



Autumn 2013

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(Love it if you could put words in Word doc, and photos just as jpegs - thanks.

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# Chairman's Chat

Hi again and welcome to another edition of the newsletter lovingly crafted by Mark Bevan. The job is not an easy one and as much as you look forward to reading it, he looks forward to receiving your stories and input, why not take some time out of your busy schedules to pen a few lines on a ride, a revelation or send him a few photos.

The last couple of months have seen a lot happening behind the scenes within NSW and on a national level. We finally have our new logo and it is based on what we agreed at our AGM, and was presented at the National Run. Badges have been ordered and will soon be available with each membership receiving one badge, this means family memberships will have to purchase additional badges and those of us that run a couple of vests and jackets will also do likewise. They will be \$5 each. Also we are getting some teardrop banners made - 2 large ones for major events, a small one for each area coordinator and then there will be some mini ones that you can purchase for \$40 to fly on the back of your bike when you are parked, the profits from those will be going to the maintenance of the motorcycle in Haiti.

Sadly not all rides go to plan, in Tasmania at the National Run there were a couple of accidents and just recently in Sth Australia they had to deal with yet another serious event. When you are riding in a group or getting yourself to a CMA event always ride according to the conditions, your skill level and the group rules. The first two are up to you as an individual and for group events I have put together some notes that appear later in this edition.

We had a great weekend at Molong even if the numbers were down, our Mid North Coasters were flooded in, people moving houses, family & work commitments etc but I really appreciated the effort some put in to be there - the weather did cause some to come in their cars but who cares - they were there! Never feel that because you don't want to ride to an event that you can't attend, it is you we want to see and not your bike. The congregation at Molong were thrilled to have us, the hall had been made freely available and was huge. Many of those there suggested we use this as the location for our AGM Weekend next year and the church is happy to support this,

On June 15<sup>th</sup> CMA will be hosting the Combined Christian Clubs & Associations annual get together, Morisset Baptist Church have kindly allowed us to use their facilities and we will need volunteers to help with the catering / cooking and set up. Please contact me to register your act of servanthood.

In 2014 we will be hosting the National Run at Stanwell Tops, planning is underway, volunteers are coming forward and we look forward to making this a great weekend for everyone.

Well that's a quick snapshot of where we are at, if you want to know more contact your local coordinators and if they don't know your committee is here to serve.

Bless you all as you ride forth in His strength and in His name

Doddles

Chairman CMA NSW

0438 226 383

# CONGRATULATIONS...Life Membership

Congratulations to Wayne Foster on becoming a **Life Member**!!

Wayne joins Roy & Jenny, Barry & Margarita and Wayne Witchard who have all been members for more than 20 years

## The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

Come to mention it.. I was blinded, beaten, shipwrecked, and imprisoned, but I was.. **TOO BUSY SERVING** to notice.



The Apostle Paul.. too wrapped up in his love for God to notice his own problems. **Acts** THAT'S A NICE WAY TO APPROACH LIFE.

Paul was overwhelmed by God's love for him, and in return he was sold out to God, with his mission being to know nothing but Christ and Him crucified. He kept the main thing the main thing - living out loving God and loving others, so that he would spend his life to this end - that the gospel of Jesus Christ would be proclaimed and lived out to the max. He did not focus on his problems, but seeking to help meet the REAL needs of others.

What are we spending our time on? Serving ourselves or others?

Focussing on just our problems, or looking to help others deal with theirs?

## Odds, ends, ads

Honda CB250 (2001 model) Original km's - 9,450 Registered until 8<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Excellent learner's bike. Sporty black. Great condition, well looked after Ideal Cheap Commuter.....Ideal for wife, girlfriend (or both...)

\$3,750 ONO Phone Steve on 0265-46 6615 (no calls after 8.30pm please)

or contact lisA (Gypsy) Bike



# Lisa's Line

## Stop Performing and Start Depending.....

Too long since I communicated to you all.

I am not a good correspondent at the best of times and these last months have been hectic to say the least and devastating to say the most.

Thank you to all the pray-ers out there who have held me up to our loving Father this last while. I know we are all affected when we lose someone dear but knowing it and doing it are two different things. In talking with some close friends I have realized that losing my dad has been more akin to losing a child for me. The closeness and trust we had was very special. Even though I am not a great one at confiding in people: my mum used to say it was like getting blood out of stone; he was one whom I could always trust. In trying to move forward I have felt prevented by all the legal and physical "sorting out" that needs to be done. Some of you will know it well. Please continue to pray for my family... it is definitely not all roses at the moment and I have felt close to breaking down even in this last week.

Having said that, I am determined and believe it right to get on.... especially with CMA affairs. I will be attempting to start visiting the states and getting a feel for how things are going at the coalface again. Besides..... getting on my bike and going will be therapeutic for me. I suppose you've guessed this position is a great excuse for me to just ride and we all know that there's not a much better diversion in this world.

