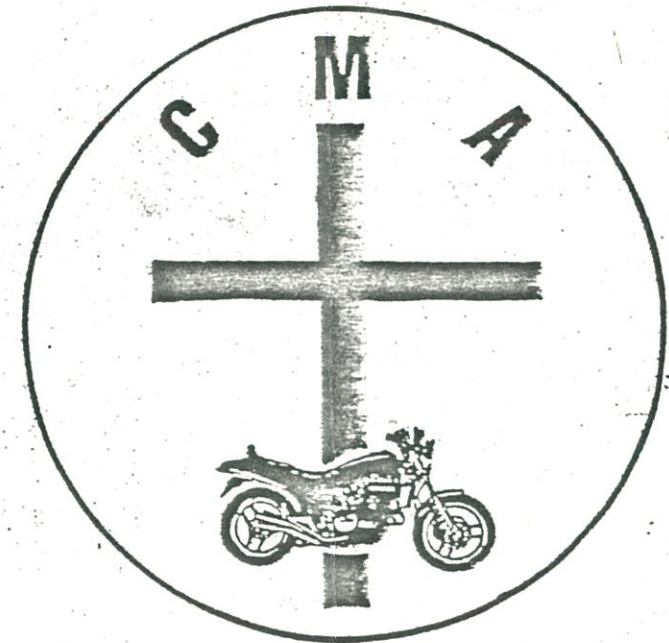


CHRISTIAN MOTORCYCLISTS' ASSN OF N.S.W.



NEWSLETTER

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C.M.A. NEWSLETTER

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This newsletter is a bi-monthly publication intended to keep members of the Christian Motorcyclists Association informed about activities within the Christian biker scene, to allow discussion of issues relevant to Christian bikers and to be a medium where members can share with each other some of the things that God is doing with their ministry. This newsletter is distributed to the home address of all financial members of CMA and to the club address of all Christian motorcycle clubs in Australia.

CMA committee members are:

<u>Chairman</u>	-	Peter O'Donnell	(047) 54 2039
<u>Secretary</u>	-	Greg Pendlebury	(02) 639 7288
<u>Treasurer</u>	-	Michael Cavanagh	(02) 638 4052
<u>Publicity</u>	-	Dave Sharpe	(02) 628 2384

Feel free to contact any of these people (at a reasonable hour) if you wish to discuss any matter relating to CMA.

No part of this magazine may be reprinted without the written consent of the CMA committee.

Articles, letters etc from members (and others) are always welcome and are published at the discretion of the editor.

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the committee of CMA.

Advertisements of a personal nature will be published at no cost to members. There is a small charge for advertising of businesses.

***** ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM CMA *****

Cloth badges \$5 (members only)
Member's T-shirts \$10 (or send \$4 with your shirt)
Other printed T-shirts - Costs as above
- Triumph TSS with "Real Freedom is Riding with Jesus"
- Ugly bikers with "Bikers are worth saving, Jesus died to save bikers"

THE CHRISTIAN MOTORCYCLISTS ASSOC.

invites you to attend

the SEVENTH NATIONAL RUN

to be held at the :

RIVERGLADE VAN VILLAGE

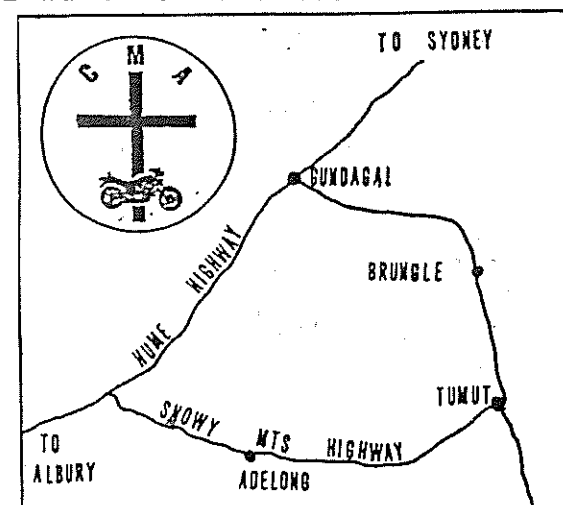
SNOWY MTS HIGHWAY

TUMUT

on the

12th and 13th NOVEMBER 1988.

