

# Monthly Newsletter



Novembre 2024

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Keep up to date at: [canberradistrictducaticlub.org.au](http://canberradistrictducaticlub.org.au)

## Presidente Rezazione

Gennaio 2024

Well a new year has rolled around again. Might just be me but seems like they are clocking over at a faster rate every year. We finished off last year with the Christmas party. Thanks again to Taso for catering the event and putting on a great spread yet again. The highlight of the night was the annual "Piss" awards. This is a club/Taso tradition where those in the club that have done notable things during the year are awarded with some different trophies for their screw ups or lets say weird or notable character traits.

We had the recovery ride on the 1st January with a big turnout. It was good to see that another club tradition was upheld. After a detailed ride brief and the importance of how corner marking worked I was heartened to see that it did dissolve in to 3 rides rather than one. Seems an easy concept to me but others.....not so much.

Just a couple of dates to put in your calendar now so you don't let other stuff get in the way. Harrieville ride is on the 22nd – 24th March 2024. Probably the best ride the club does for the year. Quite a few of the normal riders will be coming back from the Tassie trip and will meet up with the ride in Harrieville on the Friday.

DOC QLD is holding an NDR at Kooralbyn Valley on the 7th – 9th June 2024. Some of us have already booked and if your thinking of going you get a \$50 discount if you register before 31st January.

On a sad note for the club, long time member Steve "Hoppo" Hopkins passed away before Christmas. He was dedicated to rebuilding his old Ducatis and was active in the club. Really good bloke as well. Our thoughts are with Marilyn and his family. Reflecting on this and other sad events of the last year it reinforces to me that you need to enjoy life whilst you can and get out and ride those Ducatis.

Caio

Rod

## Prossimi appuntamenti-Next Events

Here is the latest calendar of CDDC events. See list after the tables for other events. For further information, please contact our Ride Coordinator (contact details at end of Newsletter). Don't forget, on all club rides TUFU applies (turn up, fuelled up). If you turn up then realise you need fuel and are gonna duck off to get fuel, then tell the ride coordinator.

To stay in touch with club rides make sure you check the club website for the latest ride information.

Rides can change at short notice and the website is the source of truth for club rides. Set it up in your favourites and with one click you will have the latest info.

<b>Gennaio (January) 2024</b>	
Monday 8th	Monthly club meeting.  7:30pm @Harmonie Club Narrabundah. This month we'll be in the Kellerbar  Meeting starts @ 7.30–eats from 6:30 for those who want to grab a meal before the meeting.
Saturday 13th	<b>Pheasant Wood Social Track Day</b>  We'll try this again. Following the cancellation/postponement of the November day due to bad weather, this is the next available ride day and we'll aim for a good club presence.  If you had already booked for the November day, you should be able to book this day with your credit – but check with the organisers. If you hadn't booked previously, but want to go, see the Pheasant Wood website for details.  If there is interest for a ride out to the track to see what goes on, let me know and I'll organise something.
Wednesday 17th	Yass  This is simply a ride out to Yass to meet for the start of the year and discuss upcoming weekday rides.  Meet at Coronation Park, Yass at 12.00 and we'll go somewhere for coffee or lunch. Coronation Park is in the center of town near the Visitor Centre.  These rides are aimed at encouraging club registered bikes, but all are welcome.
Sunday 21st	Taralga  A nice run out to Taralga to start the year off. We'll have lunch at the Argyle Inn.  Meet at The Little Sutton Bakehouse, 10 for a 10.30 start.
Sunday 28th	Duc's on the Pond

