Rides:

Nov 12 - Shunting Shed - Devin reported 38 people attended (11 Visitors) all enjoyed the ride with old members from the other end turning up!

Future Rides:

Nov 26 - Toy Run- Incorporated into the usual Sunday ride. Pod leaders meeting at N1City @ 8am riding together to Athlone Mass ride

Past Events :

Oct 29 - Buff - enjoyed by all, approx 2400 people in total attended this year

Nov 17- 19 Carpe Rally - very good family rally.

Future Events:

Dec 9 - Odysseus Y/End dance- Basil advised final figures/monies to be paid by Monday for Catering purpose

Dec 17 - Public Holiday family get together @Jaggers (farewell)Bring & Braai +- 12H00, all welcome with club supplying salads.

Jan 14, 2024 - Details to follow, ending at new club house with a Bring & Braai.

(2024) March 10 - CT Cycle Tour being held - Appeal to all members as more volunteers needed in order to secure Sector Positions.



GENERAL MEETING

Held on
23 November 2023,
19H00 @ JAGGERS

Membership Huey received colours

Errol due Platinum membership status - Jan 2024.

The Odysseian:

Basil- On track, still awaiting Spokesperson (on Carp) & Ride report (Shunting Shed) with pictures to be emailed to Basil please for improved resolution.

Lucky draw: 1.Lizl, 2.Melissa, 3. Des Clarke

Social Responsibility:

Lily Rose until end 2024- Robbie reported 17/18 Sheets available for donation. Robbie to visit Lily Rose on Monday 27 November 2023.

General:

Club house:

Pinelands Bowling Club - 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 Club-man, Penelope, Samaritan,- Only 10 Nomination forms returned to date.

Awards will be presented at Y/E Function.

Gavin has bike equipment available for sale, details to be sent to Basil for inclusion in Odysseian.

Meeting closed at: 20H25

Next meeting : AGM



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



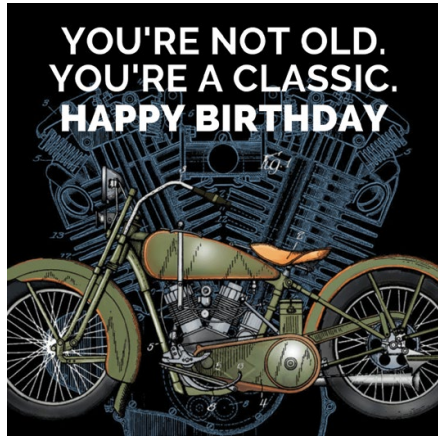
RIDE CO ORDINATOR
IAIN FERGUSON
083 555 5787

MONEY MATTERS FINANCIAL REPORT

CLUB BANKING DETAILS:

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

THIS MONTHS BIRTHDAYS



Bob Wallis	6 Dec
Wayne Armstrong	9 Dec
Dave Sumner	11 Dec
Errol Murtagh	14 Dec
Gillian Green---Liddell	26 Dec
Rina Wilson	12 Jan
Chavonne Armstrong	21 Jan
Wilfred Cole (Jock)	25 Jan
Lyn Kettlety	27 Jan

THIS

December



RIDES

Diary 2023 /2024

Meetings

Next Meetings to be confirmed.

Club Events

Dec 16 - Public Holiday family get together @ Jaggers (farewell) Bring & Braai +- 12H00, all welcome with club supplying salads.



Jan 14, 2024 - Details to follow, ending at new club house with a Bring & Braai.



Up coming Rides and Events:

ODYSSEUS - March 10 - CT Cycle Tour being held - Appeal to all members as more volunteers needed in order to secure Sector Positions.

Sat Jan 27, 2024

12pm Rude Kick-start 2024 - 30th Anniversary

Where: Squirrel Inn - Home of Rude Mcc

Fri Feb 2, 2024

All day Stiek Yt Rally - Pure Venom MCC

Where: Palmiet Caravan Park Kleinmond, 1 Harbour Rd, Kleinmond, 7195, South Africa

Up coming club Rides

Possible mid-month Run during Jan ending at Pinelands Bowling Club (gathering)

Memorial Run Date TBC

Sunset Run Date TBC

By Steven Bentley

The Year Ends and before we ride off into 2024

November and December always bring the charity in bikers to the fore. I find myself starting with the Poppy Day memorial services, always a humbling time, both because of what happened but also the memories of marching in Cape Town to the location of various memorial statues.

MEMORIAL DAY



REMEMBER AND HONOR

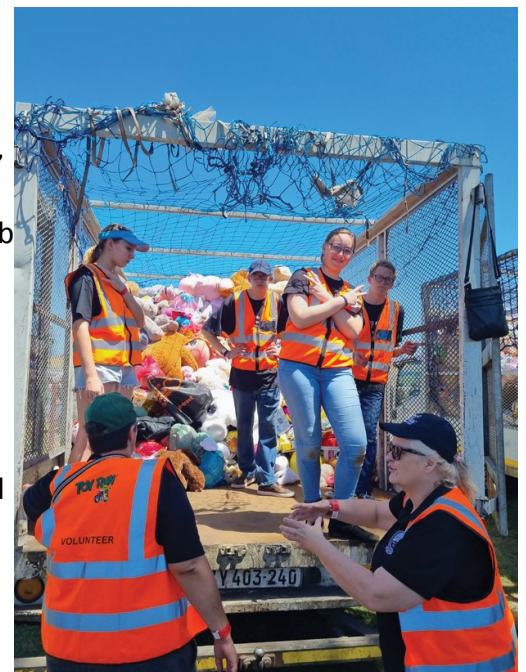
Being ex-navy, I can recall the joy of being shouted at by the local community “Daaie kom die Navy”. One year I heard a classic utterance, “Kyk daai Officer voor, hy march met sy walkie talkie, and gesels met the adjutant daar agter”. In reality the OC was marching with his sword drawn in salute, in front. The MAA was marching at the rear with his sword drawn, also in salute.

I salute all the MOTHS Motorcycle Riders that travel across the Peninsula to the various November memorial services, and also all the other Bike Clubs that can be seen attending at various orphanages and homes, just giving the kids a bike ride around the car park, for Christmas.

November is also MOVEMBER month, and there are so many great events to support: men’s prostate cancer, and men’s mental health. Too many men are taking the easy way out when it comes to mental family depression. Let’s keep Movember Charity Drives alive, and as a club take part next year in the Distinguished Gentleman’s Ride for open top cars, and older cars. Gives the other “C” in our club’s name a Sunday outing. So, start dusting off your Tweeds, and Bowler hats, it is all for us men!

