

APRIL 2025 Newsletter



CLUB NIGHT - WEDNESDAY 2ND APRIL

Location: Manukau Cruising Club, Orpheus Drive, Onehunga

Doors open: 6.30pm - Dinner available (from \$16) Raffles, Prizes, catch up with friends, chat etc.



President's Report

Hi folks and welcome to my first report for this time round.

First off, I would like to thank the outgoing committee for the great job they have done in the last year, and I want to thank the new committee for putting their hands up to help carry the torch.

It has been a terrible start to this year with the passing of five Auckland or ex Auckland Club members and my deepest condolences go out to the families and friends of Peter Webb, Ian Methven, Arthur Davis, Liz Macfarlane, and Niki Morrison. They will certainly be remembered with great fondness as their names are read out at the Remembrance Run this year.

Unfortunately, we have one committee member that will be moving to the South Island later in the year so we will need to replace her. We are also looking for people to take up the following positions. Vice President, ideally this will be someone that is happy to learn ropes and then step up to the Presidents position at a later date. Welfare Officer, this requires someone who has great empathy for your fellow club members, is happy to make phone calls and possibly do Hospital visits to check up on people. I think and am hoping that we have found a new runs coordinator to replace Chris but if anyone feels that they would like to take up this or any of the other positions then please contact me or any of the committee members.

Because of the tough economic times we live in today and the fact that the Auckland Branch is in a very healthy financial position the Committee has decided to stop collecting the \$2 donation for going on rides so you will no longer have to make sure you carry any change in your pocket to go on a ride. For safety reasons we will still be asking people to fill in the runs sheet before the ride.

If you have anything that you would like to see the branch do or not do, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

That's all from me for now I will see you at club night

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Cheers

Clive Thomas # 2383

Auckland President

2025 / 2026 Committee elected at the AGM

Position	Elected
President:	Clive Thomas
Vice President:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Evan Swenson
Secretary:	Roger Judd
Welfare Officer:	Vacant
Committee elected:	
Claudia Wilson	
Janny Nicoll	
Martin Pepper	
Neville Kerr	



2025 Events to Diary

Event Date

National AGM	11 th – Sunday 13 th April 2025 - New Plymouth	
Remembrance Service	16 th August 2025 - Taupo	
	To be confirmed - April	
NZ Motorcycle Show	18-19 th October	
Auckland Branch Rally	21 st – 23 rd November – Port Waikato	

lan Methyen - Funeral 5th March 2025 Pukekohe

There was a good representation of Ulyssians at Ian Methven's funeral service held recently at Waters Funerals, Pukekohe. The chapel was full not only with Ian's Ulyssian colleagues but also Honda NZ Ltd staff and Management, Ian's sailing partners (yes, Ian sailed yachts), family and friends. It always amazes me how much you don't really know about someone until you attend an occasion such as this. So much was shared by those that spoke. I felt privileged to have had the opportunity to speak about the Ian I knew both as a Ulysses colleague and as a work colleague at Honda NZ. Craig Moodie also spoke on behalf of Ulysses Auckland as our ex-President and as current Vice-President of Ulysses NZ. Ian was a valued and liked member of the Auckland branch. He is going to be missed but not forgotten.

Sheryl Boyd
ULYSSES MEMBER #9443
ex PRESIDENT

Auckland Ulysses - Know your committee 2025 - 26

Name: Evan Swenson #803

Role on Committee: Auckland Branch Treasurer **Year of Birth and Born:** May 1945 Te Kuiti.

First Job: Carpentry and Joinery Apprenticeship with Te Kuiti Builders in 1962.

Current role: Retired - living in a Retirement Village

First bike: 1952 BSA B33 500cc in 1963



Other Bikes I have owned:

2 BSA's, a Matchless and 4 Triumphs. My last British bike was a 1968 Trophy which was traded in for a Ford Zephyr Mark II in 1969. During this time a group of us started the Waitomo MC club. By 1970 most of the members had moved on to cars or moved away from the district.

My Ulysses History

1989 Bought a Yamaha XJ900 and joined the Tauranga Ulysses. I spent 5 years as a coordinator there. 2005. Moved to the Canterbury Ulysses. Took a lot of Fridays of work to go to bike rallies all over the South Island. 2010 Retired to Auckland. 2012. Back to the Bay of Plenty. 2023, Back to Auckland.

