



January 2013

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Apology.....so sorry this newsletter is so late coming out. It should have appeared by Christmas, but unfortunately the NL coordinator was unable to meet the deadline. He humbles himself before the honourable members, and begs forgiveness.

Please send all articles for the Newsletter to Mark Bevan:
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Chairman's Chat

Well here we are at the start of another year! I hope that everyone had a blessed Christmas and that the heat & threat of fires has not presented you with any immediate problems.

2013 promises to be a busy year for CMA as we see the fruits of the small groups we established at the AGM start to impact what we do, who we are and how others see us. As part of this the new logo should be finalised this month and new badges made available shortly afterwards and teardrop banners for each area made available.

There are exciting events planned with a fellowship weekend in Orange the first weekend in March (more details to follow separately). At the committee meeting we held in November it was moved that the first weekend in March would be the date going forward for each of our AGMs, this way everyone knows well ahead of time when it is. But before this weekend there is the four day ride from 15th to 17th organised by Roy - see the details in the newsletter and let him know if you are able to join at any stage.

June will see the Combined Christian Clubs and Associations BBQ which it is our turn to run. Karen has already organised with Morisset Baptist Church for the use of their facilities and over the next couple of months we will be looking to you to help with the setup, cooking & clean-up - be ready. In November this year we will be presenting the details of the 2014 National Run which we are hosting at Stanwell Tops, I already have a number of volunteers to help with the planning but more are always welcome.

As always there will be local rides that your area coordinators will let you know of but keep a check on the CMA website for all events - who knows you may be visiting an old aunt and be able to break away for a ride with that areas members.

Other items to come from the recent committee meeting include;

- Prayer chain - feel free to raise requests via pray4u@nsw.cmaaus.org and the committee will pray for you
- Communication - I need to be more in touch with the members
- Business Cards - I have a template if anyone wants to print their own

Also, a well done and hearty congratulations to Wayne Witchard, who is now a Life Member having been involved (and financial) for over 20 years. Congratulations Papa Smurf.

Lastly I have been reminded in a couple of sermons recently of Joshua's declaration in Ch24:15 - As for me and my house we will serve the Lord. There are so many areas in our lives we can and should apply this;

As for me and my work, As for me and my sports team, As for me and my hobbies, As for me and my bike....

And so - As for me and my brothers and sisters in CMA - we will serve the Lord.

Doddles

Chairman CMA NSW

0438 226 383

Important News.....

At the AGM it was moved and agreed that the CMA financial year now be from the 1st January to 31st December. This will mean keeping track of membership is easier and that we can have the AGM in the first few months of the new year (maybe a nice warm coastal location). This does mean that the current committee will remain in place until we have our AGM in 2014.

AGM will be first weekend in March each year, next one being March 2014.

However..... there will be a **meeting / fellowship weekend March 2013 at Narranderra.**

National Run 2014 - is in NSW

This will be here before we know it! The site is booked (Stanwell Tops Conference Centre), the date is set - can you help us to prepare? We need ride planners, welcomers, people to make things happen - contact Doddles to lend a hand.

Schedule as follows:

Friday 24 Meet and fellowship

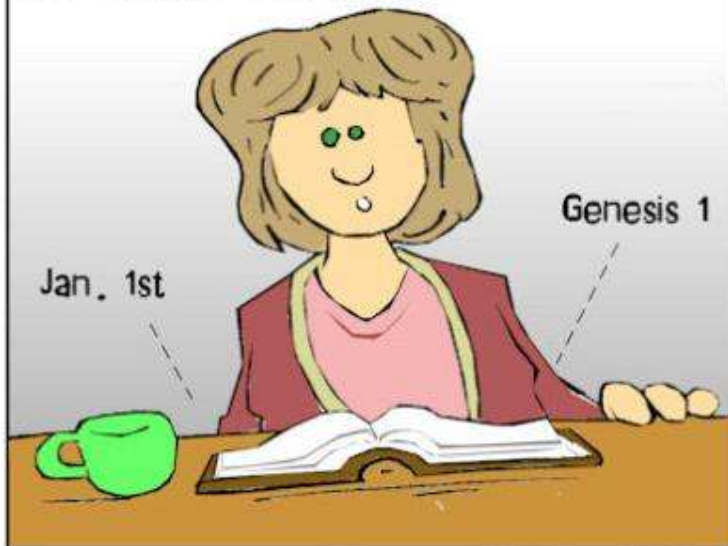
Saturday 25 Ride

Sunday 26 Church & Communion on the cliff (Bald Hill)

Note - this will mark 35 years of CMA in Australia

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

Wo.. this is like DEJA-VU
all over again.