	<p>An opportunity to meet up for a coffee and chat and a ride if people are up for it.</p> <p>Meet for 10am near the Jetty Café – Queen Elizabeth Terrace – near Commonwealth Place, Lake Burley Griffin (down behind Questacon and the High Court).</p> <p>Yep, this is a long weekend – figured you don't get double demerits on latte's</p>
<h2 style="color: red;">Febbraio (February) 2024</h2>	
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<p>Gundaroo Pub</p> <p>A shortish run around some local roads ending up for lunch at the pub.</p> <p>Meet at the Little Sutton Bakehouse, 10 for a 10.30 start.</p>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	<p>CDDC Monthly General Meeting</p> <p>7:30pm @Harmonie Club Narrabundah. This month we're in our normal meeting place in the Keller Bar.</p> <p>Meeting starts @ 7.30 – eats from 6:30 for those who want to grab a meal before the meeting.</p>
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Ducs on the Pond</p> <p>An opportunity to meet up for a coffee and chat and a ride if people are up for it.</p> <p>Meet for 10am near the Jetty Café – Queen Elizabeth Terrace – near Commonwealth Place, Lake Burley Griffin (down behind Questacon and the High Court).</p>
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	<p>Mid week ride to Jugiong</p> <p>Ride to Jugiong for lunch. This is one of our regular weekday rides and the road across from Harden to Jugiong is certainly worth the effort.</p> <p>Meet at Coronation Park, Yass, 10 for a 10.30am start. Coronation Park is in the center of town, near the Visitor Centre</p> <p>We'll ride to Jugiong via Binalong and Harden.</p> <p>These rides are aimed at encouraging club registered bikes but all are welcome.</p>
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Batemans Bay</p> <p>We haven't gone down to coast for a while, hopefully the holiday crowds will be back at work by this time and the roads are not too busy.</p> <p>Meet at Gunna Doo Bakery, Bungendore, 10 for a 10.30 start.</p> <p>Note – this is a Saturday ride.</p>

**Note:** Event start times & venues are subject to change – make sure you confirm latest event info on the website @ <https://canberradistrictducaticlub.org.au>

The CDDC provides funds for a support vehicle & recovery trailer on sanctioned club rides like the Harrierville, Khancoban runs & Bevels to the Bay run each year. See other comments re the funding of support vehicles & trailer on CDDC club rides in this newsletter.

### **Ride/event ideas**

If you would like to lead a ride of your choice or have a suggestion for a ride, please email [ridesddc@gmail.com](mailto:ridesddc@gmail.com). Aside from these planned rides, I encourage everyone to start events via the club website or Facebook page for casual short rides.

### **Weekday Rides**

The situation with the COVID Virus is changing on a daily basis, however at this stage it is still within the rules and guidelines to hold our monthly rides as long as social distancing requirements are complied with by members.

# Vale Steve "Hoppo" Hopkins

## Reflections on Hoppo's Funeral

*Tim Smith*

The President, Secretary, Catering Division and I decided to take the day to ride up for Hoppo's funeral. As a spur of the moment thing, it afforded us an opportunity to reflect on a dear club member who left us too soon.

We headed up from Goulburn into the Blue Mountains and down to Western Sydney before taking the highway to Newcastle. The cool wet weather at the start afforded me an opportunity to reflect on a man who was instrumental in my participation in the club.

Hoppo was one of the first members I met back in 2017, at the Coffee Guru in Lanyon before doing a loop of the Cotter; Along with Marilyn, Sarge, Taso, Rod and others I don't recall being there. On top of a good ride with people who would become friends (other than Rod who doesn't do friends), I got to experience the generosity of Hoppo when he shouted me lunch (due to the lack of eftpos at the Tidbinbilla tracking station).

Little did I know the generosity was so big and followed by a devious streak! Less than 3 months in the club and Hoppo had me doing the Rides Coordination and pitching in to help organise and run the NDR. That bastard!

As time went on, health or other things prevented Hoppo from participating in club rides. Nevertheless, I've always to emulate his good nature and commitment to the club (even if some say I resemble the president in looks, demeanour or friendliness).

Just outside of Hartley, I lost my left panier (again). This provided a romely reminder of Hoppo's helpfulness. While I had Tas, Rod and Craig to help recover the offending luggage, I remembered Hoppo's helpful words about addressing the lagging warranty process at the 2018 NDR (about 6 weeks after the last time this happened): "Well, Noel Fraser and Simon Leplaw are just over there. Go talk to them!". This proved to be helpful advice and got a more timely resolution than I'd hoped for. Thanks, Hopp!

Not much farther down the road we discovered Taso a nail with his tire and forced us to stop. Another moment for quiet reflection while we repaired the leak. No specific story came to mind but the sense of community as Rod, Craig and I all took care of business while Taso took a well deserved break from breaking his bike certainly would have made Hoppo smile. Bet you were watching and getting a giggle!