The memorial service at Red Cross Children’s Hospital is humbling when you realize that rather than a stone monument in some street, a working children’s hospital was built, based on the memory of those WW2 soldiers that saw the traumatic experiences of children affected by war. I attend as a merchant navy officer and think of all the sailors at sea who will not be home for Christmas, but rather transporting goods across the oceans. Again, you come across bikers performing functional duties at these venues.

The Toy Run is an event that makes the year end feel real. I have been riding the Toy Run for years, and having had three children there was never a shortage of a pillion. The Toy Run is the start of the Festive Season. The Toy Run venues have changed from the Waterfront, to Maynardville, to The False Bay Soccer Fields to Killarney. We have different views and experiences at these venues, but what has changed? I believe it is the proliferation of adventure bike riders who don’t have a club home, but a Whats App group, and the Liquor Laws. My buddy was telling me that bikers have reduced their beer intake, and he has friends who sit on the shelf shivering. The Club had a good turnout of riders, and those who Marshalled. Making that toy and teddy donation is so special. With City By-Laws on eventing, becoming more one-sided, I believe that 2024 is going to be a year of biker negotiations of epic pre-portions, so we must all stand behind the various run Organizers, giving our charitable support as bikers with BIG hearts. I know that my teddy is going to make a difference somewhere, and I know that all the Odysseus Club members that hand in that toy, are thinking the same. I know that my teddy can be easily identified within the hundreds received, as my wife sprays it with perfume so that the child can experience a loving “mother”.



By Steven Bentley

The Year Ends and before we ride off into 2024

The MOTH Pink Flamingo Cancer run, was a new run to me, but what a great Sunday outing with bikers from about six different clubs having fun. On this event the City did us a favour by banning the mass ride and giving us 5 laps of Killarney was awesome. Extraordinary biker behavior on track, just showed how maturity in bike riding has progressed. My buddy thinks it's been the influence of Brad Binder, with more bikers following MotoGP and Super bikes, that led to my Killarney ride being superb, as slow riders knew their spot on the track and left the bends open for us others to do a bit of power sliding.



In closing I was walking thru the bike paddock and came across 9 youngsters of average age 17 years with nothing more than 125cc motorcycles. But when I counted the group there were 16 youth talking bikes. The girlfriends must have been pillions. Quality helmets, riding gear, and waist coats devoid of patches and slogans. I asked if they had a club or name and found that they are not club members, but they have a "ride secretary" on Whats App. So, what rides do you do? enquired my buddy? Evening rides to the beach, or down to the local Spur.

Or when I want to see my boyfriend I Whats-app a group message, giggled one young lady.

This made me think, the badges I wear "Hairdo by Yamaha" "Mother's little @#%\$" "Wys jou M@!\$%" are they still relevant to the youngsters?

A new style of badge could be "Bikers with Hearts" "Bikers care" "Bikers give where others fail to provide" "Bikers will not forget others" "When you need help, call a Biker"

I rode home having a chat to my buddy: Black Label, on the subject of: what is the Motorcycle Club of the Future? Those adventure bike riders, the youngsters on the 125cc bikes, and others like me as old farts? Then it clicked, my buddy burped, and my eyes watered!

This year the Odysseus Club embarked on a campaign to make the Odysseus Club more visible in the public arena. My buddy thinks we have been hugely successful in this, and now for the new 2024 we must adopt what we have achieved.

In closing:

Odysseus Motorcycle Club are bikers who ride Out There, who care for Others, care for our Members, and still care those who no longer ride with us.

Need More Beer.

Ride November

Past

THE SHUNTIN' SHED



Shunting Shed – 12th November 2023

The first real summer's day!!! The weather turned out great for this ride. I tried to look for a venue that we had not been to for a while and decided on the Shunting Shed in Botrivier. It's a great venue and I know we enjoyed it the last time we went there (which was quite a few years back). It seemed my choice of venue was

a good one, judging by the turnout. We had 38 people, including 11 visitors!!! Well done guys. It was also nice to see a few members from that side of the world joining us. These included Dick De Kroon, Tikkie, Delva and Rodney Abrahams – great to see you all again.

Coincidentally, it was the same day of the Memorial/Poppy Run for many clubs, so there were quite a few other clubs and bikes at McDonald's that morning.

In fact, we stole one of them who decided to rather join us on our run. There was also one chap kitted

out in for Scottish regalia handing out strips of Tartan to the bikers, so we ended up with these attached to our gear or bikes for the ride. He did explain the significance of that particular Tartan to a couple of us, but in all the noise and buzz, I did not hear him clearly.





Ride November

Past

THE SHUNTIN' SHED

The ride was a straight one to the venue over Sir Lowrys to Botrivier. As mentioned above, it's a great venue right on the railway track. We even had a train go past while we were eating breakfast and when the driver saw all the bikes, he let off his horn, much to the enjoyment of us all. Breakfast was good, service was great and I think it was a good day out in the country.



Thanks to all those who joined and let's try keeping the numbers up there for our rides going forward.
Until next time – stay safe out there.
Devin

REPORT ON TOY RUN - 26 NOVEMBER 2023

The day started early at 07h45 with 11 Odysseus volunteers and 7 volunteers from The Alpha's MCC meeting at N1 City. I was running a bit late and Iain took matters into his own hands (thanks Iain!) and he led a stream of orange vested Toy Run marshals to Athlone Stadium to meet up with marshals from Cape Town Motorcycle Club.

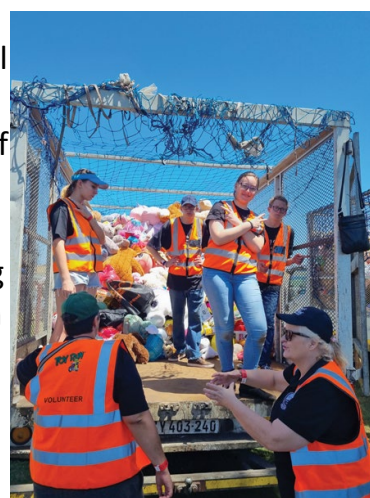


Slowly more and more bikes arrived at Athlone, and although we had organized ourselves into groups of POD marshals, there were not enough bikes to warrant PODs, so we all left in one big POD and, as marshals, we filtered in-between the riders on the Mass Ride to keep order. Once we arrived at Killarney we parked the bikes on the back straight and helped guide everyone into the event arena.