Best Bike

Yamaha XJ900. Still had the original cam chain when I sold it with 240 000km on the clock. Did have to replace 2 sets of front wheel and steering head bearings.



Long Distance Rides and Trips

Rusty Nuts 1000 miles in 24 hours, TT 2000 South Island, Capital 1000K Cruise are just some of timed rides I enjoyed doing. The longest trip would be to the 2011 Burt Munroe.

What I enjoy about the Ulysses Club

The friends I have made from like minded people I have meet over the years in the

club.

By Evan

Woman has Man in it.
Mrs has Mr in it.
Female has Male in it.
She has He in it.
Madam has Adam in it.
Ever noticed how all women's problems start with MEN?
MENtal illness,
MENstrual cramps, MENtal breakdown, MENopause,
GUYnecologist ... when we have REAL trouble, it's a HISterectomy!

One for the ladies....

Motorcycle Engine Types - General Interest item - from the EditorSingle Cylinder

Single-cylinder engines are mechanically simple, which means lower manufacturing costs and easier maintenance. They're lightweight and compact, and perform well at low RPMs, so are ideal where weight is a factor, and where low-end torque is more important than high-end horsepower, such as in off-road riding. With only one piston, dynamic balance can be challenging though, leading to increased wear and tear on components and more vibration compared to a multi-cylinder.

Examples - AJS 500cc single, modern - Royal Enfield's, new BSA 650cc etc.



BSA 650cc Single - 2022 to current - now made in India

Parallel Twin

A parallel twin engine has two pistons running alongside each other. In a nutshell they mix the compact design, low weight and simplicity of a single, with a few added benefits. Like a single, they use fewer components than multi-cylinder engines, so are still relatively cost-effective to produce and maintain. A twin produces good torque at Low RPM, like a single, but the extra piston gives it much more into the mid-range and allows for a larger capacity. Vibration can still be an issue, although balancing mechanisms are often employed. The sound a twin makes can also be less appealing to riders, although manufacturers have recently started experimenting with different crank set-ups and firing orders, which improves this.

Examples – The Triumphs, Norton and BSA's we grew up on, modern - Triumphs, Honda CB500 and many others.



Norton Commando 750cc - Parallel Twin - 1970 to 1975

V-Twin

V-Twins are synonymous with custom and cruiser motorcycles, Harley-Davidson and Moto Guzzi being the best known, but are also used to great effect on sports and performance bikes - Ducati being the most well-known. They come in all sizes; from 125 all the way up to 2000cc. Relatively slow-revving, and often featuring a long stroke, they produce tons of low-end torque and produce a characteristic and appealing exhaust note. It's not all good news though, V-Twins can exhibit significant vibration - particularly in larger displacement models - and can be limited in high-end power output. They can also have uneven weight distribution, impacting handling and are more complex and expensive to manufacture and maintain

Examples – Harley Davidsons, old and new, Moto Guzzi old and new, Ducati old and new (theres a theme here somewhere)



Harley Davidson V- Twin Engines

Horizontally Opposed Twins / Flat Twins

Sitting low in the frame, and with cylinders pointing parallel to the ground, a horizontally opposed twin (also known as flat- or boxer twin) comes with the main advantage of a low centre of gravity, enhancing stability and handling. Boxer twin

engines typically provide a wide powerband, offering good torque at various RPM levels. This makes them suitable for a range of riding conditions. The design allows for efficient air cooling, and a narrow profile, which can be advantageous in terms of aerodynamics and motorcycle design. The prominent cylinders can affect impact manoeuvrability though. Boxer engines are also heavy, affecting overall weight of the motorcycle, however, advancements in materials and engineering have mitigated this to some extent in modern designs.

Examples – BMW Boxers old and new, Zundapp, Douglas



BMW R80 Horizontal Twin - 800cc approx 1997

Triple Cylinders

Moto Guzzi were the first manufacturer to experiment with a three-cylinder engine, way back in 1932. The extra cylinder adds extra power compared to a twin, but without too much of a weight or size penalty - they're generally more compact than a four-cylinder making them a good choice for motorcycles where space is a premium. Triples are also easy to balance, which results in smoother power delivery - the outer pistons cancel each other out, while the middle piston can be taken care of with a balance shaft. They also produce a unique turbine-like exhaust note, which many riders favour. The additional cylinder brings with it complexity, so manufacturing and servicing costs aren't as low as a single or twin. Three-cylinder engines also may have less low-end torque. This can affect the bike's performance at lower speeds, although the specific design and tuning of the engine can influence this.

