

This Week with the Ghostriders



THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE GHOSTRIDERS

What's News ?

8th Annual Awards Night

Sat Feb 13th 2010

Football might have the Brownlow and cricket the Alan Border Medal, but undoubtedly head and shoulders over them all in the glamour stakes is the Ghostriders Annual Award Evening. With the abundant showing of shapely legs, spay on tans, carefully coiffed hair styles and body clinging garments leaving little to the imagination, the Emerald Country Club certainly looked like the centre of Melbourne's social set. And that was just the men—the ladies were even more ravishing.

This was the first time we had used this venue for our Awards Night and I think that everyone agreed it was fantastic not having to share with other diners and also having plenty of room to move about and mingle.

During the evening we were able to view two short videos of the most recent overseas adventure challenges that had been completed. We were also treated to an impromptu striptease by the MC for the evening. This would not have occurred if our original choice for MC (Eddie McGuire) had done the honours. Unfortunately he was apparently tied up with Olympic duties.

The undoubted highlight of any Awards Night is the election of the next King of the Trail and the awarding of the perpetual trophy. This amazing trophy must certainly be one of the most unusual in the entire cycling world.

After the votes were tallied we were able to announce that Jon Bate was elected as the new King. The new monarch's coronation was celebrated with much applause, fireworks and fanfare.

Congratulations also to John

Bird and Connie Dekter who were the 1st and 2nd runners up.

A number of Minor Awards were also presented during the evening, recognizing particular outstanding achievements during the year.

I would like to thank everyone who came along and helped make this evening so much fun.

On the following pages are some photos taken during the evening by Connie Dekter.

It was also great to see Gerry Driessen and Andrew Dunne both able to join the evening, both having recently undergone knee surgery. We wish them both a speedy and complete recovery.

On a more serious note, Tom Partel contacted me to let me know that his wife Margaret suffered a heart attack on Saturday morning and was admitted to Knox Hospital. She will be having a stent inserted in a coronary artery sometime today. I am sure that our thoughts and prayers are with them both at this difficult time.

Monday Feb 15th 2010

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A word of Clarification

During the evening I heard that some were of the mistaken idea that the Awards Dinner was a fundraising event for the Ghostriders. I am not sure where this idea came from as I can assure everyone that every cent collected for the dinner went straight to the caterers. In fact the only event that raises any profit is the Annual Lungbuster. This usually raises about \$70 profit which is put towards the cost of Awards and other items for the group. Last year it partially paid for the purchase of our walkie talkies which have been used on many subsequent rides.

No other charges have ever been levied for any of our other rides or dinners. All other running expenses are currently paid for out of my own pocket.

Coming Rides & Other News

Thursday Feb 18th— Special Filming Day for Ghost rider TV Documentary

As you should all be aware by now there will be a TV documentary filmed about the Warburton Trail and the Ghostriders. The filming for this will take place between 9 am and 6 pm this Thursday 18th Feb. For this reason the normal Warburton Trail ride will not take place. A subsequent filming session will take place on Sunday 21st Feb between 2 pm and 4 pm. We need between 10 and 15 Ghostriders for each day.

Thank you to all those who have indicated that they are willing and available to be involved in this unique experience. I reckon it should be a huge lot of fun.

I am still waiting for exact details of where we will need to meet on Thursday but as soon as I am informed I will post them on the web site. All riders have been asked to bring along their yellow jerseys and also an alternate jersey for background filming.

Saturday Feb 20th Pakenham to Drouin and Back

This ride will begin at Pakenham at 9.00 am and follow the back roads through to Drouin and back again. If the weather is kind we will probably extend the ride to Warragul (another 9 km or so further along).

As the ride is entirely on sealed road surfaces it is best for road bikes or hybrids. It would not be suitable for beginners. The first

section is predominantly flat but there are a few climbs further along.

We meet at the Mitre 10 car park at the corner of Bald Hill and Racecourse Rds in Pakenham.

Sunday 21st Feb 2 pm to 4 pm Second TV Filming Day

We need more Ghostriders to be available for a couple of hours to finalise filming and interviews.



8th Annual Awards Night Pictures



Eager guests arriving for the Coronation Dinner



Serious discussion as to outcome of the impending vote



“Big Kev” Henley and his cohorts plotting their next ride



Is this the seniors' table ?



Andrew and Bernie lead the fanfare for our new King Jon



King Jon accepts the impressive perpetual trophy following his official coronation as the new King of the Trail.