The time honored but much maligned
New Years Resolution to read through
the Bible in one year begins.. **AGAIN!**

New year is often a time for resolutions, usually dumped by January 5, but maybe this kind of resolution is actually worthwhile, God-honouring, and even beneficial to each one of us.

If you take up this challenge, drop me an email and let me know how you are going - and maybe it will encourage other readers too!!

Mid North Coast Ride report

Saturday, 27th October dawned as a perfect day for the Mid North Coast branch to go on a local area ride. The Lord provided a clear, sunny, warm day for the 5 riders that turned up.

After all arrived at the designated area, we had a short time of welcoming and prayer, and then set off around 9.00am, heading north for the first leg of our ride.

A short trip up the Pacific Highway to the small town of Kew, we stopped to have a look at Will Hagon's Kew Pitstop - his shop full of all sorts of racing and motor sport memorabilia. For those of you who don't know of Will Hagon, he is been involved in motor sport racing commentary for television and radio for many years. Will was the voice of the Castrol 6 Hour production motorcycle race during the 1980's. Now semi retired, Will has opened this shop to display everything he has collected over the years involving motor sport racing. The shop is well worth a look. Items on display are books, magazines, clothing, model cars and bikes, photos, plaques - you name it, it is probably there, and most of the memorabilia is for sale. Unfortunately, Will was away on the day, as he was down at Phillip Island, commentating for the Oz Grand Prix. We hope to catch up with him another day.



After a good look at the store, we continued north to Port Macquarie, via the scenic coastal route through Laurieton, Bonny Hills and Lake Cathie. This is a nice, easy ride through these idyllic coastal villages, enjoying the crisp, salty sea breeze. Arriving in Port Macquarie, we stopped at Rock Motorcycles, to enjoy a short time of admiring and dreaming of owning the BMW's, Hondas and other bikes on display.

Back on to the Pacific Highway, we headed north to Kempsey. At the southern edge of Kempsey, the turnoff to Crescent Head beckoned. The road to the coast offered a reasonable surface, with a good amount of curves to enjoy. The sleepy, seaside town of Crescent Head proved to be a wonderful oasis. We enjoyed a relaxing lunch at the local club, and had a great time of fellowship together. After lunch, we rode up to the headland to admire the wonderful views up and down the coast. (see the photos)

All too soon, it was time to head back home. We backtracked down the Pacific Highway to north of Port Macquarie, and turned off at Telegraph Point. This road provided a scenic country motorcycle

route to the town of Wauchope, through the town and eventually back on to the Pacific Highway at Herons Creek. A great day's ride saw us arrive back in Taree by 4.30pm.

A great day was enjoyed by all the riders - perfect weather, a beautiful destination, great comraderie with those that share the same passion of motorcycles. We also shared in the marvel of God's creation and celebrating together God's love for us all, in the fellowship we share together in Christ as Christian motorcycle riders.

Graeme Bingham

Mid North Coast Area Co-ordinator



A man who made an impact!!

The following story is his and from the Amputee Journal Vol 24, No 1. Nothing has been changed. It is people like Russell that make you really think about how you would react to the devastation of a serious crash...and glad that people like Russell are here for life's journey.

It had been a terrible day. I had been vomiting throughout the night, loads of phantom pain and no sleep. A psychiatrist visited me in the morning after the nurses had changed my dressings. She asked if her colleague could also see me. I think she had doubts about my sanity after I insisted on reading Psalm 77 from the Bible to her. Then some visitors arrived. Next was a Police Officer who wanted to take my statement. As this was six weeks after the accident I was glad I had made some notes.

