



Motorcycle Riders Association of the Australian Capital Territory

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Member's Representative
Vacant

Monthly Newsletter No: 10

December 2009

President's Report

The Tuggeranong Community Festival was held today - thanks to the group who came down to talk about all things motorcycling to the many people who came over to see what we are about. We even managed to gain a new member - Sylvia of course had membership forms with her so she was able to sign him up on the spot. And for a diversion, the Flyball competition was close by!!! We could all learn a lesson about focus and concentration from those canine athletes.

We have received the Draft Collation of the Issues Raised at the Working Group Meeting for the Proposal for Motorcycle Parking on the Footpath in Civic.

Peter and I also met with Amanda Bresnan and Caroline le Couteur from the ACT Greens, in relation to motorcycle issues in the ACT. This was a good meeting - they certainly understand the benefit of PTW's in our city, and are interested in taking some of our issues on board.

Also coming up - the Toy Run on the 12th - let Kathleen know how you can help on the day - we'll be looking for marshals and badge sellers and donation collectors for a start. This is a major event and our donations of cash, toys and goods means a lot to those families less fortunate than us in our community and so I hope to see everyone there on the day - let's hope the weather is perfect!

If you have anything you'd like to put on the website, please email to the webmaster - keeping the website up to date is a big task so if you can help by supplying the relevant info, that's great!

The Major's are hosting the MRA ACT Christmas Party on the 19th December - bring a steak to burn and your drinks and settle in for a relaxing evening!

And that's nearly the end of this year - please have a happy and safe Christmas and all the best for a great 2010!

Ride Safe
Jen



Motorcycle Riders Association of the Australian Capital Territory

Snr Vice President's Report

PROJECT MANAGERS

Peter Major

- Communications
- Black Spot
- Discovery rides
- Roads and Traffic

Robyn Major

- Road safety
- Social rides and functions

Terry Butters

- Masters courses

Stuart Couper

- Triathlon support

Jason Weber

- Webmaster

Trevor McLeod

- Editor

Vacancy

- Quarter Master

This years' Motorcycle Awareness Week - and its supporting activities, was well attended by accounts of those that I have spoken with and met at the events. While I did not manage to get to the 'Breakfast, I did attend both the Clothing / apparel night and the 'Bike Fest. To the small group of coordinators who pulled the strings, made posters, got awards, prizes and donations, chased sponsorships, and generally made ends meet, I applaud your commitment and vision. To get these multiple activities up and going is not a small undertaking! I look forward to their development and expansion during the next 12 months.

This year concludes with the usual annual Toy Run and Show and Sticky charity events. I ask that you support these activities - and tell your friends to come along and participate and support these popular charity occasions.

The introduction of the Recreational / family ride days at Fairburn have been a significant success. While going through some initial teething issues, these events have gone from strength to strength. Sure there has been the occasional dampener (wet or cold) times, but these have only been to steel the interest of riders to attend. Those riders that have attended generally have been happy with what has been provided and next year is promising to be better with more facilities and options for riders and their accompanying families. Again, thanks to those riders and clubs that have worked collaboratively to bring this dream to fruition. The last Rec Ride day for this year is on Sunday 13 December. The ACTMCC is close to confirming the available dates for next year and we will let you know when we know!

There is also the annual Summer Blood Challenge between the NSW Police and motorcyclists to donate between 1 December and 26 February. Please consider contributing the opportunity to this cause. Many can benefit from what you can (almost painlessly) donate. For more information, check out www.donateblood.com.au. There's also a link to find out where the mobile office will be around town! So, there shouldn't be any excuses ...

Stu Couper is in need of riders to assist at the Triathlons during the coming months. If you are interested in participating on a motorcycle for transporting the event officials (and receiving a payment for your time), please give Stu a call: stuart.couper@act.gov.au or 0404 123 769

The first round of next year's World Superbike Weekend at Phillip Island on 27Feb to 1March is already on many riders agendas. There are sure to be several groups from the ACT & surrounds to make the journey to be trackside - and possibly even marshal for the weekend! While I haven't been to one of these, I can relate to the enjoyment that a real event can bring to spectators. Speaking of live events, my partner & I will be heading back to Germany and the UK after Christmas. I have pigeonholed getting to the Sheffield (UK) Indoor Trial in January to see the usual world elites compete at this awesome venue. Danny MacAskill, (World Pushbike Trials extraordinaire) from Edinburgh, has also been secured to support and entertain at this event!

Speaking of Trials, the NSW calendar for next year is nearly complete and the Trials Club of Canberra will be kicking off the New Year with a two day Open event - including the highly coveted Howard Wallace Masters Shield, at Murringo on the Canberra Day long weekend in March. As this is the first 2 day Open event for many years, it is expected to be a fantastic event at a new venue and is sure to entice riders and spectators alike. Ride like your life depends on you

Catch up at the Toy Run... David Ault

Vice President's Report

My focus for the last few months has been on the **MRA ACT Toy Run for 2009** and the **Capital Rally for 2010**.

