

The Southerner

Newsletter for The Southern ULYSSIAN



**February
2016**



Rider of the Month

Graeme Crosby

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Response

Jill's Jottings / Max's Murmur's

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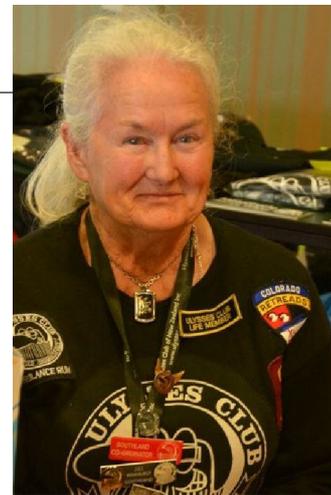
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Well now here we are again back into it -

Best wishes go out to all those who had and/or still have health issues – our thoughts are with you and we hope you will be on the up and up –

Our last Dine-out at The Cheeky Llama was well attended and those who went really enjoyed the evening. The Dine-outs will begin again March – anyone any suggestions?

Impromptu rides have taken place over the break and the Raffle tickets are pretty much sold – please contact should you wish to have one/some.

Hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year, keep/ride safe. Always available to receive a call re a ride.

A note here should you wish to have a ride and looking for a riding companion – or have a good idea for an impromptu ride – let Max (2166234) or Margaret Peake (2164070)

For those with health issues (procedures in Dunedin or further afield) be it yourself or family our thoughts are with you and ‘tis to be hoped you are on the up and up.

Just a note here too – branch elections are next year – perhaps you may be interested in putting your name forward for a committee position. Any “ideas”? you may have will be welcomed to what you would like to see/do.

A WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS – WE HOPE TO EITHER CATCH YOU ON THE ROAD AND/OR COME TO ONE OF OUR DINING OUT EVENTS. ‘TIS TRULY A SOCIAL TIME.

We have changed our ride meeting – going back to the carpark in South City at the back of Glasines – meeting at 10.00am – morning tea/late breakfast whatever – decision on the day re the ride should that prove to be the case.



Just a snippet from

LEGENDS ON 2 WHEELS

**A Celebration Of NEW ZEALAND'S Greatest
Motorcycle Riders**

GRAEME CROSBY

I watched a 25-year old Graeme Crosby win the Senior Tourist Trophy in the Isle of Man in 1980 in only his second year on "the Island", and become the first New Zealander to win the Senior Tourist Trophy in 73 years. I saw him, on a wet and cold afternoon, race works Suzukis at the English short circuit Snetterton, and than at the same meeting go out on an AJS 7R in a Classic Race. I was in England when Crosby led the British Grand Prix in front of a crowds of 65,000 before falling and bringing down a furious Barry Sheene, who saw the race as his best chance to win the British Grand Prix for the first time. Sheene, I felt, overlooked the fact that Crosby --- even given his highly developed sense of humour --- wouldn't deliberately have fallen off simply to bring Sheene down. I was in Australia when 'Croz' brought the big four-stroke works Suzuki to the Swann Series and cleaned up. I also watched the first signs of his brilliance at every round of the final Marlboro Series in New Zealand before he moved overseas. Graeme Crosby will be remembered as one of the last of a certain breed of motorcyclists. He could, and did, ride just about anything; today the degree of specialization is such that this can no longer happen. Sponsorship and contractual obligations also confine the top riders to very narrow boundaries. It is true that Crosby achieved only a second placing in the 500 cc World Championship, but, as well as mastering the unblemished tarmac of the Grand Prix circuits, he was victorious on the treacherous street circuit of Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man, and indeed here in New Zealand. He conquered the spectacular speed-bowl at Daytona, and the pressure-cooker of Suzuka. He came home with two Formula One World Championships, the forerunner of today's Superbike World Championship. There can be little doubt that Crosby left the international scene too soon, Many believe that he was still on his way up when he returned to New Zealand. One of Graeme Crosby's greatest achievements was to win the Daytona 200, the Imola 200, the Sukuka 8-hour, and the Isle of Man Tourist Trophy. Daytona was the most prestigious race in the United States during the 1970s and 1980s; for the motorcycle manufacturers it became a showcase for the hugh American