At the entrance, some of the Odysseus members proceeded to become "Toy Police" to watch that all

the public entering the area had a toy, and if not they would send the "bust" individual to the Toy Shop next to the entrance to purchase a toy – I know some of our members who had a great time doing that! And they caught a lot of people entering without a toy – can you believe that! Well done girls and guys!

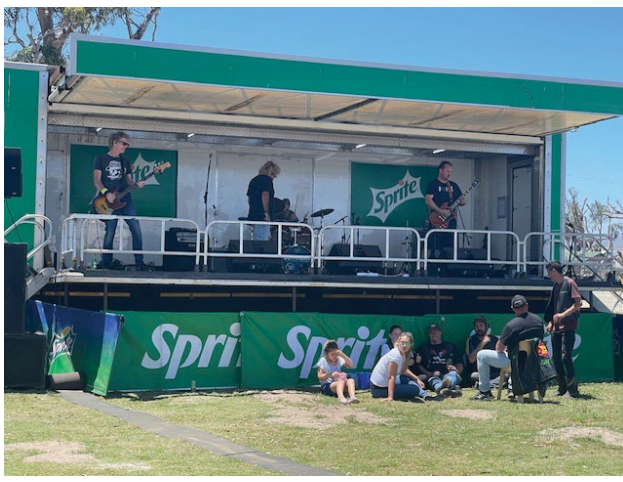
Other Odysseus volunteers were in their positions working at the caravan selling Toy Run regalia and Pink was helping at the back entrance to Killarney. Shannon joined Melissa and her 3 teenage boys who were already busy at the Toy Trucks receiving toys and packing the trucks. All in all we had 23 Odysseus members and family who gave up their time and effort for this very worthy cause. On a personal note, a huge thanks from the Toy Run Charity Trust to each and every one of you!



As the day progressed, more Odysseus members arrived and I was proud to see so many Odysseus patches in the crowd! The music and vibe was great and the various food stalls (and the bar) were well supported. The Toy Trucks were filling up nicely with gifts for the 12000 odd children for whom the event was all about.







On a very sad note, at about 2pm, the news reached us that one of our Odysseus members, Mark Walker, had been in an accident in Montague Gardens on his way home. 6 of our members rushed to the scene and tragically Mark had passed away. Our sincere condolences go out to Cheri and family, Mark was a wonderful person and will be sorely missed by all of us in Odysseus Motorcycle Club. This was a very sad end to a very nice Toy Run. Markie will never be forgotten. R.I.P. our brother. In total there were 33 of us: 24 Odysseus members, 1 Telemachus and 8 visitors on 14 bikes and in 5 cars.

On the Monday after the event, Melissa arrived at the Killarney pits with 8 teenagers in tow to help sort the toys. Thanks to their efforts in helping with this onerous task, the official Toy Run Facebook page put up a post thanking Odysseus for their help - which is great publicity for our club, well done and thank you Melissa!!

Feedback from the Toy Run: 12657 toys requested from 59 homes, 11781 toys received and 566 toys were purchased by Toy Run from funds received – so 12347 children received a toy this Christmas. Thank You Cape Town!! Regards from Susan



A 40th Anniversary Kawasaki Ninja ZX-10R ABS. Photo courtesy Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.

KAWASAKI NINJA ZX-10R ABS

KAWASAKI'S IN

RETRO COLOURS!

The Kawasaki Ninja® ZX™-10R supersport continues to set the bar high in the pinnacle of road racing around the globe with unmatched success on the racetrack, including carrying Kawasaki to seven FIM Superbike World Championships (WorldSBK) since 2013. The Ninja ZX-10R has a 998cc in-line four-cylinder, 16-valve engine that balances power with manageability and its paired with the latest and most advanced electronics such as Kawasaki Cornering Management Function (KCMF), Bosch IMU, Sport-Kawasaki TRaction Control (S-KTRC), Kawasaki Launch Control Mode (KLCM), Kawasaki Intelligent anti-lock Brake System (KIBS), Kawasaki Engine Brake Control, Kawasaki Quick Shifter (KQS), Öhlins Electronic Steering Damper and Power Modes.

An aluminum twin-spar frame, Showa Balance Free Front Fork (BFF), and horizontal back-link rear suspension with a Showa Balance Free Rear Cushion (BFRC) shock have been developed with technology straight from Kawasaki's WorldSBK factory racers and contribute to the Ninja ZX-10R's cornering performance and light handling. The high-grade TFT (thin film transistor) color instrumentation with smartphone connectivity via RIDEOLGY THE APP* and electronic cruise control further add to the high-grade appearance and convenience.

In the 40 years since its inception, the Ninja® moniker has become one of the most recognizable motorcycle names in the industry. Since first arriving on the scene in 1984, and officially rebranding the famous GPz900R, the Kawasaki Ninja brand of motorcycles continue to illustrate the pursuit of high performance in every displacement class. To celebrate this historic run in the powersports industry, Kawasaki is pleased to announce the 2024 Ninja 40th Anniversary Edition motorcycles.

In the late 1980's, there is one Kawasaki machine that stood out in the United States: The Ninja ZX-7. Embracing Kawasaki's relentless pursuit of innovation on the racetrack, the Ninja ZX-7 became the brand's flagship in the FIM Endurance World Championship, finding its way to the top step of the podium in 1991, 1992 and 1993. Stateside, Kawasaki continued its championship run in AMA Superbike, adding four additional titles in 1990, 1992, 1996 and 1997 to make nine overall championships in the series. In 1993, Kawasaki rider Scott Russell captured the WorldSBK Championship aboard his Ninja ZX-7R, further proving the Ninja's strength. Inspired by one of the iconic motorcycles that changed the racetrack scene, a special Ninja ZX-7-inspired colorway will be available on the Ninja® ZX™-4RR ABS, Ninja® ZX™-6R ABS, Ninja® ZX™-10R ABS and Ninja® ZX™-14R ABS.

A specially reproduced three-color livery will be found on each 40th Anniversary Edition model, with a large "Kawasaki" logo on the fairings. All logos featured on the motorcycle are reproduced from original drawings, and the various other elements were specially designed to bring back memories of the Ninja ZX-7 series' historic list of wins. A special 40th Anniversary emblem designed to resemble a championship sticker can be found on the top of the fuel tank, and the displacement numbers featured on the tail cowl are based on the fonts used in the 80's and 90's. Specially painted lime green wheels on all models, silver-painted frame and swingarm on the Ninja ZX-10R, Ninja ZX-6R and Ninja ZX-4RR, and gold-painted front fork outer tubes on the Ninja ZX-10R and Ninja ZX-6R complete the iconic throwback look.

