



The Odyssey

Ulysses Club Inc. Adelaide Branch Newsletter

April 2021 Issue

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From the editor

Well, another issue of the Odyssey magazine is here so a busy week putting together. Sorry to say I have not been on as many rides as I would have liked and now that I have sold my bike and on the hunt for a new one may be another couple of weeks. The cover story in this issue is on our all-round nice guy Ray Murray and it makes for a good read. Ken also has contributed an article on Internet For Old Farts have no idea who he means LOL.

Michelle and I really enjoyed the branch dinner at the Largs Hotel. It was nice to catch up with everyone and to see Chris and Deb who dropped in.

Cheers

Maurice Stevens



Please email your story ideas and contributions for the Odyssey magazine to ulyssesadelaide+editor@gmail.com or phone us on 0419 822 717
love to hear from you.

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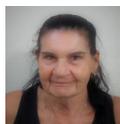


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ulyssesadelaide.com.au

Adelaide Branch President's Report

Well, we had our branch AGM. No fuss, very quick meeting as usual. Little change, and we welcomed Val Cullinan on board the committee. So you can expect the wagon to keep rolling along as before.

We've sent off our annual financial report to NatCom, and we aren't broke. Time to celebrate that with a bang-up dinner, says a couple of our organising women (Michele and Sue of course). The Freenes and Waggies did a dinner recce on behalf of the club. -Someone has to do it. Keep Saturday 31st July free, for dinner at the Croydon RSL. \$35 a head for a three-course dinner, and a DJ for music and dancing. The venue can hold 200, so members from other branches are welcome to come along too. Registration will open soon on the website, similar to how we do Odysseys. Pre-order, and pay via bank transfer or cash.

Speaking of Odysseys, yes, we will have one this year, but not on the long weekend. Stay tuned.

Apart from a Wednesday ride cancelled due to heat, we've had some marvellous riding days this year. Sunday and Wednesday rides continue to go well, with around 20 or more on rides. Last Sunday ride (14/3), Frank turned up on his GS. Great to see him back in his favourite saddle.

Dinners, breakfasts, and chat 'n coffee sessions have been welcomed by members keen to socialise after all the CV19 restrictions. Attendances vary, but a core bunch of faithful are there most times. Occasionally we even have some come on bikes!

All the monthly dinners and rides are on the website and calendar for the year. Some adjustments may be made along the way, so keep an eye on those before heading off to events.

Check out the SABC page occasionally (or look on the calendar). The May SABC will be at Wirrabara. No cabins at the caravan park there, but powered sites, BBQs, and a new ablution block. Good cabins at Laura CP not far away. Lovely area, lots to see. Definitely one to make a weekender of.

See you at the next ride, or meeting, or dinner, or...
Ken Wagnitz.



Sunday Ride Round Up 31st January Ashbourne Ride Leader **Brenton George**

We had 27 starters from Top of Taps. Some new faces which was great to see and also some Fleurieu Branch. Good to see the coordinated rides calendar working aye Ken.

At the roundabout we encountered the HOG riders for the first time but managed to untangle ourselves when they did a mob up. Before Clarendon we encountered them for the second time and as I waited for them to pass. I was contemplating the net worth of the bikes and apparel. Must be near six figures. We made it to Yankalilla where we encountered them for the third and final time. After morning tea, a reduced number of us headed for Ashbourne via the Myponga reservoir and some twisty roads around the hills behind Victor Harbor. A pleasant lunch and chat at the Greenman Inn finished the day off.

Thanks TEC and corner marshals.



Sunday Ride Round Up 31st January Ashbourne Ride Leader Brenton George



Sunday Ride Round Up 14th February Strathalbyn Ride Leader Peter Wood

There were 21 bikes at Pelican Plaza for our ride, on an absolutely perfect day. It was an uneventful ride, with no lost souls or holdups, as we wound our way through to Manning (Mannum) for morning tea. I had planned a couple of mop ups along the way, but each time I stopped, Rob or Judy advised me of the situation behind me and we took off just as the last bikes were arriving. Thanks Judy and Rob! And thanks to the tail end Charlies, the ever-reliable Ray, and Rick on the Hyabusa, for a great job. All in all, pretty close to the perfect ride.



