

# BMW MCQ MAG

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BMW MOTORCYCLE CLUB OF QUEENSLAND INC.

AUGUST 2022

Established 1958

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BMW Motorcycle Club  
of Queensland



# BMWMCQ

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BMW MOTORCYCLE CLUB OF QUEENSLAND INC.

## The Committee



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R60/6



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**Dealer Liaison** - Don Grimes  
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R1200GS; K1300R

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### Advertisers

TeamMoto - INSIDE COVER  
Caloundra Motorcycles - P.56  
Northside Motorcycles - P.57  
Munich Motorcycles - P.58

Good Wool Store - P.58  
TeamMoto - P.59  
TeamMoto M&W- BACK COVER

## On The Cover

A worthy Pic of the Month winner - Phil Gresham's spectacular shot of his hire bike in Utah, on the way to Bryce Canyon. Great that international travel is back!!



BMW Motorcycle Club  
of Queensland



BMW Clubs  
International Council



## Club Details

BMW Motorcycle Club of Queensland Inc.  
ABN 30 351 243 651

Address all correspondence to:  
The Secretary  
PO Box 3669  
South Brisbane QLD 4101

Monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at the:

**Geebung RSL Club**  
323 Newman Road Geebung

A Club Ride is usually held on the first Sunday after the monthly meeting.

BMWMCQ AIMS

The objectives of the BMWMCQ are to increase the enjoyment of motorcycling by:

1. Improving the opinion of the public towards motorcycling in general and associated members particularly, by careful, courteous, considerate riding, especially when riding with the Club, and rendering assistance to all road users in difficulty.

2. Improving the service and availability of spare parts for BMWs in Queensland using the advantage of a united effort.
3. Decreasing maintenance and running costs by mutual assistance on mechanical problems.
4. Organising day trips, tours and outings.
5. Encourage and support Regional Ride Groups
6. Affiliation with other clubs/associations where such affiliation would be of mutual benefit.

### DISCLAIMER

The views and opinions expressed in this Journal are those of each contributor and are not necessarily shared by the Editor, management, and / or membership of the BMWMCQ.

The Editor reserves the right to refuse any advertising or delete any material which could be considered or interpreted as questionable, libellous or offensive, without consultation.

WEB SITE

Visit: [www.bmwmcq.org.au](http://www.bmwmcq.org.au)

