



October/November Happenings

MAW – HART discounts – BMB donate – 12th MAA and 5th LTCSA reviews – VLAD (not the Impaler) – T-Shirt SALE!

Motorcycle Awareness Week

The MAW Launch took place in Martin Place again this year. An estimated 200 people a minute walked past the various displays set up by the MCC plus stands/displays by the DSMRA, Australia Post, St Johns/NSW Ambulance Service, NSW Police, Honda Australia Rider Training (HART) and Skillmaster. This means we got the message out to 24,000 City workers. Funding was obtained from the Centre for Road Safety for this very important awareness event at the start of the summer riding season.

Guests included Acting Assist Police Commissioner Stuart Smith, Supt Brooks (NSW HWP) Marg Prendergast from the Centre for Road Safety and guest of honour Stuart Ayres Parliamentary Secretary for Transport and MP for Penrith, who launched Transport for NSW's 'Making Roads More Motorcycle Friendly' guide for road design, construction and maintenance in conjunction with a proposed \$5million dollar spend for motorcycle road safety improvements. Other events included The Pink Ribbon ride with a huge roll up of bikes, the event raised \$81,000 for charity. Lithgow Mountain Torque was postponed due to the bushfires, and will be held early next year (2014). Lismore Compression v Depression event had about 1,000 people attend. 2 Wheels to Wellington had about 600 people attending, with numbers reduced by the bushfires. Border Bikefest Albury attracted about 5000-6,000 people and all followed up by Breakfasttorque which saw 1500 riders go through the gates.

88 people completed a motorcycling survey in exchange for a free pie and coffee at Robertson Pie shop hosted by the Kiama RSO, Goulburn had a display in the park and 60 MAW TV adverts were shown in regional areas across the state.

Discounts on training from Honda Australia Rider Training (HART)

HART have come on board with a discount for MCC of NSW **Individual Supporters**. MCC Individual Supporters get a 10% discount off rider training courses at the HART facility at St Ives in Sydney's north.

HART join a growing list of businesses like Repco, Staintune exhausts, Bikescape, Wheeliezone, Westerns Motorcycles, Skillmaster, Bronze Frog photography, etc who are offering a range of discounts to Individual Supporters. See <http://www.mccofnsw.org.au/a/354.html> for more details.

Blue Mountains Bikers Donate to the Salvos Bushfire Relief Fund

Following the recent Blue Mountains bushfires the Blue Mountains bikers were set to donate \$500 to their favourite charity Vale St halfway house when Vale St suggest that instead they donate to the Salvos Bush fire relief fund instead. BMB members decided to up their donation to \$1000 dollars, which by an existing arrangement Woolworths matched. So the Salvos Bushfire relief fund received a \$2000 donation. Well done to all involved!

12th Review of the Motor Accidents Authority & 5th Review of the Lifetime Care and Support Authority

The MCC has made a submission to Standing Committee on Law and Justice's 12th Review of the MAA and 5th Review of the LCSA, as we have done with a number of previous reviews. We made our dis-satisfaction clear in a frank assessment of how the MAA runs the CTP scheme and the Lifetime Care and Support Scheme. We have been invited to make a supplementary submission to the reviews addressing issues arising from the 2012/13 Annual Reports.

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MOTORCYCLE COUNCIL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.



Queensland VLAD laws

Campbell Newman's LNP govt in Queensland has passed the [Vicious Lawless Association Disestablishment Bill](#), which is similar to the anti-associations laws in NSW, after a scuffle between two bikies on the Gold Coast. As in NSW, these laws were presented as 'Anti-bikie' or 'Anti-Outlaw motorcycle gang' laws but can in fact be applied to anyone.

26 outlaw/patch/1% clubs have been named as criminal organisations (proscribed) under the law in Queensland. A number of other laws and actions have been passed or mooted, aimed at outlaw motorcycle clubs.

The police response to these laws in Queensland has been both frightening and laughable. Social media and mainstream media have described social riders (riding any type of motorcycle) being stopped and searched, kids wearing "Sons of Anarchy" T-Shirts being stopped and questioned, non-riders with tattoos have been stopped, questioned and their tattoos photographed, motorcycle related businesses harassed, etc. Riders wishing to ride in groups of 3 or more riders have been advised by the govt to register their ride with the Police to avoid police harassment!