Sunday Ride Round Up 14th February Strathalbyn Ride Leader Peter Wood



Sunday Ride Round Up 28th February Hahndorf Ride Leader Rob Hartridge

It was a perfect day for riding, sunny with a little high cloud and no noticeable wind. We had 21 bikes turn out and 23 people. The roadworks at the North East Rd / South Para Rd junction separated the group causing a second mob up in 1 km. Thankfully the high cloud helped us survive, but a few bikes would have been upset with the heat. Morning tea at Mannum and then onto the ferry, which collected another delay waiting for a houseboat to pass the ferry cables. Finally, across the river we shimmied down to Murray Bridge then along the Old Princes Highway through Dawesley into Hahndorf.



Sunday Ride Round Up 28th February Hahndorf

Ride Leader Rob Hartridge



Sunday Ride Round Up 14th March Pt Elliot

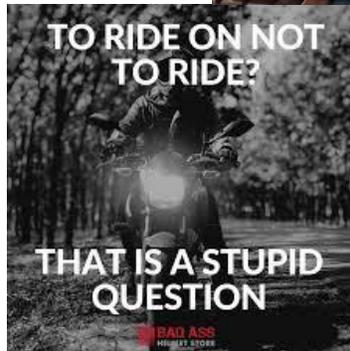
Ride Leader Mike Green



Sunday Ride Round Up

14th March Pt Elliot

Ride Leader Mike Green



Up Coming Sunday Rides All Rides Depart at 9.30am



11 Apr	Judy Manoel 0412 164 665	Day Ride	Gumeracha	McDonalds, 303 Magill Rd, Trinity Gardens
25 Apr	Brenton George 0432 535 163	Day Ride	Wellington	Top of Taps, Victoria Hotel O'Halloran Hill
09 May	Rob Hartridge 0422 114 225	Day Ride	Woodside	Pelican Plaza, 1007 North East Rd, Modbury
23 May	Brian Cullinan 0401 545 176	Day Ride	Langhorne Creek	McDonalds, 303 Magill Rd, Trinity Gardens
06 Jun	Dom Carli 0433 052 053	Day Ride ending at Waggies for Lunch	Craigburn Farm	Top of Taps, Victoria Hotel O'Halloran Hill
20 Jun	Peter Wood 0487 452 200	Day Ride	Finniss	Pelican Plaza, 1007 North East Rd, Modbury
04 Jul	Brenton George 0432 535 163	Day Ride	Avoca Dell	McDonalds, 303 Magill Rd, Trinity Gardens
18 Jul	Frank Pellas 0411 600 255	Day Ride	Pt Elliot	Top of Taps, Victoria Hotel O'Halloran Hill
01 Aug	Brian Cullinan 0401 545 176	Day Ride	Pt Hughes	Pelican Plaza, 1007 North East Rd, Modbury
15 Aug	Rob Hartridge 0422 114 225	Day Ride	Lyndoch	McDonalds, 303 Magill Rd, Trinity Gardens
29 Aug	Brenton George 0432 535 163	Day Ride	Meadows	Top of Taps, Victoria Hotel O'Halloran Hill
12 Sep	Bob Braunsthal	Day Ride	Sevenhill	Pelican Plaza, 1007 North East Rd, Modbury
26 Sep	Judy Manoel 0412 164 665	Day Ride	Goolwa	McDonalds, 303 Magill Rd, Trinity Gardens
10 Oct	Mike Green 0419 003 010	Day Ride	Mt Pleasant	Top of Taps, Victoria Hotel O'Halloran Hill
24 Oct	Rob Hartridge 0422 114 225	Day Ride	Williamstown	Pelican Plaza, 1007 North East Rd, Modbury
7 Nov	Peter Wood 0487 452 200	Day Ride (Macclesfield bike show day)	Mannum	McDonalds, 303 Magill Rd, Trinity Gardens
21 Nov	Mike Green 0419 003 010	Day Ride ending at Freene's for lunch	St Marys	Top of Taps, Victoria Hotel O'Halloran Hill
5 Dec	Brenton George 0432 535 163	Day Ride	Nuriootpa	Pelican Plaza, 1007 North East Rd, Modbury

