Minutes for the Annual General Meeting of
The Ulysses Club of New Zealand Inc

Saturday, 12 April 2014
Invercargill Workingmen’s Club
154 Esk Street
Invercargill

The meeting opened at: 10:13am

1. Welcome and Greetings

The President declared the Club’s 26th year AGM open and welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked everyone for travelling down to Invercargill. Passed over to the Secretary for the apologies:

2. Apologies

Richard Jenkins  Kevin Beagley
Jill Omundsen-Jenkins  Mike and Carol Smith
Andrea Thompson  Gordon Clark
Brian Middleton  Susan Eddy and Dave Eddy
Ross Turner  Chris Grouve
Diane Turner  Clive Richardson
Peter Reed  Jeanette Waring
Marlene Fisher  Noel Matthews
Grant Dunstall  Val Ottaway
Andrew Montgomery  Peter Hammond
Pam Montgomery  Lyn Ashton
Lorraine Lindsay  Chris Massey
Barry Hamilton  Phillip Lucken
Gordon Elcock  Marlene Baker
Harold Fennell  Jim Bolton
Tony Baker  Bob McKenzie
Bruce and Annette Quedley  Graham van Praagh
Greg and Bernie Warner  Mel Bain
Margaret Kidney  Rick Schimpf

Acceptance of Apologies:
Moved- Jim Galt
Seconded- Jim Furneaux
3. Minutes of AGM held at Rotorua 2013

Jim Galt announced that the previous minutes were published in last Ulyssian and copies circulated.

Acceptance of Minutes:
Moved- Jim Galt
Seconded- Merv Hopkinson (27)

4. Matters arising

None

In Favour- All
Against- None

5. President’s Report- Mike Dew

President welcomed everyone again and stated it was his 2nd report as Club President and offered a special welcome to life members and acknowledged the presence of Odyssey medal recipients, club members, partners and guests.

He acknowledged all the hard work and time that members give so freely in organising branch events. Thanked the Branch newsletter editors for the improvement in quality.

Over the last 4 years, club membership has been declining. Out of the 2700 club members, 836 are now over 65. Majority between 50-65 years. Only 211 are under 50 years. Need to attract new members to the club. Look at ways to make Branch activities more attractive especially to the under 50 age group, however acknowledged that members with young families may make this a challenge.

Income and financial reserves are declining with decreasing members. The announcement of formation of Turangi Branch was announced at last year’s AGM. Great pleasure to announce that on the 2nd of April 2014, the committee agreed to the formation of a North Harbour Branch. Their AGM will be next month.

The President listed various matters that the committee are looking into: Review of Club database system, Review of Country of origin patch/logo, The Ulyssian magazine (new committee review continuing with Bike Rider Magazine or change), looking at mentoring and training program to get people involved.
Addressed previous issue with printing of membership cards- Now being printed by Star Insurance, everything running smoothly now.

Debby Morgan still club administrator. William Glendenning is still webmaster.

In regards to the keeper of remembrance book- Peggy O’Neal. Requested that members continue to send relevant details through to Peggy to add to book. Thanked Peggy for her work.

In reference to the Coordinators’ workshop in Lower Hutt in October last year-the meetings are an opportunity to network and share ideas to improve club activities. Club may have to review how often these are held as finances continue to decrease.

David Coy is standing down from Treasurer. Has held position since 2006. The President thanked David for his work and stated that he has carried out his duties in a very professional manner. He mentioned the 25th Anniversary book and his passion to ensure the project does not run at a loss. David was awarded life membership of the Club last year.

Thanked all members of National Committee, for all their support and effort over last 12 months, many hours given freely, emails, calls, etc. Also thanked the staff of Bike Rider Magazine for the production of a classy magazine. Noted that the Ulyssian editor does require articles from the branches

6. Matters arising from report

None

Acceptance of Report:
Moved- Mike Dew
Seconded- Cliff Heydon (7733 Hawkes Bay)
Carried.

7. Treasurer’s Report- David Coy

The Treasurer stated that the 2013 financial report was published in the last Ulyssian (pg16-19).

Operating statement- The Club made a $15,000 loss on the year, the biggest loss in his time as treasurer. Not as bad as appears due to magazine cost figure accounting for 5 editions ($16,000) to compensate for 2012 year only containing costs for 3 editions ($9,000). Stated that it costs approximately $3-4,000 per magazine (depending on inserts).

Last year was also the 25th anniversary celebrations. Costs involved with planting trees, plaques etc. was around $4,000. Making allowances for these events, true loss is closer to $8,000.
Successive losses for last 3-4 yrs. Despite all that we are still in a strong financial position. The Club holds around $250,000 in term deposits. Doubts that there are any other social motorcycle clubs in New Zealand that are this well off.

Going forward stated that the Club cannot continue making losses as funds will eventually drop too low. Challenge for new committee to change this in the future.

