



May-June Happenings: Thank You, Helmets, Parking, Govt Consultation and Submissions, etc

Check out our Facebook page and stay in the loop on what's happening in the motorcycle world and what changes Government are making that could affect you.

The MCC of NSW ensures you get the real story on legislation, upcoming changes and inquiries. The MCC represents riders on a whole host of issues including vehicle standards, CTP (greenslips), helmets (cameras and tinted visors) and safety issues affecting riders in NSW.

Any queries? Feel free to message us and we'll ensure you get the right information. enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au

A Huge Thank You to Midstate Motorcycle Club!

Midstate Motorcycle Club, based in Canowindra, have made a very generous donation to the MCC of NSW. The only request they made was that the money be used to "...promote initiatives specifically related to motorcycles and, if possible, those initiatives benefit regional riders ...".

If you live in regional NSW and have a great idea about how the money could be spent on regional motorcyclists/motocycling please let us know at enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au

If any other clubs or groups would like to make donations to the MCC, they would be very gratefully received!

Cameras on Helmets

A rider in Bonville, NSW was charged in October 2014 for allegedly not wearing an approved helmet because he had a GoPro camera mounted on his helmet with double-sided tape.

The rider has made a good decision to have the matter heard in court. As we know, a temporary mount of a camera on a helmet does not modify it in any way, shape or form. Essentially the helmet stays the same, so how does it not comply? Beats us.

If you or any rider you know has had similar issues please ask them to contact the MCC of NSW so we can advise and assist.

At the May meeting of the Centre for Road Safety Motorcycle Safety Strategy Implementation Working Group it was reported that the results of further testing are inconclusive. The issue will be referred to the CRS's helmet sub-committee to make recommendations on how best to proceed.

We continue to hold our breath, although the re-appearance of cameras on Police helmets may be a good sign ...

Tinted Visors on Helmets

We received word from our colleagues in Victoria that VicPol have withdrawn the charge of 'not wear compliant helmet' against a rider in Victoria.

The correspondence to the rider advised the brief of evidence presented to VicPol Legal was not authorised - in other words it wouldn't stand up in court, so they pulled the charge.

If you believe you have been unfairly booked for something similar, it is your right to contest the charge in court. Every rider that has one of these charges withdrawn is assisting other riders across the eastern seaboard because the more charges, that get withdrawn the less likely the Police are to book you for something that won't stand up in court.

Federal Senate Inquiry into Aspects of Road Safety

As a result of the MCC's submission, Brian Wood and Christopher Burns were called as witnesses to appear before the Rural And Regional Affairs And Transport References Committee inquiry into road safety on 2nd July.

Elements of our testimony included the current Federal situation on helmet standards, issues affecting riders and rider crashes in regional and rural areas, and ways to address these issues.

The lack of a National Motorcycle Safety Strategy was covered in our opening address and the fact that most states had a strategy. We requested that the Coalition honour its promise of such a strategy in 2013.

We covered issues such as the reduction in the fatality rate (per registered motorcycle) for motorcycle riders by 50% over the past ten years and we attributed that reduction to rider training at the pre-permit level.

Causation of regional single vehicle motorcycle crashes was also covered in depth. Issues we raised included animal strikes, vehicles crossing the centre line on roads like the Old Pacific Highway and Royal National Park routes. We also requested that motorcycle subject matter experts attend motorcycle fatalities to give an expert opinion. Training in motorcycle physics for state Police investigators would also assist. Not just a 2 hour 'Here is how a bike works', but a solid course training up actual Police riders to investigate these

crashes to ensure that the 'Excessive speed' tick box is not used as a default.

Some of the questioning from the Senators was very penetrating, and Brian and CJ, had to bring their 'A game' to the hearing.

Of particular note was Senator Ricky Muir sitting on the committee. He is renowned as an advocate for motor enthusiasts and is a motorcycle rider.

Road Safety Advisory Committee 2nd July

Both Brian Wood and Christopher Burns attended the quarterly NSW Govt Road Safety Forum.