Examples – Kawasaki 2 stroke triples, modern - Triumph Street Triples, Yamaha MT-09 etc



Kawasaki H1 Mach III tripe cylinder 2 stroke - 1969 to 1975

Inline Fours

Inline-four engines are renowned for their high-end power and performance. They can achieve high RPMs, making them suitable for sport bikes and other high-performance motorcycles. The inherent balance of a four-cylinder configuration results in smoother operation compared to engines with fewer cylinders, for a more comfortable and enjoyable riding experience. Inline-four engines are more complex than those with fewer cylinders, so require higher manufacturing costs and maintenance requirements. They're also wide and heavy, impacting the overall weight, width and handling of the motorcycle. Due to their high-performance characteristics, motorcycles with inline-four engines aren't always ideal for beginner riders; the power delivery and responsiveness can be challenging for those who are still learning to ride.

Examples – ACE, Henderson, Indian, Honda CB750, modern - most Japanese brands

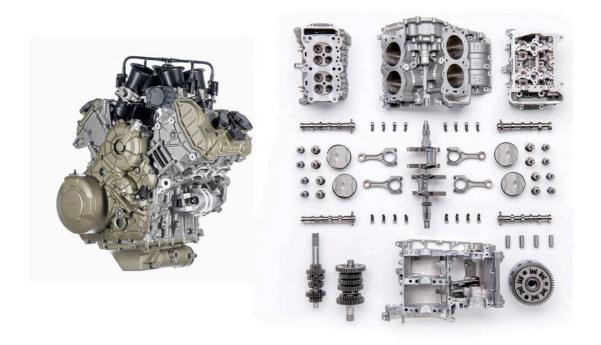


Honda CB 750cc - the standard setting inline 4 cylinder - 1960 to 2008

V-Fours

V-four engines are known for their smooth and balanced operation. The V configuration helps minimise vibrations, providing a comfortable and refined riding experience. V-four engines can be more compact than in-line four-cylinder engines. This can contribute to a more agile and manoeuvrable motorcycle, and improved weight distribution. They provide a good balance between low-end torque and highend power, which results in a versatile power band, making them suitable for various riding conditions and styles. They also produce a unique and appealing exhaust note. s you'd expect, V-four engines are very complex. The V arrangement involves more components and can be more challenging to manufacture and maintain; the compact nature makes accessing components challenging compared to simpler engine configurations.

Examples – Matchless Silver Hawk, Yamaha VMAX, modern – Ducati, Honda VRF750F, Honda ST1100 and commonly seen in MotoGP also



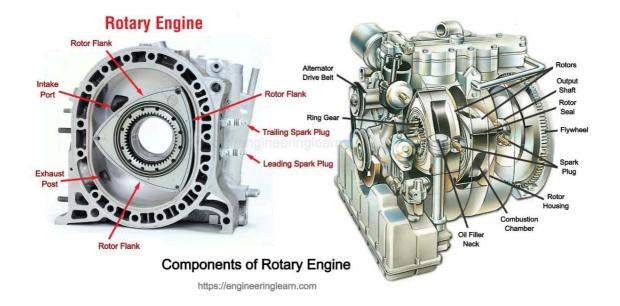
Ducati V4 Granturismo engine - 1158cc 170 HP at 10,500 rpm! - complex

Rotary Engines

Various manufacturers have ventured into Rotary engines, none successful long term due high fuel consumption and wear issues associated with this engine type.

Rotary engines offer a high power to weight ratio, smooth operation and compact size, and have fewer moving parts than 4 stroke engines.

Common models would be the Suzuki RE5 and the Norton Classic / P43.









ULYSSES CLUB MERCHANDISE

Show your club pride with some of our Ulysses branded merchandise. Decals, Patches, Clothing and Badges all available online.

Click this link to purchase online: The Ulysses Club of NZ | Club Store

MEMBERS DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

There have been changes to the Interislander and Bluebridge discounts.

Click here for the new details.

Re the Interislander please note if you are a senior tick the seniors box and enter the discount code. You will get discount on the seniors price. Also the Interislander on occasions has discount promotions.

There is currently one for twenty percent but subject to conditions. Click here for details. Note you cannot use two discount codes at the same time.