The MCC of NSW has been watching with interest and is monitoring the political climate in NSW. The NSW Government so far has been resisting the pressure to ratchet up enforcement in NSW. The NSW Police Commissioner has contradicted claims from the Queensland Government that Outlaw Bikies are fleeing across the border into NSW. The MCC have left the handling of the Qld matter to the Australian Motorcycle Council (AMC) with whom the MCC are affiliated and MRAQ.

Various protest rides were organised across the Eastern Seaboard to converge on the state Houses of Parliament in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne and some regional centres in Queensland on Sunday 1st December. The Sydney event was well supported by various Patch Clubs who arrived on mass at Macquarie st to the applause of the crowd.

The MCC of NSW financed travel for Eva Cripps of the AMC (Motorcycle Riders Association of Tasmania) to fly to Queensland in late October/early November to represent riders from a national perspective at a roundtable meeting with the Police Minister Jack Dempsey and the Qld Police Commissioner and from the news reports it was money well spent. In response to various queries the AMC are collecting donations for a fighting fund to assist with any high court challenge to the Qld VLAD laws.

Helmets update

Christopher Burns and Guy Stanford met with the representatives from the Centre for Road Safety, SAI Global and the helmet standards committee to look into options for the future of helmet laws in NSW. A recent change to the NSW Road Rules has an exemption if you have a head that is greater than 62cm in circumference (verified by any medical practitioner) You may buy a helmet certified by an overseas certifying body and it does not need any of the AS/1698:1988 or AS/NZS1698/2006 stickers on it but carry a copy of the Medical Cert and the gazette just in case.

Some interesting links:

Helmets and Brain Injury: <http://synapse.org.au/get-the-facts/motorbike-helmets-and-brain-injury-prevention.aspx>

Love, Speed and Loss – the story of 70's 500cc GP racer Kim Newcombe: <http://goo.gl/g31tmq>

More motorcycles could mean fewer casualties: <http://goo.gl/Luiytd>

Naturally Free – a 70's Australian motorcycling documentary: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0NKdPZdtV4>

UK - Motorcyclists '23% better' behind the wheel of a car: <http://goo.gl/7Mo17N>

MCC T-Shirts clearance

The MCC is clearing out our remaining stock of T-Shirts. Normally \$25, the shirts are now on sale for \$15. They are a black T-shirt with the MCC logo in white on the left chest and one of the following expressions in white text on the back: LIFE IS TOO SHORT FOR TRAFFIC; HAVE YOU SEEN A MOTORCYCLIST TODAY? NOW YOU HAVE; I'M REDUCING CONGESTION. STOP TRYING TO KILL ME. Stocks and sizes are limited (no smalls left, I'm reducing congestion... only in XL, etc) Contact enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au

This newsletter, and past newsletters, can be downloaded from <http://www.mccofnsw.org.au/a/326.html>

Rider Risk Videos

Make sure you and your riding mates check out the Rider Risk Videos at www.mccofnsw.org.au

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. The next meeting will be in **February 2014**

Meetings are not only for clubs or delegates.

All motorcyclists are invited to attend.