The roads got boring after the mountains but gave me time to think about how Hoppo would light up from the face down and smile with his whole presence when he helped you. He was also quick to dispense knowledge of some back road or off-road route to get somewhere, inspiring my passion to be off the cursed highways (which I was riding down with much joy). I'm sure you would have shared our enthusiasm for 140 km of freeway after a 6 am start, eh, Hoppo?

As I reflect on the stories and memories shared at the funeral service today, I'm reminded of my own favourite. For those familiar with club meetings, you'll know how we love a good sledge. Those

who knew Hoppo and Marilyn will remember how much fun it would be to start on Hoppo and have it somehow morph into him digging a hole with Marilyn.

One fateful day, we'd all (probably mostly Sarge and myself) got stuck into Hoppo and, in a fit of exasperation, he declared "the club would be a nicer place if members could act their age instead of their shoe size!". Without missing a beat, I removed my right riding boot and passed it to Sarge who dutifully showed Hoppo the size tag. For those who don't know me, I wasn't 30 at the time and my European shoe size is 46.

Needless to say, Hoppo was equally annoyed and entertained with this display. I'm still shocked I got my boot back, but that might be about him wanting me to be safe rather than win.

Cheers to you Hoppo and we'll catch up again.



## Ride Reports

*Craig Evans*

I missed getting a few ride reports out towards the end of last year, and here we are at 2024 already!

### November 11th & 12th - Phil Goldacre Memorial Ride

It seems like ages ago we did this ride, way back in 2023. It was a great weekend as far as the weather was concerned and we had a strong turnout for one of the club's marquee rides. In all we had 14 bikes on the ride, with one going two up as well as Waji's crew chief coming along to make sure Waji's socks were properly organized. One thing is for sure, with an organiser like Amy, Waji can never use the 'sock draw' excuse for not coming on a ride.

But back to the ride. It was great to see Grant back on the 750 Sport, given the work he'd put in on the bike recently, as well as the link with the bike and Phil. The ride itself was fairly hassle free – if you disregard the CDDC and our ability to mess up simple concepts, like corner marking. Nothing more to say on that.



The lunch stop at Tumut

There was also the issue of Taso letting all the air out of his rear tyre, while he was going along – talented. Eventually and after a bit of pushing from Taso, Rod was able to repair the puncture. It's yet to be confirmed but apparently there is about 30kg's of puncture repair 'things' floating around in the rear tyre of Taso's Panigirlie after a few failed attempts at plugging the hole – must play havoc with the balance when meeting Taso's KPI's.

Eventually everyone made it safely to the Hotel and given the warm weather it was a welcome relief to have a hotel pool that we could actually swim in – that was a first for me in all the years I have gone on this ride.

A good night was had at the Corryong Hotel, a meal or two were a little late coming out – but I guess someone has to get the Yeendy award. And one or two may have been feeling a little lethargic come Sunday morning.

The ride home was uneventful. A great ride home via the Alpine Way – still has to be one of the best bike roads around – and lunch at the Wild Brumby distillery.

### **November 22nd - Mid week ride to Temora**

This was one of Grant's rides for those lucky enough to not have to work on Wednesday's and while aimed at Club Registered bikes, all are welcome – even Triumph Tigers!

The ride was supposed to go to Temora, but by unanimous agreement, me and the other rider (John on his MHR) decided on a shorter ride to Jugiong via Harden. After a comfortable run across from Harden it was nice to be there mid week and enjoy leisurely lunch under the shade of the trees. In all the times I'd been to the Sir George, this was the first time outside of winter – a very different experience.

We retraced our steps for the ride home, can think of worse ways to spend a Wednesday.

### **December 10th - Trunkey Creek**

A good turnout for the last regular ride of the year out to the Black Stump Hotel at Trunkey Creek. Personally I feel a sense of achievement whenever me and the 959 make it to Trunkey Creek, as we haven't always achieved that goal.

We had eight bikes front up for the ride and for once our corner marking worked a treat, well to be honest there aren't many corners between Sutton and Trunkey Creek. But I'll take a win when I can.





A sneaky pit stop for coffee on the way home from Trunkey Creek.

It was a nice run over to Crookwell and a regroup for fuel. It is always a nice fun bit of road and as the general state of country roads improve it will only get better.