Let me offer a long overdue "Well done" to Tassie.... Once again it was wonderful to tour your beautiful isle. So many of us look forward to the Tassie National Run coming round every 6 years.

I went along to the National thinking to encourage as many as I could and came away having been on the other end of that encouragement. Several of you from various states went out of your way to support me. The friends I have made in CMA across the country are such a blessing. You know who you are: ones who were there when I was distressed.

While I am in the vein of thanks Noel and Kaye Underwood deserve accolades. What a mighty job they did in initiating and setting up for the CMA tent at the Ulysses AGM in Mildura. Thanks to all the others that made the trek and helped with setting up and manning the tent for the week. The CMA presence there was so worthwhile and, I believe, the beginning of great things to come. I can see across the country more and more proactive activities going on to reach unsaved bikers and others. It is very much what is needed now in CMA.

Whilst we are reaching out to others what is it God wants in our own lives? Growth.... maturity is our destiny, as Selwyn Hughes said. With whatever is happening in your life right now you need to ask yourself: "Am I growing?" It begins with you. Don't point the finger at anyone else. Ask yourself: "Do I really want to grow or am I comfortable?" Our Christian society is in great need of maturity, and dare I say it, especially from our men. I don't mean the 'easy' stuff like stepping up to take the positions of leadership, though that is needed too. I mean the hard stuff: getting on your knees and spending time in the Word and growing so there is depth and wisdom to your decisions. We are all to become like Christ and are commanded to love perfectly, which doesn't mean perfectionism. Stop performing and start depending!

# Down at the Crossroads....

Crossroads a Christian organisation for people with disabilities held each month at Nowra Baptist Church hall. We have activities on a social level & a "Talk about God" TAG time included. The Nowra CMA visits & runs the monthly meeting in March & with help from Illawarra CMA coming down for the evening. We display our bikes & have photos taken of people sitting on the bike & join in the games etc. during the evening. Over the last few years we have introduced each CMA member with the type of bike they ride & "attempted" to sing a song with a lot of fun & the Crossroaders joining in. This is followed by a christian talk which Grahame Bertram shared about "Jesus setting us free". Each year the Crossroaders look forward to the CMA coming & sharing with them.



## Lisa and Penny..... Time Out!!

The bimonthly meeting was over. Everyone has gone. We are going camping and riding for 5 glorious days. No plans. Just going to wing it!

We looked at each other and shrugged our shoulders. What to do now? Where to go? Maps out.....lets head east towards Alexandra.

It was magnificent riding out of Yea and we were thankful for continuing dry weather. Apparently our colleagues were not so fortunate. Many got a thorough drenching on the way home.

We got about 10 k's out of town and were riding through what was literally a one horse ( pub ) town; Molesworth. It had a great little camping ground all around the river.

It was quite full with many weekend campers and duck shooters. The proprietors, Karen and Alan, were very helpful and gave us every assistance, even providing Lisa with a camp chair and bringing us some wood for our camp fire.

Some duck shooters nearby brought us more wood in the back of their ute and we were set for the night. I think a couple of little old lady bike riders fascinated the locals.

It started to rain but eased off as we headed off to that pub for dinner and to charge our toys ( computers and phones and ipods ). We were roughing it, but had the technology! While away, it thumped down, and on returning to camp we found everything totally drenched, including the inside of my swag. Not to be deterred, we lit our fire and enjoyed a drop of the vino / port and lots of chat. Fell into damp sleeping gear tired and happy. It would be a new day in the morning.

Yes, it was a new day, and the sun was shining. We dried out as much as we could, packed up and headed to the Alex for breakfast and coffee. We found a great little cafe/ tearoom and stayed there planning our trip for the day and getting the required amount of coffee into our systems. Oh yeah.....!!!

The plan was to fuel up and get Lisa a camp chair before our exodus. We were way behind what little schedule we were abiding by, but we were to soon see why.

After fueling up, we moved our bikes out of the way and crossed the road by foot, purchasing the camp chair. On arriving back at our bikes and starting to fix the chair to the rig, a 4x4 pulled into the other end of the servo. Out jumped a tattooed fella and began marching over to us. He shook our hands introducing himself as ..... an ex Bandito.

The conversation that ensued would turn you head, curl your hair and glaze your eyes. He basically in just 10 minutes gave us a huge run down on his life growing up, the time in the outlaws and where he was at now. He recognized that he needed God in his life and that God has kept him, even in all the life he has led so far. He had thought of suicide several times through the preceding week and was very aware of God keeping him. He knew we had something to share with him that he so desperately needed and had just launched himself over to us. It was a divine appointment! Of course he was impressed that we were ladies, loaded up with swags etc and were the proud riders of Triumph. We shared with him that God was categorically the answer and gave him Marks gospel and some tracts / testimonies. We have prayed for him ever since. CMA have been mobilized and our local churches. Please remember him in YOUR prayers. We are particularly praying for a bloke to be able to stand with him and offer him the support and guidance he needs in Christ.