KIWI FUEL LTD current Ulysses card 0800 438383 or info@kiwifuelcards.co.nz

Motorcycle Doctors 10% discount for Ulysses members to use at the online store www.shop.motorcycle-doctors.co.nz. Enter "Ulysses" as the discount code at checkout.

For further discounts click on the link above

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Are you a financial member?

There are still some people who have not renewed their membership yet. If you think this might be you please go and get out your Membership Card.

- Check the expiry date. If your membership expired last year, it is still not too late to renew your membership.
- Go online now and pay your sub.

One Year Individual Member is \$70.00,
Three Years Individual Member is \$190.00
One Year Joint Member is \$66.00 per each member

Three Years Joint Member is \$180.00 per each member.

Pay money into:

BNZ Bank A/c: 02-0412-0001771-097.

DON"T FORGET TO INCUDE YOU NAME AND ULYSSES # IN THE DETAILS

Job done thanks.

RUNS AND SOCIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

When attending a Club Ride be at the departure point 10 Minutes early with a FULL GASTANK and an EMPTY BLADDER. If you are not sure if the run may be cancelled because of inclement weather, phone the RIC.

RIDE GUIDE

SHORT:150Km's, MEDIUM: 150 - 300Km's, LONG: 300+Km's. XTRA/LONG:500+Km's Each RIC will carry a Mobile Phone for emergencies. In an emergency use the number listed next to the relevant RIC. If no answer leave a message.

- The Rider in Charge will be organising the day. Contact them for details. All Riders participating in a Ulysses Club Ride are expected to hold a current licence, relevant to the motorcycle that they are riding, wear suitable clothing and have a registered and warranted road-worthy motorcycle.
- Club & Social Night Venues are printed at the bottom of the Runs List. Direct ride related questions to Chris Moller (Runs Co-ordinator) 09 298 1702 or RIC of the day. General questions to Clive Thomas (President) 027 481 2700.

Tue- 1st Apr

TUESDAY EASY RIDER

Pick your R.I.C.and Destination on the day.

DISTANCE

Medium

For more info contact Dave Tantrum 021 901 274

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

Wed- 2nd AprCLUB NIGHT, CRUISING CLUBSun- 6th AprNORTH WAIKATO WITH TONYMedium

Tony is RIC - Phone 020 4148 5160 or 020-414-85160

Departs Bombay Z 10-00am

Tue- 8th Apr TUESDAY EASY RIDERS Medium

Pick your R.I.C.and Destination on the day.

For more info contact Dave Tantrum 021 901 274

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

Thu- 10th Apr WEST AUCKLAND DINNER & SOCIAL NIGHT

Sat- 12th Apr LITTLES NEWBIES & OLDIES Short

Nathan is RIC - Phone or 0274633442

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

** For new and old riders or anyone - bring along a friend or two! **

Tue- 15th Apr TUESDAY EASY RIDERS Medium

Pick your R.I.C.and Destination on the day.

For more info contact Dave Tantrum 021 901 274

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

Sat- 19th Apr COFFEE, CAKES AND CONVERSATION - EAST

Back to Lime Tree Café

Ride or Drive

Meet at 10:00am for a coffee and chat, choose your own departure time.

Lime Tree Café. Whitford

Sun- 20th Apr DO YOUR OWN RIDE EASTER WEEKEND

PICK YOUR RIC ON THE DAY

Departs Bombay Z 10-00am

Tue- 22nd Apr TUESDAY EASY RIDERS Medium

Pick your R.I.C.and Destination on the day.

For more info contact Dave Tantrum 021 901 274

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

Thu- 24th Apr SOUTH AUCKLAND DINNER & SOCIAL NIGHT

Papakura Club,5 Croskery Rd,off Hunua Rd. Contact Chris 092891702 or 0210347996.

Sat- 26th Apr LITTLES NEWBIES & OLDIES Short

Nathan is RIC - Phone or 0274633442

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

** For new and old riders or anyone - bring along a friend or two! **

Sun- 27th Apr HOPIN STOPIN CAFÉ WITH VANCE Medium

Vance is RIC - Phone 09 278 7229 or 021 023 83498

Departs Bombay Z 10-00am

<u>Tue- 29th Apr</u> <u>TUESDAY EASY RIDERS - LONG RIDE</u> Long

Tony is R.I.C. Destination advised on the day - Ph 020 4148 5160

or more for info contact Dave Tantrum 021 901 274

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

<u>Tue- 6th May</u> <u>TUESDAY EASY RIDERS</u> *Medium*

Pick your R.I.C.and Destination on the day.

