

The Odyssey

Adelaide Branch Newsletter
August 2023 Issue



Tax Returns & Accounting Services



I come to you on my **Honda CB500X**
mobile office

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From the editor

Hi to all our members,

Welcome to the August edition of your magazine. Thanks go out to the members who have contributed content for me to include over the past four years. It helps so much with content toward the magazine. Having said that, I would like to encourage more members to share stories with us. I know I have enjoyed reading them myself. So, please feel free to email me or give me a written version at our meetings. All content is appreciated.

This issue contains the usual ride reports. I have to thank Peter Wood for his excellent photos which I steal off the website when I can't make the ride or want some extra shots to add.

Carolyn sent an article on Blood bikes Australia. If you like riding for a cause then this may be for you. Ken has sent some information on accessories he has added to his bike and found them useful. Maybe you will too.

Colin Leaker has retired from riding at the age of 90, a milestone anyone would be envious of. His journey on two wheels serves as a testament to the timeless allure of motorcycling. Turn to page 14 for his remarkable story; it's bound to leave you feeling inspired.

Registrations have opened online for the upcoming SA Odyssey in Clare. See the article on page 18 for the link and for those not so computer savvy, there is a hard copy of the registration form on page 19.

What's On will inform of any upcoming events. As always, please check our [website](#) for the very latest in news.

Cheers

Maurice Stevens



Please email your story ideas and contributions for the Odyssey magazine to ulyssesadelaide+editor@gmail.com or phone me on 0407 011 251

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Adelaide Branch President's Report

Hi all,

Been for two rides in a row, wow. the first ride the weather man blatantly lied to me said it would be ok but the whole ride was mist, fog and light rain, I put my wets on in mt pleasant and was fairly comfortable for the rest of the ride to Aldgate, had a nice lunch at the hotel in the warmth. I think everyone enjoyed themselves. Although I did have to give the bike a clean before it went out again as it was filthy.

The second ride to Charleston was better weather although some of us got lost a some had a run in with da law, we all got to the end Ok proving our marshalling system works. No one gets left behind which gives us all a little more security on our rides, thanks Rob for another great (but frustrating for you) ride.

I will be off the bike again for a few weeks as I have had a small surgery that prevents me from riding.

The last meeting was good with Neville giving us an update on the odyssey , Ian giving some enlightening information about some brands of airbag jackets and Carol holding a bit of an auction for left over Ulysses gear.

For those that are undecided as to whether to go to the Odyssey, I encourage your attendance. My personal thoughts are that this event puts us in contact with people from other branches we don't get to see so often and it's always great to catch up.

Well, that's it for me see you all at the next meeting.



Gary Priest,
President, Ulysses Club, Adelaide Branch



More of Ken's bike toys

A battery powered pump

On one of the Wednesday rides, someone's tyre was a bit low at the start point. A couple of guys rushed up with their battery powered pumps. (One worked better than the other.) I do have a Rocky Creek pump, which I have used when out on a ride. It needs to be plugged in to 12v. I was impressed by the battery jobs. Easy to use on my bike, or someone else's. No need to tether to a battery -hard to get to on some bikes. Reads the tyre pressure on attaching and while pumping up. Can set a pressure, and when it gets to that, turns off automatically.



So, I bought one -from Amazon: [amazon.com.au/dp/B09NQ2Q211](https://www.amazon.com.au/dp/B09NQ2Q211) It charges from 12v or through a USB-C connection. If flat when pumping up tyres, it will run from 12v. (I haven't tried this.) It can act as a 5v power source for a phone etc. And of course, it has the obligatory torch function. Amazon have a plethora of the things. I chose what I thought was decent. Not too big, not too small.

So, if anyone on one of our rides needs some air in their tyres, I can help. I also carry a small jump starter I bought from Jaycar when they had it on special.

A Voltmeter and USB socket

My bike has a Hella socket at the front, readily visible while riding. (Unless I have my big tank bag on.) I bought a voltmeter and USB source which plugs into it. From Rocky Creek, when I saw it on their stand at one of the AGMs. (Remember when we had traders at AGMs?) It died. So, I bought a replacement from Aliexpress. Used it for a few years. Then "misplaced" it. Now everyone knows the best way to find something is to buy a new one. Then the old one will turn up, so I did. This version has one USB-A and one USB-C outlet instead of two x USB-A. [aliexpress.com/item/1005005323959906.html](https://www.aliexpress.com/item/1005005323959906.html) And it has a switch to turn off the voltmeter to save juice. (I unplug the thing when not using it, as my Hella socket is permanently live.)



