



February Happenings

MAA/MCC Working group meeting, Transport for NSW Master Plan Sessions, discussions with the Transport Minister, ACMC conference sees VSI50 rescinded and heaps more.

Barrierguard800 testing day showed this product is more bike friendly than any other offering on the market.

Thanks go to David Madell for his expertise in the MAA meeting.

Wayne Carruthers and Rodenprint for his donation of a HP5370c scanner to the MCC.

Kut Vural, Craig Pickering, Craig Browne and Sean Hawley for work in the IT sphere for MCCofNSW

Read on

Motor Enthusiasts Conference

The MCC attended the 2012 Motor Enthusiasts Conference at Eastern Creek raceway on the 26th February as an invited delegate of 4WD Association of NSW & ACT. This was a good opportunity for the MCC for many reasons, firstly to show the transport Minister, just through our presence, that all the associations are talking and secondly to get an idea of how the Australian Confederation of Motor Clubs (ACMC) got themselves into such a good lobbying position. The conference was set up so that the motor enthusiasts could have direct input to the Minister and various Directors and Deputy Director Generals from the RMS, Transport etc. The Minister announced they were rescinding VSI50 and VSI14 in their current form and for the RTA/RMS to go back to the drawing board. This is good news for us as it shows they are willing to listen to the public and to get the RMS (RTA) to change their tune.

The day proved more fruitful than I could have imagined as I managed to have a discussion with Duncan Gay's Chief Policy advisor Andrew Huckel about helmets, tolls, CTP and a couple of other items. Whilst this was happening, Duncan Gay arrived with the comment of, "What are you doing here Chris? No cycles today mate." But he got the message that all the groups are in this together.

I had a good talk with Peter Wells, Director of regulatory services in the RMS/RTA about all things motorcycling and the proposed NSW Safety Strategy. Also had a good long chat with Tim Reardon DDG of Transport about reducing congestion Green House gas emissions for NSW and our strategies for doing so. Pretty good day indeed for the MCCofNSW and the future of motorcycling in this state.

The main message from this was that the conference and ensuing actions happened as a direct result of the numbers of letters received by the Minister, this proves we can change their mind.

Dykes on Bikes Lead the Mardi Gras

Once again Dykes on Bikes had the front row seat and lead the Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras along Sydney's Oxford street on Saturday night.

Despite the rain 155 bikes lead the big parade which featured floats from many groups and corporations and even featured a contingent of NSW Police.

10 Movie Double Passes have been won

Congratulations to Chris Hayes, Peter Major, Stephan Lofting, Stephen Brooks, Dmitri Ishenko, Glenn Spinks, Sarah Newman, Linda Ross, Cassie Reid and Dimitri Barnados your double passes have been posted out to you. Some of the responses included, "It's an indicator not a confirmator", Better to give way and live, than be in the right and dead, and many many calls for driver education.

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MOTORCYCLE COUNCIL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.



Transport for NSW Seminars coming to you

The MCC was invited to provide input into the Transport for NSW, Transport Master Plan on behalf of motorcyclists of NSW. Part of this program of public consultation includes regional consultation during early 2012. The first regional seminar was held in Broken Hill in Feb and the Government delegates were flooded in to the town and this highlighted some of the regional issues to them. You can be a part of the master planning process and have a say in the future of motorcycling in NSW when the regional seminars come to you. For more information and dates Go to <http://haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/transportmasterplan> and <http://haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/faq/index/21#90> for more information. Submissions can be as simple as an email and simply state the road maintenance around here needs fixing, have a go, there is everything to gain and nothing to lose.

The latest round of the Transport for NSW Master Planning sessions on 2 March went well for riders.

Carolyn McNally admitted the oversight of not mentioning motorcycles in the 106 page Discussion Paper and also advised that Tim Reardon had passed on my previous comments from the Motor Enthusiasts Conference for action. Steve Endicott asked me how we could promote motorcycles to reduce congestion following on from the Leuven Report which stated a 10% modal shift from cars to motorcycles or Powered two wheelers (PTWs) could reduce congestion by as much as 40%. My comment was for the powers that be to stop thinking of motorcycles as recreational toys. They are in fact a useful tool that impacts every part of their lives from mustering cattle out west to delivering pizza's, conveyances for Police, Ambulance, posties, couriers and as the transport of choice for a wide range of people. Lower tolls, increased parking and recognise them as a valid form of transport and a vehicle in their own right with their own needs. Finally look at motorcycles as part of the solution, not a problem.

The message is they want all information fed to them, road maintenance, WRB's you name it is fair game so get an email in to masterplan@transport.nsw.gov.au or email me at chairman@mccofnsw.org.au

MAA and MCC CTP Working group

MAA meeting attended by Brian Wood, David Madell and myself on the 27th February was a good day indeed. Brian and I were accompanied by David Madell, a volunteer to the MCCofNSW who is a subject matter expert on insurance. David introduced himself to the group and ran through his insurance industry experiences and the AGM of the MAA went various colours from pale to red. The message the MAA received was we mean business and that was backed up by our questioning of the CTP arrangements. We have volunteered to assist the MAA with Data requirements from the insurers to get riders a fairer deal. Brian Wood was singled out for mention by the Protective clothing working group as being ; "The most diligent member of the group."

Recreational Registration update.

We had the MAA under the pump at the last meeting we had with them on the 27th Feb and the answers we received were not, in my opinion, satisfactory. The recreational registration process has stalled due to any number of reasons. The MAA are blaming the Department of Premiers and Cabinet (DPC), then the Police and anyone else. DPC are not returning phone calls. The MCC's request for further information from the Minister for Transport, Hnr Duncan Gay received a response that the request has been passed onto the Minister for Finance (and the MAA) the Hnr Greg Pearce. No response to our queries as yet.

Going on the information we received at the Motor Enthusiasts Conference recently our best course of action is to start annoying the hell out of Pearce, Gay and O'Farrell. Write and ask them for answers as they and their departments have all the information they now require to go ahead but they now appear to be stalling on the issue. They had offered 90 day registrations to club registered cars at an incredibly low rate so why not Recreational Registration for dirt bike riders? Go to; <http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parlment/members.nsf/V3ListCurrentMembers> for their email addresses and write to them or get in contact with me.

Motorcycle Council of NSW meetings

The Motorcycle Council of NSW meets on the first Monday of each month at the Ryde Ex-Services Club, 7:30 PM.

Meetings are not just for clubs or delegates.
All motorcyclists are invited to attend.

Call for Volunteer registrations

The Motorcycle Council of NSW needs and appreciates any Volunteer assistance. If you can help, please register your interest by email to enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au

Proposed Events and appearances in 2012

- **Silverwater Show and Shine Cancelled due to bad weather date to be announced**
12 noon Clyde St Silverwater
- **Glenbrook to Katoomba ride day 31st March**
- **Barry Sheene Festival of Speed, Eastern Creek**
23/24/25th March
- **Meet U in Molong 14th April**
- **Motorcycle Awareness Week 18th Oct to 28th Oct**

If you can assist with these appearances, please register your interest. (Free entry to the events)