This promises once again to be a time to renew old friendships, to find out what others have been doing in their service for the Lord, and to relax in beautiful Tumut. Be sure to make it to this Run. As it is in a camping ground you will need to bring everything you will want for the weekend.



UP AND COMING

October 14-16 Annual Run Teaching Weekend. 39 Walgett St, Katoomba. Send registrations in as soon as possible. Organised rides from North Parramatta Post Office, cnr Church & Grose Sts at 6:00pm or from Hi-Craft Leisure Centre, cnr Great Western Hwy & Russell St at 6:50pm on Friday.

November 5 Day run to Singleton. Meet 10am at North Parramatta Post Office, cnr Church & Grose Sts North Parramatta.

November 12-13 7th National Run. Riverglade Van Village, Snowy Mountains Highway, Tumut. Activities include BBQ tea Saturday night, Games afternoon, Informal sharing by Christian clubs, Sunday worship. Cost of a tent site is around \$5. If you wish to book an on-site van contact the manager direct on (069) 47 2528. Remember, we are in view of the public at this function so behave!! The manager has asked that bikes not be ridden around the park, but only when coming or going.

>>>>> PLEASE READ AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY CMA'S CAMPING POLICY (included with this newsletter) BEFORE COMING TO THIS EVENT!

December 3 The Road Runner Christmas Party BBQ. BYO everything. This will be a family day so bring the rug rats. Cars will be tolerated! Meet at Avon Dam (south of Sydney) around noon or meet at North Parramatta Post Office at 10am.

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

The Gospel : A Message of Hope.

Too often I believe that people are prepared to try to copy the performance of others they see who they think are very good at communicating the gospel. This needn't be a bad thing, but we've got to think very carefully about what is said, and try to make sure we distinguish between what is the gospel and what is culture.

Not meat pies and tinnies - culture is the way we think and act. The way we are brought up develops the way we think, and so often we do not realise the effect our culture has on us. So when presenting the gospel we need to be sure what we present are the gospel truths, not cultural distortions or cultural extras. Our culture will often cause us to stress the wrong points. But culture, if we are fully aware of it, can be a powerful tool to meaningfully communicate the gospel to people.

One example of what I have been talking about is the "Hellfire and Damnation" theme that used to frequently run through gospel messages last century and the early part of this one. The preacher used to do everything within his power to convince people how rotten and sinful they were and that unless they did something to change this they'd spend eternity in the fiery depths of hell.

While in essence this is true, this approach tended to get people to respond out of fear rather than a desire to enter into a relationship with the Lord and Creator of the universe. Stress the bad stuff and people will run blindly the other way in attempt to avoid it.

Perhaps our convict origins in Australia have also had the same effect - make people realise they are bad and sinful, then they'll want to know how not to be, or so the reasoning goes. I think most people today know that the world is far from perfect. Floods in Bangladesh, famine in Ethiopia, murders, sexual assaults, drunk drivers injuring innocent people - just watch the evening news for an update on the bad news. Oh yes! People know that we are living in an imperfect world. Then along come Christian gossellers - and just when people thought things were bad enough, they are now going to be put further down and told how bad and rotten each one of them is. I believe people know this - they are aware of areas in their lives where there is hurt and confusion and disharmony. I believe they don't need us to sink in the boat.

I don't believe this is what Jesus did either. Jesus' message was basically one of hope. He tried to show people how, through a relationship with God they could have life, and life to its fullest. (See John 10:10, 10:28, 11:25, 14:6, 20:31) Jesus died so that we might live, and have all the blessings of a life lived in relationship with Him.