For some reason unknown to me, the Triumph Tigers display lots of info on their dash, but not battery voltage. If my battery is low, it shows the dash as normal, won't start the bike, but doesn't tell me why. So this gadget is an easy way of checking the battery, as well as providing 5v to charge the phone while riding (or stopped).



Ken Wagnitz

General computer fiddler, Secretary, Web Master, Ulysses Club, Adelaide Branch

Sunday Ride Round Up 4th June 2023

Clarendon Ride Leader Rob Hartridge

It was an overcast day with little wind and no rain. It made for good riding without the harsh shadows in the corners to hide sticks or stones, but it was a bit on the cool side. We had 14 bikes & 16 people turn out. Welcome back to Sam, returning to riding on his new Indian. The new surface from Norton Summit to Ashton is magnificent, but disappointingly it was still at 40 kph due to the 'new surface' protocol. Kanmantoo was different for morning tea. Some forced exercise with the toilets about 100 meters away.

The run to Clarendon moved along very well, so I had time to add in a spin through Peters Creek Road. Thankfully the bridge repair in Meadows is now 25 kph without the traffic lights. Hopefully that repair will be finished soon. 10 of us had lunch at The Royal Oak Hotel (which was fully booked). The approaching rain on the radar motivated an early exit after lunch and I think everyone would have made it home dry, from what I saw on the radar when I got home.



Sunday Ride Round Up 18th June 2023

Lobethal Ride Leader Frank Pellas

The weather did not look good for a ride through the Adelaide hills. Even so 10 people turned up at Top of Taps, keen to give it a go. Most of us had cleaned our machines, while some still retained a patina of grime. It was the former who found the most to complain about at the completion of our adventure today. More about this later.

It was cold, and many of the roads were wet. I announced at the rider's meeting that we would be going to Nairne for morning tea, and stopping for lunch at Lobethal. That sounded good, although looking at the low clouds over the hills there was an expectation that we would ride into some rain.

I had done this route before in January 2018 and the GPX file was still on my computer. So, I loaded the route into my GPS, and trusted that all would be well. The destination for morning tea was the first surprise. I knew exactly where we were going, it's just that I had the name of the place wrong. So, when we got to Littlehampton and parked behind the bakery, there was considerable hilarity from the group that the ride leader didn't know where we were.

The second surprised was as we left the bakery my GPS could not tell me which way to go. I turned right - that was wrong. After a few dozen metres sweet cheeks, (my GPS voice) requested that I make a U-turn. At the roundabout we did a 180, and headed back towards Nairne. This was OK except that sweet cheeks was now confused and instead of directing us into Nairne, we took a left off the main road along Blakiston road. We soon arrive at the third surprise. A dirt road ahead. Now I could have done another U-turn, but I thought another 180 turn would be a nuisance so I kept going. I was very pleased that everybody followed, some reluctantly because they had cleaned their bikes and some very slowly dodging muddy pot holes.

We soon arrive at the Nairne to Balhannah road - asphalt! From there we continued to Lobethal, via Birdwood and Williamstown. And the final surprise was that we actually arrived at Lobethal just like I said we would. A fine meal in a warm dining room at the pub finished off the ride with a great group.

All up it was a surprising ride. Special thanks to Peter and Ken for their patience and understanding in their roles as TECs.



Sunday Ride Round Up 18th June 2023

Lobethal Ride Leader Frank Pellas



Morning tea at ~~Nairne~~, correction!
Littlehampton "Dam GPS"



Sunday Ride Round Up 2nd July 2023

Aldgate Ride Leader **Rob Hartridge**

The ride started with 10 riders and 2 pillion. New to the ride were Mike and Janelle on a Triumph Daytona. The weather appeared to be relatively fine but the roads however showed otherwise, being wet with the occasional patch of moss to keep us alert.