market. Crosby won the event in 1982. To put this in context: in the 71-year history of this race, only six Daytona winners - Crosby and Australian Mat Mladin, Patrick Pons from France, Italian Giacomo Agostini, Jarno Saarinen from Finland, and Chaz Davies from Wales - are not from the United States or Canada. Also in 1982, Crosby won the Imola 200 in Italy, the European equivalent of Daytona. He took out three Isle of Man Tourist Trophies - the Senior in 1980, and the Formula One and Classic events in 1981 - and won the Influential Japanese Sukuka 8 - Hour race in 1980. At that time, Sukuka regularly attracted 130,000 spectators for its annual spectacle. Other European and Australasian riders to win the race are Mick Doohan, Wayne Gardner, Aaron Slight, Tony Hatton, Kevin McGee, Valentino Rossi and Alex Barros; Americans Mike Baldwin, Fred Merkel, Eddie Lawson, Doug Pollen, Wayne Rainey and Colin Edwards have also tasted victory at Sukura. The race has been dominated by Japanese riders since 2002. Graeme Crosby's final year in the Isle of Man, 1981, was dramatic not only because of his two wins. Crosby was at this stage acknowledged as the best rider of large four-stroke machines in the world; the bulk of the Formula One machines then were around the 997 cc to 999 cc mark, and four-stroke. Rain earlier in the day had left the roads dry in parts and wet in others by the start of the Formula One race. Three teams in particular - Suzuki with Crosby, Mick Grant and John Newbold, Kawasaki with Roger Marshall and Graeme McGregor, and Honda's Ron Haslam, Alex George and Joey Dunlop - promised a scorcher to come. Tyres were crucial in the fickle conditions, and most settled for intermediate on the front with a mixture of slick and intermediate on the rear. A few minutes before the start, Crosby decided to change his initial choice to a rear slick. The wheel was replaced, but the wrong sprocket fitted. The time it took to exchange it for the correct sprocket meant Crosby arrived at the start line 45 seconds late. The ACU steward wouldn't let him start, telling him he would have to wait until all the other riders had gone; the result was that Crosby started 6 minutes late. Despite this setback, he rode a brilliant race to finish in third spot behind the Hondas of Haslam and Dunlop, smashing the lap record by 8 seconds in the process. Later in the day an international jury reversed the decision of the ACU steward, saying that it had been wrong to prevent Crosby from starting when he arrived at the start 45 seconds late. The 6 minutes were struck from the record, and he was docked only the 45 seconds, handing him victory; his winning margin was a little over 2 minutes, which meant he had made up 4 minutes on the leaders during the race.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

HUMOUR PAGE

AS I AGE, I REALIZE THAT:

I talk to myself, because sometimes I need expert advice. Sometimes I roll my eyes out loud. I don't need anger management. I need people to stop pissing me off. My people skills are just fine. My tolerance of idiots needs work. The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it." When I was a child, I thought naptime was punishment. Now it's like a mini vacation. The day the world runs out of wine is just too terrible to think about. Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it can muffle the sound! Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes; come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller? If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would have put them on my knees. When the kids text me "plz" which is shorter than please. I text back "no" which is shorter than "yes"

Two old ladies, Connie & Evelyn, were sitting on a park bench outside the local town hall where a flower show was in progress. The short one, Connie, leaned over and said, "Life is so boring. We never have any fun anymore. For \$10 I'd take my clothes off and streak through that stupid, boring flower show"!

"You're on!", said Evelyn, holding up a \$10 bill.

So, Connie slowly fumbled her way out of her clothes. She grabbed a dried flower from a nearby display and held it between her teeth. Then, completely naked, streaked (as fast as an old lady can) through the front door of the flower show.

Waiting outside, her friend soon heard a huge commotion inside the hall, followed by loud applause and shrill whistling. Finally, the smiling Connie came through the exit door surrounded by a cheering, clapping crowd.

"What happened"? ask

"I won \$1,000 as 1st prize for 'Best Dried Arrangement'!"

A good life is when you smile often, dream big, laugh a lot, and realize how blessed you are for what you have.

Yesterday my daughter e-mailed me again, asking why I didn't do something useful with my time.? Like sitting around the pool and drinking wine is not a good thing?? I asked.

Talking about my "doing-something-useful" seems to be her favorite topic of conversation.

She was "only thinking of me", she said and suggested that I go down to the Senior Center and hang out with the guys. I did this and when I got home last night, I decided to play a prank on her.

I e-mailed her and told her that I had joined a Parachute Club. She replied, "Are you nuts? You are 78 years old and now you're going to start jumping out of airplanes?" I told her that I even got a Membership Card and e-mailed a copy to her. She immediately telephoned me and yelled, "Good grief, Mom, where are your glasses?! This is a Membership to a Prostitute Club, not a Parachute Club." "Oh man, I'm in trouble again,? I said, ?I really don't know what to do. I signed up for five jumps a week!!" The line went quiet and her friend picked up the phone and said that my daughter had fainted. Life as a Senior Citizen is not getting any easier, but sometimes it can be fun.