He also gave us the heads up on a road to take to Mansfield that wasn't even on my map. It was the road around Lake Eildon National Park through the mountains. What a magnificent ride. A late lunch at Mansfield which was hosting two days of push bike enduro riding, one of which was up Mount Buller.

Those guys and gals are so fit. Lisa and I loved just turning the key and we sprang into life...we had all the adrenaline we needed.

Our aim was Beechworth and a cabin, as we still had a bit of drying out to do.

Swags and clothes were washed and dried and oh yes, we did get some exercise?? We hiked about 15 minutes into town and had a great meal at The Hotel Taswell in the main street. Beautiful food and great service. Of course we are hard to resist, I understand that. We missed our fire, but the pillow fight with broken glasses somewhat filled the gap. Much needed big sleep and we were away in the morning to the Murray, somewhere.

Got to Cobram via here and there and the high road and the low road..... Lisa gets this bit?? The information lady was very helpful and understood our requirements perfectly. We found ourselves out on the reserve right beside the river, no amenities just the stars and a lovely fire with billy atop.

Dinner was cheese, salami and olives with some vino to wash it all down. It felt like a banquet for kings and queens. We would have had a good sleep except that about 3am I woke wondering where my phone was and had to wake Lisa and get her to ring it so I could find it. There was no sleep for the next few hours and we ended up sleeping in. Oh well, there was no schedule really.

We swam in the river. Cold to start but gorgeous after a minute or so. Lay in the soft grass and dried off in the sun. It doesn't get much better than this, we said!

Then a big ride 27 k's into Tocumwal straight to the tearooms that Lisa had discovered on the way down to Yea. I realized why this place had made such an impression on her. A lovely lady hostess, yummy food, all our toys charged and so much stuff to look at and yes, buy. I worked around the problem of room on my bike and had the purchases sent by mail. Where there's a will there's a way.

Our wood we had gathered that morning was ready to burn and so with more olives etc we headed back for another starry starry night. Our normal life was starting to feel a long way away. One could get very used to this. Of course it was perfect conditions. This was not to last.

We had decided to head home on the Thursday. Lisa had 800 k's to travel, a big day. I had 450 k's. We had planned one more fabulous night on the river and were all prepared. Wood gathered, a pub meal in our tummies and back to the river just before dark. The weather was changing very fast. Remember we were at Cobram where the tornadoes went through the next evening. It was starting to feel very unsettled. There was wind ( so no fire ) and then thunder and lightning. We made a quick decision to pack in 20 minutes and get to shelter. Good move. We had discovered a very old but clean and practical hotel in Tocumwal, so to there we headed. It had a big undercover area out back so our bikes were stowed there after unpacking them. It was warm and sort of eerie feeling as we sat outside. Sure enough, about 2am it started to rain and rain and rain. The big wet had set in. We packed our gear in the morning, in the dry, hallelujah! God really provided for us.

It had been an amazing time. The Time Out was really important especially for Lisa.

But you know what? God blessed us so thoroughly with all His magnificent provision, safe riding, His beautiful creation but most especially....the people we met, talked to, shared with, prayed with and enjoyed being with.

Relationships are God's heart, and they can and do restore our vitality and inner joy in a wonderful way.

There is so much more I could share but I will leave some room for my sisters version of events.

Looking forward to the next Time Out; to be recommended. Just find a good friend, your trusty bike and hit the road.....Bon Voyage!

# What's your excuse??

'Borrowed from the Queensland CMA newsletter - thanks folks!!

A man in his 40's bought a new BMW and was out on the highway for a nice evening ride. The evening was perfect for riding so he decided to open her up. As the needle went over 120 km/h, he suddenly saw flashing blue lights behind him. "There's no way he can catch a BMW," he thought to himself and opened her up further. The needle hit 140, 160 ... then the reality of the situation hit him. "What the hell am I doing?" he thought and pulled over.

The cop came up to him, look his license without a word, and examined it and the bike. "It's been a long day, this is the end of my shift, and it's Friday. I don't feel like more paperwork, so if you can give me an excuse for your driving that I haven't heard before, you can go."

The guy thinks for a second and says, "Last week my wife ran off with a cop. I was afraid you were trying to give her back." "Have a nice weekend," said the officer.

# Who was born in 1923 and what became of them?

This is a classic from Roy ..... thanks champion!!

Read it all trust me I think you'll agree .....The most sensible e-mail I have ever received....READ TO THE END

Who was who in 1923 and what became of them

In 1923, Who Was:

1. President of the largest steel company?
- 2.. President of the largest gas company?
3. President of the New York stock Exchange?
4. Greatest wheat speculator?
5. President of the Bank of International Settlement?
6. Great Bear of Wall Street?

These men were considered some of the worlds most successful of their days. Now, 88 years later, the history book asks us, if we know what ultimately became of them.

