



## July August Happenings

My apologies for not issuing a newsletter in July, this due to being creamed by a car driver who failed miserably to look sideways as they changed lanes from right to left. As a consequence they smeared me up the front guard of their car and managed to break my foot, ankle and my bike in the process. I would like to thank all of those who offered assistance during this period as it was greatly appreciated by both myself and my partner Angie.

Thanks this month go to Nic Kostyn for the lift from the airport when I was up north. Thanks also to Sean Hawley, Kut Vural, Craig Pickering and Brad Lawson for their continued work on the IT and Forum front.

Also a very large thank you to Bob Madell one of our DSMRA Delegates and current Treasurer who managed to score a Compactus for the MCCofNSW and installed it single handedly in the lockup, well done to all and thanks again.

Continue reading for more info and the latest MCCofNSW news.



Dykes on Bikes  
interactive  
display from the  
2005 Pymont  
Bridge Display  
<http://www.mccofnsw.org.au/a/158.html>

## Motorcycle Awareness Week Launch Martin Place Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012

If you or your club are interested in placing a stand, display or some sort of interactive event in Martin Place on Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012 please get in contact with the MCC as soon as possible via email to [chairman@mccofnsw.org.au](mailto:chairman@mccofnsw.org.au) or phone to 0418 486 660. This is an opportunity to get the message across to the driving public that they need to open their eyes and take responsibility for their actions. We have the opportunity to give them a wake up call

## GIO No Pillion issue

Mary Hawkins the Acting Deputy General Manager of the Motor Accidents Authority has responded to our queries to the MAA on behalf of riders about the sudden appearance on GIO CTP renewal forms relating to the carrying of pillion.

Quote;

*As a result of your representations advising the confusion being created for motorcyclists, GIO is undertaking the following actions:*

- *Additional information and training to customer enquiry staff about the gathering of this data on pillion passengers so that they are better equipped to answer queries from motorcyclists;*
- *Modifying the letter sent with Renewal Notices to explain more about what is being asked of the motorcycle owner. This will read as follows: **"A new factor has been introduced to identify if the Motorcycle usually carries a pillion passenger. As we did not have this information for existing policy holders a default value of "No" has been applied and appears on your Green Slip. If this is not correct, please contact us to update your policy. At this stage there is no impact on your premium. Note: If you indicate "no" but unexpectedly carry a pillion passenger, you will still be covered by your CTP Green Slip"**.*

*I trust this will clarify the issue for you and you will be in a position to advise your members of GIO's intention and how they should respond in relation of the renewal notices.*

A copy of the Letter is be available on the website [www.mccofnsw.org.au](http://www.mccofnsw.org.au)

## Motorcycle Council of NSW

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**MOTORCYCLE COUNCIL**  
OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.



### **Vehicle Standards Working Group update/.**

As a direct result of the Motor Enthusiasts conference held at Eastern Creek raceway a few weeks ago, Transport for NSW have convened a working group looking at Vehicle Standards in NSW and inspections.

The MCCofNSW have a seat on the Working group in order to represent NSW Motorcycle riders and we are having direct input into the formulation of policy through sitting directly with the managers and directors of Transport for NSW and discussing any issues or proposals. Feel free to send any issues to us via email to raise in these meetings.

Transport for NSW announced at the Vehicle Standards Working Group meeting on Thursday the 19th July that they will drop their proposal requiring Engineering Certification of aftermarket motorcycle exhausts. T4NSW had included this requirement on the gazettal list proposed for the Roads Minister's signature, meaning this would have come into effect in the near future. Had this gone through it would have led to another rash of bookings similar to the "Exhaust Sticker" issue defeated by the MCC in 2006 and would have required all riders to have their exhausts checked for suitability by an approved engineer after you had fitted a new exhaust to your bike. Transport for NSW representatives advised this proposal is to be deleted from the gazettal list following on from rather exhaustive negotiations between the MCCofNSW and Transport representatives by Teleconference on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July.

### **Transport for NSW proposed Registration changes**

The MCCofNSW took part in a meeting with T4NSW representatives to discuss proposed Vehicle Registration Initiatives by Transport for NSW. Seems they wanted to bring in changes to M/C Registration charges to encourage people onto greener and safer bikes.

The proposal was a sliding scale based on engine capacity and greenness with discounts for ABS TCS etc. The end result was I personally would have paid an extra \$150 per annum on three registrations and someone with a 250cc bike would have been better off by \$5 and people on 6 to 10 year old 600's would be paying more.

After a two hour meeting I convinced them that the changes would not really affect buyer decisions as riders had generally already made their decision prior to entering the showroom. People purchase different styles of bikes for different reasons, ADV riders, Cruiser riders, Sports bike riders etc so registration charges are hardly likely to change people's buying choices. The T4NSW rep's agreed. It was also highlighted to Transport for NSW that the rider backlash would be disproportionately large as riders already perceive they are being gouged and this would just add fuel to the flames as most riders would be paying more. T4NSW will send the Rego Reforms to the Minister for review noting the MCC's comments and then out for public comment. The MCC may need to detail a formal submission just in case.