The 2024 Ninja® ZX™-14R supersport will return to dealership floors just for this special 40th anniversary celebration. Featuring a powerful 1,441cc DOHC inline-four engine that can deliver plenty of power and a unique monocoque aluminum frame for balance, performance, and responsive handling. Premium onboard electronics and uncompromising refinement allow the rider to take on the track and the backroads with sophisticated ease. It is equipped with two power modes and a three-mode Kawasaki TRaction Control (KTRC) system that can easily be turned on or off with switches. The Ninja ZX-14R also features a back-torque limiting slipper clutch, stainless steel braided clutch and brake lines, Brembo® 4-piston monobloc calipers paired with large floating front discs and a high-grade dash meter.

A 40th Anniversary Kawasaki Ninja ZX-14R ABS. Photo courtesy Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.



And so another year had come to an end and we needed to arrange our club Year-End Function. In the previous year, Basil had set the bar high. Very high... So I was determined to not drop the ball on this one. I/we had some big shoes to fill. Firstly, we got a team together. This team included Susan and me, Linda and Hector, and Robbie & Therese. And what a team it turned out to be – thank you everyone for your input and hard work.



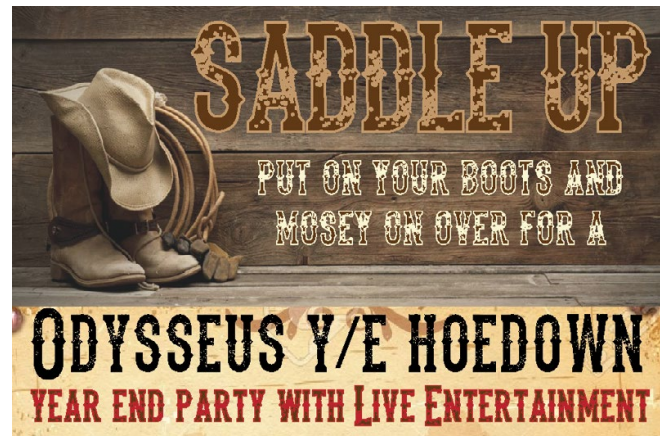
Basil had started the organizing a few months back and we had all agreed to hold a “Western” themed party. The next matter that needed to be sorted out was the entertainment. The previous year we had JR & The Hitman and that went down very well. I had been in touch with Peter many weeks before the event and provisionally booked them for the night. I am sure most would agree that a live band is far better than one of us “wannabe

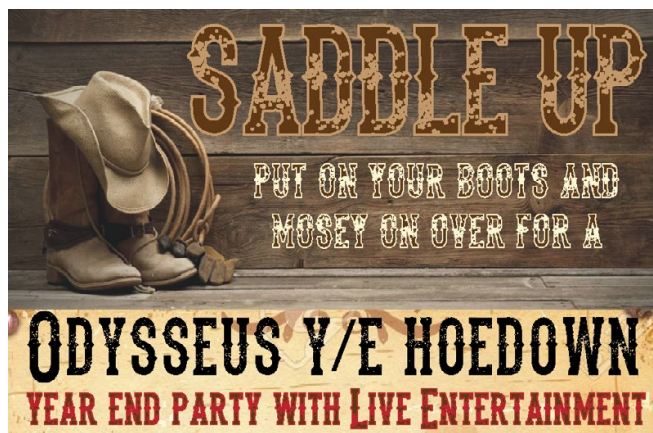
DJs” playing music all evening. The next task was discussing the decorations and the setting up of the hall (again, trying to live up to the standard set by Basil in 2022), so I started looking around for prop hire companies. After a few Google searches and phone calls, I managed to find one that had what we needed at a reasonable price. The food and catering was booked and that we handed over to Des’s daughter, as she had done a wonderful job the year before. Again, she did not disappoint.



With everything in place and the day fast approaching, we planned to meet at Jagers at 10H30 on the morning of the event to set up the hall and for Peter and John to set up their band equipment. We worked brilliantly as a team and after a few hours, it was all taking shape. I would also like to thank Robbie for collecting and returning the props from the hire company, and to my daughter, Shannon, for all the help setting up the hall. Eventually with everything in place, we locked up and left to go get ready for the evening.

We arrived back around 17H15 and the fun began. Everyone looked wonderful in their western outfits!





After the starters had been served, the club awards were announced and handed out along with a few lucky draw prizes. The first three awards are based purely on statistics for attendance on rides. These were as follows:



Club-man of the year

- Robbie Doidge (the male member who has gone above and beyond for the club)



Penelope award –

Susan James (the lady member who has gone above and beyond for the club)



Good Samaritan –

Desmond Clarke (a member who has gone out of his way to help another member/members during the year)



Male Rider of the year

Devin Corney – 100% attendance



Lady Rider of the year

Susan James – 100% Attendance



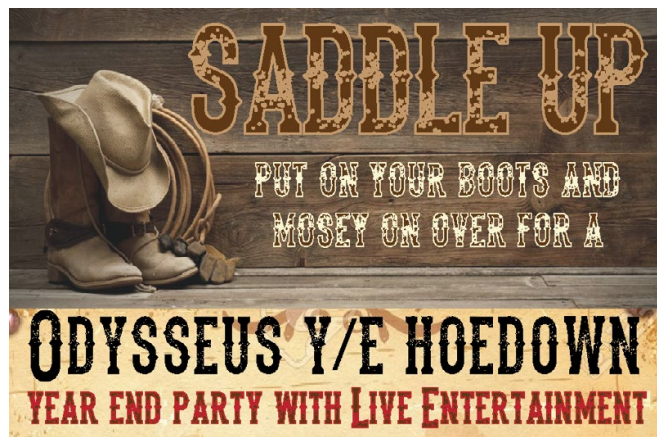
Rider and Pillion of the year

Hector and Linda Groves – 94% attendance



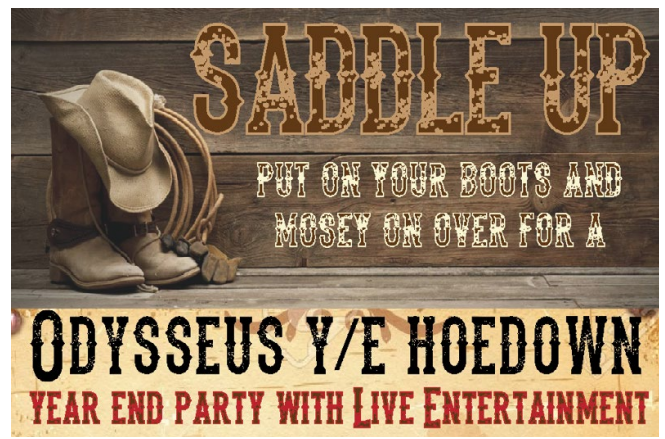
Best dressed couple

Terence and Pauline for their cowboy and cowgirl outfits.