The Answers:

1. The president of the largest steel company, Charles Schwab, died a pauper.
2. The president of the largest gas company, Edward Hopson, went insane..
3. The president of the NYSE, Richard Whitney, was released from prison to die at home.
- 4.. The greatest wheat speculator, Arthur Cooger, died abroad, penniless.
5. The president of the Bank of International Settlement, shot himself.
- 6 The Great Bear of Wall Street, Cosabee Livermore, also committed suicide

However, in that same year, 1923,the winner of the worlds most important road race, the Isle of Man T.T., was Stanley Woods. What became of him? He won 10 T.T. races between 1923 and 1939, he lived on the Isle of Man and rode motorcycles all his life. He lapped the island circuit at 82 mph in 1957 (The Golden Jubilee) aged 54. He was a wealthy man when he died aged 90.

**The Moral: Quit work. Ride motorbikes..**

Thanks Roy!!



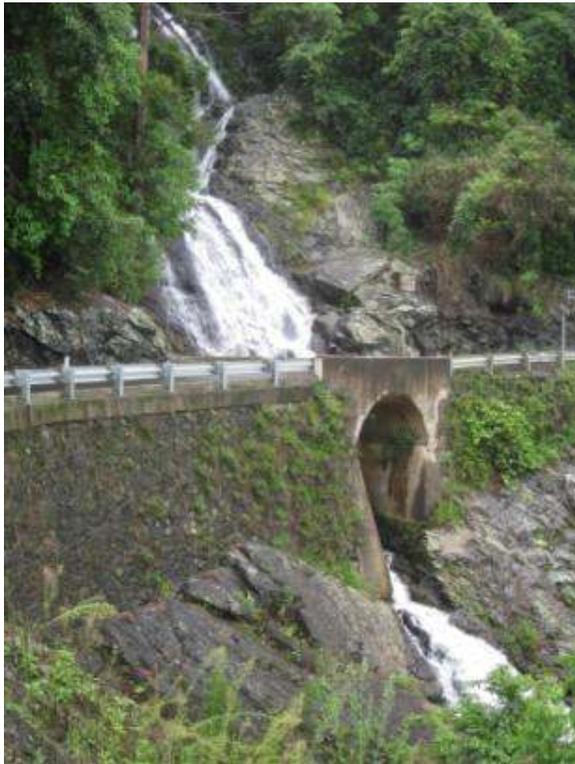
# South Goes North - February 15-18

I call it a rider's ride as we travelled on minor roads with enjoyable scenery & rideability.

Joining with me were, from Nowra, Kevin, David, John, Rose, Brad, & Jennifer. We met with Terry near Bowral & continued onto Penrith via Hill Top, Thirlmere, Mulgoa to Penrith to meet with Karen. All together now it was off to Maitland to meet with Wayne W., Jim, Kimbo & Alison. Noel Boyce also travelled down to Maitland just to visit with us & then return home to Singleton.

So- what is a good way to travel to Maitland from Penrith? Off to Wiseman's Ferry and stop for lunch, through Wollombi, Cessnock, Kurri Kurri to Maitland. As we approached Maitland Karen turned off to visit her father at Morisset & stay there for the night before returning home on Saturday. A larger group now as we headed for Clarence Town to stay the night in the Caravan Park. Somehow with the traffic etc. some were parted from the group, but all was well as we all found our way to Clarence Town. The Bowling Club was the venue for tea, chat & drinks. Not all took their breakfast as was suggested before the ride & we voted to leave early to have breakfast in Dungog. Ian McDougal was to join us, but had not replied, so it was great to see him arrive at the park in Clarence Town before we left for Dungog.

The road through Stroud Road & Gloucester was a bit rough in sections but that did not dampen our enthusiasm as we followed Buckets Way to Taree. Met with Graeme, Rod, & John, (I hope that is his name as I am having a seniors moment, sorry), & Ron Shucker was there to see us on our way. Coffee time & back onto the road - Highway - for the first time so far, then lunch at Kempsey & some rain. Onto Urunga to turn to the Waterfall Way & Dorrigo. Road wet & a sign saying "Oil spill on road" not a comforting feeling. But all was well as I think the rain must have washed it away & we all stopped at the waterfall, which came under the road. Time to take out the camera for a photo shoot.



Below:

Plenty of talking at the waterfall before continuing onto Paul & Di's guest house for an overnight stay.



Our HOSTS Paul & Di fitted us all in with some people sleeping on the floor & extra beds brought in. We sat down to a BAKED DINNER on Saturday night with desert, (don't you wish you were there?) Below are our HOSTS, Paul & Di.



After dinner we had a time of sharing about ourselves, & where God was taking & involving us.

Sunday morning after Eggs & bacon for breakfast Kevin shared a devotion time with us about our roll as salt of the earth & responsibility to share Jesus with others.

On the road again to, Ebor & Armidale. But some did not quite make it to Armidale. Kimbo's bike bottomed out on a cattle ramp damaging his sump & dropping oil out onto the road. Phone calls to NRMA & a tow or should I say lift to I think home. I was waiting up the road so I was not involved in his drama. We pressed on to come down Thunderbolt's Way - Bucket's Way to Karuah for Sunday night.