Lawyer Story

One afternoon a lawyer was riding in her limousine when she saw two men along the road-side eating grass. Disturbed, she ordered her driver to stop and got out to investigate. She asked one man, "Why are you eating grass?" "We don't have any money for food," the poor man replied. "We have to eat grass." "Well, then, you can come with me to my house and I'll feed you," the lawyer said. "But madam, I have a wife and two children with me. They are over there, under that tree." "Bring them along," the lawyer replied. Turning to the other poor man he stated, "You may come with us, also." The second man, in a pitiful voice, then said, "But madam, I also have a wife and SIX children with me!" "Bring them all as well," the lawyer answered. They all entered the car, which was no easy task, even for a car as large as the limousine was. Once under way, one of the poor fellows turned to the lawyer and said, "Madam, you are too kind. Thank you for taking all of us with you." The lawyer replied, "Glad to do it. You'll really love my place. The grass is almost a foot high." Come on now...you really didn't think there was such a thing as a heart-warming lawyer story...did you????

How children perceive their Grandparents

1. She was in the bathroom, putting on her makeup, under the watchful eyes of her young granddaughter, as she'd done many times before. After she applied her lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But Grandma, you forgot to kiss the toilet paper good-bye!" I will probably never put lipstick on again without thinking about kissing the toilet paper good-bye.
2. My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, "80". My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"
3. After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. Finally, she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"
4. A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tyre; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking all this in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"
5. My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and replied, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.
6. A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?", he asked. "I don't know", she replied. "I can't read."
7. I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colours yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these colours yourself!"
8. When my grandson Billy and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to avoid attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use Grandpa. Now the mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."
9. When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." "Look in your underwear, Grandpa", he advised "Mine says I'm 4 to 6."
10. A second grader came home from school and said to her grandmother, "Grandma, guess what? We learned how to make babies today." The grandmother, more than a little surprised, tried to keep her cool. "That's interesting." she said . . . "How do you make babies?" "It's simple", replied the girl. "You just change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'."
11. Children's Logic: "Give me a sentence about a public servant", said a teacher. The small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder, pregnant." The teacher took the lad aside to correct him. "Don't you know what pregnant means?", she asked. "Sure", replied the young boy confidently. "It means carrying a child."
12. A grandfather was delivering his grandchildren to their home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog. The children started discussing the dog's duties. "They use him to keep crowds back", said one child. "No", said another. "He's just for good luck." A third child brought the argument to a close. "You're both wrong . . . They use the dogs", she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrants."
13. A 6-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh," he said, "she lives at the airport, and when we want her, we just go get her. Then, when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."
14. Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! He teaches me good things, but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him!

COMING EVENTS: (Mark your calendars)

15 February (Sunday) – Meet at the Carpark (South City) – morning tea/late breakfast and a decision on the day for a destination – could be all day taking into account daylight saving and the weather.

SAFE AND HAPPY RIDING ONE AND ALL

Anyone who is touring/Sunday driving and has a stop at a place you consider would be good value for a meal give me a call and I will try and strike a “deal”.Also suggestions for meals/activities are always welcome.

Jill tries to get events in the Saturday Events Diary so watch out for events in there.

ALSO DO NOT FORGET OUR RUNS ARE \$2 PER BIKE WHICH CONTRIBUTES TOWARDS RUNNING COSTS OF OUR LOCAL MAG

SEE YA ON THE ROAD

there is no compulsion on anyone to come on two wheels -three wheels and four are quite acceptable. We welcome your disgraceful company! The latter can be quite valuable as backup vehicles and of course can carry “stuff” for bikers who do not wish to be laden down. You ride at your own pace within your own comfort level.

Indemnity!!!

Please be aware that those who organise our Ulysses runs have made no arrangements for special rules or relaxation of rules.

All the provisions of the Transport Act and Transport Regulations apply at all times. All road markings and legal signage must be observed. Those who choose to do otherwise do so in direct contravention of the organisers instructions. You are on your own

Administration Person (Debby Morgan) and everything goes to her:

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**ULYSSES
SOUTHLAND**

Growing old
disgracefully

Our sincere
condolences to
those who
have lost loved
ones in the
intervening
period. You
are in our
thoughts.