One more point in regard to book sales, is that last year shows a surplus. Not to be misled by this as it is due to the sales figure from last year. The Club still have about $14,000 of stock on hand. Book overall costs were $30,000, meaning the Club is just over half way towards breaking even. Encouraged anyone who does not have book to purchase from gear sales today. It is an important record of the Club’s first 25 years.

8. **Matters arising from report**

Question from Bruce Nelson 7349 - Questioned the amount of funds sitting in the bank and asked should there be a policy to consider what money could be spent on.

Treasurer’s response was that around $100,000 is subs paid in advance and cannot be touched. Will be used in years going forward for operations only.

Also gave a breakdown of other funds being associated with current raffle sales, going towards bike, previous raffles, training fund money. Will be speaking of this later regarding encouraging branches to take advantage of this opportunity.

Funds held are not essentially “free to use”. The National Committee discussed yesterday that when funds fall below around $200,000 they will need to think about increasing subs, book sales etc.

Bruce advised he was not happy with this answer regarding Club funds.

**Acceptance of Report:**
Moved- David Coy  
Seconded- John Craig (6190)  
Carried

David Coy concluded saying how he has enjoyed his time as Treasurer and Stuart Burns of the Rotorua Branch has been nominated, there were no other nominations.

9. **Coordinators’ meeting report- Jill Warhurst**
Welcomed everyone and stated that most points were covered in the President’s Report. Stated that it was a successful and long meeting. Has given other Coordinators ideas for their branches. A lot was covered.

Discussion of toy run issue that has appeared in media. Something that members might like to look into and take on board.

Invited questions from floor- none

10. Remits/Resolutions- Discussion and voting

None

11. General Business

None

12. Life Membership and Odyssey Medal Presentation

The President stated that the Club has reached the limit for life membership so unable to present any.

Announced that there is one Odyssey Medal to present today.

The President announced his great pleasure in presenting the Ulysses Club of New Zealand Odyssey medal to Colleen Furneaux.

Jim Furneaux presented medal.

President stated there were no other medals to be awarded this year.

13. 2015 AGM – Presentation

Paul (727) and Paul (504) of Tauranga Branch presented details of 2015 AGM as follows:

Venue and Dates confirmed- 10th 11th 12th of April. Queen Elizabeth Centre in Tauranga.

Motels- Still being organised, but have been approached. Searching for discounts.

Courtesy bus- Will be organised.

Final costs still not 100% ready. Should be ready for next Ulyssian.

Requested that casual footwear be worn on the Saturday night event (no high heels) due to floor.
Confirmed theme based on 100 year anniversary of WWI - Theme will be the armed forces- Army, Navy, Air force etc. or just wear a poppy. No obligation to dress themed.

14. **Election of Officers**

Mike Dew- Announced time for current National Committee to stand down, Thanked them for their time on the committee.

Jill Warhurst, Southland to run the election of officers-

**National President**
Mike Dew is unopposed. Position of National President stays with Mike Dew.

**National Vice President**
Two candidates: Jim Galt, Waikato (current secretary), Howard Mansell (presently holds position).

Both candidates gave a short resume to the AGM meeting.
No questions were raised.

Jill Warhurst requested members to cast their votes.

*While votes were being counted, Leonie Steven- Aon Insurance Brokers was invited to address the meeting.*

Still pleased to continue sponsorship of this event. Scheme has remained profitable, therefore will see a rate reduction. Encouraging new people to insure with Aon. New policy wording over next year. In meantime if you have a claim the BEST policy wording will apply. Exclusive offer to the Ulysses Club- 50% discount off riding apparel replacements up to $2500 per person. The cost of this is $50 plus GST for Club members. There has been an uptake on the multi-bike offer, which treats all bikes as one and encouraged members to look at this

*National Club Quartermaster- Ken Wilson provided an update on gear sales*

Very successful evening with gear sales yesterday. Sales made $1400 in the gear sales last night. Sweatshirts etc. still for sale, reduced to sell today.

Mike Dew, President then gave a speech introducing himself for the benefit of newer members who may not have met him previously.

**Announcement of new Vice President: Jim Galt.**
Voting results:
James Galt- 275 Votes
Howard Mansell- 98 Votes
Announcement of New Secretary: Nicola Bright.
No voting necessary

Announcement of new Treasurer: Stuart Burns.
No voting necessary.

4 Candidates for National Committee positions. 3 required.
Jim Furneaux, Jenny Magee, Ken Wilson (current Committee Members),
Murray Hawke

All candidates gave a short resume to the AGM Meeting.

Members asked to cast votes.

While votes were being counted, Gordon (Flash) White addressed the
meeting about the Rotorua Rally. He stated the theme is “Pajama Party” and
that he hopes many could attend.

Announcement of Committee Members:

Jim Furneaux, Jenny Magee and Ken Wilson

Voting Results:
Jim Furneaux - 332
Murray Hawke - 166
Jenny Magee - 332
Ken Wilson - 208

Motion to destroy voting papers:
Moved- Jill Warhurst
Seconded- William Glendenning (1916)

The President made a special thank you to Howard Mansell.

Mike declared the meeting closed at 12.05pm