We all stopped for lunch at Walcha. Leaving Gloucester with heavy rain, the Taree mob turned towards home. The rain made vision very difficult, as we followed Kevin along the road & I think it may have been the blind leading the blind.

Our return to Nowra on Monday took us back through Wiseman's Ferry to avoid heavy Sydney traffic, to have lunch at Camden. Then home via, Douglas Park, Mt. Ousley & Princes Hwy. to Nowra. I noted on the TV news that at 3-00pm. Monday Penrith suffered a hailstorm & the TV showed hail banked up on the ground. We went through Penrith around midday so we missed the hail & had a nice dry ride home.

A great weekend away even if we did get a little wet & Kimbo has a damaged bike, a great time together which really is what it is all about.

Thanks, Roy Breyley.

*Proverbs 3:5,6: 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding; In ALL your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths' – ageless truth and wisdom*

## **New England in the Autumn**

Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2013, was the day for the CMA New England Area's annual "Autumn Run". Wayne Witchard, the CMA's Vice President and New England Area co-ordinator, hosts this ride every year, and what a great ride it is!

11 riders were present on the day, which included New England area local riders Wayne Witchard, CMA treasurer Richard 'Kimbo' Kimball, Jim Humphries, Dennis Gibson, Ian McDougall and Geoff Stone. Noel Boyce travelled from Singleton and Graeme Bingham, Ron Shuker, John Nixon and Rod Fletcher flew the flag from the Mid North Coast area at Taree.

The Taree contingent arrived in Tamworth on Friday afternoon around 5.30pm, where they met Wayne at the local Impact Church. Wayne had kindly organised for the Taree riders to stay the night at the church. The Taree lads enjoyed a meal together with Wayne, his wife Barbara and some friends at the local Longyard pub, before retiring to the church for a well earned sleep.

Saturday morning dawned clear, but slightly overcast, as the Taree boys met the local riders at the church for a BBQ breakfast, and a time of fellowship together. Jim Humphries, one of the local area riders and a semi-retired Anglican Pastor, gave an inspiring devotion from God's word, reminding us to be a part of this world, in serving Christ, but *not of* this world. We finished with a time of prayer, preparing us all for the ride ahead.

We set off just after 9.00am up the New England Highway to the town of Uralla. Here we enjoyed our varying brews at the local café, and it was where Noel from Singleton met up with us, as he had set out earlier that morning. Our next leg of the ride was where the "Autumn" aspect came into the day. We headed east out of Uralla, to the pretty and picturesque area of Gostwyck. Upon arriving, we were able to marvel at God's creation, with the canopy of huge trees protecting the historical church. The leaves from the trees danced and fluttered down over the church and it's surrounds, forming a carpet of orange and gold on the ground. The leafy vines growing over the church added to the myriad of colours.

Just over the wooden bridge past the church, was one of the largest and most unusual shearing sheds I have ever seen. Unusual, in that it was a circular building.

The area of Gostwyck, is a popular tourist destination, especially at this time of year. Our bikes proved popular with the other visitors there with us, enjoying the Autumn colours, the beauty and the tranquillity of the area. Wayne is planning to hold a CMA bikers service in the quaint Gostwyck historic church, which I for one, would be keen to be a part of.

Time quickly got away on us, as we soaked up the atmosphere and the beauty of God's creation, so it was back on to the bikes, backtracking into Uralla. From there, we headed south along the Thunderbolt's Way, until we reached the turnoff to the tiny hamlet of Kentucky. The 10km of narrow bitumen provided good sweeping bends, low level creek crossings and rolling hills of green pasture. We also passed the sign to where the Australian distributor of Ural motorcycles is at. Wayne informs me that it is a large shed on a property, full of the bikes. We will have to visit there next time we are up this way.

The local General Store at Kentucky, has a small café incorporated into it, which provided our lunch stop for the ride. The owners provided good food, great hospitality and many historical items on display for us to look at and admire. We all enjoyed a good hour or more of eating, socializing and re-acquainting friendships between ourselves. All too soon, it was time to depart. After heartfelt goodbyes, the Taree contingent backtracked to the Thunderbolt's Way, and headed to Walcha. From there, it was over the Barringtons down to Gloucester and back home to Taree. The local riders from Tamworth, headed south to Walcha Rd, on to Bendemeer and back down the New England Highway to home. We all give thanks to God for providing journeying mercies to all on the ride.

The spirit and ideals of the CMA were evident to all on this ride. CMA members from adjoining areas came together, enjoying fellowship, great riding roads and destinations, their love of motorcycles and most importantly, their love of the Lord.