12th March Branch Dinner Largs Pier Hotel, Largs Bay



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Member Ray Murray's Story.

1962-1969

I was born in the East End of London in 1947. It was not the most gentle of neighbourhoods in those days. My old man was a copper and so was my older brother following his career in the Merchant Navy. Although it would have pleased my Dad for me to follow his footsteps and be a copper I always thought I 'd have trouble dealing with wife-beaters and child-molesters without resorting to putting the boot in, so a career dealing with the likes of these would probably not have lasted long.

I was always keen to follow my brother's path to sea and at the age of 15, left school and enrolled in the Gravesend Sea School in Kent for a three-month course for young seamen. The school was divided between those lads who get to work on deck and those who were better suited to work in the catering side. I was never particularly brave, so the choice of being on deck in a storm lashing down anything loose, climbing up vertical ladders getting soaked, or being safely inside and serving rich American widows with afternoon tea was never really an option. After graduation, selection was made by the school as to who would be most suited to either deck or catering. I was chosen for catering on passenger ships, which in those days was quite a prize. Other options were cargo ships, tugs or tramp steamers.... No thanks!!! I served almost 6 years on P&O's S.S. Orcades, first as a junior rating (bellboy) and after a relatively short time became a 1st Class bedroom steward.

S.S. Orcades was 28,000 tonnes displacement and was the largest ship built post war, incredible to think when today's cruise ships can be as much as 165,000 tonnes, however ships in those days actually looked like ships rather than shopping centres!

In the 50's and 60's ships were the preferred option by many for international travel, although we were made aware by the company that the expected introduction of the Boeing large capacity jets was a threat to our jobs. Hence, we were instructed to make sure sea travel was as pleasurable an experience as possible for our passengers. As a bedroom steward I did take my responsibilities very seriously.

The mid 60's saw most shipping companies abandon First Class sections and S.S. Orcades was one of those that became "One Class" ships. Our main traffic was then bringing European migrants out to Australia. As the former first-class passengers had now started to embrace air travel it became increasingly difficult to fill first class cabins. Outward bound we would pick up migrants mainly from the UK, Greece and Italy and bring them to all ports in Australia. Greeks mainly disembarked in Melbourne whilst Italians in Adelaide, but a lot of UK migrants settled in Perth.

