

Sydney Branch Ulysses Club Newsletter

July 2025

Address all correspondence to
The Secretary, Ulysses Club Sydney Branch scrtysydneybranch@gmail.com

President:

John Robertson : 0411 141 039
jwilliamrobertson@bigpond.com

Secretary:

Kevin Fleming: 0419 724 545
scrtysydneybranch@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Kate Robinson: 0403 963 032
kate.r9584@gmail.com



Committee:

Roger Bates : 0499 191 267
rotinijo@hotmail.com

Michael Clarke: 0497 596 800
clarke23@bigpond.net.au

Nick Williamson : 0457 006 309
hairybiker777@gmail.com

Quartermaster:

Phillip Motbey: 0487 414 063
blowfly6953@gmail.com

Branch Meetings are Held on 1ST Tuesday of each second month (1 September 2025)
Gladesville RSL 4-6 Linsley St, Gladesville NSW 2111
New members and guests welcome

Casual Dinner - 6pm 5 August 2025

Branch Meeting - 7:30pm 2 September 2025
casual dinner from 6pm

Rides and other activities regularly posted on our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/groups/UlyssesClubSydneyBranch/

BIKEBIZ

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSOR, BIKEBIZ PARRAMATTA and GRANVILLE.
THE SPONSORSHIP COMPRISES:

- \$50 Bikebiz card to raffle each month at Sydney Branch meetings.
 - Contact Mick for Accessories & Spares.
 - V.I.P Discounts for Ulysseans members
- 7 Great Western Highway Parramatta and 274 Parramatta Rd Granville
Ph: (02) 9682 2999 www.bikebiz.com.au

Thoughts for the Month

- Never ride faster than your guardian angel can fly.
- Happiness isn't around the corner. Happiness is the corner!
- Four wheels move the body, but two wheels move the soul.
- Never twist the throttle with your ego
- Riding a motorcycle is my therapy; the road is my counselor.

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Location: Gladesville RSL

Meeting opened at 7:25pm.

Committee members present: John Robertson, Kate Robinson, Michael Clarke,
Roger Bates, Nick Williamson

Number of members present:17

Acknowledgments:

Minutes from May meeting: No matters arising.

Apologies: Christian Raith, Joy Williams

New Members: none

Visitors: none

President report: no report due to the President's ill health (get well Robbo!)

Ride reports: Peter rode with the Eastern Creek branch to Woronora Dam, reporting it was a good day.

Kate was ride leader of the multi-branch ride and reported good weather, a good ride and a sausage sizzle.

Roger reminded members about the brunch at Deus Café on Fri 4th July, plus the John Jacque Duffield mystery picnic ride on Fri 11th , meeting at Mcdonald's Mcgraths Hill, stands up at 10:30am.

Michael advised of a ride to the Friendly Hotel in Kangaroo Valley on Fri 18th July , meeting at Mcdonald's Tahmoor, stands up at 10:30am.

General business: Meeting on 19th July regarding the next multi-branch ride. Kate is putting together some guidelines for riders' briefings at these rides.

Odyssey: Members were updated on progress following the recon ride by 7 members on Thu to Sun (26th to 29th June). Detailed description in 'Rides' below.

Raffle Prize: Collected the usual fare of wine, chocolates, Bike Biz voucher

Meeting closed: 8:25 pm

Next branch meeting: Tuesday 2 September, 7.30pm. Gladesville RSL

Marvellous Merimbula

Your committee braved the cold weather to recon the venue (and surrounding areas) for this year's Odyssey. Yes - the Sydney branch's 2025 Odyssey will be to Merimbula on the NSW south coast. With surrounding areas including Bombala, Bega and Candelero there will be some fun rides to enthrall everyone.

Dates: Friday 24th to Sunday 26th October, 2025

More details will be made available shortly (keep a lookout on the Facebook page), Friday and Saturday dinner will take place at Club Sapphire (119 Main St, Merimbula NSW 2548)

<https://clubsapphire.au/>

There is plenty of local accommodation within walking distance of Club Sapphire.

There is a local golf tournament, scheduled for the same weekend, so members are advised to book accommodation early.

Thanks to all those that made the journey - it was a fun and enjoyable weekend and a great teaser for the Odyssey ahead. More details in the 'Rides' section below.



PLEASE SEND PHOTOS and commentary of your rides to scrtysydneybranch@gmail.com for publishing in the newsletter or Facebook page

Dave's Deus Delight

Friday July 4th was another convivial, enjoyable social gathering of Ulysseans at the Deus Café in Camperdown. As Roger remarked, all the good people were there, filling two tables, with lots of catch up chat plus general problem solving and reminiscing.