For more info contact Dave Tantrum 021 901 274

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

Wed-7th May CLUB NIGHT, CRUISING CLUB

Thu- 8th May WEST AUCKLAND DINNER & SOCIAL NIGHT

Sat- 10th May COFFEE, CAKES AND CONVERSATION - SOUTH

KARAKA GENERAL STORE & CAFÉ. 257 LINWOOD ROAD

KARAKA. Ride or Drive

Meet at 10:00am for a coffee and chat, choose your own departure time.

257 Linwood Rd, Karaka.

Sun- 11th May MYSTERY WITH DAVE Medium

Dave is RIC - Phone 021 148 6831 or 021-148-6831

Departs Bombay Z 10-00am

Tue- 13th May TUESDAY EASY RIDERS Medium

Pick your R.I.C.and Destination on the day.

For more info contact Dave Tantrum 021 901 274

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

Sat- 17th May LITTLES NEWBIES & OLDIES Short

Nathan is RIC - Phone or 0274633442

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

** For new and old riders or anyone - bring along a friend or two! **

Tue- 20th May TUESDAY EASY RIDERS Medium

Pick your R.I.C.and Destination on the day.

For more info contact Dave Tantrum 021 901 274

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

Sun- 25th May CAMBRIDGE WITH CHRIS Medium

Chris is RIC - Phone 021 034 7996 or 021 034 7996

Departs Bombay Z 10-00am

Tue- 27th May TUESDAY EASY RIDERS Medium

Pick your R.I.C.and Destination on the day.

For more info contact Dave Tantrum 021 901 274

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

Thu- 29th May SOUTH AUCKLAND DINNER & SOCIAL NIGHT

Papakura Club,5 Croskery Rd,off Hunua Rd.

Contact Chris 092891702 or 0210347996.

Sat- 31st May LITTLES NEWBIES & OLDIES Short

Nathan is RIC - Phone or 0274633442

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

** For new and old riders or anyone - bring along a friend or two! **

Tue- 3rd Jun TUESDAY EASY RIDERS Medium

Pick your R.I.C.and Destination on the day.

For more info contact Dave Tantrum 021 901 274

Departs Papakura Service Centre 10-00am

Wed- 4th Jun CLUB NIGHT, CRUISING CLUB

CLUB NIGHT MEETING AND SOCIAL EVENING. Starts at approx. 6-30pm. Dinner, Tea & Coffee is available at the venues, Name badges must be worn (\$1 fine for nonconformance..). Visitors Welcome.

Venue; Manukau Cruising Club. Orpheus PI, Onehunga. 1st Wednesday of each month.

WEST AUCKLAND SOCIAL EVENING; Venue - New Lynn RSA. 2 Veronica St, New SOUTH AUCKLAND SOCIAL EVENING; Venue - RSA Papakura, Elliott Street, Papakura

Committee Meetings are held at 7:00pm on the third Monday of each month at The Manukau Cruising Club, Orpheus Road, Onehunga

"After Match Function" means an organized group ride returning back to a venue. Rally Entry Forms etc. are available on Club Nights.

AUCKLAND ULYSSES POSTAL ADDRESS; PO Box 96 219, Balmoral, AUCKLAND 1342.



THINGS CAN CHANGE BETWEEN NEWSLETTERS!

Check before departing on a club ride

To keep up-to-date with Branch events, runs and news between newsletters visit our website for the latest information www.ulyssesauckland.org.nz We also have a face book page.

Join the <u>Auckland Ulysses Facebook</u> page. You will find notices of upcoming events, ride reports immediately after (or during!) rides, ride cancellations, and much more.

JUST A REMINDER - RAFFLE DONATIONS

It's not just the committee's job find to find the raffle prizes at the monthly meetings - it's up to all members. The raffles (and the modest run fees) form a vital part of our Branch's income.

- Idea 1: if it's your birthday in a particular month please donate a bottle of wine or something else of similar value.
- Idea 2: consider donating any unwanted Christmas or birthday gifts as a raffle prize. That way it will still bring joy to someone.
- A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN HELPING OUT WITH THE RAFFLES!

BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORT AUCKLAND ULYSSES

ULYSSES MEMBERS' DISCOUNT

There are a range of businesses throughout New Zealand that recognise the value of the Ulysses Membership. Note that to obtain the discount you will need to produce your current club membership card.

CLUB DISCOUNTS 2024

- 1. Interislander and 2. BLUEBRIDGE Click Here
- 3. VTNZ current Ulysses card 31 Dec 2024
- 4. KIWI FUEL LTD current Ulysses card 0800 438383 or info@kiwifuelcards.co.nz
- 5. KIWI MOTORCYCLES current Ulysses card Christchurch
- 6. APEX AUTO CENTRE HAM current Ulysses card
- 7. TREVOR PIERCE YAMAHA CHCH current Ulysses card
- 8. BUTT BUFFER WHANGANUI current Ulysses card
- 9. EZIBED NZ "ULY10" current Ulysses card
- 10. FRANKTON LAW current Ulysses card
- 11. ASURE ACCOMM GROUP Join Azure Group
- 12. TOP TEN MOTOR CAMPS Join Top Ten Group

MEMBERS' FREE ADS

QUARTERSAWN Custom Wood Creations

We are experienced craftsman that will create your custom piece to your requirements. Furniture, cabinetry, library, doors any wood project.

For examples click on <u>quartersawn</u>

Phone Aaron **027 228 9724**

email <u>aaron@quartersawn.co.nz</u>

These adverts are for Ulysses Auckland members only and are free of charge. Email the Editor. Support your fellow members.

Paul B #8082	

BUSINESSES WE LIKE

LIFESTYLE IMPORTS: For all your motorcycle gear and clothing. Shop online at www.lifestyle-imports.co.nz They have now set up shop at 13 Queen Street Waiuku. Call Florence at 027 262 5287 for opening hours.

CAFES:

Waiomu Beach Cafe - 622 Thames Coast Road. Great coffee and food. Good parking just across the road.

Native Tree Cafe - 7 Church St, Mangatarata (on SH27 about 200 meters south of intersection with SH2). Great food & coffee. Sheltered outdoor seating. Excellent parking off main highway.

Coach Cafe &Takeaways - 37 Seddon Street, Raetihi An excellent stop in the central North Island.

CLUBS:

Manukau Cruising Club offer memberships to Over 65's for \$6 and \$30 per year for everyone else. A great opportunity to have a spot for a few drinks with friends or to join in with their great entertainments!

Parnell Returned Services Club - 139 Parnell Road, Parnell

We welcome anyone from Ulysses to pop in and enjoy a beer at a reasonable price.

We don't have pokies or TAB – but we do have pool tables, dart boards, and a juke box.

We are surrounded by some of the best eating places in Auckland including pizza at La Porchetta, local Indian etc - bring the takeaways back to the club - they are virtually next door.

Guests will need to sign the visitors' book, but please consider membership at \$30 per calendar year. (This will give reciprocal rights with clubs all over NZ:

see https://clubsnz.org.nz/) There is a bike parking space across the road next door to the Windsor. Generally we are open 2pm to at least 9pm daily.

Please send details of any businesses that treat Ulysses members well to the editor for future inclusion in this list.



AUCKLAND BRANCH OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

Office holders

President: Clive Thomas # 2383 027 481 2700 auckland@ulysses.org.nz

Vice President: Vacant

Treasurer: Evan Swenson #803 027 2370860 ewswb@xtra.co.nz

Secretary: Roger Judd #9372 021 844040 auckland.sec@ulysses.org.nz

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ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is freely available to any non-members who wishes to subscribe. Members receive it automatically. Feel free to forward this on to anyone who may be interested. To subscribe email the editor.

The newsletter is distributed by email on or about the Saturday prior to the monthly meeting. Eleven monthly issues are produced, January being the missing month.

If a printed copy is required the annual subscription will be \$30. Printed newsletter is available for pick-up at the monthly social night at the Manukau Cruising Club. Copies not picked up by hand may be mailed out.

The editor encourages right of reply, correspondence, criticism, and suggestions. Address newsletter correspondence to: The Editor: ulyakld.editor@gmail.com

AUCKLAND ULYSSES POSTAL ADDRESS; PO Box 96219, Dominion Road, AUCKLAND 1446.

Web site: www.ulyssesauckland.org.nz