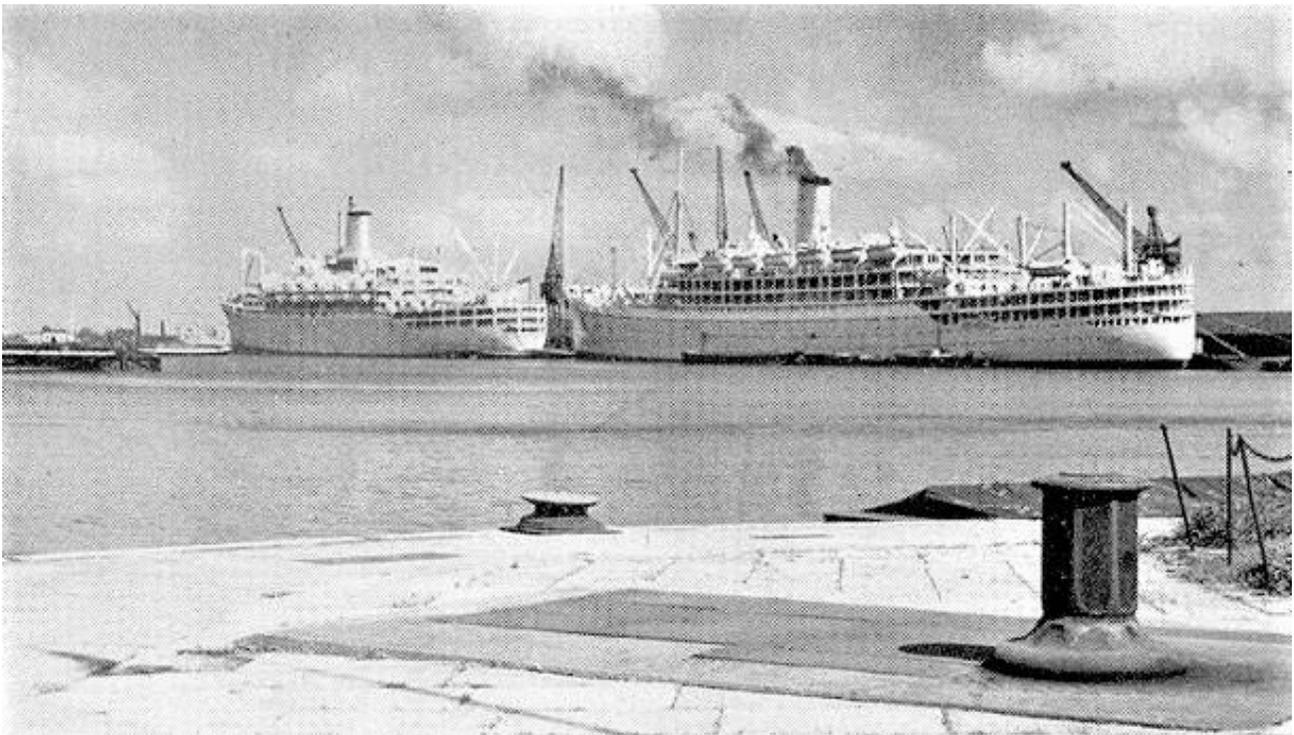


Following a short cruising season out of Sydney, homeward bound was mainly young Australians doing the year in Europe trip, which was hugely popular then amongst twenty-something guys and girls. As a cabin steward you hoped for cabins full of blokes rather than those with 4 or 6 girls with all the associated make-up cases and what seemed like tons of cosmetics littering the space where you were supposed to work. Bathrooms in all-girl cabins were something to see and still gives me nightmares!!

This period of my life was without doubt the most fantastic experience any young fellow could wish for, we saw just about all the world, got fed well, were reasonably well paid, lived mostly on our tips and had little to spend money on at sea. You were paid off after 4 months with a wad of cash that would choke a horse, resplendent in your tailored Hong Kong suits and shirts, a suitcase full of duty-free fags, a Rolex watch and a Dunhill lighter bought in Aden at silly prices. All of that and 12 days leave with which to be a total flash Harry, lovely!!

I have often looked back over those years and thought about how people tend to think they are unique individuals. Well, a ship is very much like a small village of around 1900 passengers and 450 crew. About every five weeks the population of the 'village' would disembark and another 'population' would embark on whatever this life's journey meant to them. Most were Migrants leaving their countries of birth, perhaps never to return or sometimes the occasional family visiting long lost relatives. Some even hoping to find love on the high seas. However, over almost 6 years as an observer, (as a bedroom steward you were a very close observer), I realized that people are not quite as unique as they may imagine.