Issues covered included the planned increase in random drug testing in NSW, which will see the number of drug testing units (Draegers) increased from 6 to 24 across the state.

The current statistics on testing show that up to one in four drivers are testing positive to illicit drugs. In order to combat this the NSW Police will increase the testing rate to try and achieve 97,000 tests by end of 2017. Meanwhile random breath testing offences are well down, although regional areas seem a bit higher than the norm. Assistant Commissioner John Hartley advised that testing is now being used as a deterrent, for example a RBT on a Friday afternoon after work is liable to stick in people's minds over the weekend and deter them from driving/riding under the influence of alcohol.

Other items covered in the forum were a report on crash stats for 2014 and in-depth numbers on serious injuries and fatalities. Motorcycle fatalities are standing at 27 for this year, down 3 from this time last year.

The Ride to Live campaign was also a talking point of the forum and has been deemed a success by the Centre for Road Safety.

There has been an increase in road safety funding for the Centre for Road Safety. This means we will see projects being

rolled out that directly affect motorcycle riders including rolling out under run rails on W beam barriers (Armco) across popular riding routes in NSW. CRS also plan to audit more motorcycle routes in the 2015/16 financial year and we should see more improvements in that area of road safety.

Lane Filtering 1st Birthday

A group of MCC delegates met with Parliamentary Secretary John Sidoti, Acting General Manager of the Centre for Road Safety Bernard Carlon, and Inspector Phillip Brooks of the NSW Highway Patrol to offer our thanks for a truly innovative scheme that has proven to be a world leader, and to cut a very clever birthday cake designed by Brian Wood. Thanks to John Hollands and Brian Wood for organising it and to all the riders that braved the rain to arrive at 6:30am. The event was a success, and once again the Motorcycle Council has raised the profile of lane filtering in the public eye - this will have more drivers aware of the fact that filtering is legal, and benefits them too.



The Police have reported that there hasn't been an increase in crashes since legalised lane filtering was introduced, indicating that the rules for filtering are working as intended.

Be aware that Police have been targetting riders who fail to obey the prohibited forms of filtering - [Lane filtering laws](#)

MAA Stakeholder Engagement Planning

Christopher Burns spent more than an hour discussing ways to improve the stakeholder engagement plan for the MAA - they oversee the CTP greenslips scheme

One of our primary recommendations was to engage all stakeholders in an overarching working group so that all people affected can voice their views with other groups in attendance. In other words, no more divide and conquer. This is similar to the approach used for the Greenslip Roundtable in 2013 that saw the Motorcycle Council and other groups gain a review of the proposed legislation, which was eventually sunk after the major campaign that was run.

The meeting was very positive and hopefully our recommendations will lead to an improvement in MAA stakeholder relations and an overall improvement in CTP pricing for riders and other road users.

The MCC also prepared and submitted a paper to address items raised in the current enquiry into insurer profits with in the NSW CTP scheme. Items covered included a lack of solid data back from the MAA and what appears to be a lack of auditing of insurer costs. This independent inquiry stemmed from recommendations from the Law and Justice Commission of inquiry into the MAA held in 2014. Once again the MCC prepared and submitted a solid paper covering CTP issues. Guy Stanford and Christopher Burns appeared as witnesses before that Senate inquiry. This proves that the work of the MCC can effect change in the system. The change might be slow in coming, but it does come. All we need is patience and perseverance to ensure that change does come about.

Centre for Road Safety Motorcycle Safety Strategy Implementation Working Group - May 2015

Electric Motorcycles. Currently all electric bikes are classified as LAMS. With the increased performance of some bikes, this approach is being reviewed.

Safety Barrier Rub Rails. 2 rub rail system have been crash tested and the Barrier Assessment. Panel has approved these for use in Australia.

The final report of the In-depth Crash Study is currently 'out for review'.

The current 3 year Action Plan runs out in June, there will be a workshop in July to develop the next 3 year plan.

ACCC consults on criteria for accepting international product safety standards

The MCC made a submission on a proposal to accept international standards. This proposal has implications for the acceptance of the UN ECE standard for helmets.