Plenty of twisties, something Rob is renowned for, made for fun riding. By the time we reached Mt Pleasant, a thick fog had settled in with associated temperature drop. Coffee and hot food was the go-to.

The ride destination was changed to Aldgate as the pub at Stirling was fully booked. The fog was left behind and while there was a little drizzle at times, we arrived dry and without incident. Many thanks to Ken and Robin for Tail End Charlie duties.



Sunday Ride Round Up 2nd July 2023

Aldgate Ride Leader Rob Hartridge



Sunday Ride Round Up 16th July 2023

Charleston Ride Leader Rob Hartridge



Up Coming Sunday Rides All Rides Depart at 9.30am

When	Ride Leader	Event	Destination	Departing From
13 Aug	Rob Hartridge 0422 114 225	Day Ride	McLaren Vale	Pelican Plaza, 1007 North East Rd, Modbury
27 Aug	Rob Hartridge 0422 114 225	Day Ride	Lyndoch	McDonalds, 303 Magill Rd, Trinity Gardens
10 Sep	Frank Pellas 0411 600 255	Day Ride – BBQ at Freene’s	St Marys	Top of Taps, Victoria Hotel OHalloran Hill
24 Sep	Peter Sellen	Day Ride to Sellen’s for lunch	Freeling	Pelican Plaza, 1007 North East Rd, Modbury
8 Oct	Peter Wood 0487 452 200	Day Ride	Strathalbyn	McDonalds, 303 Magill Rd, Trinity Gardens

*Accurate at time of printing. Please check the Website nearer the time of the ride

SA Breakfast Club

The July 2023 SABC breakfast was at the Kent Town Hotel. Great venue. I got my camera out too late, so quite a few had left. I counted 21, but Michele said it was closer to 30. We had a good time, and they had one of my favourite beers on tap. Well, it was almost midday... Ken Wagnitz



Bloodbikes Australia

Australia now has a group of volunteer motorcyclists, nationwide, with the express purpose of transporting blood and medical supplies to and from where they are required free of charge, thereby freeing up more money for the delivery of healthcare. They are called Bloodbikes Australia.



The Inspiration

Peter Davis was inspired by the Bloodbikes movement in the UK and Ireland, so he started it here in Australia during September 2019. Peter says, "I had a mate Volunteering for Bloodbikes Scotland and thought, what a great idea, a chance to do what I love, riding motorcycles, and doing some good."

The beginnings

Peter started the process with Mater Pathology in Brisbane, first transporting blood then with a further nine volunteers in the Brisbane Region transporting all manner of Pathology, medicines and equipment. It is expected that soon the transport of donor breast milk will be added to the list. Through word of mouth and with the help of riding buddy Mark Hinchliffe (AKA Motorbike Writer). Within the first 12 months Bloodbikes Australia grew to over 120 volunteers in all states of Australia including the ACT.

Growth

Since the commencement of operations in Australia, on the 2nd of September 2019, our 280 fully qualified volunteers, from through Australia, have made more than 3600, last resort, pickups and deliveries, for 50 healthcare providers in Cairns, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Hervey Bay, NNSW, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Tasmania. These deliveries include, blood, biopsies, COVID tests, stemcells, corneas for transplant, clinical Trial program tests, paperwork and files as well as personal items returned to patients who left them behind upon discharge, medical consumables for in home patients and stem cells. The healthcare providers for whom we volunteer include a number of Government Public hospitals including Cairns, Ipswich, Boonah, Laidley, Esk, Gatton, Gold Coast Hospital, Lismore, Tweed Heads, Coffs Harbour, Hunter Health District, St John of God, Lions Eye Donation Service and Canberra Hospital.

