

SQTA 2014 X'MAS PARTY

What.....an SQTA X'mas Party without a thunderstorm.....unheard of!!!!

Yes, we held our X'mas Party on the weekend and with our past track record, not to mention the current cataclysmic weather conditions, you would have been forgiven for thinking that we were pushing our luck but to our collective surprise we managed to dodge the seasonal party dampeners this year. Thanks to the catastrophic storm that sliced through Brisbane two days earlier the conditions had settled everything down for a day or two and with it came some beautiful late spring temps and cool south easterly breezes all contributing to a very comfortable weekend slapping each other on the back. We were in need of a bit of luck though after our preferred venue was lost to us 5 weeks earlier, thanks to a scheduling mix up, but thankfully Hinchcliffe's Ferny Glen property was available and a more than suitable back-up which also allowed us to value add trials bikes to the mix, which by all accounts was a success in itself.

First order of business for the day was setting up the Quickshade Mess Hall closely followed by building a fire in readiness for the coals needed for the camp ovens later in the day. In between was the spit roast set up, which accommodated two massive joints of full boned lamb and hole boned pork shoulder, which rotated all day and were expertly overseen by the Norton brothers, Owen and Gavin, who in their down time managed to organise the Mess Hall lighting between their basting and stoking duties.

The real proceedings got underway around 4.00pm with a communal cocktail hour and by the time we commenced our 5.00pm AGM, we had a captive audience of all of our 100 RSVP'd guests, give or take one or two, on hand to hear a run down on how 2014 had unfolded followed by the voting in of our 2015 Executive committee. Where have those 6 years disappeared to? 2014, whilst not being our most successful year to date, still managed to perform well above our expectations with the 9 events held during the year still averaging 50 riders per event. For the first time we held two joint events with our "unaffiliated friendly" cousins of LRMTTC up at Gap Creek Farm, Cunningham's Gap, which averaged 55 riders per event with both event takings being given solely to Logan River ensuring their continued longevity as a viable trials club. We once again drew a healthy number of new riders out of the woodwork this year adding to our impressive list of the past 6 years, and regardless of the in denial neigh Sayers, continue to be a conduit for riders filtering through and cross pollinating some of the other "affiliated" clubs in the area and in our opinion adequately doing our bit for the sport here in South East Queensland without even actively trying to do so.

As for member involvement, I would have to be the luckiest President of any Trials Club in the country. We seem to continually buck the trend when it comes to member involvement and support and this is the single most important driving factor why the club continues to flourish as witnessed event after event by the number of folk stepping up to do their bit. Our Saturday Soiree attendances could be singled out as the key to my ongoing piece of mind but without the Observers, the food and drink volunteers, the toilet transporters, my Sign In and score tallying offsidiers and end of day Section dismantlers the club wouldn't continue to be the success it is so many thanks to everyone who contribute. Please keep it up.

Anyway I digress. The AGM culminated in the same members volunteering and being voted back into their current positions for 2015 and after a brief toilet and drink top up break we went straight into the Club Championship Presentations. JB and I made 27 trophies this year to cover all the championship recipients and as I made it clear on the day, it is amazing to think how many individuals are involved in their creation, 7 in all, and what a class looking bunch of trophies they are too when displayed together. Many thanks to all the members and friends that contribute time and materials toward them and the way I see it, JB and I probably get more enjoyment out of making them than the recipients themselves but that's OK! The Barry Jeffrey trophy for the "Most Outstanding

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"The Innovator's, not the Imitator's"

Performance by a Non Riding Member” went to the Somerville family this year spearheaded by Glen’s fine Observing contribution and photo journalism over the period with the Reed Families “Best & Fairest” Trophy going to Gavin Norton for his un-swerving dedication to the club. All well deserved. JB even got the “Biggest Shit Stirrer” wooden spoon award from the Schneider’s which had us all asking why it had taken so long. You may as well keep it for perpetuity now Johnnie! The HRV (High Risk Veterans) boys even tried to steal the show at the end by presenting their “Biggest Plonker of the Year” award to Darren Creswell who I believe won by 5 votes to 1 for his 2014 crash and burn compilation. They also contributed to a disturbing trend by having more HRV “T” Shirts than SQTA ones at presentations, a situation that may have to be rectified in our rule book for next year.

Dinner followed very closely and what a spread it was. Our spit roasts were cooked to absolute perfection by Owen and Gavin, not to mention the two Wagu beef roasts cooked in the camp ovens on the fire accompanied by the salads prepared by Pam & Carol all followed by Sarah Lea style chocolate, banana and carrot cakes and custard. If you went away hungry then you must have been a Vegan I reckon. The night ended with a fair few party hardy souls around the camp fire talking story but all in all it was a very civilised affair. For those that stayed the night, and there were quite a few, we put on a bacon and egg breakfast sizzle and once that was all gone it was onto the bikes and up into the gully’s to ride off the weekends over indulgence. For some anyway.

Thanks to everyone who made the year another one to remember, not to mention the X’mas Party, and now we can all have that well deserved rest we have all been yearning for. Three months now until we kick off again on March 8 so have a safe break, a Merry X’mas and a Happy New Year and see you all on the other side.



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2014 CLUB CHAMPIONS

Div Zero		Points	
005	Jim Reed	95	
002	Rick Kent	82	
Div Zero Juniors			
011	Isaac Luft	69	
Div 1		Points	
105	David Goldsmith	122	
103	Andrew Atkinson	94	
104	Sam Turner	59	
Div 1 Juniors			
106	Issac Somerville	100	
Div 2			
202	Bradley Schneider	104	
208	Harry Van Dijk	104	
204	Michael Frith	95	
Div 2 Juniors			
209	Sam Rogers	75	
Div 3			
323	Neville Derrick	101	
308	Crawford Pirie	90	
314	Andrew McDonald-Smith	80	
Div 3 Juniors			
312	Ryan Derrick	97	
Div 4			
415	Tong Wong	97	
419	Tony Green	89	
409	Matt Monk	70	
Div 4 Juniors			
411	Zac Reed	125	
Div 5			
512	Gavin Norton	107	
520	Mark Green	105	
501	Owen Norton	76	
Div 5 Juniors			
522	Aden Goldsmith	119	
515	Jack Turner	94	
503	Jed Cunliffe	62	
519	Brad McAlister	71	Most Improved
Div 6			
603	Rebecca Schneider	50	