After the main course had been served, the award for the best dressed couple was announced and that went to Terence and Pauline for their cowboy and cowgirl outfits. Nice to see you again Pauline – so glad you could make it. Don't be such a stranger in 2024. More lucky draw prizes were also handed out.





Once the band got going it wasn't long before many were on the dance floor. During the Band's first break the winning number for the raffle of a meat hamper was drawn, and that was won by Susan James (It wasn't rigged). The remaining lucky draw prizes were handed out and then we danced the night away.

Thank you to all those who helped clean up the hall before leaving and a HUGE thank you to Robbie Doidge who gave Susan, Peter, Jacqui and I a lift home when our Uber was going to take 40 minutes to get there!

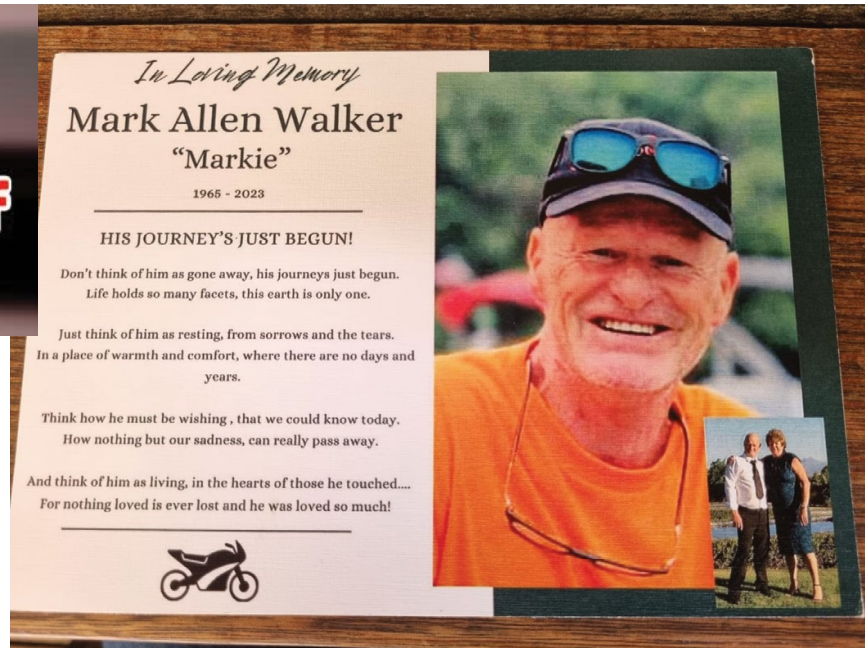
If i am allowed to add my two cents, i think this event was just as a success as the previous year. To the HBC Committee that made this all happen well done team HBC you have outdone your self and i am proud that i rub of some good onto you guys.....

May the next event be a great as this one was....Well done and congratulations to all the winners and a great event again.....

"A true biker never dies, they just ride into a new chapter of life."

Memorial Ride for Mark Walker – 6th December 2023

As ride coordinator and then head ride coordinator for the last few years, I have planned and led many rides.



This however, was one I would rather not have arranged. As I am sure you all know, we tragically lost a good friend and club member on the 26th of November at the 2023 Toy Run.

Mark's family had a private service for him on the preceding Saturday and I felt it only right that the club do something for him as well. Unfortunately it needed to be in the week, as Mark's daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren were returning to the USA the following weekend and I knew that they would want to be present.

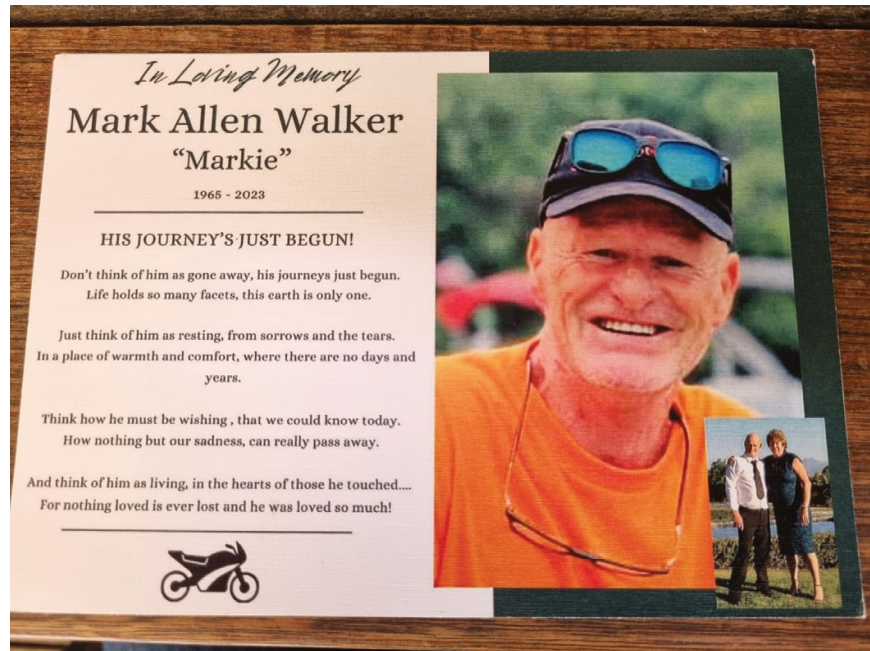
A few of us discussed it and decided on a ride to The Station Pub in Franschhoek, as this was a regular hang-out for Mark and Des and we were informed that they would often go there on a Friday evening. We were also joined by quite a few members of the Cape Town Motorcycle Club. Thank you guys for coming along to show your respect – it is much appreciated.

We pretty much rode direct to Franschhoek, with a couple of detours due to road works and busy weekday traffic on the N1.