Three hours later I was glad to be back in bed for a rest when Psychiatrist number 2 turned up. Relieved that I was not committed to the psych ward, I figured everything must be OK with the mental faculties. He had never read the Psalm either. Next a stranger arrived. "Do I know you?" I asked. "No," the woman replied, "I am married to the man who was driving the car which hit you." Her husband was having a procedure on his heart that day in Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, just a few floors below. What a brave lady I thought and invited her to sit, affirming that she was welcome. I listened as she told me the other side of the story.

I originally met "E" (the lady's husband) in a catastrophic way 30km's west of Nyngan. I learned that it was a heart attack that caused him to black out behind the wheel and drive his car into my motorcycle, the impact point being my right leg. We both were travelling at 110km/hr. I had anticipated that one day I would have the opportunity of meeting "the man" - "E". I had worked out what I would say and how I would say it. Later that evening I was standing with the aide of crutches next to his bed. We shook hands, exchanged names and began overcoming the awkwardness of the moment by asking each other questions about one another's condition.

Then the moment came, an inner voice said "well, what about your speech? You wanted to meet 'the man' and say your speech - now is the time!" I interrupted and saying "E - there is something I want to say . . . I want you to know that I hold no bitterness against you for what has happened. If you feel you have wronged me, you are forgiven. I want you to live free of guilt and I offer you my friendship." His response took me by surprise. "Oh no!" "What is the matter?" I enquired. "You have forgiven me . . . now I have to forgive my doctor". "E" had been to his doctor a few days before the accident with chest pain. He also had the flu. The doctor treated the flu without checking for a heart condition. "That is between you, God and your doctor" I continued, "but between you God and myself - I want you to know that I forgive you." I walked away from that encounter feeling free and energized. A weight had been lifted from my shoulders.

Forgiveness means no longer holding someone personally responsible for wrongs, injustices, accidents or harm done to us. It means releasing them and no longer feeding an inner right or emotion to be angry and bitter. It is Jesus who has taught me this; ". . . forgive us as we forgive those who trespass against us". The practice of it is no easy thing. It is however, a key to healing, allowing us to move on. The day had been huge, but that night I slept the best I had since the accident - finally a peaceful night. Six years later at age 48 I have had many opportunities to spread the vision of a world characterised by forgiveness and grace and will continue to do so while I have breath. People sometimes say, "you poor bugger, in the wrong place at the wrong time." I now respond with, "no, I was in the right place at the right time - too much good has come out of this for it to be just an unfortunate event in a world of random chance."

My children have witnessed an infectious hope in me that is alive and real; My wife and I love each other more deeply; I have new friends I would never of met or spent time with; I have spoken in numerous high and primary schools across the country, challenging teachers and students to learn from Jesus and let go

of their anger: "E" may never have survived his heart attack; and over the past couple of years I have been organising, with the help of others and the Amputee Association of Sydney, Amputee Youth Camps. Losing a limb threw me head first into a very unfamiliar world. The four "p's": pain, physio, prosthetics and more pain have slowly become familiar friends.

How can pain be a friend? Because I see so much of it in others, it reminds me to be thankful for the many blessing I have in my life. I don't like it for its own sake but see it as a friend for what it reminds me of. There have been several operations, numerous visits to Sydney for Prosthetic needs. I have forgotten how many sockets I have had made, but remember the first one. David was moulding the plaster around my stump with his hand positioned in the critical spot while it set - in my crutch. Feeling uncomfortable and vulnerable with the arrangement I said, "I get the feeling that you know me better than I know you." David responded with "Don't worry, your secrets are safe with me."

As an above knee amputee under the workers comp scheme I am aware of the special privilege I have of receiving the best of prosthetics. I use an Otto Bock Genium Bionic -leg which enables me to do far more than many who are limited to Government funded legs. I hope that my involvement in the Amputee Association will contribute to making better prosthetics available to everyone - not just a fortunate few.

One last thing to say. My passion for adventure, fun and a full life has not been quenched by the loss of a leg. It has just made it more interesting and adds an extra dimension of problem solving and lateral thinking into the equation. I still love riding motorbikes (now a Ducati Monster 696), I enjoy bush walking and other outdoor activities. I enjoy sports (mostly via TV) watching movies, reading and people. These however, do not make me "me." What defines me is my spiritual life. I am thankful for my heritage, to those who have put time and effort into mentoring and showing me that my life is not about me - rather, it is about one far greater, more worthy and deeply passionate about us all. I cannot write a profile on myself without introducing the core motivation that moves me. His name is Jesus of Nazareth.