Challenges

Founder Peter Davis goes on to say "our challenge now is to get more healthcare providers like the Mater, Institute of Glycomics, St Vincents Sydney and the Gold Coast University Hospital to realise we are here, what services we deliver and the dollars that can be saved. We have the volunteers in both city and regional Australia, they just need healthcare providers to volunteer for"

Limits of what we do

Peter emphasises, "Bloodbikes Australia Volunteers are not "wannabe" police or ambulance, we are NOT emergency vehicles and we abide by all road rules." Every volunteer, volunteers their time, fuel, tolls and motorcycles and all have a Nationally recognised Certificate in Blood Transport." If you're interested in following Bloodbikes Australia go to the Facebook page, [The Facebook page](#), or if your involved in a hospital laboratory and can see a value in utilising the Bloodbikes Australia free volunteer services or indeed if you are a keen, experienced motorcyclist then drop a line to [The Australian Co-ordinator](#)

Colin Leaker Member 17105

Joined February 1999, retired from club riding on 5th July 2023 aged 90 years young

On behalf of the ULYSSES CLUB INC. Adelaide Branch, we congratulate Colin Leaker on reaching the milestone of his 90th birthday and having been a regular rider on our Wednesday Rides since joining.

Colin, affectionately known as 'Senior', has decided to hang up the helmet and gloves of his own volition whilst still being an inspiration to many riders in terms of his skills and commitment.

Colin purchased his first motorcycle in December 1949. The same month that Robert Menzies was elected as Prime Minister and two months before petrol rationing was stopped, having been imposed during World War II.

"My first bike was BSA C11, 250cc OHV. I gave it a hard time until I worked out how to change gear."



Practical testing was non-existent at that time. At 16 years you could sit a written test at your local Police Station and if you passed then away you went, apparently.

"Then came a Vincent Comet from 1951 to 1954 which was a single cylinder 500cc followed by a basic Vincent HRD Rapide 1000cc minus rear cylinder. It was a nice bike to ride."

"Gap then with motorcycles until 1971. Procession of Honda 100, Suzuki 125cc 2-stroke,

BSA 500cc twin, Suzuki GS 650cc 4-cylinder shaft drive GT model. This must have been one of a few in Australia as the Owner's Manual was in German."

"I joined Ulysses whilst riding a Suzuki 650 but a Yamaha 900cc Diversion was soon acquired. Subsequently followed by Honda Deauville 650cc, then Deauville 700cc and finally my current bike a Honda NC700S in 2013."

"A varied list it is fair to say they have all been good in that they met my needs as they arose."





Colin concedes that he did not have good mechanical / technical skills and so it was hard for him to measure the impact of changes to motorcycles over his riding career.

"I have experienced bikes manufactured between 1949 and 2013 therefore covering the rise of Japanese bikes. There have been improvements in reliability, handling and especially the electric start comes to mind."

For many years he was a volunteer trackside marshal at motorcycle events. From Mallala and the Adelaide International Raceway through to Phillip Island, Eastern Creek. Also, a number of Moto GPs in the USA, Malaysia and Indonesia. He felt it was a way of giving something back to motorcycling.

Colin says "Ulysses Wednesday Rides have been a great part of my post-retirement life. The group of Wednesday Riders for the 24 years I have been with them have been a wonderful team. Of course, aided by access to some great riding roads very close to the City of Adelaide. How could the combination of great company, challenging roads and very good weather possibly be beaten. Also, I note the closeness of great riding roads in the Adelaide Hills may be unique as they are so close to a major city."



"I am indebted to everyone in the group, in particular the various leaders who have taken the responsibility of planning weekly rides. Also, to the TECs who have been essential to the success of the runs."



"There are many I shall try to thank personally over time."

"My only regret is that I was a late comer to Ulysses at 66. I guess that many other members feel the same."

The Adelaide Branch and especially the Wednesday Riders thank Colin for his company and friendship over his journey and wish him the best.

Front Cover

from Cycle World

Until 1969, when Honda released the in-line four-cylinder CB750, the British bike industry could console itself with the thought that while Japan was the source of lots of small bikes, if a rider wanted adult-strength motorcycling with 100-percent testosterone certification, he had to buy a hot, vibrating British twin from Triumph, BSA, or Norton.

Over the years, many articles had been written about Italy's "all-conquering" MV Augusta-four-cylinder racers. Four-cylinder machines were exotic and sounded great, but were inherently too expensive for the market.

On the other hand, Mr. Soichiro Honda had visited the U.S., the birthplace of mass production. Like Alfred P. Sloan of General Motors before him, he imagined a stairway of models. For Honda, it had begun with millions of \$275 50cc step-throughs, expanded through the SOHC 125 Benly, 250 and 305 Hawk and Super Hawk twins, and the DOHC 450 twin of 1966.