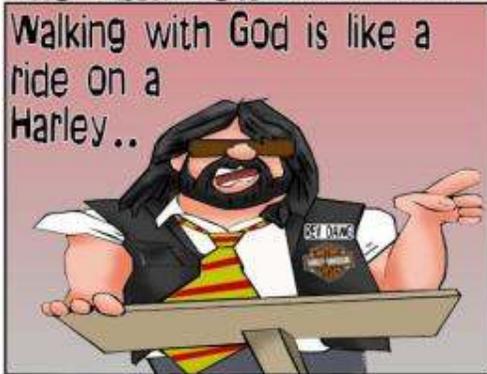
May Christ provide opportunities for us as CMA members and as christian bikers, to witness for him, as we are noticed and visible in the community. God has called us all as CMA members to serve him in this ministry.

***Graeme Bingham - CMA Mid North Coast Area Co-ordinator***

Photos from Impact Church Tamworth, and at picturesque historic Gostwyck.



The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Recent convert & former HELL'S ANGEL Bad Dawg Dawson is seen here serving outside his area of 'giftedness' ... BUT YOU TELL HIM! 1 Cor 12:4-11

An Extra Back Pew (perhaps this is what it was like on a recent CMA church raid?) to fill a GAP in the newsletter....

A gap that was left for YOU.....

Love to have something come in from you for the next edition - a ride story with photos, a personal story, a copy of something you have read, etc - Please.

Thanks folks, bless ya.

The Editor

## Molong - March Madness

March 2013 - CMA NSW descended on Molong..... will things ever be the same?

Various groups met in main street Molong from 2-4pm

Moved on to BAPTIST church, set up Dinner BBQ at park

MEETING.....

New badges on order ? badge given on joining, purchase extra \$5.

Discussed flying banners ? different sizes (use by all states).

Tasmania offered to do stickers, interest in clear ones.

CMA International recognises Lisa Clarke as not only the National but also the International coordinator. Kerry Gibson is CMA International contact for Australia.

People interested in doing the International training, contact Ian.

Kimbo set up with treasurer gear, old membership cards, CMA stamp

Discussion about CMA providing a service, eg tea coffee check point/rally. Some suggestions:

\*Vietnam Vet. Ride, \*Sydney to Gong Nov 4th push bike ride needs motor bike escort/presence to help out \* 7th Sept White Ribbon

Discussed another weekend away, south, possibly Canberra way.

Lisa put forward interest in going to Alice Springs with SA group, with thought of setting up CMA in NT

QUESTION: ?What should CMA work on doing??

\*Pray for/seek out younger members

\*CMA to be on time

W. Witchard moved for Wayne Foster to be made life member, M. Charlton 2<sup>nd</sup>

Coordinators, treasurer & secretary badges given out

Ian Dodd passed around business card, will email as word document for others to run off their own

**Mega organisation will be involved in setting up 2014 National by US!**

Many hands are needed, please be prayerful for this event & ask the Lord ? What can I do?? (view email sent by Ian listing jobs.) He needs you to tell him what you will be available to help out with.

Meeting ended....

Group met to pray...lights out

Breakfast, pack up, service in church 10.30, morning tea, groups head for home.

Thanks to Doddles for this Molong snapshot. ☺

# A Journey to the DARKSIDE

So do you ride less than 10,000km a year, appreciate the handling aspects of your machine, corner aggressively, ride the open road? If the answer to any of these is yes may not be the article for you! Darksideing is the practice a car tyre to your motorcycle and in my opinion is only penny pinching misers like me. Sure there are those that you they do it for the handling, the smoothness of the reliability of the tyre - but at the end of the day I can a cost based decision. So let's look at the journey so far,



finer and only then this of fitting done by will tell ride, the bet it was where I am at and how I got there.



## The Early Days:

For the second time that year I had to put a rear tyre on the Boulevard, another \$300 that I couldn't really afford at that time - this was getting more expensive than the car. I started researching via the forums what tyres others were using, and what their longevity was, imagine my surprise when I found out I was one of the luckier ones and just how much poorer I'd be if I was replacing them at their intervals. Reading on I discovered that there

were some folks who, to my horror, were using car tyres. Never work I thought, the profiles all wrong, the compounds aren't soft enough etc, etc.

The more I read the more I thought to myself - mad Americans (because it was mainly them that were doing it) get real and don't put yourself at risk. But slowly over time I saw that there were no reports of mishaps, no sliding out on the bends and I couldn't find anyone that had fitted a car tyre only to rip it straight back off or even return to using a bike tyre.

I spoke to fellow riders to canvass their thoughts and ideas - they nearly all said don't do it but they were coming from the same closed minded opinion I originally had, I listened and assessed what they had to say and nearly closed the book on the whole concept. In the meantime the Boulevard had started to show signs of having been ridden too many K's and was replaced with a '99 VL1500 Intruder; can I just add here - I am extremely grateful for those motorcyclists who prefer owning to riding ensuring that people like me end up with a bike that has less than 1000km per year clocked up on it!

