



March/April Happenings: Spray on Safety, Consultation with Govt, Stock on Roads, M/C sales, Protective Clothing, etc

Spray on Safety?

Volvo has developed a reflective spray that is invisible in daylight but reflects white under bright light such as vehicle headlights. 'Lifepaint' was developed for bicyclists and pedestrians but can easily also apply to motorcycle riders.

The spray can be applied to clothing, luggage, accessories, or your bike itself, for a strong reflective effect at night without altering the daytime appearance. The only downside appears to be that the spray only lasts about a week before needing to be reapplied... and the fact that it is not yet widely available.

[Check out the Lifepaint demo video here](#)

A similar product that is widely available is '[Reflect All](#)'. It's a product that can be applied to many different surfaces which 'Sprays on semi-transparent and dries in 10 minutes'. The MCC is not aware of anybody using this product on motorcycle clothing etc. though.

Duncan Gay - Minister for Roads and Ports, Andrew Constance - Minister for Transport

With the NSW state Election over it was announced that the Honourable Duncan Gay will remain as the Minister for Roads and Ports and Andrew Constance has taken on the role of Minister for Transport. MCC looks forward to continuing the relationship with both Ministers.

The Christian Democrats have the balance of power in the upper house which is likely to be a bad outcome for riders because the Fishers and Shooters Party, who previously held the balance of power, held the line against draconian CTP changes proposed in the previous parliament.

Consultation with Government

In other news the MCC of NSW have made representations to the appropriate authorities on a number of road safety issues after complaints from riders.

These included loose gravel on the Old Pacific Highway ('old road') north of the Calga Interchange where the contractors had not cleaned up properly, resulting in a number of riders crashing on a Thursday night and daytime Friday. After some phone calls from the MCC to the right people it was sorted before the weekend, potentially saving even more riders from injury and damaged bikes.

We acted upon reports of sharp rocks used in the road surface in the Royal National Park that led to an extraordinary number of punctures for riders on a Thursday night ride, and we have also made representations on behalf of various ride groups after tacks were scattered on the McCarrs Creek Road leading to a number of punctures for riders. The MCC and the Police believe that the tacks were aimed at cyclists but they are both a nuisance and a serious danger to motorcyclists as well.

Whilst the MCC and its representatives work closely with various authorities to mitigate issues like those listed above, riders can assist by reporting incidents of this nature to the MCC and phone the Traffic Management Centre on 131 700 and the Police Assistance line on 131 444. Having a list of previously reported incidents within the government's reporting systems adds weight to our requests for action when we call to have the issues escalated to the correct people ... making our job a lot easier.

The NSW helmet discussion paper will be released very shortly for review and comment by one and all. Centre For Road Safety are analysing the data from the **GoPro** tests at crash lab and expect to have a policy document covering GoPros and Bluetooth communications devices available for review by the various authorities shortly.

Meanwhile the discussion paper on helmet law reform is expected out very shortly and is expected to lead into changes allowing the use of **ECE22.05 certified helmets** in NSW.

Christopher Burns has been working with Transport for quite some time on the **Recreational Registration** proposal and has been in contact with a representative from the Minister for Roads and Ports office and a representative from Transport this week. The Recreational Registration Cabinet Paper that the Minister for Roads and Ports **presented in July 2014** has been now been moved from Transport to Department of the Premier and Cabinet as there were too many Departments offering suggestions and raising issues so a consensus could not be reached, therefore it was deemed that DPC is the group to drive this to a satisfactory conclusion. Watch this space for further updates.

Vehicle Standards Working Group

The MCC 's Christopher Burns has been nominated to take up a seat on another Vehicle Standards Working Group, specifically dealing with riders who may have some physical disability that requires special modifications to their ride and or special licence considerations. This is an important group as there is anecdotal evidence of some riders have difficulty navigating the system of both modification and licences. The aim of the group is to clear up any issues and make it a trouble free procedure. The information that comes from this group will assist riders and certifiers in the process and ensure that riders do not get over charged for certification when modifying the location of various bits of off-the-shelf equipment.

If anyone feels they can contribute to this subject with stories (good or bad), suggestions for improvements or new products that may assist, feel free to **email Christopher Burns**.

MCC Out and About

The MCC had stands at both the **Barry Sheene Festival of Speed** and the **Bankstown Custom Show**.