This doesn't mean we toss out the concept of man's sinful nature. As indicated in Romans 3:23 & 6:23, man is sinful, but this should not be the main thrust of talks we have with people. People should be informed of the way in which God views them when they are outside of a relationship with Him, and informed of the consequences of continuing to live outside of a relationship with Him, but this should not be the central message of our evangelism. As pointed out in Eph 2:12, these people live in a world without any real hope - they need to be given some hope.

LONE RIDER REPRESENTATIVES

The last newsletter contained a voting form for the approval of the two nominations as members of the committee of CMA. Unfortunately, insufficient votes have been received to make this decision, 50% of the membership is required. The majority of the votes received approved of both Tony Marsh and Adrian Bonham. The committee decided that, as the Annual General Meeting was fairly close and another vote would be taken then, it would be best if Adrian and Tony were invited as observers of the Committee. They have attended the last two meetings and have made worthwhile contributions.

However, the Annual General Meeting to be held on October 15 during the Annual Run at Katoomba is the time when the lone rider membership votes for its representatives on committee. Those voted for here will have full committee membership for the next year.

Nominations received so far are Adrian Bonham, Tony Marsh and Dave Sharpe. Other nominations will be received at the A.G.M.

I know you've probably had a gutful of elections, but they are a necessary part of the democracy we all enjoy. It's important to have a say in how things are run.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
15TH OCTOBER 1988 - 7:00PM

To be held at
INNISFREE
39 WALGETT ST
KATOOMBA

The Annual General Meeting is part of the Annual Run Teaching Weekend. If you are unable to make it for the whole weekend please try to get to the A.G.M. This is the place where important decisions about the Association are made by the membership.

AGENDA

- * Opening Prayer
- * Chairman's Report
- * Treasurer's Report
- * Discussion of Committee's recommendation that membership fees be raised to \$15 for singles, \$20 for families.
- * Election of Lone Rider Representatives to Committee
- * General Business
 - future directions
 - evaluation of activities
 - suggested activities

If you wish to discuss something under General Business please see the Chairman before the meeting to add it to the agenda.

If you cast your mind over the way Jesus dealt with people you soon start to see the picture. The woman at the well, the cripple at the pool of Siloam, the Sermon on the Mount, the discussion with Nicodemus, the conversion of Zacchaeus, etc, etc, etc. Jesus didn't condemn these people. They were ordinary common people of the times in ordinary situations with the same feelings, wants and needs as the ordinary person today. If Jesus didn't tell these people how rotten they were, why should we tell today's people they are. If it wasn't done by Jesus, why should we do it? Jesus instead showed them how they could go about improving their lives and enter into a fuller richness in a relationship with God. Jesus gave them a message of hope - a vision of a better future. This helped people to see the shallowness of their current situation and created a desire within them to change. It did not motivate them by fear. Certainly Jesus indicated to them the uselessness of their current situation, (i.e. their sin was separating them from God) but it was not the main emphasis of His evangelistic process. Indeed, contrasted with the message of hope He brought, it helped motivate these people to do something.

From my understanding of Scripture, the only times that Jesus actively attacked people about their sin and told them how rotten and sinful they were, was when He was talking to the religious heavies of the day, the Scribes and the Pharisees. These people prided themselves on how godly they were and how well they kept the law. They saw themselves a cut above everyone else, yet Jesus saw through this and challenged them about their hypocrisy. The modern counterparts of these people are the people inside today's church - you and me. How would Jesus see us? Would he condemn us for the sin in our lives while we ignore this and tell others how sinful and rotten they are. (Read Matthew 7:3 - 5)

Obviously part of the evangelistic process is making sure our relationship with God is right. Then we need to make sure that we give a message of hope - not doom and destruction. The whole salvation story is the greatest story of hope this world has. Let's make sure we present it as such. The gospel should be seen as a positive thing - not negative. Is the way we present the gospel something that people see as a hope for the future? Let's aim to present the gospel as Jesus did.

