

KICKSTART CLUB

PORT ELIZABETH.



P.O. BOX 34612 NEWTON PARK

6055.

CLUB CAPTAIN BRIAN WALKER 041-365-4357. SECRETARY DENNIS HIBBERD 041-364-3531 TREASURER KEITH RAE 041-368-9363.

WEBSITE WWW.KICKSTARTCLUB.CO.ZA

OCTOBER 2013 NEWSLETTER.

CAPTAIN'S LOG.

During a visit to a supermarket, I purchased a local Bike Magazine. After contemplating the level of expenditure, I decided to read the magazine from cover to cover with the objective of ascertaining the state of the bike market and motorcycling trends. The following is a general overview of my observations;

American (and American styled) cruisers are making a comeback in the big bike market. We have two members who own Harley Davidsons, the bikes look magnificent, almost majestic with their black paint finish. However, they are expensive, for example, a 2005 Road King with 60,000 kms on the clock on private sale at R125,000. New they are R272,000 plus extras !! On the Sports bike front Italy are well represented with Ducati's new Panigale at R165,000 and rival MV Augusta at R164900.

In my opinion, the Bike magazine concerned, still portrays bikers as beer swilling partygoers who raise eyebrows wherever they go. Large motorcycle gatherings are sometimes banned due to rowdy and unlawful behavior, an example being our own home town !! Could this be partly due to some of the Club's chosen names which are somehow descriptive of a less savoury life-style? The magazine shows photos of bikers imbibing and some appear to show signs of intoxication !

On the TV lately we have seen "World's greatest motorcycle rides" featuring Henry Cole , this time in South Africa riding from Johannesburg to Cape Town on a Metisse powered by Triumph. The bike is a copy of the machine used by Steve McQueen for Desert Racing, and was built in the UK. Needless to say, after a few days, the frame cracked resulting in the engine oil leaking out. This bike was replaced with a KTM Adventure for the rest of the ride to Cape Town. You can follow Henry's travels on DSTV "Travel Channel 179".

Club happenings include a few bike changes with Raoul Gomes replacing his Moto Guzzi Le Mans with a new Aprilla and Dennis Hibberd recently purchasing a 2002 BMW F650CS in the interests of his arthritic hands and shoulders. The '82 R65LS is on the market. Nothing Chinese you will note but wait and see. I read that the Chinese with the aid of France, are to build a very large Power Station in the UK and have recently purchased a share in Manchester airport. Talk is that Triumph motorcycles will soon be made in China as well!

Don't drink and drive, remember tea tastes better than beer when riding bikes.

Cheers BRIAN

I have just returned from my **second trip** in five years to the United States , and again, I have been pondering the ongoing American love affair with the Automobile. Although they did not invent the thing, they have developed it into some sort of appendage that no human can do without. It's a big country and they have taken the opportunity that offers to spread out with the result that most things are far from most things. Sprawling residential suburbs offer generous sized plots, with the result that shopping centres, schools, offices, etc , are always a good drive away meaning that the average car owner spends a lot of time in his/her vehicle. This is not a problem in their lives, in fact, they enjoy it. It is nothing for Moms to drive to a neighbouring State for morning coffee with friends after dropping the kids at school. During our 2008 visit to the States, friends from Pennsylvania (aged 80 and 73). drove to Chicago for a lunch with us, and then home again, a round trip of about 1000 miles.

Inevitably, the motor car has become a symbol of personal status. While fuel consumption is now definitely a consideration, size, bhp, performance and year model remain important. Remember the words of the 1955 Chuck Berry song,

" Maybelline";

"As I was motorin' over the hill,
I saw Maybelline in a Coup de Ville,
Cadillac rollin' down the open road,
But nothin' outrun my V-8 Ford.. "

Nothing has changed. I saw clear evidence of this when I attended two days of the 2013 Woodward Dream Cruise, one of the biggest Auto events in the USA. Woodward Avenue Detroit, is sometimes called the Main Street of Detroit. It starts in the city centre and largely follows the old Indian Saginaw trail that joined Detroit with Flint and Saginaw, centuries ago. The section used for the annual Dream Cruise is roughly 15 miles of the Avenue (actually, an eight-lane highway), and extends past Birmingham into Pontiac. For the Friday and Saturday of the event, side streets are filled with static displays of cars of various marques, for example, one of the streets was re-named Mustang Alley where the Ford Mustangs, reportedly 880 of them, were parked. Cobras, Corvettes, Vipers and all the rest of them also had their own display areas in the adjoining streets. I saw dozens of the Classic American cars of the past, Oldsmobile Rocket 88's, Fishtail Cadillacs, Ford T-Birds, Straight 8 Buicks, Hudson Terraplanes...the list is endless !! The main sponsor of this year's Cruise was Chevrolet and they had numerous promotions and displays of their full range at separate venues, not to mention the other brand names in the General Motors line-up.