All is running to schedule for the Toy Run. Sylvia Sinfield has been busy distributing posters and flyers. Peter Major has organised the politicians for their support and will be handling the media coverage over the next couple of weeks. Badges, sponsored by **Trophylink** are expected to arrive by the time the next meeting is held.

David Ault is managing the setup at Garema Place and supervising the bike parking operations.

Anglicare and the **Salvos** are thrilled to once again be the recipients of the generous giving of toys, gifts, non-perishable festive foods and cash from the **motorcycling community of the ACT and surrounding region**.

Generous donations have been provided by **TJ's Motorcycle Tries & Accessories, Canberra Motorcycle Centre, Rolfe BMW and Audio Solutions**.

Caffe e Cibo of Fyshwick will be catering breakfast and a coffee van with providing cappuccino will be there so be sure to come along early and socialise before the departure; there will be plenty of bikes and decorations to check out!

GlossyFX will be photographing the event with 10% of purchases being donated to our nominated organisations.

Remember there are prizes for the **best dressed rider or pillion** and the **best decorated bike** as well as the **largest club attendance** and the **inaugural large corporate group attendance**.

All is going well with the **Capital Rally**. Flyers and notifications have gone out. Helen & Phil, Malcolm and George are all working together to make next years event for **8 -10 Jan 2010** as big and successful as ever! All reports I've had indicate this is a great event to get along to with a very friendly group of motorcycle rally enthusiast!

Correspondence IN

- A cheque for \$60 from the Ulysses Club for affiliation with the MRA
- A call for abstracts for the 2nd Internatioal Sprayed Sealing Conference next year (!)
- Lots of info (including a CD rom) from Champion's Ride Days (unfortunately the nearest track (and the only one in NSW) they use is Oran Park.
- Info from "the new Missing Link Motorcycle Cafe" on the Bells Line of Road.

MRA ACT

Needs Your Help

Wanted Riders to Carry Technical Experts in Support of Triathlons in the ACT

Hi Everyone,

We urgently need volunteers to help out with Triathlon Motorcycle support for the 2009/10 season. For those that haven't done it before, riders (and their bikes) are required to carry a technical official or occasionally a camera person as a pillion on the cycle stage of the triathlon course.

The duties normally require around 2-3 hours in the morning and include a small cash payment (usually \$35 but \$70 for the 2 long course events) to offset running costs. No previous experience is necessary although you must have a full licence and a registered, road worthy motorcycle or scooter capable of safely carrying a pillion.

I currently need riders for the following dates:

Date	Event	Riders Reqd.
13/12/09	Half Ironman	8
20/12/09	CPS Enduro	2
10/01/10	CPS Sprint	2
23/01/10	CC - ITU Junior	1
24/01/10	CC - Olympic Tri	6
14/02/10	CPS Classic	2

For further information please contact me at my work e-mail address or on my mobile.

Thanks,

Stuart Couper

stuart.couper@act.gov.au

0404 123 769

December 2009

Tis the Season to be Jolly - Ride Safe and keep the Taxis employed ;-)

Saturday 5th Dec - Discovery Ride led by Rob, meeting at Robbo's Fyshwick at 0930 for a 10:00 departure. The ride is tailored to the needs of the group and is paced at the speed of the slowest rider. It is to introduce new and returning riders or riders looking for a no pressure ride to riding in a group environment and promotes roadcraft and rider safety.

Tuesday 8th Dec - MRA ACT general meeting, come along and have your say about how we can improve motorcycling in the ACT. The MRA meets at the Harmonie Club at Narrabundah with the meeting starting at 1930 and dinner and a chat starting at about 1830.

Saturday 12th Dec - 2009 Annual Motorcyclists Toy Run. meet at Old Parliament House 0830 for 10 am then the usual route and into Garema Place for Present giving and prize receiving (Flyer Attached).

Saturday 12th Dec - 2009 Show n Sticky. The Children with special needs Xmas party is on again at EPIC and we need volunteers to put their bikes in for a hands on display (hence the sticky). Unfortunately this conflicts with the Toy Run but we need 12 riders and bikes for the full day out at EPIC.

Sunday 13th Dec - Rec Riding at Fairbairn Park, bring you registered or unregistered dirt bike out to Fairbairn Park for LEGAL off road riding for you and your family. (Flyer attached). Riders must be over 4 years old, licence optional, appropriate safety gear is a must, and your ride must be in reasonable mechanical nick (death traps i.e no brakes and excessive noise sorry can't do - however DSMRA riders are there for advice and coaching). Go to <http://actmcc.com/pages/calendar/2009calendar.html> for additional dates

January 2010

Friday/Saturday/Sunday 8th - 10th January 2010 - **The Annual Capital Rally** - Flyer attached.