Upon arrival, there were a few of our members already seated who had gone directly there. Once we all were seated and had a drink in hand, Robbie kindly said a few words about Mark and we all raised our glasses in a toast to celebrate his life. Markie – you were a wonderful person and you will be missed by many. We had a good few chuckles at various rallies. I can clearly hear your laugh in my mind. This one was for you Markie. Ride high my friend.

Devin





"A true biker never dies, they just ride into a new chapter of life."

By Meredith Potgieter - Nov 30, 2023

After meeting the team from Suzuki on the Cancervive Flagship Ride earlier in October, and having some chats about bikes and riding, they invited me to their rider safety track day which would happen on the 19th of November. Of course, being passionate about bikes and riding, I wasn't planning on passing up the invitation!

With much anticipation, the 19th of November rolled in and I was fully kitted by MotoGirl and ready to experience riding at Red Star Raceway. This would be my first time riding on a track, apart from my 2-lap cruise around Kyalami Grand Prix Circuit at the 2016 Festival of Motoring Show.



Photo credit: Bjorn Moreira / ZA Bikers

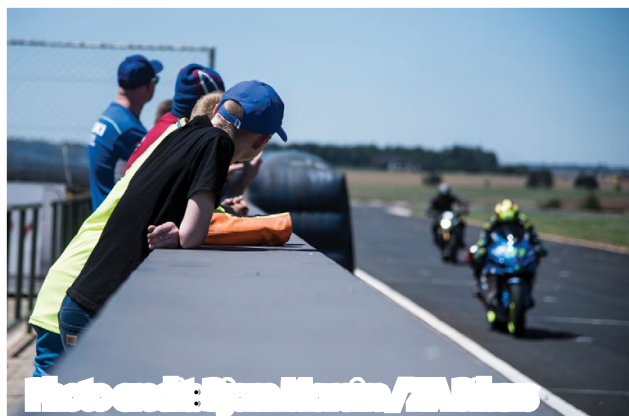


Photo credit: Bjorn Moreira / ZA Bikers

To say that I was nervous was a bit of an understatement. Rolling into Red Star I could feel my heart quicken as I saw all the super-bikes parked in the pits, and naturally, I had no idea what to expect from the day.

As I arrived registration was underway and Corrie from Suzuki gave me some pointers on which



group to enter. Cancervive was also present on the day, and the ladies were equally excited to hop on their own bikes this time around. After a quick hello here and there, with a coffee in hand, we made our way to the rider briefing and safety presentation.

Stuart led the theory section of the training day where he walked us through the basics of rider gear—how to choose your helmet, jacket, pants, gloves and boots as well as the importance of wearing the correct rider gear when riding. Something that I've never thought of was the fact that not every helmet brand will suit your head

shape, hence the fact that some helmets that I have worn in the past have not been as comfortable as others. I found this to be a great insight especially since I am in the market to upgrade my own helmet.

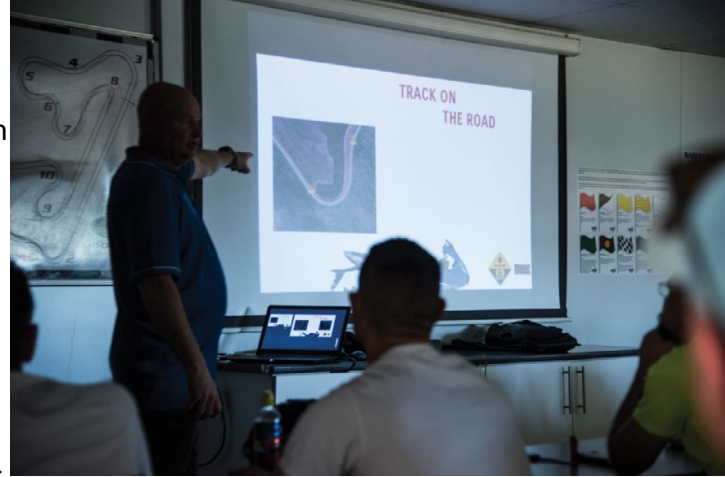


A big part of the theory was being aware of your own safety on the road. Drivers around us are unpredictable but it is your own responsibility to anticipate every situation. Along with much helpful advice, he gave us guidelines on how to ensure that there is always an escape route when traveling amongst other vehicles. The biggest tip is "If you can't see yourself in their mirror, they can't see you".

By Meredith Potgieter - Nov 30, 2023

We moved on to the ideal riding position and how it can affect the way the bike relates to the tar. Yes, Marquez was used as an example of a lean angle, but that was not the goal for the day, it was rather an exaggeration. Either way, it was used to demonstrate how, with the right body position the bike can still have enough contact with the tar to corner safely. Of course, we were not going to try a ‘Marquez’ on ourselves, so Stuart showed us photographs of a rider taking the same corner at the same speed, but with a different body position. He explained how by moving your body off the bike you are able to take the same corner at a safer lean angle, the more you move off the bike the less it leans which results in more tyre surface.

Along with body position, it’s also incredibly important to look through a corner. As Stuart was saying “You are going to go where you look, if you look at that tree on the edge of the cliff, you’re going to head straight for it, but then again one would rather hit the tree than go wheeee down the cliff”... However on a serious note, when on the road with unpredictable corners and obstacles, looking through the corner or at least as far ahead as you can see, will give you more time to react to whatever it is that’s in your line of travel.



After an overload of important information, it was time to take everything we had learned and apply it to the real world. Since we were heading out on the track it provided us with a safe environment to exercise the theory.

All around me, riders were kitting up and revving engines—intimidating it sure was. I was grateful to start in the lower class as those super-bikes I saw when I first arrived were hot and ready to shred some tyres. My class was third to go which gave the nerves some time to settle as I watched the more advanced riders fly past on the straight.



In no time at all class C was announced and it was time to kit up and ride out. I started on the entry-level Gixxer 250, a bike that was small and light enough to boost my confidence. Doug took us around the track, all the while showing us the lines to take and the braking points—this was certainly a big plus for me as it diminished the unknown. Two laps in and I was already feeling as though I could ride all day. I have never felt so confident on a bike as I did around the track; with all the information I received and the feedback on body position, braking points and rev count going into a corner I was feeling more confident with every turn.

Little by little I could take corners quicker, picking up the pace and making fewer mistakes with every lap that passed.