Cruisin' is popular in the US. Basically it involves driving your car up and down the street, drawing the most attention possible from the throngs of people on the sidewalks who flock to see it !! So, for two days or more, owners of Classic, Vintage and Muscle Cars drive up and down Woodward Avenue. Not all owners attending the Dreamcruise could dream of cruisin' though. The numbers are just too great. We went with a friend of my son, who has a collection of very desirable cars himself, and who has attended most of the 19 Dreamcruises held since it's inception in the early 90's. I asked him what the stats were. He told me that 35 to 40 thousand cars rock up on the weekend and that about a million people line Woodward Avenue to watch. FoxNewsTV cover the event and their estimates were above these figures. Obviously, given the size of the show, we saw very little of it even after tramping the streets for most of two days !!

Yep, they do things big in the good ol' U.S of A..

DATES TO REMEMBER.

13TH NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING AT THE CLUBHOUSE 7-30PM

17TH NOVEMBER MONTHLY RIDE. MEET SUNRIDGE 0915 AM. RIDE TO ADDO.

6TH DECEMBER HERALD WORLD OF WHEELS WE NEED YOUR BIKES.

8TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS BRAAI AT THE EPVCC FROM 12NOON.

11TH DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING AT THE EPVCC 7-30PM

15TH DECEMBER MONTHLY RIDE FROM SUNRIDGE SHORT ONE.

26TH DECEMBER BOXING DAY RIDE FROM SUNRIDGE SHORT ONE.

IT'S ALL GO, ISN'T IT ??

MEMBERS NOT WELL.

Errol Ritson had some major surgery on 20th November and we are happy that he is recovering well at home and by now, probably getting on Caroline's nerves !!!

2013 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

This was held at the EPVCC Clubhouse on Wednesday 9th October. 17 members were present, the Captain's, and Treasurer's Reports were accepted and in the absence of any nominations for the Committee posts, the A Team remain at post.

Motorcycle wisdom of the road

- Midnight bugs taste best.
- Saddlebags can never hold everything you want, but they CAN hold everything you need.
- Home is where your bike sits still long enough to leave a few drops of oil on the ground.
- The only good view of a thunderstorm is in your rearview mirror.
- Bikes don't leak oil, they mark their territory.
- Never mistake horsepower for staying power.
- If you don't ride in the rain - you don't ride.
- A bike on the road is worth two in the shed.
- Young riders pick a destination and go. . . Old riders pick a direction and go.
- A good mechanic will let you watch without charging you for it.
- Sometimes the fastest way to get there is to stop for the night.
- Winter is Nature's way of telling you to polish your bike.

