



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

1 DECEMBER 2009

### Steelwings Johannesburg

So.. How are you? Have you survived? Been a tough year. But now it's almost over. Looking back it's been a great club year. Lots of Outrides , Weekends away – Winberg, Nelspruit, Kimberley, Magoebeskloof, Margate, Clarens, - Parades, The Session, Birthday Bashes, Fundraisers, New Members and The Ride every Sunday Morning. The bond between members has got closer and the loyalty to the club has grown fiercer. As this is my last newsletter of the year, I just wanted to thank those members that time and time again, get involved and adopt the attitude **“Ask not what your club can do for you but what you can do for your club”**. These same people are the ones that make the club, donating, attending functions, giving of their time, joling with one another, pitching to the birthday bash, riding with the pack, being a part of something bigger. To the others – and you know who you are - consider carefully why you are a member of Steelwings. You don't seem to enjoy much that we offer – or want to be a part of the pack. You don't help or attend or even mix with us. You don't even ride on Sundays! Makes you think hey?

On behalf of the President and his committee we wish all of you safe travels, a wonderful Christmas and all the best for the NEW YEAR. We have closed the bookings for both the Christmas Party and Africa Bike Week – and received a tremendous response to both – but more of that BELOW.....

## Breakfast Run

Lauren's family and her sisters Linsey and Leigh have asked me to convey their enormous gratitude to all the members of Steelwings Jhb who have stood by Lauren – whether through participation in the fundraisers, auction bids, donations, e-mail messages, smses or visits – for the love and concern Lauren has been bestowed with. **The family are truly in awe and say they are overwhelmed!!** Thank you Steelwings! Here below last Saturday's visit to dear Lauren. All our thoughts prayers and love to Lauren – she is a fighter and will survive this.







Last Sunday's ride we joined the Toy Run. We all had breakfast before leaving with our toy strapped onto our bike and then smoothly caught the Toy Run procession on the Highway moving right upfront to front position and tightly knit as a pack. At Nasrec there were over 40,000 bikers and we enjoyed a drink a bite and the band that played. Seen at Europa before the Toy run and at the toy run.....







# Club Stuff



Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you.....

- |                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Houston Hadden   | 08 December |
| Trevor Durbach   | 09 December |
| Sam Cronje       | 12 December |
| Jenny Robinson   | 16 December |
| Mervyn Shein     | 20 December |
| Oliver Van Blerk | 24 December |
| Stan Tenzer      | 28 December |
| Heather Sarkis   | 29 December |

**The October, November and December Birthday Babes will be wished at our Christmas Party where they will also get their Birthday Beanie gift.**

**So – yippee yi yay – this Saturday is our Christmas Party!!** 72 happy jolling Steelwings members will celebrate – just being together, the good vibe of Christmas and the passing of this year in our normal wild wacky Steelwings manner! **Toninos – Dunottar Street, Orange Grove. 7.30 pm – bring your party mood only!!** Leave your troubles at home this night – which leads me to publish this cute story below:

### **Hang up your problems in this last month of new beginnings.**

I hired a plumber to help me restore an old farmhouse, and after he had just finished a rough first day on the job, a flat tyre made him lose an hour of work, his electric drill quit and his ancient one-ton truck refused to start. While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence.

On arriving he invited me in to meet his family. As we walked towards the front door, he paused briefly at a tree, touching the tips of the tree. When opening the door he underwent an amazing transformation.

His tanned face was wreathed in smiles and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss. Afterward he walked me to the car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier.

Oh, that's my trouble tree," he replied. "I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure, those troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children. So I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning I pick them up again. "Funny thing is," he smiled, "when I come out in the morning to pick them up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before."

Let's hang up our troubles and problems this month every day on the Christmas Tree.

May you all have a beautiful Christmas month, full of love, peace and joy!



**DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS PARTY ON SATURDAY NIGHT THERE WILL NOT BE AN OFFICIAL CLUB RIDE ON SUNDAY .**

**The Last official Club Ride will be on Saturday 12 December. We are taking part in a CHOCOLATES FOR CHARITY DRIVE.** Please members we need at least 25 bikes with 25 spare helmets. We collect Ithemba staff and Insofer Management and drive to Pretoria where we hand out KINDERJOY Chocolates to 263 Orphans and disadvantaged children. Please step up to the plate and help us spread some Christmas cheer to the less fortunate. Meet at Europa at 8:00 am for a 8:30 am departure!!

**NOTICE OF CLUB AGM: Members are hereby advised that the club AGM will be on Tuesday 16 February 7 for 7.30 pm.** Please make every effort to attend. This is your club so you get to vote for your committee and air your views or give your compliments ( that would be nice for a change haha) At the Bryanston Tennis Club – map will be sent in the New Year – but the same venue as the year before and the year before and the year..... you get the picture?



## Up And Coming

**AFRICA BIKE WEEK: Bookings are closed.** We have 50 Steelwingers going. **Accommodation is reserved** and the **Club has paid the deposit** on our behalf. Mishka will be doing a separate distribution list for us 50 and rooms, amounts to be paid and all details will be in that separate mail. To follow...early next year.....

**VALENTINES WEEKEND 13 -14 February 2010 –** Valentines Day outride. Leaving Johannesburg 13 February to the Memel via Vrede. Lunch at Die Ou Hoek and then on to the Memel Hotel for the grand price of R250pp sharing or R300 single. A beautiful scenic route. Braai Pack for Saturday night. Valentines chocolates and valentines breakfast Sunday and then cruise or amble slowly home. Limited rooms. Book early **sms Mishka on 082-789-999 with Memel yes and your name.**



## Interesting Stuff

- Treat intersections with due respect
- The majority of collisions with bikes happen at intersections
- Sooner or later another road user will cross an intersection in front of you
- EXPECT this – so you are ready for it
- Approach an intersection cautiously
- Have clear vision
- Predict other motorists intentions
- Plan a potential escape route
- Slow down and cover your brakes so you can stop quickly if needs be

Well form me – all I can say is --- “it’s been fun” and “I’m so out of here” with a well deserved rest. Till next year..... shweet.... Safe and STEELWINGS.....

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