You would see similar situations arise that you had seen perhaps 3 or 4 times before. The characters would repeat themselves over and over along with their foibles and weaknesses. As passengers on a liner, they were anonymous for about 5 weeks for once in their lives. There were no neighbours, bosses, or peers to judge and all relationships on board were fleeting. The interesting part was that after usually about two to three days at sea the barriers would come down and then it was quite interesting to see possibly suppressed parts of people's personalities given free reign. It was such a unique and valuable opportunity for a people watcher like me. I am sort of reminded of Agatha Christie's, Miss Marples who lived her entire life in a small village too, yet had seen it all over the years and was never short of a comparison to any situation.



1970 – Now

I migrated to Australia in 1969 with my first Australian wife (yes, we met on board ship) and lived in Gosford on the NSW central coast. I worked in a large convention hotel in Terrigal. During this job I met a couple from Adelaide who invited us to visit. I was amazed at the low prices of houses here in SA and went back to NSW, packed our gear and 10-week-old baby in an old FB station wagon and headed to SA. My background was catering and was tempted to re-enter the field here applying to the South on North Terrace. I was told that the hotel did not have a long future at that stage and following encouragement from my contact here applied successfully to Olivetti Aust. Pty Ltd as a typewriter salesman.

I had never sold anything in my life before but guessed that my experience with people from all walks of life helped me a lot. I spent almost 25 years with the company and finished up as SA manager for the office products division. Olivetti Aust. gradually went from direct sales to marketing through agents in the 80's and I saw an opportunity to run my own company.

I went onto partnership with a friend who funnily enough was on S.S. Orcades at the same time as me, although we were not close then, We literally bumped into each other in Rundle Mall many years before and recognised each other. Together we bought an old Adelaide typewriter company called Holdsworth & Co and ran it very successfully for quite a few years. Things were changing extremely rapidly in the 80's and it became obvious the days of mechanical office equipment were numbered, particularly typewriters.

During all my office equipment days I had always had both a love and a penchant for house renovations having renovated three houses during this period. I had also obtained a builder's license many years before and finally decided to pass my half of the office equipment business to my partner. I embarked on a new career which enable me to work physically on the tools.

I registered Brighton Homefix Pty. Ltd, bought a trade van, loaded all my tools in it and wrote to as many real-estate agents as I could find. Before very long I was doing very good business with several large agencies undertaking rental property maintenance. During the company's activities, I was approached by a large insurance company (FAI) to have a look at a job they had been quoted a ridiculous price. It was a 'grow room' for the wacky weed and the occupier claimed the mould, damp walls and ceilings were the result of a blocked gutter!!

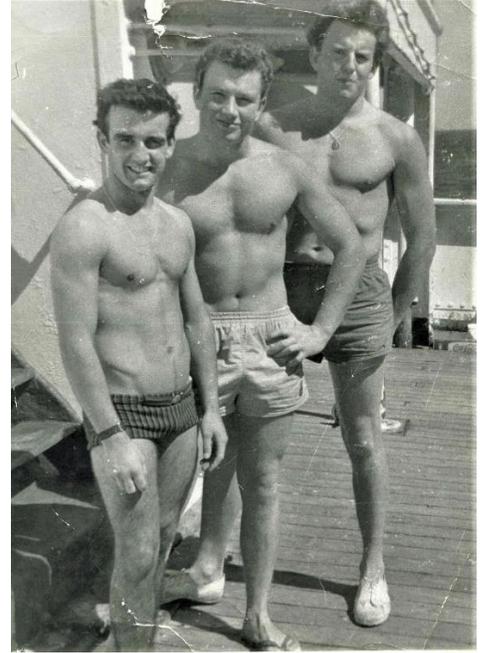
To cut a long and extremely rewarding story short, I reported what I thought was the issue, quoted a price to put it all right and did the job. The result was after two more jobs from them, I was asked to be the Southern Area assessor/repairer. This proved to be the most financially rewarding part of my life. Jobs were faxed to me 7 days a week and the work was automatically mine without the need to quote unless over \$35000. Even then after an official assessor looked at the job it was mine anyway, great times.

