



Ulysses East Rand

Newslysses

Issue: 360

May 2012

Meet every Sunday for a breakfast run departing from Bimbo's, 5th Avenue, Northmead Benoni, at 8:15am

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Ulysses East Rand on the Web: www.ulyssessa.co.za/pages/chapters/gauteng/east-rand.php

Planned Rides : *(subject to change)*

<i>Month</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Area</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>Cullifest</i>	<i>Cullinan</i>
	<i>6th</i>	<i>Piatto's</i>	<i>Alberton</i>
	<i>6th</i>	<i>Ride against abuse (starts 7h00 meet at Block house,R59 6h15)</i>	<i>Emerald Resort & Casino</i>
	<i>11th - 13th</i>	<i>Ulysses National Rally</i>	<i>East London</i>
	<i>13th</i>	<i>To be decided @ Bimbos</i>	<i>?</i>
	<i>19th</i>	<i>Joe's Lapa (bring & braai)</i>	<i>Brackenhurst</i>
	<i>20th</i>	<i>Visit to West Rand Ulysses (to be confirmed)</i>	<i>West Rand</i>
	<i>27th</i>	<i>Visit to Klerksdorp Ulysses (to be confirmed)</i>	<i>Klerksdorp</i>

Backfiring from the chair:

Well I hope everyone enjoyed the public holidays as much as I did. There was so much to do and so little time, Africa Bike Week, Stingers Rally and Eastern Transvaal. Anita, Rob and I decided to head out to Nelspruit and do some serious riding, taking in all the area has to offer. For those that went to Africa Bike week, I am sure we will get an update at the next run as to how that went off.

This Sunday there is a ride against abuse taking place at the Emerald Resort and Casino, starting time 07h00. For those not attending the aforementioned ride, there will be the usual Piatto's followed by the classic bike club visit.

Our trusted Road Captain has given us his take on the local weekend rides.

Regards,

Wells.

A Twisty, personal update: (22nd April 2012)

Unfortunately, I find myself tendering an apology again for not being able to join the long run out to Hartebeest port yesterday and thus there is no usual UER Captains log from yours truly this week. I was looking forward to the Hartey's run and was also feeling quite well for a change, but fate climbed in once again and my plans were totally shredded. Wifey Pam is battling with the aftermath recovery from a major eye-cornea operation done last Thursday hopefully that will save some sight in her right eye after a Shingles virus attack three years ago. She has really been battling with considerable pain and she cannot drive at the moment. And then we received some shocking news....!

Very sadly my nephew Brian Van Greunen, age 41 was killed last Thursday evening when his bakkie was involved in an accident with an articulated 24-wheel pantehnicon. He died on the scene. Brian married and started his family quite late in life as he was busy establishing his factory and business, the Plastic Pipes Centre in Tarlton. Brian leaves his widow Amy and 3 year old son Bryce who is a mini clone of his dad and also besotted by motorcycles. He fortunately was not in the club cab when it happened.

Brian was an avid biker, vintage Jeep collector and off-road club member and he was also a regular Track Day rider, Superbike school trainer and SA Motorsport Superbike competitor. He currently owned a KTM 660 super enduro, a new BMW GS 1200 Adventure, an immaculate red 2007 Hyabusa (his favourite bike) plus his super-quick, BMW tuned 1000RR superbike class racer.

My brothers Graham and Geoff travelled up to stay with Pam & I and to provide support for my sister Jeanette's family during this harrowing experience. We all attended the funeral service held on Saturday morning at a chapel just outside Krugersdorp in the Westrand.

Brian's Jeep collection consists of:

- 1938 Russian 4x4 2.5L (alloy engine)
- 1941 Kaiser K 3J (2L S/valve)
- 1957 CJ 5 (V-6 Ford 3.2 Litre engine)
- 1963 CJ 7 (AMC 5 L V8)
- 2009 Jeep Rubicon

My brothers travelled up in one car with Geoff's wife & daughter last Friday and we had a hectic time running around preparing for the funeral. Geoff's daughter Fiona performed the eulogy service and needed to be back at work and with her young kids on Sunday afternoon. We eventually compromised on their departure time to allow a short ride and a quick Buffet breakfast at Stone Cradle on Sunday. (I also missed out on the S C ride last Sunday!)

We met up with the UER bunch at Bimbo's parking lot for a chat and after offering my apology to Llewellyn for not being in a position to ride out West the three of us mounted up, each on one of my 3 triumphs and headed North to Bapsfontein and a nice ride across to the Rietvlei Conservancy. When we arrived at the Conference Centre, we found that all three of the parking areas had been taped across the entrance, preventing any cars or bikes from entering.