The run over to Trunkey Creek is also a bit of a gem and so much better when you get a clear run through the best sections. The day was a tad warm and it is amazing how much just a few degrees makes to rider comfort. It also makes a cool drink at the destination taste just that much better. Lunch was had and by all reports – even from our resident food critics – wasn't too shabby.

The return trip was back the same way we came and again we had a fairly clear run back to Crookwell and then on to Gunning for an afternoon coffee stop. Good to see a few 'less regular' members out on this one and as it turned out this was the last club ride for the year.

### January 1st – New Year's Recovery Ride

Welcome to 2024, the traditional start of the riding year, which considering it is on the first of the year it couldn't be any earlier. We had a great turnout for this ride – once again. I think we had something like 25 or 26 bikes out on this one – to be honest I lost count. This was probably one of the best turned out New Year's ride I've been on, which is great to see and reflects that you do like to get out on your bikes. It was also great to see a few other bikes, a few BM's, an MV, a Suzuki and the obligatory Tiger (no not mine).



A few of the bikes pre ride.

The ride was intended to do the same route as we have done for the past few years, hoping that sooner or later we would actually get it right. More on that later.

Due to some messy road works on Nanima Road I decided to cut that from this year's ride. That decision did however bring the challenge of navigating through the back streets of Gungahlin which well and truly undid our corner marking. If nothing else, at least we are consistent.

Forgetting our corner marking, oh and the mishap that happened somewhere along the way where we lost about a third of the riders – everyone pretty much made it to the George Harcourt and we were able to get hold of our usual spot out the back, which we definitely needed this year to fit everyone in.

So thanks to all those who rode out and also those who made it for lunch, it was great to see.

Keep an eye out for more rides.

## Altre Notizie – Other news

### CDDC SUPPORTERS

These are the businesses that support the club through donations, discounts: **Belt & Bevel, TeamMoto Canberra, New Eagle Signs, St John Ambulance ACT & CanPrint.** Many thanks to them and show your appreciation by patronising these businesses.

***!! IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP YOURSELF UP TO DATE !!***

Have you moved? Changed your email address? Changed your contact number? Remember, if your contact details change, it's your responsibility to advise the CDDC of your new address. Don't complain if you are a financial member & you are not getting notices or newsletters – you'll find in 101% of cases you've not notified of your change. Also, if you update your member details through your DOC portal, you also need to advise membership. If you have any problems with receiving information, please contact [secretarycddc@gmail.com](mailto:secretarycddc@gmail.com)



## DUCATI RESOURCES IN THE ACT/QUEANBEYAN/YASS AREA

So, you own, or are thinking of owning a Ducati in the ACT/Queanbeyan/Yass area. What resources/support can you access if you do own a Duke, or you get a Duke? Set out below is a list of the main sources of bikes, parts, servicing, advice you can call upon.

### Belt & Bevel (B&B)

<http://beltandbevel.com.au/>

Call 0408 223 069 to speak to Michael Fuller B&B is the place for that hard-to-find part, both for new & old Dukes. B&B stocks many parts not found anywhere else. As a special exclusive for CDDC members a 10% discount can be accessed but you need to quote the discount code which is currently CDDC22.



### Desmoharmonic

[desmoharmonic@icloud.com](mailto:desmoharmonic@icloud.com)

Fyshwick – 0408764374

Desmoharmonic as in desmodromic is a new service studio owned and operated by Peter Giles who many of you may know as he has been specialising in Ducati service here in Canberra since 2001 and has over 25 years' experience with Ducati working at many different dealerships including JHP Ducati Coventry UK. Desmoharmonic can cater for all your service needs on all models post warranty, a tyre service is also available. He too is offering a 10% discount on all parts to club members.

### Canberra Motorcycle Doctor

<https://www.canberramotorcycledoctor.com/>

Doc has been working his Ducati magic for years

Fyshwick – 0477 366 082

Unit 3/100 Maryborough St Fyshwick 2906

### TeamMoto

<https://www.teammoto.com.au/canberra/>

30 Ipswich St Fyshwick – (02) 6280 4491 TeamMoto is the local Ducati dealership. So, for any warranty work it's the only resource. Obviously, they also sell parts, official Ducati clothing as well as doing servicing.

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