One discussion revolved around arranging a Postie Ferry trip, which has already been actioned. See Facebook page for details. (thanks Nick & Dave F).

Bits and Bobs

Picnic Ride - Friday 11 July

When John & Jacquie were, sadly, a last minute withdrawal, Rocket Roger stepped up, unerringly leading us to the Duffield's recommended picnic spot, Smith Park at Richmond. The weather was cracker, the company was great (lots of Daves were present!) and we had a surprise in the food dept! Nick supplied burgers and Roger brought sausages – YUM!!

The park is small but very nice, overlooking a lagoon in the north western part of Richmond, where we were visited by the RAAF several times in their Hercules (which were very quiet given how low they were and being on nearly full power for take off), no doubt checking to see where the lovely bbq smell was coming from. The park (and the ride) is well worth another visit.

Odyssey recce ride to Merimbula - Thursday 26th to Sunday 29th June

We met at Pheasants Nest where John D led Nick Michael (on bikes) + Don M (car) to Merimbula, with Roger & Peter travelling in Roger's car (a flash MB 250) after Peter's bike got a flat tyre that couldn't be fixed.

The ride started inauspiciously when John's visor started flapping around on his helmet, necessitating a quick roadside repair! We travelled down via Kangaroo Valley & Nowra to Ulladulla, where we stopped for lunch. The weather was fine but quite chilly, with 4 deg being the lowest noted, necessitating several 'pit stops' along the way!!

Lunch was at a café which had a rear decking area overlooking (almost overhanging) the harbour, which was lovely in the sunshine. Roger and Pete joined us after taking Pete's bike home. We all left together (after Michael retrieved firstly his phone and then his helmet from the café!) but we didn't see the flying Mercedes until we arrived at the motel, hence Roger's new moniker 'Rocket Rog'!

Don went solo in his car, after we got separated in traffic at Moruya, but was also at the motel before the bikes, which detoured on a scenic route through Bermagui. Progress slowed considerably in the failing light, then darkness, due to the presence of kangaroos, 2 of which crossed the road very close to John and had all three of us with our eyes wide open and on stalks!

After inspecting facilities on Friday, Club Sapphire has been booked for Fri 24th and Sat 25th October. There is an Asian themed restaurant/cocktail bar with an open air terrace which should be suitable for our Friday evening event. With our Saturday evening dinner in the Auditorium area, with direct access to the bar, kitchen & toilets.

We met with the Visitor's Information Office to learn about various attractions available in the town. There are also numerous accommodation options; however with a local golf tournament in the area, scheduled for the same weekend, members are advised to book early.

We shared lunch with President Dan and 4 other members of the local Ulysses Branch. They provided a wealth of riding and other information, plus offered to help with the Odyssey.

On Saturday John led 4 bikes around the town to visit 2 caravan parks and a beach-side cabin facility. We then tested a possible ride for the Odyssey, via Pambula to Bombala, then back via Eden, as well as checking on possible lunch venues including Club Bombala.

Meanwhile, Roger and Peter discovered Spencer Park, a waterside area which will be suitable for a Saturday morning sausage sizzle breakfast, boasting 2 sets of BBQs, a toilet block and a coffee caravan, within an easy walk from the centre of Merimbula.

We departed before 8am on Sunday, again in beautiful, if chilly weather (Merimbula to Narooma was 0 deg), with Kevin stopping en-route to commemorate the odometer on his FJR clicking over 100,000 km.

Rocket Rog and Pete had a leisurely start with a sunrise walk & breakfast, but still caught up with us prior to Ulladulla!

We saw several Police vehicles, and some radar units, which, fortunately, were all in townships, where the heavy traffic made exceeding the speed limit unlikely. Ulladulla was again our lunch stop at the same café, this time with live music (on guitar, much to Roger's & Nick's delight).

Our final stop was at Mt Ousley for farewells, with people heading home in different directions but all arriving safe and sound around 4 pm.

Call for Volunteers - MS Gong Ride

You may know of the other type of two wheeled adventure with the MS Gong ride in November (from Tempe to Wollongong).

You may not be aware that motorcyclists are needed to assist with all sorts of activities.

Here is your opportunity to assist, maybe ride on some closed roads and contribute to a worthy cause. Register here: <https://www.msgongride.org.au/get-involved/volunteer>