I retired early and spent a lot of time in the Flinders Ranges on my great friend John Lock's sheep and cattle property helping to muster and assist with shearing and general farm work. I'd always had a couple of AG 200 Yamahas that I left on the farm for when my son Alex and I were up there being urban cowboys. Alex learned to ride a bike there when he was 11. Up to this point (about 22 years ago) all my riding on two wheels was on Ag and trail bikes, except I must confess in the UK my first bike was a Lambretta scooter!

On a Sunday trip to Normanville in 2004 Helen and I stopped at the bakery for lunch and by coincidence a Sunday ride of the club was there also. Having an interest in buying a road bike, I asked some of the Ulysses members about bikes etc. It was Trevor Thomas, Kim Lim, Peter Jolly and the rest of the crew at that time had told me about the club and even offered me a bike that was for sale by one of the members (Good old Trevor never one to miss an opportunity).

First bike was a Kawasaki 500, next was a Honda Deauville and my current ST 1300 I've had now for 10 years. Like many members I have spoken to over the years, The Ulysses Club is one of the best things I have done. It has become a big part of my life, the friends I have made, the trips we have had together, the fun and laughter and great companionship is something you cannot buy.

A big thank you to the club and especially all those people who work behind the scenes to make things happen and make Adelaide Branch what it is.



The Internet For Old Farts

By Ken Wagnitz, Computer Tragic

Printers

I have a love-hate relationship with them. You can buy an Epson XP-2105 colour inkjet printer for \$55 (very cheap for a printer/scanner) which prints a few pages before it wants new cartridges. A set cost more than \$55! The manufacturers want us to buy new cartridges all the time, at dearer than Chanel No.5 prices, then throw them into landfill as trash when empty. Totally environmentally irresponsible, and expensive.

My XP-6000 printer wanted to do a firmware update, so I enabled that. When finished, it refused to recognise the third-party (hence cheaper) cartridges I'd been using for some time. Only Epson branded cartridges would satisfy it. I saw red. So, I did some Internet searching on the issue. I was not alone with this problem.

My solution was to download some replacement firmware and install that into the printer. It causes the printer to not only ignore the cartridge brand, but also to ignore how empty it is, ie how many 'squirts' it has done. This allowed me to refill the cartridges very cheaply from bulk-ink bottles I bought on the net. The XP-6000 cartridges have a foam top-port, onto which I can just squirt ink from a syringe. But caution is needed. Too much ink, and it dribbles into the printer. (Silly me.) I will need to drill into the cartridges or buy special refillable ones, for the XP-2105.

So the first tip is: don't allow your printer to do a firmware update if you currently use non-OEM cartridges, saving money. If it is nagging you to update, you can turn this off in the printer properties on your computer.

The second tip (if you are ready to throw your printer in the bin) is to find the sneaky firmware, download it, install it, pay the fee, then re-ink your cartridges from cheap ink. I got my firmware from <https://www.2manuals.com/> where there are full instructions. There is useful info at https://www.rihac.com.au/info_pages.php?pages_id=116 (Rihac sell ink).



Privacy

If you don't like the fact that Google record all your web visits in *Chrome*, you might like to change to *Firefox*, which is just as fast these days, but respects privacy more. I use *Brave* as my main browser, which is very privacy-oriented. *Brave* blocks things like third-party cookies and ads, but if needs be, you can easily turn that off for individual sites while browsing. Not seeing ads saves time, data, and screen clutter.

If you don't like Google hoovering up and recording all your Internet searches, switch from Google to DuckDuckGo as your search engine. They don't record your searches. (Sounds funny but works.) The default search engine is set in your browser settings.

We keep hearing about scams perpetrated over the Internet. The main point of entry if you keep your virus-checker up to date, is email. Emails that seem to come from a friend, don't necessarily. If it is asking you for money, then maybe it is bogus. In particular, no genuine person or company asks for people to buy and transfer credits or tokens like Apple cards etc. The big scam reported recently, was via emails purportedly from a retirement home, telling the recipient where to deposit their home deposit money (\$300k+).