I'm certain there are other events coming up and will add them as they come to hand.

Ride Safe,

Pete

0419 866 126



**Supporting
The Salvo's
and
St John's Care**



2009 MRA ACT Toy Run

Saturday 12 December 2009



**Come and watch
the parade**



Where to be

View the parade from **10:00 am**
on **Adelaide Ave and Yarra Glen**

between Parliament House and the roundabout at Woden
or **Commonwealth Ave**

Join the activities at **Garema Place Civic** from 10:30 am
including Best Decorated Bike and Best Dressed Rider or Pillion

Support us by donating

Toys to suit all ages, cash donations or non-perishable foods

Major Toy Run
supporters are:
TJ's Motorcycle Tyres
Rolfe BMW
Trophylink
Audio Solutions
Canberra Motorcycle Centre



Toy Run Badges

on sale at
Garema Place

Enquiries: Leen 0409 984 008

Info: <http://mraact.org.au>

BIKEFEST coutesy David Ault



Capital Rally

Hosted by: Motorcycle Riders Association of ACT Inc

8-10 January 2010

- **Where:** On the banks of the Goodradigbee River, Brindabella Near Brindabella Station
- **How:** The route will be signposted from the turn-off just before Cotter, just past the Murrumbidgee River Bridge.
- **Note:** Approx 20kms of gravel road.
- **Cost:** \$15 on-site including badge.



Food, grog, soft drink & toilet available on site, great swimming hole, shady campsite and good company.

For further info:

Contact: Helen Crowe on 0400 438 251

Email: catbert@hotkey.net.au

Web Info – <http://www.mraact.org.au>

More Web Info - <http://www.craigsinclair.com/capital.html>



AGENDA

Motorcycle Riders Association of the ACT GENERAL MEETING Harmonie German Club, Narrabundah

1. DECLARE MEETING OPEN
2. WELCOME
3. APOLOGIES
4. NEW MEMBERS & VISTORS
5. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
 - acceptance of previous Minutes*
6. MONTHLY REPORTS
 - President: Jen
 - Snr Vice President: David
 - Jnr Vice President: Kathleen
 - Secretary: Nicky
 - Treasurer: Sylvia
 - acceptance of financials*
 - Member's Representative: vacant
7. STATUS REPORTS
 - Road Safety & Communications: Peter Major
 - Membership Secretary: Sylvia
 - Webmaster: Jason Weber
 - Social Co-ordinator: Robyn Major
 - Toyrun: Kathleen
 - Capital Rally: Kathleen
 - Masters Program: Terry Butters
 - Joint DSMRA Project: Peter Major
8. ACTIVITIES
9. OTHER BUSINESS
10. DECLARE MEETING CLOSED

MINUTES

Motorcycle Riders Association of the ACT

GENERAL MEETING

10th November, 2009

Harmonie German Club, Narrabundah

Items 1 & 2: Declare meeting open - Welcome

President welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open at 19:40.

Item 3: Apologies

Trevor Mcleod.

Item 4: New members and visitors

Stephen Boyd, Jason Waddell.

Item 5: Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the October meeting were accepted by Peter Wenderoth and seconded by Leo Farrelly.

Item 6: Monthly Reports - Appendix A

President	Jennifer Woods
Senior Vice President	David Ault
Junior Vice President	Kathleen Parsons
Treasurer	Sylvia Sinfield
Secretary	Nicky Hussey

Item 7: Status Reports - Appendix B

Roads and Traffic	Peter Major
Road Safety	Robyn Major
Social Rides and Functions	Robyn Major
Major Events	Kathleen Parsons
Projects:	
Motorcycle Awareness Week	Jennifer Woods
Show 'n' Sticky	Dave Payne

Item 8: Activities (Finished, Soon, Future)

- Motorcycle Awareness Week - 24th October to 1st November
- Pink Ribbon Ride - 25th October
- Discovery Ride - 7th November
- Ride 'n' Thrive - Canberra - 7th and 8th November
- Social Ride - Tathra - 15th November
- Discovery Ride - 21st November
- Rec Riding - Fairbairn Park - 21st and 29th November

- Tuggeranong Community Festival - 29th November
- Discovery Ride - 5th December
- Toy Run - Old Parliament House / Garema Place - 12th December
- Show 'n' Sticky - EPIC - 12th December
- Rec Riding - Fairbairn Park - 13th December
- Capital Rally - Brindabella - 8th to 10th January

Item 9: Other Business

- ***Merchandise***

The MRA has cloth patches available for \$10 and stickers (two styles) for \$5. If members would like a t-shirt, provide Dave Payne with a plain one (black or white work best) and \$10 and he'll print the MRA logo on.

