



Ulysses East Rand

Newslysses

18 April 2016

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

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Month	Date	Venue	Area
April	24th	Pit Stop	Honeydew
May	1st	Heidelberg loop/Beerco/Classic Bikes	Germiston
May	8th	Karoo Cafe	Lynnwood
May	15h	Denysville	Gamadoolies

April Birthdays

Peter 19th April 2016
Gansen 12th May 2016

Other events of interest: (from various sources)

April	23 rd	End of Summer Braai	Andre & Billy's
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I spoke to a lot of guys about this Saturday's Braai and seems we should have quite a turnout. Please remember that you must bring whatever you are going to fancy on the day. Andre will provide the venue and fire.

Can I suggest we start to arrive from 2.30 PM onwards.

Address is:- 307 Willow Road
Benoni
A/H (Agricultural Holdings)

Ulysses Website

<http://www.ulyssessa.co.za/east-rand/index.php>

All newsletters for 2016.

Ride report 17^h April 2016



There was a really good turn out Sunday morning with Big Rob who I haven't had the pleasure of seeing for some time joining us on the outing. He tells me he has been opting to ride with various different groups and has enjoyed being independent over the past few months. He is however still an affiliated member of East Rand and he brought along Graham and his girlfriend Riana, (hope I got that right). Graham is known to most of us as an old Ulysses member and for all of his work organising the annual Toy Run. You can spot him in the picture on the top right hand side talking to Mike C. So we had quite a large merry band before we set off.

Unfortunately we were not aware of the fact that one of our guests had *just* starting riding again after a fairly lengthy break and was not up to the average speed our hooligans have grown comfortable with.

Andre led the group from the off as we were planning to do the Bapsfontein intersection via a trip alongside Crystal Park. We got onto the motorway and exited at the Putfontein turnoff and then followed the road alongside the 'settlement' and past Crystal park before turning left to get onto the old Bapsfontein road. Mike C was back this week and was playing Sweeper, (something I am really grateful for). As a rule the Ulysses East Rand 'forward' group will only stop and wait if they turn at an intersection. This allows everyone to move in the same direction always. If they cross an intersection they will carry on in that direction unless it is a known 'collection' point i.e. Bapsfontein intersection. When we stopped to turn left we became aware of the fact that we had lost Graham, Rob, Rianna and Mike C. Andre opted to wait for them and sent me on my way to catch up with the group and make Joe aware of this.

I caught up with the main group as we turned onto the old Bapsfontein road and we pulled up to wait. Andre arrived some minutes later sans the missing riders and set off back towards Benoni on the Bapsfontien road. I saw this as an excuse to open up the Busa a little and given his long lay off I understand why he was so keen to buzz up and down. He found them doing just that and a few minutes later the missing group along with Andre appeared and we moved off once again.

The pack became disjointed due to the slower riders and we ended up in two distinct groups with the faster riders grouping up and the slower riders riding with Graham and myself leading the group. As this was a UER ride I felt rightly or wrongly that it should be led by an UER member and that we would /should be responsible to ensure that this was a safe secure trip. I know I have said this before but the second group should only move as fast as is comfortable for our least experienced rider. Everyone appeared to be quite comfortable with the pace that was being set and it wasn't long before we arrived in Cullinan. We were destined for the Museum Resturaunt on the corner as you enter town and it was busier than I expected as they had a function booked with a buffet offering all set out on the verandah. They accomodated us in the covered section and rustled up enough tables to seat the 16 of us.

Previous experiences of this venue remained unchanged and service was poor and we waited quite some time before the coffee was brought out. This never got better and we were later told that the gas bottle had run out and they had to go get another. I felt that they should have told us upfront and perhaps offered us a quicker alternative. But as food quality and service is a sensitive subject I jokingly compared the Cullinan experience to a Classic bike offering. For me Classics is a real biker experience with no pomp and ceremony and after you have had breakfast there you are spoiled by any other venue. Enough said.



After everyone had finished breakfast I asked Joe to hand over patches to our newest members.

Jonathan has been riding with us for some time now and blends in well with the guys. We have had the pleasure of his partner's company (Caroline) with us on rides as well and we are really glad to be able to welcome them into our ranks.



My brother Robert and his wife Maryanne have been riding with us on and off for some years now. He took a tumble last year and wrote off his bike and injured himself quite badly. So we haven't seen them for some time. They have recently started riding again and have joined our ranks on a permanent basis.





The one nice thing about this venue is that they provide LIVE entertainment and Sunday was no exception! In fact the young lady performing on the little stage out front was very pleasant to the eye and as you can see from the expression on Mike's face she met with his full approval. Not sure he was judging her vocals though?



Triumph Day – 17th April 2016.

On the return trip the group split up as some were going straight to the Triumph day event and some of us were going to support the Distinguished and dapper theme and wanted to change into appropriate clothing. The Triumph event however did not live up to expectation and by the time we arrived mid day there was literally nothing going on. They had run out of beer! Weird this was the first thing I was told.

But as in previous years there appeared to be little or no investment in actually putting out items of interest. I met up with some riders later in the day at my favourite watering hole "Mitzy's" in Alberton and generally all the riders felt the same way. One geezer however was trying to figure out how we was going to explain to his missus how he had traded in his old bike for a bigger new one.

I now am writing this event off as a pure Sales pitch and probably won't be attending it again, which is a bit sad as I own 2 Triumph motorcycles.



Colin and Doug all dressed not knowing there is nowhere to go.



Rob looking sauve!

Pictured here here is Robert, Colin, myself and Neville after a few toots at Mitzy's. We had abandoned most of our 'gear' at this point as the weather was unusually warm again.



Classic bikes 1st May

Can I appeal to some of our members who have not ridden for a while to try make the Classic run it would be really cool to see some of the old faces again and we have tried to structure this ride so that it is fairly short and can be done on any bike without out too much wear and tear.

You all know who I am appealing toLevellyn, Anita, Trev (we will shorten this to suit you bud and others etc.....

This made me think..

I'd rather be a rider for a minute than a spectator for a lifetime.

That's it folks!!