### **The Here & Now:**

Last Tuesday I tried for a pink slip - the mechanic said my bald head had more tread than my rear tyre so come back after you get a new one fitted, the next day I rang around and on Thursday trotted up to the bike shop with a Kuhmo on the back, the young bloke was scornful, "*handle like \*&^% you know, you won't be able to corner, you'll regret it*" - I asked if he knew anyone that had done this - silence tells a lot and off he went to start the job, that afternoon the rain and I arrived at his shop together so here am I about to hop on a whole new feel and the road is getting slippery. I cautiously rode the 10km and waited 'til the weekend.

Saturday morning finally got here - fine weather, dry roads... if only! What better introduction to the **darkside** than wet, grimy, diesel tainted roads....And here I was heading up Bells Line of Road and out past Orange.

I was somewhat surprised at the positive feedback I felt when applying throttle - power transfer to the rear wheel seemed more efficient, and obviously it was at I ended up 2.5km / l better off. Not once did the wheel spin taking off from the lights - not even on the white lines - hmmm I am beginning to enjoy this. Wonder what the bends will be like.

Street / Slow Cornering - ok this is where I had issues, under steering fairly often until I changed my style

Fast Cornering - just a little more counter steer to tip in, hold the angle and scoot around the bend

Open Road - wow! Smooth, steady, great

The day did fine up once I got over the Blue Mountains and headed out towards Orange, after 300k I felt very comfortable and had been cornering at the same speeds as when I had a bike tyre on the rear. The next day was the return journey - dry but very windy, little bit of under steer until I re-trained myself then back to normal cornering, hit the base of the mountains and the rain set in, 35kmh hairpins all good, ride stuck well across water, mud, gravel etc on the road.

Since then I have started my weekday commuting routine and as of day 2 had forgotten that I had a car tyre and was cornering, doing roundabouts etc the same as before.

### **The Pillions Perspective:**

Hmmm - not much to report on here as it has only been one trip with a passenger but they did feel the ride was smoother and they were bounced out of the seat less.

## The Final Word:

So it appears that the **darkside** is gaining another devotee - would I recommend it for you.....No - this is a decision you have to reach on your own and it is based on your experience, bike, riding style and your insurer, yes some firms will renege on a claim if they spot a car tyre on the bike. Do your research, ask questions, wait a while, redo your research and then make up your own mind. The next hurdle you will face is actually finding someone willing to fit the tyre.

Doddles

Chairman

Christian Motorcyclists Association (NSW)

# Riding in Groups

One of the greatest pleasures on a CMA outing is being part of a string of bikes as they wend their way through the countryside. But it is oh so easy for this to turn into an event you'd rather forget if the ride isn't properly managed. So how does one ensure that it remains a memory to be cherished, an outing to be looked forward to? Most of this responsibility lies with the ride leader, the remainder rests upon each of our shoulders.



Any good ride starts with proper planning, preparation and prayer.

As a ride leader you need to ask yourself:

- Am I familiar with the route?
- Are there any difficult patches that could test a novice?
- How far are we travelling, do we need more than just a fuel stop, more than a lunch stop?
- Are there any roadworks?
- What is the weather forecast and what impact will it have on times?
- Will there be any L or P platers?

All of these factors will determine how many kilometres you can travel and how much time it will take. When planning the ride do not assume that you will be able to maintain an average speed of 110kmh and thereby consistently run late - when I'm driving in the country I assume an average of 80kmh, riding 95kmh. How long do you allow for lunch - can the lunch stop actually handle a group your size arriving en masse? Where are you stopping for fuel - are there multiple servos or is it a one bowser town? Through all of this you can prepare a ride plan that will see people depart and arrive close to schedule, meaning less disgruntled or stressed riders.

Some of the group will be upset if you don't run to plan as they have other commitments, some are just laid back, won't be ready and don't care when or how long they take to get there (a selfish attitude when it impacts others).

So assuming you have done all the preparation the day of the ride comes, you have told people the meeting point and time and the time you will depart. If you say you are leaving at 9:00 make sure you do - as ride leader if you start delaying to see if anyone else rocks up it can be guaranteed that people will rock up late the next time. Allow a good 20 minutes at the meet point ahead of the departure time, this will give you the opportunity to ensure everyone's bike is ready & fuelled, it gives you a chance to brief participants, it gives you the time to pray.

For the briefing be clear when you describe the route, the roles of ride lead & tail end Charlie, describe how to mark corners and the buddy system - all rides should enforce the buddy system as this ensures that the ride lead becomes aware of any lost or damaged bikes. The buddy system is where each rider ensures that they have seen the bike behind them every 2 minutes - this way if a bike drops off, his buddy stops - the person in front of them will then lose his buddy and so on until the ride leaders buddy has stopped and the leader realises, turns around and goes back to where the issue is.

Fuel Stops, Lunch Breaks and leg stretch stops - at the start of the day and at each of the stops reinforce how much time is allowed - those not ready to leave should be encouraged to get their act together or make their own way home.

As a participant it is your responsibility to:

- Decide if this ride is within your capability
- Stay in the group
- Be on time
- Watch your buddy
- Ride within your skills
- Ride within the law

You have chosen to be led on this ride so submit to the ride leader and honour them through obedience, if the ride lead has said there will be no overtaking - then maintain your position, if they said we will be here for 20 minutes then after 15 minutes make your way to your bike, gear up and be ready to kick the engine over at 18 minutes!