By Meredith Potgieter - Nov 30, 2023



Shortly after our lunch break, Suzuki did a demonstration of how differently a bike brakes vs a car, this all comes down to double the number of tyres, double the braking components, and obviously the comparison of tyre surface—a car has a full hand vs a bike only having a few cm. The goal of this demonstration was to make bikers aware of the time difference in braking, a bike would require a lot more space to stop when traveling at the same speed. So next time you're riding on a car's tail light, remember you're going to need that extra 2 meters to avoid parking in its boot.



As the day progressed, I was bumped up to the next class which provided its own challenges where better riders on bigger cc bikes were now passing me. Doug was certainly an amazing help as he would follow closely behind me and give the necessary feedback on how to improve. As someone who has never ridden a bike bigger than 400cc, due to my lack of height, I am proud to say that I not only leveled up to riding the GSX-8S but by the end of the 8th session, I was confidently perched on the GSX-S1000! Never in my entire life did I ever imagine that I would ride a 1000cc bike, however there I was and I rode it without any trouble.

I know for a fact that without the help and guidance of the Suzuki team, I would never have been able to safely ride a 1000cc bike. Their safety training day empowered me with the ability to ride with confidence as I now know how to handle a bike in a way that puts me in total control. I can rest assured knowing that I have the skills to better avoid dangerous situations that I might face riding on our public roads. This has not only been an amazing experience, but I now feel confident enough to embark on our relatively challenging roads knowing that I am one step ahead of the rest. I highly recommend every rider who sees the importance of their safety on the road to join this event. I'm also not only talking to the newbies as there is always something to learn; even if that "something" is a day out to get even more comfortable on your bike in a safe environment, however, for those riders who don't own their own bike just yet, Suzuki has bikes available on the day. So with that, I hope to see you at the next Suzuki Rider Safety Day. You can keep an eye out on the Suzuki South Africa socials for their next event, but in the meantime keep it on two wheels.



Our New 'Lifestyle & Outdoors' Section

In our interaction with bikers over time, we have come to understand that people who ride motorcycles tend to have a lot in common. They love the outdoors, getting out and about, and with the popularity of adventure motorcycles, enjoy camping.

Many seem to own 4x4s, caravans, mobile homes too. So, a Lifestyle and Outdoors section is more an evolution than a revolution. We want to keep our content stimulating and relevant. In addition to your regular biking fix, we will keep you informed on other aspects of the outdoor lifestyle that we enjoy, in this beautiful country of ours.



Expect to read about Lifestyle Vehicles, plus all the necessary mounting accessories to transport your recreational two wheels out into the wilderness.

Our Gear & Products section will be focusing on camping & outdoor gear, plus maintenance & care products for your lifestyle Vehicles.

Finally, as lovers of anything with two wheels, we've decided to start testing the growing industry of E-Bicycles.



As always, we will create original content rather than regurgitate what others have put out there. If we tell you about it, it is because we have tried it and experienced it ourselves.

2024 is going to be a cracker! May the games begin!



**IN THE NEXT ISSUE:
GO GRAVEL 40L (LITTLE KAROO)
DUFFEL BAG**





By
Dave Cilliers
Dec 7, 2023



A Motorcycling Journey Through Life

I am reflecting on this journey as a 'lifer', someone who the motorcycle bug bit early in life and who has carried the infection ever since. In fact, the degree of 'infection' has got even worse over the years as my affordability improved. For those who indulge in motorcycling as a sport, I totally get it. Like any sport that gets under your skin and that you develop a passion for, it is, at times, all-pervasive. You eat, sleep and breathe your passion. It is the same for a 'lifer', only worse because this is not something that is only pursued on a weekend, but rather a total lifestyle. The passion for motorcycles of a 'lifer' remains an enigma.

I can only try to explain it by recounting my own journey. I have a brother who is a couple of years older than me. As boys, we played soccer, cricket, and rugby with the enthusiasm of your typical sports-mad South African kid. Somehow, during this sporting frenzy, I started to take note of motorcycles. I was 14 years old when I eventually coerced my dad into parting with some of his hard-earned loot for a second-hand Honda S50, a bit of a hybrid in that it was a C110 frame with a 4-speed Honda Fury OHC engine. It was slower than a slow thing, but it was instrumental in cementing a relationship with bikes that has lasted a lifetime. Now here is the thing, my brother totally dodged the bug.

My dad had ridden bikes in his youth and during the war but had seen bikes more as sensible transport than anything else. For me, bikes were a blank tapestry which I could embroider in the most amazing way.

This period in motorcycle history saw the advent of bikes which forever changed the motorcycling landscape.



The iconic Honda CB750 K0 Four and Kawasaki's all-conquering Z1 are two of the most noteworthy. As a 50cc riding schoolboy in the late '60s and into the early '70s, my dream was to own a Honda CB750 Four and a genuine Bell Star helmet. Looking back on the ownership of around 350 bikes and 55 years of riding as daily transportation by preference, my motorcycling flame burns brighter than ever. I spent around 10 years in the motorcycle industry with Club Motors, the then importers of both BMW and Kawasaki motorcycles.

I worked at their Honda dealership as my blood was totally Honda red. Those were heady days in the motorcycle industry. SA endured an 'energy crisis' with fuel being scarce, so people bought economical bikes by the score. At Club Motors we sold an average of 50 bikes a month from one dealership.

HONDA CB750-FOUR

The smoothest running, most reliable superbike around. For 1973 the CB750 features include 4-stroke, 4-cylinder, 4-carb reliability, plus a weather shroud on the disc front brake, an endless drive chain with no weak link, canted instruments, warning light panel, rear sprocket shield, electric starting, seat and helmet locks. Look it over, think it over. Honda CB750.