The ACCC has since been in touch to get clarification about our concerns about a lack of definition regarding risk assessments

Draft Central Sydney On-Street Parking Policy

"The City invites your comments on a draft policy that will guide parking controls in central Sydney during and after the construction of a number of NSW Government projects."

"The draft policy is on exhibition from 16 June and open for feedback until 6pm on **14 August 2015**. You can view the policy at sydneyyoursay.com.au/draft-central-sydney-on-street-parking-policy and email feedback directly to cbdparkingpolicy@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au"

The MCC is currently drafting our response.

Australia is Japan's 4th Largest Motorcycle Market

In 2014, Australia was Japan's 4th largest motorcycle export market behind USA, Germany and France. The full report is available here <http://www.jama-english.jp/publications/MIJ2015.pdf>

Motorcycle stats start on page 17 and the export market stats are on page 22.

Half Yearly Motorcycle Sales

Road motorcycle sales were steady compared to the same period last year, however the off-road motorcycle market declined 5.8 per cent and the scooter market collapsed 25.9 per cent. ATV sales grew.

Road motorcycles account for 42 per cent of the new motorcycle, ATV and scooter market. Off-road motorcycles account for 31.2 per cent, ATVs 21.4 per cent and scooters 5.4 per cent.

Honda was the leading manufacturer with 24.6 per cent of the market, followed by Yamaha (18.6 per cent), Kawasaki (9.9 per cent), Suzuki (9.4 per cent) and Harley-Davidson (8.9 per cent).

[More info here from the FCAI](#)

Motorcycle Council of NSW

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Motorcycles on TV

Series 3 of Temporary Australians is back on free to air channel ONE on Sunday's at 2.30pm and other times, so check your local guides. Series 4 will appear from 4th October.

Individual Supporter Profile - Steve Smith

I'm the current custodian of the Motorcycle Council of NSW's Individual Supporters program, a 53yr old Grandfather of two who works as an Instrument / Electrical Technician on Sydney's Natural Gas Network.

I started riding at the age of 44 (mid-life crisis or opportunity) and have only owned Ducati Supersports, my current bike is a 2005 1000DS. Most riding opportunities are short runs on a Sat or Sun morning south of Sydney when work and family commitments allow. I try to have regular ride days (approx. every 6wks) with work mates' to places like Bulga, Kangaroo Valley or Tarana. My wife and I also endeavour to ride to Phillip Island at least once a year for WSBK or Moto GP.

I am a member of the Ducati Owners Club of NSW, and have enjoyed many of their events like their Annual Concours d'Elegance and National Ducati Rallies. I first became aware of



the MCC whilst attending Breakfast Torque at Loftus a few years ago as part of a DOC NSW static display. I then became one of the MCC delegates for the DOC NSW. The success of the MCC relies on the dedication and commitment of a small team and when they were looking for someone to assist with the Memberships I thought it was something I could help with.

MOTORCYCLE COUNCIL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.



Upcoming Events and Appearances

19th July - Ulysses (Hills Branch) Show and Shine - Dural Country Club

26th July - Nabiac Automotive Swap Meet.

15th Aug - Illawarra Rally - Onslow Park, Camden.

15th Aug - National Vietnam Veterans Day - Murrurundi.

15-22nd Aug - Black Dog Ride to the Red Centre

29th Aug - Shannon's South Coast National Car, Bike and Truck Show - Moruya.

28-30 Aug - Grafton Classic Bike Rally - Grafton Showgrounds.

29-30th Aug - 2015 Australian Trials Championship - Pacific Park.

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 **3rd August 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

MCC Stickers

Can't get to an event the MCC is attending but want some MCC stickers?

We are currently trialling selling our stickers on eBay

[Click here to buy stickers](#)

Stop Press:

The Royal Hotel, Hill End, is offering a special rate (\$50 per person per night, with dinner and continental breakfast) for groups of two or more. The roads to Hill End are now all sealed and the venue is ideal for a getaway of a night or two.

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.

Sign up now, and help us help you.

Individual Supporters 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.



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Contact the MCC at enquiries@mccofnsw.org.au



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