Freddie Spencer was guest of honour at the Barry Sheene Festival of Speed and a couple of us managed to do a few demonstration laps with Freddie and **Maria Costello**. Thanks to James Shield for the loan of his Land Speed Record attempt Postie Bike which drew a crowd, and which Freddy Spencer kindly signed.

It was great to get in contact with riders face to face and discuss various issues, and inform them about what is really happening behind the scenes with the work the MCC is doing. Queries from riders covered such varied issues as lane filtering, number plates, bike defects, noise issues, Government policy, and interstate issues.

Motorcycle Council of NSW

PO Box 517

Parramatta 2124

Ph: 1300 679 622 enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au

Remember if you have a query on any issue at all, feel free to contact us at any time and get the right information first time. You can get hold of us via phone on 1300 NSW MCC (1300 679 622), **Facebook**, enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au or the website at www.mccofnsw.org.au.

On the 9th May the MCC will have a stand at the **Silverwater Motor Festival** and a less formal presence at **Throttle Roll**. Come and say hello, and/or grab some info and stickers.

Stock (Cattle) Beside Roads

It's common to come across cattle on the side of the road in many areas of Australia while out riding. Recently we received a letter from a gentleman asking the MCC to make riders aware of the dangers of ignoring warnings signs about stock beside/on the road.

The gentleman recounted an incident where rider ignored stock signs and ran over and killed his dog. He pointed out that not all riders ignore the signs however some do. He also recounted an incident where riders riding in close formation had fail to react to warning signs until they saw cattle, at which point the first rider braked and the two following riders collided with him. I've personally come around a blind corner to find two friends recovering from a similar collision.

Despite the distress of having his dog killed in front of him the gentleman's letter was calm and balanced. He simply requested that we ask riders take notice of stock signs beside roads and slow down for all our sakes. A perfectly reasonable request. In fact if you take notice you can usually smell the cattle before you see any signs.

Colliding with a cow or even a dog can easily kill you, even at relatively slow speed. Please slow down around stock ... for everyone's sake.

Austrroads Petition

Mark Hinchliffe (MotorbikeWriter.com) has started a petition to get Austrroads to "stop ignoring motorcycles. Acknowledge that riders are a vulnerable road user, that motorcycles require special consideration in road safety and transport issues, and are a significant key to solving many transport and traffic issues."

Petition here: www.change.org

MOTORCYCLE COUNCIL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.



First Quarter 2015 Motorcycle Sales Figures

The Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries (FCAI) reports a total of 24,505 'units' were sold in the first quarter of 2015, representing a 1.2 per cent decline in motorcycle sales from the same period in 2014.

Road bike sales declined 2.3 percent, off-road bike sales rose 2 percent and ATV sales declined by 3.5 percent. Scooter sales continued to fall, with a drop of 35 percent!

Ride to Live Website

Centre for Road Safety's 'Ride to Live' website has been nominated as a finalist for the International Webby Awards in the Government category. Congratulations to the team at Centre For Road Safety and to the Roads Minister for backing the concept. The MCC of NSW worked closely with Centre For Road Safety developing this concept and campaign through the Motorcycle Strategy Working Group.

ridetolive.nsw.gov.au

AMC - Protective Clothing

The Australian Motorcycle Council has released its advice on protective clothing in a recent media release.

“The MAA has recommended a 5-star model similar to the existing ANCAP ratings for cars, but until this system sees the light of day, the AMC website will help motorcyclists choose gear that will reduce the likelihood of injury in a crash”.

www.amc.asn.au/web/ce-approved-protective-clothing

MCC T Shirts

We have two black, size Large “Have you seen a motorcyclist today... now you have” tee shirts left. \$15 posted or \$10 picked up. [Email the MCC](#) if you want one.

Upcoming Events and Appearances

1-3rd May - Heart Of The Hunter Rally – Singleton

1-3rd May - 33rd Norton Unapproachable Rally Nundle

2nd May - Brass Monkey Rally – Rydal

2-3rd May - Gloucester Motorcycle Expo

9th May - Silverwater Motor Festival

9th May - Throttle Roll Custom Motorcycle Show – Enmore

17th May - Kempsey Swap Meet

See www.mccofnsw.org.au/a/250.html for more events and details

To have your event included email webmaster@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 on **4th May 2015**

Meetings are not only for clubs or delegates.

All motorcyclists are invited to attend.

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

Individual Supporters

Become an individual supporter of the MCC and help the organisation that helps you. Funds raised from Individual Supporters subscriptions cover our operating costs. We do not get paid, we volunteer our time and resources in order to represent riders across NSW.

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