SPECIFICATIONS

CB 750 - FOUR	736cc OHC	Transmission 5th	0.94	Length (ins.)	85.6
Engine	4 cylinder	4th	1.09	Width (ins.)	34.3
Bore & stroke (mm.)	61 x 63	3rd	1.33	Height (ins.)	46.1
Compression ratio	9.0:1	2nd	1.71	Wheelbase (ins.)	57.3
Tire size front	325 x 19	1st	2.50	Engine oil (Imp. qts.)	3.1
rear	400 x 18	Fuel capacity (Imp. gal.)	4.8	Battery	12V
		Starting	elec/kick	Weight (lbs.)	480



By
Dave Cilliers
Dec 7, 2023

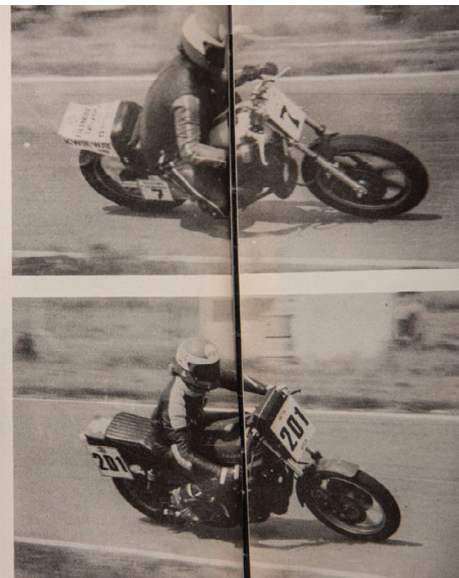


A Motorcycling Journey Through Life

In the early '80s, I started racing Super Singles on the short circuits as well as competing in the 6-hour endurance races with reasonable success. Trying to juggle racing, a career, and raising two youngsters meant something had to give, so the flirtation with racing ended. Soon after this, I built a career outside of the motorcycle industry which had become too much of a barometer of the economy. But the passion for bikes burned ever brighter. They provided me with an escape from the predictability and grind of everyday life. Every single time I threw a leg over the saddle I was totally engrossed in the ride. I have some mechanical awareness and the desire to understand what makes bikes work and why. This opens a whole other aspect of biking. Learning how to tweak your bike to improve handling and performance became part of the journey, a colourful thread on my motorcycling tapestry.

The freedom that bikes have introduced into my life is next level. When life presses in on you, as it does at some time, getting on your bike and riding has an uncanny way of elevating your mood. Total concentration on the job of riding and applying situational awareness to stay safe on the road subtly replaces worries and woes and you start to live in the moment. Your helmet cuts you off from the outside world with its constant intrusions and gives you time in your own head. The Bible says "Be still and know that I am God", but the world we live in is everything but still. There is more 'noise' than ever out there.

We have experienced a serious heat wave of late. I was up early on Sunday, so I got my kit on and rode out my gate just after 6 AM. The cool of the morning washed over me like a salve as the Ducati DesertX, thoroughbred that it is, responded to my every input. Cruising out to the Cradle and sharing the road with the cyclists, who habitually enjoy riding there on the weekends, was a truly sublime experience. It totally set up my mood for the day. What do people do who don't own bikes?



And then there are the trips. 2023 has been a stressful year on many fronts. The world is in turmoil. A war in Europe that just doesn't seem like ending any time soon. Terrorism in Israel on a magnitude and level of brutality that was last probably seen hundreds of years ago, before 'civilisation' as we know it. South Africans have been exposed to crime, load-shedding, corruption, and government bungling that has us with our heads in our hands.



By
Dave Cilliers
Dec 7, 2023



A Motorcycling Journey Through Life

How do you call time out, and pull the plug on all the madness? Ride your bike, that's how! When we close for the year, my son and I are getting on our bikes and

heading north to the vast plains of Botswana. Tents will be pitched, campfires lit, and steak will be braai'd, as bug bespattered bikes look silently on. We will ride in the early morning cool, transitioning into the inescapable African heat. We will perspire bullets, but when the day's riding is done, showered and pleasantly weary, we will sip on a bitterly cold beer or two. Life will be back in perspective, and all will once again be well with the world.



Bikes are hot. Bikes are cold. Bikes can be uncomfortable. Bikes are tiring. Bikes are real! Somehow every trip brings a sense of occasion. The hotter, colder, wetter, whatever, it just heightens the sense of achievement and occasion. You may arrive home exhausted, yet give it a day or two and the lure of the open road looms large again. Nothing else gives me quite the same feeling. 4x4 trips through remote areas are cool, yet an indefinable something is missing when compared to bike trips. Perhaps it's the vulnerability of a bike?

It is no longer about the out-and-out performance either. Early in my motorcycling days, it was all about speed and ego. Thank God that is no longer the case. Now it is the harmony of man and machine. It no longer needs to be at hyperspeed. I can enjoy a 'Tiddler Tour' on a 180cc bike as much as a blast over a mountain pass on a crotch rocket. Maybe I've just got over myself...

The fact is, for me, motorcycles have added incredible spice to my life. My life's tapestry would have looked sparse and threadbare were it not for bikes. So, whilst I can still not put my finger on what it is in our make-up that predisposes us to bikes, I am just very grateful that 'the bug' bit me.

I cannot imagine a world without the intrigue of motorcycles in it. Add to that the myriads of friends that I have made over the ages through our mutual involvement in motorcycles. The brotherhood that exists between riders. A gloved hand raised in salute to one another in passing. That gesture that, irrespective of the bike you ride, recognizes a kindred spirit. Pitch your tent in some remote location and you can be sure that someone will come and strike up a conversation with you. It is that mystique, that element of daredevil, that just strikes a chord with people.



I sometimes recognize a fleeting, almost primeval glimpse of longing in the eyes of such people. An unspoken "if only"... Deep in the recesses of the heart of man lurks a spirit of adventure that is not often satisfied in the modern world in which we live. Motorcycles have satisfied that longing in my soul. Long may that continue.

Awesome Motorcycle Christmas Gift Ideas



Phone mount

The good ol' paper map used to be king. That all changed with the motorcycle sat-nav and then changed again with smartphones as navigation devices thanks to the simple and handy phone mount. You can quickly and easily plot a route using Google Maps on your phone and fix it to your bars using a simple, no faff bar phone mount. They're cheap and easy to use and, most importantly, make a great Christmas present!



Motorcycle
Detailing Kit

Motorcycle Backpack



XRAMP Mo-
torcycle Wheel
Chock Stand-
Takealot



Helmet Rack
Takealot



CLASSIFIEDS

Selling It?



2006 Harley Davidson - 883 Sportster.



**Please contact Desmond Clarke on the
following number: 082 441 1425**

Nearest cash offer would also be considered....

CLASSIFIEDS

Selling It?

**Please Contact:
Terence
082 673 0513**



**Parrot Cage
R400.00**



Petrol Browser pump R4000



Excercise Bike R 200.00



**Please Contact:
Julie
082 823 9747**

**Surgical
Boot-size
5/6- R500**

**Leather strip with
Odysseus patch R350
Charles Brink 0827383783**

**Traffic
Light
Wall Mount
R5000.00**



**Floor Scrubber with
Brushes and pads R4000**



**Antique back
Brake Bike R1500**



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