### **Meeting with Transport for NSW in relation to NSW Helmet laws.**

I met with Transport for NSW DDG Tim Reardon, Marg Prendegast and Keith Simmons on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August to discuss Transport for NSW's position on the current helmet laws in NSW. As it currently stands the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) monitor the Helmet Standards in Australia. All helmets for sale in Australia are required to meet the Mandatory Standard AS1698:1988 and can be certified by any number of Conformance Assessment Boards or CAB's. Recently introduced legislation in NSW means you are only allowed to wear a helmet certified by four of these CAB's.

So how does this affect me I hear you ask..... Right now you can go online and purchase an AS1698:1988 certified helmet from an online store based in say Adelaide. This helmet is deemed suitable by the ACCC as safe and good to be sold. If it has the wrong sticker on it you will get booked by the boys in blue in NSW because Transport for NSW don't think the ACCC can get it right. Not only will you get booked, but you will lose points and if it is a double demerit weekend and you and your pillion are wearing a helmet with the wrong sticker on it you can and will lose your license. This also effects riders from interstate when passing through the glorious state of NSW to the GP or on a road trip. The information gleaned from this meeting is that Transport for NSW are not going to change their position on the recently introduced road rules and will not repeal them, leaving us, the rider, responsible for monitoring which sticker we have on our perfectly legal and safe helmets. **Any riders that have recently been booked for a helmet offence** could you please contact the MCCofNSW via email on [enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au](mailto:enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au) .

Further reading can be found at <http://www.roadrider.com.au/special-features/state-of-helmets>

## Call for Volunteers:

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### Marketing

## Planning for Motorcycle Awareness Week

### Sales

### Database creation

We have an upcoming important task for the duration of approximately 3 months. If you have experience in the above fields your assistance would be most appreciated. The Motorcycle Council of NSW appreciates any Volunteer assistance. If you can help, please email to [enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au](mailto:enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au)

**If you ride a trail bike or drive a 4 wheel drive or fish in NSW this concerns you!! NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into the Management of Public Lands** are calling for submissions. If you know of areas that have had access closed off or tracks closed by State Forests or NPWS send an email to the Inquiry stating where this has happened and what your concerns are. Details can be found at

<http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parliament/committee.nsf/0/18B4C6B001E0D367CA2579E9000215C2>

More and more areas are being denied to people by SF and NPWS to the point that trail riders are running out of places to ride and areas that generations of riders have used are being denied to riders. This is also adversely affecting mobility challenged people as many now cannot get into previously accessible areas as they are being closed to 4WD's and are only open to able bodied walkers and hikers. Closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> August have a say and make a difference to the world.

### Staysafe Inquiry into Driver Distraction.

The MCC made a submission to the Staysafe inquiry into Driver & Road User Distraction. As a result of this submission the MCCofNSW has now been asked to address the Staysafe Committee, this is an opportunity for us to raise other issues relating to distractions if we wish.

The Terms of Reference are:-

That the Committee examines the role of distraction in crash casualties as it affects all road users in NSW, with a view to identifying its impact and to propose solutions for mitigating its negative consequences, with particular reference to:

- a) The nature and extent of distraction as a contributor to crash casualties on NSW roads;
- b) Current rates and future trends in take up of electronic devices, both by road users and vehicle manufacturers;
- c) Regulatory means of enforcing harm minimisation caused by such devices;
- d) Technological solutions to managing the harmful consequences of distraction;
- e) Other solutions to reduce information overload for road users; and
- f) Any other related matters

The MCC submission can't be reproduced without Staysafe's approval but can be viewed on their website

[http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parliament/Committee.nsf/0/00B48A67FB42CCB5CA2579B90002A6E7?open&efnavid=CO3\\_1](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parliament/Committee.nsf/0/00B48A67FB42CCB5CA2579B90002A6E7?open&efnavid=CO3_1)

Click on 'submissions' and ours is number 17.

If there any other issues you wish either Christopher Burns or Brian Wood to raise at the inquiry on behalf of NSW motorcyclists feel free to email your comments to [enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au](mailto:enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au)

It would be best to list your comments as per a) to f) above to make it easier to collate them and link them to comments we have already made.

Safe riding, Brian

### Rider Risk Videos

Make sure you and your riding mates check out the

Rider Risk Videos at [www.mccofnsw.org.au](http://www.mccofnsw.org.au)

These videos are a world ranked series of rider instruction videos which may save your life or you mates. Any clubs requiring DVD copies please contact the MCCofNSW via email and we will post a copy out to you.

### 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 only for clubs or delegates.

**All motorcyclists are invited to attend.**

### Upcoming Events and appearances

- **18-19<sup>th</sup> Aug** Watagans Trailbike rally
- **7-9<sup>th</sup> Sept** NSW Rat Raid (Triumph Show) Wollongong.
- **15-16<sup>th</sup> Sept** BMWTC Far Cairn Rally
- **22-23rd Sept** - 2012 Sydney Scooter Expo
- **14<sup>th</sup> Oct** - Pink Ribbon Ride
- **14<sup>th</sup> Oct** - Cops and Rodders Engadine
- **18th Oct** - Motorcycle Awareness Week Launch Martin Place Sydney
- **28<sup>th</sup> Oct** Breakfast Torque Loftus Oval

<http://www.mccofnsw.org.au/a/250.html> for further details

Should you or your club wish to list any events feel free to contact us via email to [enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au](mailto:enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au) We require Date, Description, Contact details and either a weblink or phone number for the MCC Events page please.