



Aug. 2008

<http://www.team27.org>

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Time flies, especially when you are busy. The club has been busy planning this year's 3 Nation Charity Ride and has already made two trips to Surat Thani to explore the town, the Event Hotel & other accommodations, visit the charity home and meet with the key people for the staging of this event. And most importantly, to find suitable gas stops along HW 41 for the expected thousand or so bikers. A team of three from the committee flew up the first time and drove up again in early July to sort out the details. They are happy to report that the objectives have been achieved and as we all can see, the 3 Nation Charity Ride website is up and running with full details, including maps, itinerary & costs.

Which leave us time to do some much-needed riding.

***The Durian Ride (to Batu Pahat)*** on 20 July was a gathering of bikers from many clubs. Panther, our friend of many years, invited us to this ride. It was a nice Sunday jaunt on an easy route; part highway and part trunk road. The destination was a family-owned durian plantation that just saw a harvest and there were fresh durians by the giant basketful. Actually, the fruit was not of very high quality as it was near the end of the season. But nobody seems to mind. I suspect they, all 86 of them on 61 bikes, like me, came for the ride, and the durian was just an excuse.

### ***Rock-to-Rock, 25<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> July.***

The annual Rock-to-Rock ride organized by HOG S'pore and Malaysia had a party for Harley bikers at Hard Rock Café Singapore on Friday evening. The next day, the Harleys convoyed to Concorde Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where the party continued that night at Hard Rock Café, KL, into the wee hours of the morning. Nice people and good fun in this annual get-together. HOG subsidized part of the hotel room bill. The parking lot was filled with Harleys. The Concorde Hotel, with Hard Rock Café situated at a very visible corner of the hotel, is along Jln. Sultan Ismail. This is a busy tourist/party belt. With so many bikes flooding the front of the hotel, it wasn't surprising that almost all passing traffic slowed down to have a look, which caused further slowdown along this already very busy stretch. Incidentally, this Hard Rock Café franchise was the highest grossing in term of revenue in the world a few years ago and is still very popular today. You can imagine the party.

### ***Singapore Bike Fest – 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> August.***

This event was held at the revamped Kallang Leisure Park over one weekend. The Event started with a convoy called East meet West. And as the name implied, a convoy of about 250 bikes travelled from West Coast to meet the convoy of about 150 bikes travelling from the East Coast. Both convoys merged at Fort Road and enter the venue at Kallang as one. All sorts of bikes were involved, with the Gold Wingers and Team 27 marshalling the convoys.





## Singapore Bike Fest 2008



Kallang Leisure Park is a mid-size mall and though the space indoors was limited, the outdoor areas available for bike parking and stunt show made up for that. There was enough room outside for a stage and a few outdoor stalls. Inside, Ducati, Moto Guzzi, Looi's, Daelim & Kymco were in attendance with showcases of their bikes. Accessories dealers and airbrush specialists also came in to support the event. Outside, the show belonged to Errol Yeo and Jonathan Tan, both multiple-award winning stunt riders, entertaining the crowds with their skills. Two bands of musicians were taking turns on stage, rocking the scene till late. Oh yeah, there was plenty of beer, too, courtesy of Singha.

The only let-down were the traffic wardens that handed out parking fines to unwary bikers who left their machines outside the designated parking area. This is so *Uniquely Singapore!!*

Team 27 booth was very busy during this event, as bikers all over Singapore came to register for 3 Nation Charity Ride 2008. Ah Long and his registration counter crew were kept on their toes for the whole two days. Response to the 3 Nation Charity Ride was very good and the rooms in the Event hotel have all been taken.

**August** will see the opening of KTM Planet Cycle Megastore in Penang and shortly after, Penang Bike Week.

**August 31<sup>st</sup>** And Sepang International Circuit has indicated interest in promoting MotoGP in conjunction with one of our events in Singapore. You can bet that we will be heavily involved.

### **September**

And then we will have to take care of NSS 81 car rally to Cameron Highland circa 4<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Ko Samui**

In the meantime, the realization of our extended trip to Ko Samui after the 3 NCR is slowly but surely taking shape. Originally intended for our members only, requests from other bikers have led the committee to consider letting in other bikers. But only to those that we know well.

So Members, it looks like we'll be busy and the Committee will definitely welcome more volunteers. Don't hold back men. Come forward and we guarantee you a nail-biting finale at the end of the year.

*Team 27 Committee  
August 2008*