An S C employee eventually opened up the top parking area and allowed us in. We helped ourselves to a fast breakfast and while we were eating on the veranda, we could hear many "V Twin" potato sounding engines arriving and after paying and leaving S C, there must have been 150 (mainly) Harleys parked in the sealed off parking areas. Three HOG Marshall's in lime green safety vests prevented Graham, Geoff & I from departing onto the access road until I would estimate that there were at least 300 bikes parked with hundreds more arriving as we were attempting to leave. We were made to stand there for 15 minutes! The HOG crew were still arriving all the way back to the R21 Nelmapeus bridge, including the Cornwall district road so we turned left at the entrance after battling our way down through oncoming idiots riding clear across the entire road from the Lodge and we finally crossed the R21 highway near the St George Hotel. I'm not sure what the occasion was, but if they were all there for breakfast, you can be sure that it must have been served all day!

The ride home was easy with a bit of sideways leaning through Ken's corner, arriving in time for the brothers departure at eleven o'clock.

Hopefully, I'll see-ya (disappearing) in da mirrors next Sunday,

Twisty Two.

A sobering Funny-story..... See-below.

Important News From SANRAL

FREE GIFT FROM SANRAL TO ALL ENROLLED ON THE E-TAG SYSTEM.

SANRAL has announced that they will give a *free pencil sharpener* to *all* Gauteng motorists who sign the SANRAL enrolment documentation (without dispute resolution clauses) and obtain an e-Tag on time.

It can be placed on your desk as a constant reminder of the affordable service they will provide to you each year. (With inflation driven increases)



Captains log:

Captains Log: Friday/Sunday/Tuesday 27th, 29th April and 1st May 2012.

It's not often that us old balie's can complain about having too much riding but this past long weekend placed a bit of strain on my happy marriage especially as my missus cannot drive at present. In all, we had the opportunity to do UER rides on Friday, Sunday and Tuesday (I also took Monday as a holiday and sneaked a ride to Krugersdorp to visit an old buddy who is not well.)

The weekend went something like this:

Friday: Saw five bikes arrive at Bimbo's although only three went for a ride to Lemon Tree in Cullinan. The Riders at Bimbo's were:

Mike C	BMW 1150 GS
Graham	BMW 1300 GT
Trevor	Triumph 900 Bonneville SE
Rob	BMW 1200 RS
Peter & Eve	Honda Pan Euro

Rob and Peter had called in on their way to ET where they were staying over at Naske Lake chalets and in Hazyview respectively. Mike, Graham and yours truly had a great ride to Cullinan as the roads were almost deserted, allowing for some spirited riding. Marie greeted us with open arms when we arrived at the lemon tree Bistro and the breakfast and beverages went down singing hymns as they say. We rode home also on unusually clear roads.

Sunday: (*Long is lekker!*) The situation returned to normal with 9 bikes and ten riders convening at Bimbo's under a blue sky and mild temperature.

The intrepid long ride pilots were:

Mike O'D	Triumph 1050 Sprint ST
Rudi	Suz Busa 1340 GSXR

James	Suz Busa 1340 GSXR
Mike C	BMW 1200 GT
Clive & Shirly	Honda VFR 1200
Andrew	Suz 1500 Boulevard
Erica	Suz Boulevard
Trevor	Triumph 2300 Rocket Roadster
Grant	BMW 1200 S

We decided to try a new venue at Kosmos near Hartbeestpoort, at a Golf Course on Sandy Lane Estate, looking out over "Carribbean Cove Boat Club" onto the Dam. Mike C & I have had breakfast there before and were very impressed with the experience. I phoned the Manager (Kareen) of the Club Restaurant to let them know we were on our way and they gracefully accepted to feed us some breakfast. The route we took was 148 Kilo's to the club sed Mike who had zeroed his mile-ometer when we left. We headed out through Brentwood Park on Great North Road, onto the R21, taking the Oliphantsfontein R518 to Midrand. We stayed on the Olievenhoutsbos road until we met the N14 Krugersdorp Highway. We then turned right to Hekpoort and sent it all the way past Cradle of Humankind and Greensleeves to the Strubens-valley mountain pass. My Rocket was a bit of a handful going down the pass as quick as I could but the road surface is moerofa bumpy and I'm pretty sure the reason that the faster superbikes didn't pass was because they couldn't find a gap past the wide Roadster! Some sed it was the wide rider! By the time we got down onto the long access road from Magalies to Broederstroom we were a bit fatigued by the bumpy road to keep going at speed. After eventually reaching the Sandy Lane Golf estate we were fortunate to all get in using only one name (mine!). The Golf Estate venue is up-market, modern and clean and the service could not be faulted. Breakfast was delivered swiftly, was well presented and baie lekker. The club looks out over the Dam with green lawn as far as you can see. We sort of parked in the members parking but there were no complaints received and the Club-staff were friendly. A very nice breakfast destination this, although not everyone approved of the route we took to get there. The route back through Broederstroom, taking the Randburg route to the N14 Pretoria glide off back to Benoni & home proved to be only 105 kilo's, so was much shorter and faster. Perhaps we should do it again sometime, but use yesterday's return route to

get there next time. Sadly, James (who had a bike accident recently) was feeling some discomfort with his arm and had to abort his ride. Hope it improves to normal soon James!