KICKSTART CLUB ECONOMY RUN 2013

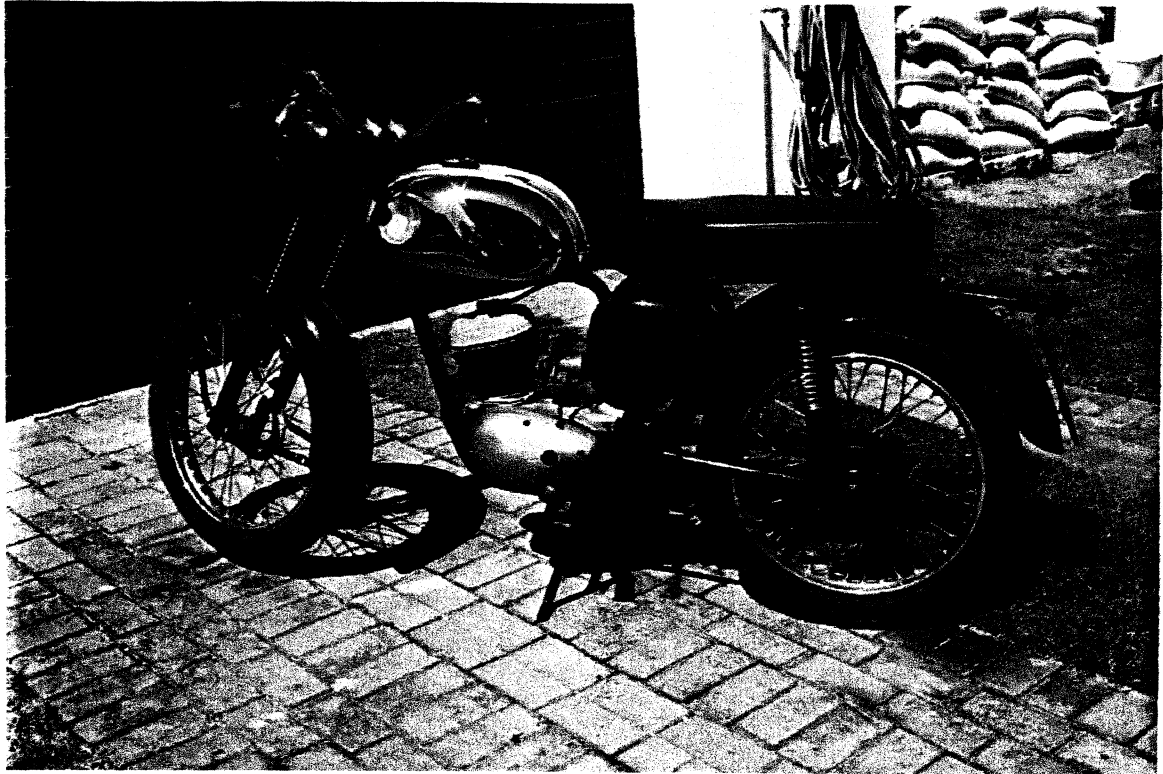
Actual Speed	Base MPG
60	100
80	80
100	60
Distance	70

- 1) The base MPG is an estimate of an average motorcycle fuel consumption at the chosen speed
- 2) Motorcycle with passenger gets a 5% additional fuel allowance

Name	Bike	Year	Spd	2013		KM/LT	MPG	Base MPG	allowance		eligible club	position
				Fuel	Fuel				Pass. 5%	% imp.		
1 Adrie Krog	Honda 650	2011	100	2.49	28.11	79.41	60	1	132.35%	no		
2 Roy Cartmel	BMW R60/6	1976	100	3	23.33	65.91	60	1	109.85%	yes	1	
3 Brian Smith	BMW R65	1982	100	3.07	22.80	64.41	60	1	107.35%	yes	2	
4 Malcolm Burrow	Yamaha 1200 Ten	2010	100	3.28	21.34	60.29	60	1.05	105.50%	no		
5 Errol Ritson	Yamaha XT 500	1976	80	2.58	27.13	76.64	80	1	95.80%	yes	3	
6 Graham Sheared	Yamaha	1987	80	2.74	25.55	72.17	80	1	90.21%	no		
7 Winston Benette	Harley	2010	80	2.74	25.55	72.17	80	1	90.21%	no		
8 Daven Baxter	Honda 650	1981	80	2.83	24.73	69.87	80	1	87.34%	yes		
9 Sagrin Neire	Kawasaki	1981	100	3.9	17.95	50.70	60	1	84.50%	yes		
10 Keith Rae	Honda 400	1979	80	2.94	23.81	67.26	80	1	84.07%	yes		
11 Dennis Hibberd	BMW R65	1980	100	3.99	17.54	49.56	60	1	82.50%	yes		
12 Dennis Guscott	Honda 650	1978	80	3.11	22.51	63.58	80	1	79.48%	yes		
13 Eric Krog	Yamaha XS 1100	1980	100	4.6	15.22	42.99	60	1	71.64%	yes		
14 Tony Barlow	Norton 99	1958	80	4.37	16.02	45.25	80	1	56.56%	yes		

2013 RESULTS

- 1 Roy Cartmel 109.85% improvement over base consumption
- 2 Brian Smith 107.35% improvement over base consumption
- 3 Errol Ritson 95.8% improvement over base consumption



FOR SALE.

1969 BSA BANTAM 175cc. A restoration almost complete. R4500. Phone Ken Keulemans 0825494330 or 0422941067 or e-mail him kjkeulemans@telkomsa.net

WANTED.