Keep your eyes on your fellow riders as well as the road - be ready to pull over and wait if your buddy has disappeared, watch for corner markers and be ready to be used as one.

All up by respecting each other and adopting the appropriate attitudes of servant hood and submission we can put aside personal biases and just have a wonderful ride.

So remember:

**Prayer** - as you conceive the idea and before departure

**Planning** - distances, stops, times

**Preparation** - fuelling up, bike condition, rider condition

**Punctuality** - arrivals and departures

**Pleasure** - for one and all

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. - Philippians 2:3-4*

# Some upcoming events - here and there

## MAY

Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> Mid North Coast Ride - Taree to Buladelah - Tea Gardens

08:45

Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> All day New England meets Mudgee

Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> Silverwater Motor Festival

08:00

Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> Communion on the Cliff

13:30 - 15:00

## JUNE

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> All day Illawarra - Day Ride

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> *Combined Christian Clubs & Associations BBQ*

11:00- 15:00 *Morisset Baptist Church*

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Communion on the Cliff

13:30 - 15:00

## JULY

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> - Sun 7<sup>th</sup> July State wide Fellowship Weekend - Taree

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> All day Illawarra - Day Ride- Royal National Park

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Communion on the Cliff

13:30 - 15:00

## AUGUST

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> All day Illawarra Day Ride - Peats Ridge / Wollombi

Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Church Service & Prayer on the Wharf - Garden Island

**NOTE** - For other local rides, contact your local area co-ordinator (see page 1), check the net (<http://www.cmaaus.org/nsw/>), or take the initiative and put forward a plan for a ride - good chance the co-ordinators will back you on it.

# *Something to think on*

Hope you enjoy this snippet. Want to send in something for this section? Email me at [mkbevan@bigpond.com](mailto:mkbevan@bigpond.com)  
No guarantee to publish everything, but I will try.

This month, a quote from a great man of God, Paul Washer. Hope you find it interesting, challenging, confronting.....anything rather than just ho hum.

**FIRST:** "The person who loves you most will tell you the most truth. One of the greatest distinguishing marks of a false prophet is that he will always tell you what you want to hear, he will never rain on your parade, he will get you clapping, he will get you jumping, he will make you dizzy, he will keep you entertained, and he will present a Christianity to you that will make your church look like a *Six Flags over Jesus*. And keep you so entertained you are never addressed with great issues such as these: *Is God working in my life? Am I growing in holiness? Have I truly been born again?*"

"In modern day evangelism, this precious doctrine [of regeneration] has been reduced to nothing more than a human decision to raise one's hand, walk an aisle, or pray a "sinner's prayer." As a result, the majority of Americans believe that they've been "born again" (i.e., regenerated) even though their thoughts, words, and deeds are a continual contradiction to the nature and will of God."

**SECOND:** "But there is only one problem. When you come to believe as a people that the Bible is inspired you have only fought half the battle because the question is not merely is the Bible inspired, is it inerrant. The major question following that that must be answered: Is the Bible sufficient or do we have to bring in every so called social science and cultural study in order to know how to run a church? That is a major question.

Social sciences, in my opinion, have taken precedent over the Word of God in such a way that most of us can't even see it. It has so crept in to our Church, our evangelism and our missiology that you can barely call what we are doing Christian anymore. Psychology, anthropology, sociology have become primary influences in the Church.

Several years ago, many years ago when I was in seminary I remember a professor walked in and he started drawing footprints on the blackboard. And as he marched them across the blackboard then he turned to all of us and said only this. "Aristotle is walking through the halls of this institution. Beware, for I hear his footsteps more clearly than those of the apostle Paul and the team of inspired men who were with him and even the Lord Jesus Christ himself."

We have come to believe that a man of God can deal in certain tiny areas in the life of the Church, but when it really gets tough we need to go to the social experts. That is an absolute lie. It says here in Scripture that the man of God may be equipped, adequate, equipped for every good work."

- Paul Washer

## CMA Member Statement of Belief

1. I believe God to be the true creator of all things.
2. Jesus Christ is the only answer to everyone's spiritual needs.
3. Jesus Christ's death for our sins and his resurrection are the basis of all Christian Life.
4. The Holy Spirit is the source of power for Christian living.
5. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three persons, yet one God.
6. The Bible is the authoritative Word of God in all circumstances of life.
7. I have repented ( turned ) away from the sins of my past life, confessed them to God and asked Him to forgive me for them.
8. I have committed my life to Jesus Christ and now acknowledge Him as my Lord and Saviour.
9. I will endeavour to remain faithful to the gospel of Jesus Christ as revealed in the Bible and to the Aims of the Christian Motorcyclist's Association.

I am interested in learning more about CMA, please send me more information:

Name.....

Address .....

Phone .....

Email .....

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