Tuesday 1st May:

Well's and Anita spent the long weekend away on their bikes but were back in time for the Tuesday ride. Anita has taken delivery of a shiny yellow Yamaha FZ 600 R which is almost as pretty as its rider. May it give you many exciting rides under the Sun Anita!

The riders who assembled at Bimbo's on Tuesday were:

Mike C	BMW 1200 GT
Llewellyn	Suz 1250 Bandit
Anita	Yam FZ600 R
Rudi	Suz 1340 Busa
Clive	Honda 1200 VFR
Grant	Honda 1000 CB-RR
Visitor (with Grant)	BMW 1200 S
Pieter	Suz B-king 1340
Dale	Triumph 955i Daytona
Trevor	Triumph 900 Bonneville
Graham	BMW 1300 GT
Joao	BMW 1200 GT

Wells booked us into Ndlovu Lodge at Zwavelpoort for breakfast and asked yours truly to lead the pack on the run. Being on my smaller (but very lekker to ride) Bonneville, I stated that it was going to be a slow ride, all things considered. Ndlovu management had asked Well's that we only get there at 09H30am as they would prepare a buffet style breakfast and needed some time to execute the meal.

With this in mind, I lead the squadron out via a longer route on the Bronkhorstspuit road all the way to the Cullinan turn-off. We then blitzed the Cullinan route road, turning off under the railway bridge and across the 30 odd kilos past Kittyhawk Aerodrome, linking up with Wapanrand Road heading east and turned right onto the Zwavelpoort road and Ndlovu Lodge where we found parking around the dining room section of the building. We had still arrived half an hour early so socializing took over for around 15 minutes or so, until the Buffet and beverages opened up and the queue took over. The breakfast was as usual here, very good and with bottomless coffee and tea, always well worth the money! After breakfast, some of the riders headed to Que Sera for more sustainable beverage and the rest of us headed for home. I'm going to miss not having another ultra long weekend from now on but I guess we'll take what we can get!

So! Good friends, good bikes, good breakfast venues and good riding, makes it all worthwhile doesn't it?

See-ya (disappearing) in da mirrors!

Twisty Two.

Letter and Feel-good story!

To the Low-life Who Tried to Mug Me in Downtown Melville night before last.

I was the guy wearing the black leather jacket that you demanded that I hand over, shortly after you pulled your knife on my girlfriend, threatening our lives.

You also grabbed my girlfriend's purse and earrings.

I can only hope that you somehow will come across this rather important message.

First, I'd like to apologize for your embarrassment when I drew my nine mill pistol after you seized my jacket. The evening was not that cold, and I was wearing the jacket for a reason.

My girlfriend bought me that Glock .40 ACP pistol for my birthday, and we had just picked up a shoulder holster for it that afternoon.

Obviously you agree that it is a very intimidating weapon when pointed at your head wasn't it?

I know it probably wasn't fun walking back to wherever you come from bare footed since I made you leave your shoes, cell phone, and wallet with me. [That prevented you from calling or running to your buddies to come help mug us again].

After I called your mother or "Momma" as you had her listed in your cell, I explained the entire episode of what you'd done. She was shocked! Then I went and filled up my gas tank as well as four other people's in the gas station on your credit card. The guy with the big motor home took 150 gallons and was extremely grateful for your donation!

I gave your shoes to a homeless guy outside Vinnies Restaurant, along with all the cash in your wallet. [That made his day!]

I then threw your wallet and ID into the big black "G" number plate BMW SUV (with blue light on the roof) that was parked at the curb After I broke the windshield and side window and keyed the entire driver's side of the car.

Later, I called a bunch of phone sex numbers from your cell phone.

Earlier, I managed to get in two threatening phone calls to the ANC's offices and one to the "Scorpions", while mentioning President Zuma as the possible target. The Scorpion guy seemed really intense and we had a nice long chat (I guess while he traced your cell number etc.).

In a way, perhaps I should apologize for not shooting you ... but I feel this type of retribution is a far more appropriate punishment for your threatening crime. I wish you well as you try to sort through some of these rather immediate pressing issues, and can only hope that you have the opportunity to reflect upon, and perhaps reconsider the career path you've chosen to pursue in life. (If they don't shoot you on sight!)

Remember, next time you might not be so lucky.

Have a good day!

Thoughtfully yours,

Your intended victim, Alex.



Lecture

A man is stopped by the police at midnight and asked where he's going.

"I'm on the way to listen to a lecture about the effects of alcohol and drug abuse on the human body."

The suspicious policeman asks, "Really? And who's going to give you a lecture at this time of night?"

"My wife", he says.



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Harry's photgraphic evidence of genuine croc's at Ruby River Lodge