Edward Turner, designer of the original British twin, the 500cc Speed Twin of 1937, made a trip to Japan in 1960. At the time Japan was regarded "a nation of copyists". What Turner found instead was the most modern and highly automated production lines, backed by well-equipped R&D labs, staffed with graduate engineers. He knew the Japanese were coming to world markets because Honda had run 125 twins in the Isle of Man TT races the year before, and had followed that with 250cc four-cylinder factory racers in the Spring of 1960.

Honda did not make the mistake of trying to "productionize" their racers, each of whose cylinders had four tiny valves, moved by gear-driven twin overhead cams, all implemented with watchmaker's precision. Honda engineers knew that cutting parts cut production cost, so two valves took the place of four, and SOHC took the place of DOHC. Instead of expensive gear drives as in the racers, chains drove both cam and gearbox. In place of the fanatical precision of the pressed-together roller cranks of Honda's 2, 4, 5, and 6-cylinder racers, a long-lasting one-piece crank spun in automotive-style plain insert bearing shells. Yes, there were twice as many pistons, rods, valves, and springs as in a British twin, but in every other respect the latest lessons of mass production had been applied to bring costs down to what the market could afford.



Solidifying the reputation of the new machine was Dick Mann's 1970 win in the Daytona 200-mile road race—on a race-tuned version of the CB750.

Hondas started electrically; the innovation derided by many but which no one could resist. Yes, kick-starting was great theatre, but it didn't always end well. After the 20th exhausting but manly stab at the lever, onlookers began to drift away. Why not just hit the button and go?

The British industry, directed by finance men rather than engineers, made the predictable mistakes and melted away. Today, two basic motorcycle engine types predominate—twins and fours.



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Secretary &
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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.

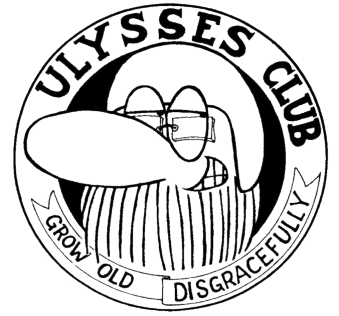
Ian Pascoe P: 0410 444 962

E: ulyssesadelaide+welfare@gmail.com





2023 Ulysses Club 29th SA Odyssey
Hosted by Ulysses Club Inc.
Torrens Valley Branch.
Friday 13th - Monday 16th October 2023



Registrations now available online here <https://ulyssesadelaide.org.au/odyssey>
Centred at the Discovery Caravan Park at Clare. For further inquiries contact Neville Gray on 0416 050 189.

Cabin bookings have been heavy but there are still 10 Units remaining for our weekend. Preferential bookings for Ulysses Club members expire on August 15th - after this date cabin bookings will be more difficult to procure because of competition with the general public. The Management will now give us a 20% discount on cabins and camp sites after some recent negotiations. (This discount will be honoured on payment of the balance owing on the Event weekend.)

All major activities have been locked in and we promise you a great time in Clare during this Event.

Starting on Friday night, we have been invited to the Wine and Food Centre just 50 metres from the Caravan Park, for their regular Friday night wine tasting featuring the fabulous wines of the Clare Valley. Starting at 4.00pm and going to 6.00pm. We then walk back to the undercover kitchen area of the Park and partake of a BBQ hosted by the Park staff commencing at 6.30pm.

Guzzi Bob will lead a ride to interesting parts of the Clare Valley at 10.00pm on Saturday morning. The rest of us can follow our maps to visit various wineries and scenic areas around Clare.

The SA Branch Combined Committees meeting will be held on Saturday afternoon at 2.00pm (to be confirmed).

Saturday night we will be hosted by the Clare North Football Club at their new building a few kms down the road from the Caravan Park on the left. Pre-dinner drinks at 6.00pm with the meals being served from 6.30 onwards. We hope to use member's cars to ferry the troops to and from the Footy Club as that weekend is also the Clare Food and Wine Festival and the Police will surely be out in force!! There will be some very special entertainment after dinner – you will be laughing all the way through the night – guaranteed.

Sunday will be a free day with some work slaves having to return to work on the Monday.