- Peter O'Donnell

CMA had a stand at this Christian Festival of music and other stuff. The aim was to let other Christian riders know of our existence. The response was a little dissatisfying in that there did not seem to be many bikers attending. The reason for this is unclear.

Special thanks to Tony Marsh for organising the display. Thanks also to those members who allowed their bikes to be displayed: Tony Marsh, Michael Cavanagh, Gary Drontfield and Terry.

CELEBRITY MEMBER?

The following was reported in the Daily Telegraph on Oct 5, 1988 concerning one of our members.

Windsor man Adrian Bonham tells us he was fishing at Batemans Bay last weekend with the local Baptist minister and the only thing he caught was a wallaby that had somehow got into the water and had to be rescued before it drowned. The minister, however, caught a fair sized flathead."

(I didn't know they had dumped old Harleys in Batemans Bay!...Ed)

Adrian also reports that last time he went kangaroo shooting he caught three trout!

TECHNICAL TIP

When fitting paper gaskets to sumps etc. put a smear of oil or grease over the gasket to help it seat nicely. Always nip up the bolts again after the engine has been started and the oil warmed. Following this procedure reduces the possibility of oil leaks.

(The above tip comes from a Triumph rider whose boots are continually soaked in slimy black stuff. If anybody knows about oil leaks, he does!...Ed)

GROAN SPOT

A biker was out cruising in the country when he came across a mob of sheep, supposedly grazing on the grass at the side of the road, but covering the road completely. He edged his front wheel into the nearest sheep and revved his motor, thinking the sheep would separate so he could ride through. But nothing happened. Finally in frustration the biker yelled, "Mint sauce." Within minutes the road was clear.

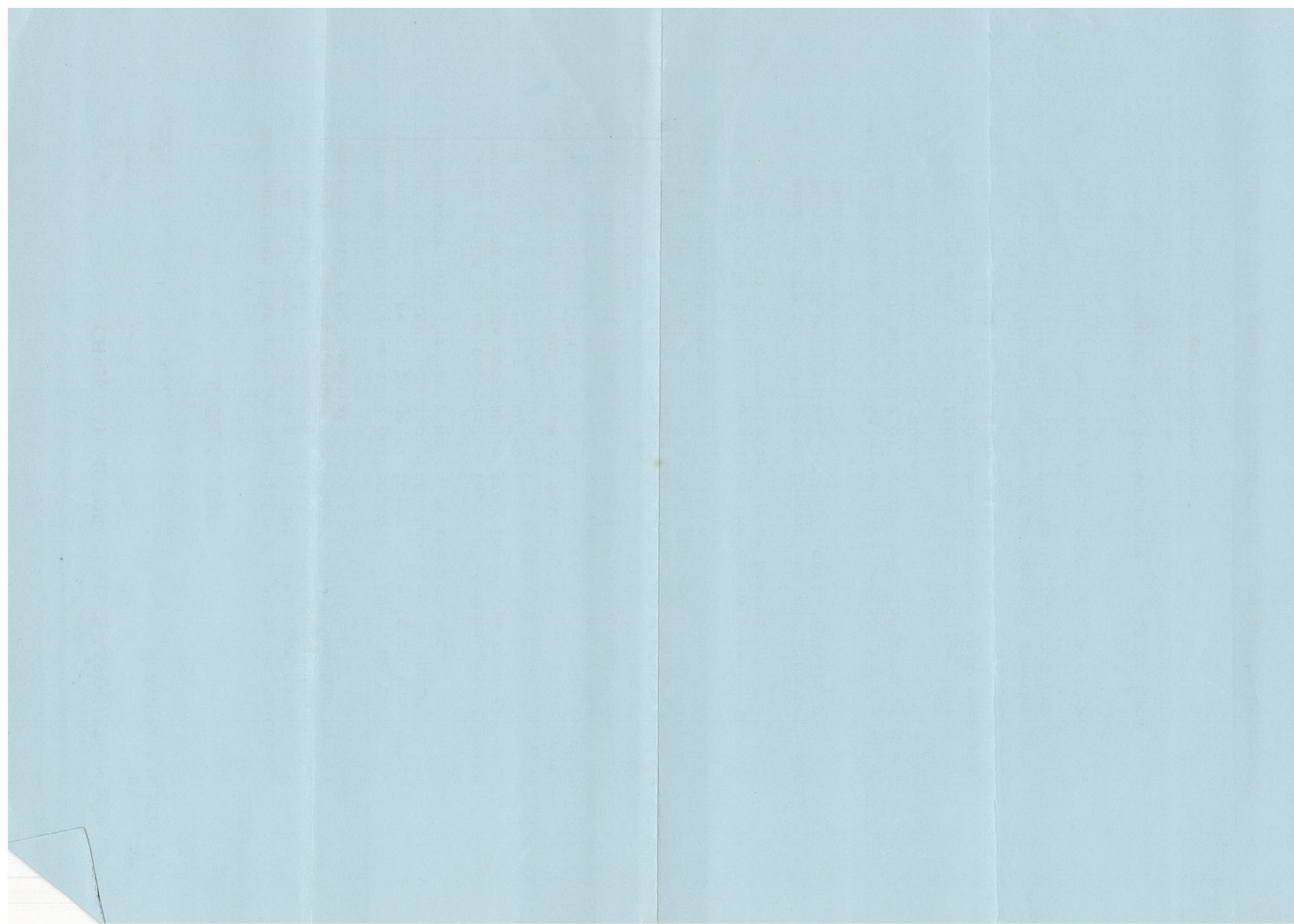
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Each morning as a biker left for work his old lady went for a walk to get some exercise. One morning she caught up with him sitting at the traffic lights not far from their place. She walked over and kissed him just as the lights changed to green. He rode off and the car behind drove up, the male driver wound down his window and yelled, "Next!"