Russell is Director of Cornerstone Community at Dubbo.

And thanks to Elwyn Jordan for passing this story on for publication.

Odds, ends, ads

Anything for sale - provided it is at least remotely Bike related - let me know details, send a pic, and it will go here - FREE!!

Does the Newsletter seem short?

Yes!! - I did not get enough stories, personal reflections, photos and other great stuff to make it bigger..... great opportunity for **YOU** (reader) to provide **some bike, Bible or bull stories** to go in the magazine from time to time (or often)??? This could be tall tales but true? Ride reports, stories of your motorcycling life, about your bike, why you ride, and stuff like that..... I promise to read all submissions and to publish as much as possible (perhaps using editorial rights of course). Email me something interesting at mkbevan@bigpond.com**PLEASE!!!**

PS....A big thank you to all those who did send in stories, etc - much appreciated!!

Down at the Crossroads....

A goodly crew of about a dozen bikes assembled at the intersection of The Illawarra Hwy and Sheepwash road on Saturday 13th October and headed over to Bowral Church of Christ to meet with the CrossRoads people there.

CrossRoads is a Christ centred Organisation for people with disabilities and their carers which affirms them, advocates for them and promotes their integration into, and acceptance by, the community and Christian churches. <http://www.crossroadsfellowship.org.au/nsw/index.html>

I wasn't aware that CrossRoads existed until Roy Breyley invited a few of us down to the Nowra group one Friday evening last year. Despite the awkwardness of trying to manage a conversation with the disabled members there was also the awkwardness of confusing them with their carers. As a High School teacher I've come to associate disabled people with children and adolescents. Obviously they continue to age after leaving school and at CrossRoads there were a number of intellectually disabled 60 year olds.

We had fun helping them to sit on the bikes and chatted about what they were doing lately. I asked one girl in a wheel chair which school she attended. Later her Dad told me she was 43 years old and had left school after Year 10.

After a bit of a sausage sizzle I presented a short talk about "Freedom" and how motorbikes can make you feel free when you're riding along. I moved on to describe that we are all not really free at all but prisoners. We are prisoners to our misguided ambitions, prisoners to our greed and prisoners to sin. There was also the allusion to the carers that they were, perhaps, prisoners to their situation.

The solution to the dilemma is, of course, Jesus. "If the Son sets you free you will be free indeed". I concluded with a simple magic trick or escape called the Chinese Manacles where, after securely tying me into the special Asian handcuffs I was able to instantly escape after the audience called out ... "Who can set us free? JESUS!"

We said our goodbyes and headed off to Roy's secret coffee shop/tea room. I'd go back there but was pretty much geographically disorientated - it was pretty strong coffee!

Grahame Bertram Illawarra Region, CMA



Roy's wild Mountain ride

On 10th November Greg Rees, Grahame Bertram, Roy Breyley and Aaron Little met up for a run merely for the fun of it. How selfish is that? Just a bunch of Christian men enjoying fellowship with each other as we rode up and over and around the roller-coaster roads of the Southern Highlands.

After meeting in Albion Park we cruised through Jamberoo, then up Jamberoo Pass to a beaut lookout I'd never noticed before, past the Barren Grounds Nature Reserve to a very pleasant Robertson café. Robertson is always a town I pass through when going somewhere else. I'd never stopped there other than for petrol and to get wet (!) before descending Macquarie Pass.

We proceeded toward Kangaloon eventually arriving at Bundanoon for lunch where two other CMA members met up with us. The it was over Fitzroy Falls (not literally), down into the Kangaroo valley, across the Kangaroo River via the Hampton suspension Bridge which was designed by Ernest Macartney de Burgh, the colony's Assistant Engineer for Bridges, to replace the decaying timber truss bridge which originally spanned the Kangaroo River. Construction began in 1895 and the bridge was opened on the 19 May 1898, just six days before floods washed the old bridge away. (In case you were interested)

Next was the always exciting, ever dangerous Mt Berry. Steep, precarious, free of any girly safety barriers or predictable surfaces. I've taken many different bikes over this mountain over the years at the sort of speeds that only invulnerable adolescents would attempt. However trying to keep Roy in sight as I hauled the Harley into hairpin after hairpin was one of the most challenging things I've done in a long while.