Upcoming Events and Appearances

7th December - Wollongong Toy Run

8th December - Bikers Australia Sydney Motorcycle Toy Run

8th December - Australia Revs Up For Hospitals

1st February - Bathurst Street & Custom Motorcycle Show

8-9th February - Karuah River Rally

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

Send events to webmaster@mccofnsw.org.au

MCC of NSW Achievements in 2013

- Negotiated a change of the NSW road rules concerning blinkers and cleared up the measurement confusion. The road rules now state that rear blinkers must adhere to ADR19/02 and the minimum distance apart is 180mm. The changes were Gazetted this year.
- After two years of hard work and discussions with Transport for NSW, Centre for Road Safety and the Minister for Roads and Traffic, the MCC of NSW has managed to get Transport to create a working group to look at avenues to amend the NSW helmet laws.
- The MCC of NSW with the help of many riders throughout the state worked tirelessly to have the Motor Accident Injuries Amendment Bill 2013 (Greenslip changes) overturned. See May Newsletter for details.
- Transport for NSW has committed \$250,000 or funding for remote area emergency phones in areas like the Putty Rd. Putty Rd will be getting 5 phones in the near future and the MCC has been asked to identify other areas requiring the phones. Thanks to Justin Dorward, Brian Wood, Christopher Burns, Alan Hay, Louise Markus Federal member for Macquarie and Margaret Prendergast Centre for Road Safety for their efforts in getting this across the line.
- The MCC has been negotiating with Transport for NSW on motorcycle vehicle standards and proposed amendments. This includes exhaust issues, individually constructed vehicle standards (Choppers, Bobbers etc), blinkers, brake tests etc. We were successful in once again stopping the introduction of sticker laws for aftermarket exhaust systems.
- The MCC of NSW has been representing riders on the NSW Road Safety Advisory Committee to the Honourable Duncan Gay Minister for Roads and Transport. This gives the MCC the ability to contribute to the policy makers one on one at a quarterly meeting of the council. Direct access like this is unprecedented in the history of NSW Transport and motorcycle riders.
- The MCC of NSW was instrumental in lobbying for the Lane Filtering trial and played a leading role on the working group of the Lane Filtering trial. The trial has been deemed a success and we are eagerly awaiting the outcome of the data crunching.
- MCC representative Ken Lovegrove worked with the Central Coast Council on motorcycle related road issues for which the local Road Safety Officer was recognised by both a State and a Federal Award for road safety initiatives.
- The MCC of NSW took a pro-active approach and contacted and met with the local Progress Association at Mooney Point in order to discuss local residents issues with motorcycles. One outcome was for riders to slow down through the village itself and maybe use a higher gear coming down the hill southbound into the village. Well done to Justin Dorward and Brian Wood for running with this issue.
- Motorcycle Awareness Week was a major event of the year and involved the MCC assisting with the promotion and staging of various events across the state. The TV advertisements, Visual Message Signs (VMS), posters, handouts and events all managed to raise the presence of motorcycles in the minds of drivers and hopefully will make things a lot safer for riders in the process.
- The MCC of NSW also represents dirt bike riders on various issues and deals with Government Departments on their behalf including Recreational Registration, ride areas, etc. The MCC submitted a paper and appeared as witnesses before the Committee of inquiry into unregistered vehicles.
- The MCC of NSW has produced submissions to a number of NSW Parliament Committee's including the Unregistered Vehicles Committee (Recreational Registration) The Law and Justice Committee of inquiry into the MAA and LTCSA, the Motor Accident Injuries Amendment Bill 2013.
- MCC of NSW has direct and regular contact with the heads of various NSW Departments in order to represent NSW riders and all matters motorcycling and the MCC of NSW is regarded as the go-to group on all things motorcycling by the NSW Government and its Departments.
- The MCC of NSW is regarded as the go-to group for answers by many riders in NSW on issues ranging over such diverse items as exhausts, speeding fines, Helmet laws, motorcycle defects, CTP claims and a host of other issues. If we don't have the answer we know who will.
- If you want Motorcycle Aware Driver or In case of accident do not remove helmet stickers, feel free to contact the MCC of NSW by any means.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

Become an individual supporter of the MCC and help the group that helps you. Funds raised from Individual Supporters subscriptions cover our operating costs, none of us get paid and we volunteer our time and resources in order to represent riders across NSW. Sign up now and help us, help you.

Individual Supporters have as access to the [MCC of NSW web forum](#) and enjoy benefits from the following businesses:

To reap these benefits you will need to quote your Individual Supporter number or show your Individual Supporter card.

Honda Australia Rider Training



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www.bikescape.com.au

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Silverhorse Clothing

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www.silverhorse.com.au

Motorcycle workshop



10% discount

Riders Choice Motorcycle workshop

North Narrabeen
Phone: 9913 1828

Detailing service



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Shine My Bike

Phone Tom: 0412 355 152
www.shinemybike.com

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