* * * * *

RALLY INVITE

The Women's International Motorcyclists Association has invited us to attend their Moondyne Rally to be held on 22-23 October at Moondyne, 20kms south of Shepparton, Vic. Cost is \$7 with trophies and gymkana organised. For further details contact WIMA, PO Box 678, Dandenong 3175.





CHRISTIAN MOTORCYCLISTS ASSOCIATION of N.S.W.

P.O. Box 2081
NORTH PARRAMATTA, 2151

CAMPING POLICY

CMA functions that involve overnight stays are an important facet of the Association's activities. They provide opportunities for fellowship that are not normally available. These functions also make us more visible to people outside the Association.

These weekends are usually geared to provide time for fellowship and the exchange of ideas. This is an important part of these gatherings and often involves extended discussions into the early hours of the morning.

It also needs to be recognized that these functions attract members from a wide geographic area involving travelling time of up to 12 hours each way.

Christians at various stages of maturity are in attendance. There are occasionally some unbelievers there also to check us out. On top of this we are in constant view of the public. Because of this, all members behaviour must be beyond reproach.

With the above points in mind the following standards of behaviour are to be observed at all CMA activities that require overnight stays.

- * reasonable instructions from the organisers or the manager of the campsite are to be obeyed
- * members are to familiarise themselves with the organised program and be punctual in their participation of organised events
- * drag races, donuts and other like activities are only permitted in suitable circumstances. The committee will determine when it is suitable
- * members are to pace themselves and exercise self discipline in regard to sleep to ensure that they are fit enough to travel home safely
- * late night discussions are to be kept at a moderate noise level and away from people trying to sleep
- * early morning risers are to be considerate of those still sleeping
- * unmarried couples are not to share a tent or room without a chaperone
- * no alcohol or other drugs
- * the traffic regulations and other laws are to be obeyed