Item 10: Declare meeting closed

The meeting was declared closed at 20:45.

APPENDIX A: MONTHLY REPORTS

President

- Per newsletter.
- Tuggeranong Community Festival – MRA will have a stall and need volunteers to man it for a couple of hours.

Senior Vice President

- Trials club will try and keep the end of October free next year so as not to clash with the Motorcycle Awareness Week.
- There are a number of triathlons coming up and we need volunteers on bikes as support. He will get details from Stu Couper and send them through for updating the website.
- Castrol 6 hour race will be held for the last time at Oran Park on 21st and 22nd November - the end of an era.
- He had a 1st and a 3rd place at the recent trials event in Wollongong.

Junior Vice President

- Toy Run report - see status report in Appendix B.

Treasurer

- Monthly report - Oct 2009:

Opening balance		11,985.26
Income		
Membership:		
Indra Silins	20.00	
John Hummer	20.00	
John Lewis	30.00	
Adrian Bucci	20.00	
Penny Vandebroek	30.00	
Scott Dowell	20.00	
Total	140.00	12,125.26
Expenditure		
3Tech Systems Fee	4.30	
Total	4.30	12,120.96
Closing Balance per Bank Statement (S1 A/c)		12,120.96
Closing Balance per Bank Statement (S2 A/c)		28,174.98
Closing Balance per Bank Statement (S3 A/c-MAW)		200.00

- There was not much activity for October, but there have been 12 new or renewed memberships so far in November.
- Cash from Bikefest totalling \$1,772.40 was also received in November.
- A new account - S3 - has been set up for the Motorcycle Awareness Week.
- The report was accepted by Derek Holyoake and seconded by Trish Holdsworth

Secretary

- Along with the invoice, we received the feedback forms from the recent MASTERS course. All comments were positive - there was not a single no / unsure.
-

APPENDIX B: STATUS REPORTS

Roads and Traffic

- Motorcycle footpath parking:
 - Recent working group meeting was positive, although there was opposition by those representing the blind and visually impaired.
 - Alternatives tabled included the 'heads and tails' system, where motorbikes use the first and last parking spots in each block (improves corner visibility too) and the option to use car spots for free if the motorbike parking is full.
- Australian Electric Vehicle Association's electric vehicle festival - following on from this, the Greens have taken more interest in motorcycles in general.
- Pete has a meeting with Stateline tomorrow regarding kangaroos and crashing.
- Unsecured loads - a scooter rider was hit on the Parkway by a ladder and pipes that fell off a ute.
- Joint DSMRA project (Rec Riding at Fairbairn Park):
 - Lands ACT looking for a block of land (200-300 acres) and Events ACT has funding for this - it's all still with TaMS to progress.
 - MRA will help obtain the various approvals; the DSMRA will run the facility.

Road Safety

- Ride 'n' Thrive:
 - Robyn is not happy at the way this is being run by HART. She'd like them to use older, more experienced instructors and to concentrate on ACT-specific road safety issues such as roundabouts and kangaroos / crashes.
 - Also a problem that Stay Upright, who provide the compulsory bike training in the ACT, don't promote the course (as they wouldn't).
 - Robyn will look at feedback from course attendees and consider other options - rolling the funding into the MASTERS course, going back to Stay Upright or her and Pete running the course.
 - Stephen Boyd went to the course last Sunday and thought that there was not enough individual feedback given to participants.

Social Rides and Functions

- Tathra - 15th November - via Brown Mountain - meet at Williamsdale.
- Xmas party and Robyn and Pete's - 19th December.
- Weekend ride to Thredbo - possible dates: January long weekend or February.

Major Events

- Toy Run:
 - Under control! There will be a final meeting with the committee to ensure there are no gaps.
 - Need to promote corporate group attendance / award.
 - Volunteers needed to organise the parking in Garema Place.
 - **ACTION: David will co-ordinate parking volunteers.**
- Capital Rally:
 - Helen and Phil will run it again with Malcolm's help.
 - The MRA will probably have to help collect raffle prizes. Sylvia recommended sending a letter to prospective donors first, as she didn't have a good experience cold-calling the last time we asked for prizes.
 - **ACTION: Kathleen will draft a letter.**

Projects

- Motorcycle Awareness Week:
 - Jen wants to do some fund raising for next year's MAW
 - Discussion about MRA holding the funds in their bank account, when it's not solely an MRA event.
- Show 'n' Sticky:
 - Dave Payne will be the co-ordinator on the day.
 - Seven people have committed already, but we need twelve or more. Pete will put out a call for volunteers.