George Szabo is looking for a restoration project. Must be a pre-war machine. Phone him on 0413736191 or 0827810777 or e-mail szabo@iafrica.com

Neil Herbert in East London is tired of seeing his tools rusting in the garage and is also looking for a restoration. He would like a British 2stroke of any make. e-mail Neil herby@isat.co.za or phone 0833905624 or 0437353265

Top 10 Reasons Why Harley Riders Don't Wave at Other Motorcyclists.

- 10) They're way too cool to acknowledge any non-Harley riders.
- 9) They're too busy daydreaming about owning a real motorcycle.
- 8) Their engine is too weak to handle the added wind resistance of a waving hand.
- 7) The Rottie (in back of the pickup truck with the tied down Harley) is easily upset by rapid hand movements.
- 6) Are you kidding? Risk their lives trying to control a Harley with just one hand!
- 5) They're too busy humming "Born to be Wild" while fantasizing about being Peter Fonda or Dennis Hopper.
- 4) They're too busy figuring out how to pay for the next order of genuine Harley accessories (including the "official" HD calculator needed to add up the cost).
- 3) If we really have to tell you, you won't understand anyway.
- 2) They can't see you because their half-shell helmet keeps falling down over their eyes.
- 1) They think we are actually trying to draw their attention to the parts falling off their bikes, and they are sick and tired of it.

OUTING TO HOGSBACK TO VIEW THE BIKE COLLECTION OWNED BY DON AND ROB WICKS 21ST NOVEMBER.

Response to this invitation has been very good and we expect 15 or so members and wives making the trip. If you have not yet indicated your interest, please phone me for accommodation details.

Ride On – Safety Tips for Senior Motorcyclists

March 1, 2013 - Senior Living by Scott Ridl - Tagged: senior motorcycles - no comments

As we get older, we are usually reluctant to leave our old ways and hobbies behind. Some folks enjoy the more seemingly tame activities, like gardening or souping up classic cars, while others never want to give up the freedom of the open road, with nothing between you and the pavement but a little bit of hot steel and two wheels. You shouldn't have to give up on what you love as you age, but there are some things you should be aware of before you get back on your bike.



The Statistics

More and more seniors are riding these days. In 1990, only one in ten people over the age of 60 were riding a motorcycle – that number has since risen to around 1 in 4, with more seniors owning and riding motorcycles each year. This is most likely due to the fact that the baby boomers have been riding motorcycles more than the generation before.

You know that as we age, our minds stay young but our bodies change. Our bones and muscles aren't quite as strong and resilient as they used to be – this is why seniors are much more likely to be seriously injured in a motorcycle accident.

If someone over the age of 65 got into the exact same accident as a rider at the age of 30, the elder would be more susceptible to brain damage or broken limbs. A rider over the age of 60 is 2.5 times more likely to be seriously injured in a motorcycle crash, and 3 times more likely to require hospitalization. People in their 40s are also much more likely to get the raw end of the deal. Middle aged riders are twice as likely to be admitted to the hospital after an accident.

Injuries to the head and chest account for most fatalities in all age groups, but as we age, our bone density has decreased, as well as the elasticity the muscles and tissue in our chest cavities.

What You Can Do to Stay Safe

If you haven't been on a motorcycle in a while, or if you are relatively new, take a motorcycle safety class. This class should be offered by your local DMV. There are basic courses offered for new motorcyclists, as well as ones for more advanced and experienced riders. Even if you've been doing this for a while, it wouldn't hurt to brush up.

One of the main pieces of advice given to new motorcyclists is this – "Assume that you are invisible and attempt to make yourself as visible to others on the road as possible." If you are a seasoned motorcyclist, you likely already know this, but even people who have done it for years can forget key safety measures. Another thing you should always remember, is to look far enough ahead of you to be able to see things like potholes, gravel and leaves strewn across the road, or any other debris that can be hazardous for a motorcycle.

Not all states require riders to wear a helmet, and to many people it is a matter of personal choice. Some riders feel safer without a helmet, because they feel that the helmet restricts them. Since most fatal injuries involve a blow to the skull, you should take this into serious consideration.

Always perform a basic mechanical check on your bike each day before you ride. Check that everything is in proper working order to avoid any dangerous issues.