Sunday night's dinner will be held at the Bentley Hotel in the Main Street of Clare commencing at 6.30pm. Please indicate your intention to attend in the tick box of the Registration Form. If numbers are sufficient, we will get our own room.

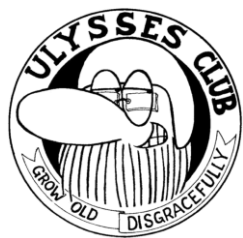
We will not be supplying breakfast at the Odyssey but the Rise Bakery close by should be open.

The good news is that we will be holding the Registration fee at \$40, as it has been for many years. The Registration Form will be available on the various Websites and Facebook pages from around July 21st.

Clare Discovery Park. To book cabins and powered sites ring 08 8842 2724.

Make sure you identify yourself as a Ulysses Club member for a 20% discount.

Go to the next page for a hard copy of the registration form.



29th SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ODYSSEY CLARE 2023

FRIDAY 13th October to SUNDAY 15th October
Host: Ulysses Club Torrens Valley Branch



REGISTRATION FORM

Please Note – One form per person. Registrations close 7th Oct.

Surname: _____	Given Name: _____	
Member # _____	Email: _____	Phone: _____
Suburb: _____	Post Code: _____	

ODYSSEY Event Registration Fee (includes enamel Badge)	\$40	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Optional “Odyssey Clare 2023” Cloth Patch	\$16	<input type="checkbox"/>

FRIDAY 13 th Oct Dinner 6.30pm at Clare Discovery Caravan Park BBQ \$13.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
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SATURDAY 14 th Oct Dinner 6.30 pm at Clare North Football Club		
Cost per meal including dessert, tea & coffee: \$40		
Beef Schnitzel with chips & salad. Gravy on request.		[]
Chicken Schnitzel with chips & salad. Gravy on request.		[]
Beer battered fish with chips & salad.		[]
Lasagne with chips & salad.		[]
Vegetable Lasagne with chips & salad.		[]
Dessert Choices (included with main course)		
Apple Crumble and cream.		[]
Sticky Date Pudding and cream.		[]

SUNDAY 15 th Oct	
I will come to Sunday night dinner at the Bentley Hotel.	[]

Please total up your Registration Fee and Meal costs: **TOTAL:** \$

PAYMENT METHOD	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Direct Debit To: <i>Ulysses Club, Torrens Valley Branch</i> BSB: <i>035046</i> Account: <i>516889</i> (Please add your name as a Reference)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cheque / Money Order Payable to: <i>Ulysses Club, Torrens Valley Branch</i> Post to: <i>Ulysses Club, 13 Woodland Court Highbury SA 5089</i>

TO ENABLE US TO INFORM OUR VENDORS OF YOUR REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE EMAIL THIS COMPLETED REGISTRATION to: grayhigh@bigpond.com



Wednesday Midweek Rides

All Rides Depart at 10.30am for more details phone **Steve 0405 120 542** or **John 0407 794 147**. The **1st 2nd & 5th Wednesday** depart from **The Feathers Hotel Car Park Burnside** and the **3rd 4th Wednesday** depart from the **Top of Taps**.



The SA Breakfast Club

The SABC meets at an eatery somewhere around the state, on the first Saturday of the month, from 9.30am. It doesn't matter what the weather is. Come by motorbike, bicycle, car, or on foot. The SABC is about socialising with members from other branches.

When: **5th August 2023 at 9.30am**

Where: **Em's Cookie Jar Café, 5 Gray St, Freeling, SA 5372**

When: **2nd September 2023 at 9.30am**

Where: **TBA Please check our website nearer the time**

Please confirm your attendance as venues require numbers to provide adequate staff.

Contact **Ken Wagnitz** by the Wednesday before either ulyssesadelaide+ken@gmail.com or **SMS 0417 353 389** with - SABC, your name, how many require breakfast.

Adelaide Branch Monthly Meeting. Official meeting starts at 7:30pm

Thursday 7th September 2023

Venue: The Maid Hotel, 1 Magill Rd, Stepney

Thursday 5th October 2023

Venue: The Maid Hotel, 1 Magill Rd, Stepney

Come early and enjoy a meal and drink available at the venue. A raffle is held on the night with numerous prizes. Proceeds go to the running of the branch.



Meeting
Reminder