The descent was no less challenging but we all survived to cruise calmly into Berry. I stopped to get a new battery for my PaceMaker while everyone else headed for home.

Bikes, friends, good weather and winding mountain roads. What could be better?



Ride into the World ... Psalm 45:4

You know, Saturday mornings are made to sleep in. Waking up early Monday to Friday for work and then again for church on Sundays Saturday is my piece of sanity in an otherwise busy week. However, when I am invited to jump on the bike I always seem to find the disturbance of slumberland quite an appealing thought—unless...it looks like rain. And that is exactly the invite the weather had when the alarm did its work on Saturday November 10.

Oh well, not to worry. These many other commitments to fill my life a ride for the sheer pleasure of it come few and far between lately. So here I am starting my bike at 8:30 and heading from home into Tamworth. About 100 metres up the road and ...Oh great, the fuel warning light starts flashing. Oh well, only 25 km's into town. I should make it hopefully.

I get into Tamworth and pulled into the servo to see our ever smiling coordinator already there checking the air in his tires and a big grin on his face. Can you imagine this—smiling before 10 am on a Saturday. Maybe it's the Botox injections he is having. Anyway, I have now filled up and off to see my dietician before the ride. Yes folks, I must admit I am carrying a spare tyre around my waist these days and am in need of having it removed.

Ok, all my formalities done and I am now off to The Powerhouse Motorcycle Museum. After a quick covetous session (sorry Lord I am aware of commandment number 10) we are all ready for the ride—and after Wayne prays with us we are actually leaving on time :)

I have to admit that I am a bit apprehensive about this ride for a couple of reasons. Firstly, it is the first time I have been on a ride with these guys and secondly and more importantly is Port Stevens Cutting. I have been told a few stories about this stretch of road, including that it is very windy and dirt. The first part was true, however, they have had it fully tarred for around 18 months now so it was very enjoyable to ride on.

Well. Here we are, all eight of us leaving the Motorcycle Museum and heading toward Neminga. Turning right off the Armidale Road and the real riding starts, though it be a bit slow at first (being a 60 zone) Once we are out of town we can open up a bit and that we do. Heading toward the Nundle turnoff I am in familiar territory—I have been to Nundle once before and is a recommended ride in my books. However, instead of turning right toward Nundle, we continue straight ahead, This is where I am in new territory. The ride is going well and it is a beautiful day except a few cloud that seems to want to rain in the distance. We turn left, heading north on the Port Stephens Cutting Road and this is where the fun really begins. Some nice tight corners where we can lie the bikes down a bit. One scare Wayne had was when a vehicle towing a boat came a bit close to him around one of the corners.

At the end of the cutting we turn right and wait for every one to catch up. Here I should have put on my balaclava, wearing only an open faced helmet I should have foreseen the up and coming fog and very cold air. However, being me, I was too proud to pull over again once we got started to do such a thing and therefore almost froze my face off for the next 20 km's. We get to Thunderbolts Way where once again we pull over and wait for the stragglers and I decide to put on my balaclavas here. I am quite glad that I did as even though the fog cleared up, the weather didn't warm up so at least this provided some warmth for me.

We arrive in Walcha at around 11:30 for a well earned and may I say delicious coffee. Here we also meet up with two other riders who came in from Taree. After a break of about 45 minutes we get back on the bikes and head off toward Armidale along Thunderbolts way. Here was my seconds

mistake (the first being not putting on my balaclava after Port Stephens Cutting. I saw the rain clouds looking very thick but thought, nah it won't happen. (Yeah, I know, famous last words). Well the first 5 km's were ok then the rain started. It was only a drizzle at first but after a few more k's it started getting heavier so I thought I would find somewhere safe to stop and don the wet weather gear. As soon as I stopped, I barely even had the stand down and down it came, needless to say I was soaked before I even got the gear on. Back on the road and about 5 more kilometres up the road those in front had pulled over at to wait for the rest of us Dangars Lagoon, just near Uralla. It was here that the Pastor Ric and Jenny Dobson from the C.O.C. church decided to turn around and go back as she forgot to bring her wet weather gear (or was this really because the Harley couldn't handle the wet :))