If you get sensitive information like that in an email, confirm it by phone or in person (getting the phone number independently of the email).

If you receive a suspicious email, don't reply, simple delete it. If using Google's gmail, mark it spam first. Though I find all my spam emails end up in my gmail Spam folder. Google is very good at filtering out spam emails. Occasionally I get a 'genuine' email in there, but not often.

The old adage "If it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is." still holds. Remember that when you see a bargain deal on the Internet. Don't respond to unmissable bargains sent to you by email.

Ken Wagnitz, Computer Tragic.



What's On Page



Wednesday Midweek Rides All Rides Depart at 10.30am for more details phone

Steve 0405 120 542 or **John 0407 794 147** – **1st 2nd & 5th Wednesday** depart from **The Feathers Hotel Car Park Burnside**. **3rd 4th Wednesday** depart from the **Top of Taps**

The SA Breakfast Club- When: **Saturday 3rd April at 9.30am** Where: **Doncho's Café Virginia Nursery** 99 Gawler Road, Virginia

When: **Saturday 1st May at 9.30am** Where: Tentative Wirrabara. Check Website for confirmation closer to the time.

Please confirm your attendance with Ken Wagnitz ulyssesadelaide+ken@gmail.com or **SMS 0417 353 389**



Adelaide Branch Monthly Meeting

Official meeting starts at 7:30pm

Thursday 1st April - 6th May - 3rd June

Venue: European Catering Reception, 2 Chief St, Hindmarsh. Come early and enjoy a meal and drink available at the venue at very reasonable prices. A raffle is held on the night with numerous prizes with free tea, coffee & cake following the meeting.



Adelaide Branch Monthly Dinner

6.30 pm

Friday 9th April Venue: **TAVERN 540** 540 Port Rd, Allenby Gardens

Friday 14th May 6.30pm Venue: **Fedoras Hilton Hotel** 264 South Road, Hilton

Friday 11th June 6.30pm Venue: **Reephram Hotel** 273 Churchill Road, Prospect

Contact Sue Freene **E:** ulyssesadelaide+dinner@gmail.com **P: 8277 3339** or **M:0413 567 747**



Chat 'n' Coffee

Fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 am. Venue around Adelaide. Anyone is welcome to suggest a venue. Send suggestions to michele.wagnitz@gmail.com

Tuesday 27th April Tealicious Cakes 12 Aldinga Road, Willunga **10am to 12noon**

If you have or know of an upcoming event and would like it to be included on the Odyssey "What's On" page, please email editorsodyssey@gmail.com or phone 0419 822 717

SA Branches & Riding Groups Contacts

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Fleurieu Peninsula

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Secretary Mike Thorpe – 0405 174 741

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Southern Flinders Riding Group

Rides Co-ordinator

Greg Fidge – 0437 676 596

Whyalla & Districts Branch

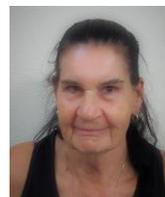
President Perry Zimmerman – 0419 134 511

Secretary &

Treasurer - John Lawson – 0421 170 181



Welfare Officer - Friendly Reminder



As Ulyssians we greatly value the camaraderie and support that is provided by our fellow members.

Adelaide's Welfare Officer is a central person in our branch to ensure members in need are assisted in whatever manner is appropriate for that individual.

All members have a responsibility to inform the Welfare Officer if you know of someone who needs support. Perhaps they are unwell, had a close relative / companion die, or experiencing any other physical or emotional need.

Let the Adelaide Branch Welfare Officer know immediately so she can organize a hospital visit, home visit, send a card or arrange any other appropriate help.

Gayle McDonald P: 0437 327 930
E: ulyssesadelaide+welfare@gmail.com



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