We arrived in Armidale, damp, but safe and hungry around 1 o'clock at the Railway Hotel and once inside we were impressed that our beloved leader had reserved a table for us. We were well fed after ordering our lunches and left at around 2:30 to head back to Tamworth. First stop was at the airport servo to fuel up and then we headed off to Impact Church, just as we entered into Tamworth. After a time of more fellowship we had a great time of worship led by Andrew Phelan who also gave his testimony and Graham Darwin backing him up with his guitar. Wayne gave a fantastic message encouraging us to share the Word and then dinner was put on for us. Sausages, steak, salad for mains followed by dessert finished of a fantastic day.



Prayer - most important!!

Being led by Wayne prior to departing

Praise the Lord



Railway Hotel Armidale - ready for lunchPraise the Lord again!!



Back at Impact Church



Never without a word to say -
Wayne blessing us with THE
WORD



Worshipping the Lord - what
more could we do



And of course..... Food
glorious Food!!

Some upcoming events - here and there

- **Communion on the cliff**, third Sunday of each month, Bald Hill Lookout at Stanwell Tops, 1.30pm. Contact Doddles for more details.
 - **20 January** **17 February** **17 March** **21 April**
- **February Friday 15-Monday 18 - possible ride Nowra to north and north-west and back - contact Roy at royalherb3@gmail.com or on 4421 2454 no later than Feb 8th**
THIS COULD LOOK LIKE.....
 - Friday** Nowra - to Dungog - (Stop over in pub) via Kangaroo Valley - Hilltop - Thirlmere - Penrith - Windsor - Singleton - Dungog; Total distance = 364k's.
(Meet others from Central Coast & Tamworth etc. in Singleton @ Macca's 1-00pm.)
 - Saturday** Dungog to Dorrigo -- (Stay in caravan Park - 6657 2564). Via - Stroud - Booral - Bulahdelah - Nahiack - Taree - Kempsey - Macksville - Urunga - Bellingen - Dorrigo, Total Distance = 388k's.
 - Sunday** Dorrigo to Scone or Singleton. (Stay in Caravan Park ???); Via - Dorrigo - Ebor - Armidale - Tamworth - Scone - (Singleton.) Total Distance = Scone 370k's.
(From Dorrigo 238 Tamworth 207 Singleton = 445)
 - Monday** Scone (or where ever we stay) to Nowra & other. Via - Scone - Singleton - Broke - Wollombi - 191 to freeway - Freeway - Sydney - Nowra. 200k's approx Total Distance: Scone to Nowra = approx 391k's. Singleton to Nowra = approx 316k's.
- **Possible extra upcoming ride.....maybe Singleton or Orange as a fellowship weekend for CMA as most central to most members. Possibly March April.**

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.

Favourite Bible Passages

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

Well, instead of a Bible passage, a quote from Tim Keller's 'The Prodigal God' (Pages 15&16).....

"The kind of outsiders Jesus attracted are **not attracted to contemporary churches**, even our most avant-garde ones. We tend to draw conservative, button-down, moralistic people. **The licentious and liberated or the broken and marginal avoid church.** That can only mean one thing. If the preaching of our ministers and the practice of our parishioners do not have the same effect on people that Jesus had, then we must not be declaring the same message that Jesus did. If our churches aren't appealing to younger brothers, they must be more full of elder brothers than we'd like to think."

Of course he is referring here to the 'Prodigal Son' parable of Luke 15 (**worth a read** if you are not familiar with it, or need a refresher, or even if you know it well). I would say everyone reading this who is connected with a church, may do well **to read Keller again slowly**. . . . how is this relevant to you and the church you are part of?(try not to think just 'Sunday service'). Pastors and church leaders please take special note.

And if you feel your church does well on this, write something to me about what you do so I can share it in a future newsletter as encouragement to others - thanks and blessings, Mark.



CMA NSW P.O. Box W168,

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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

CMA NSW P.O. Box W168,

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