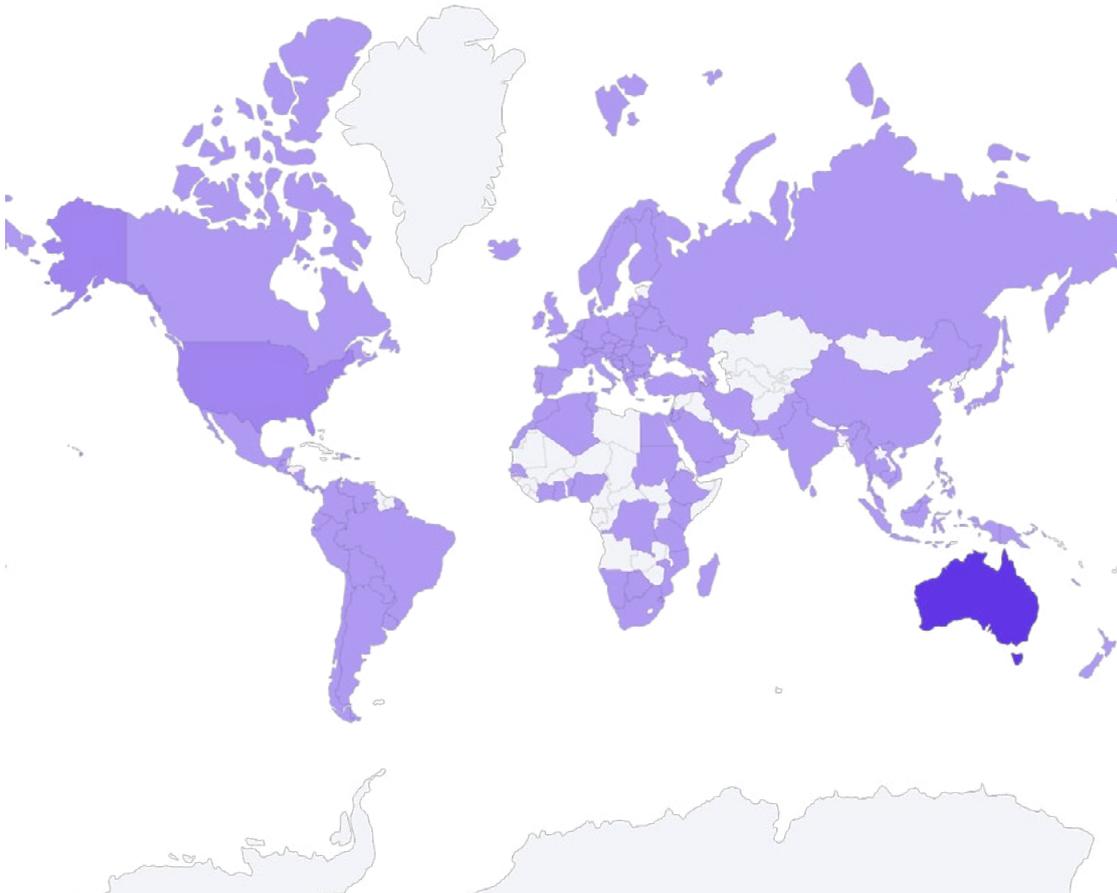


## Cindy & Duncan Bennett

## Editors' Report

We come to our third 11 Journal cycle as editors, some quick work behind the scenes with the calculator gave  $11 \times 3 = 33$  Journals. Klaus and Kerri (K2) will suffer our "laying on of hands" shortly in preparation for our big trip next year, which will see our Journal continue its run that exceeds most magazines, we have 10 years on Rolling Stone. The BMWMCQ Journal is up there with Playboy with its first edition in December 1953, not that anyone in the club would be familiar with that obscure publication because it rarely features a cross-over with BMW motorcycle products. I know because I spent hours Googling it, being editor demands that level of thoroughness and attention to detail while Cindy's out staring at her R1200C.

In the interest of seeing our Journal's market penetration, perhaps a bad word to use so soon after the last paragraph, we can get the ISSUU reads which is about 30,000 world-wide. We lack a bit of interest in the 'stans and sub-Saharan Africa (why didn't I click when in Mali dammit?) and Greenland but otherwise our collective exploits are known across the globe. A better way to become famous might be available, but not without fronting a Magistrate, so keep the articles coming. **Cheers Duncan & Cindy**



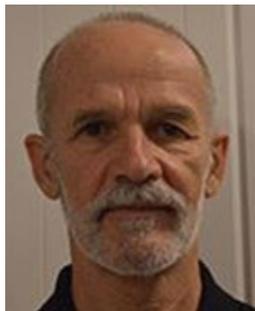
**Submissions for the Next Journal close 25th-ish August**

**VENUE FOR BMWMCQ GENERAL MEETINGS  
GEEBUNG RSL CLUB 323 NEWMAN ROAD GEEBUNG  
MEALS OPEN AT 6.00 PM MEETING STARTS 7.30 PM  
NEXT MEETING: Thursday 1st September**



## Tony Gray

## President's Report



A popular watch on our ABC is the quiz show - Hard Quiz, hosted by Tom Gleeson. It is obviously also popular in the Maher/Madden household where Maree won 'The Big Brass Mug' on her preferred subject of the legendary rock-band, Queen. Tom always prefaces his round with the words - This week I have been thinking about.....!

Well this week I have been thinking about numbers. Yes anywhere you look, listen to or watch the News you will be inundated with numbers - interest rates, inflation, covid infections, petrol prices - a seemingly never ending list of numbers. Closer to home I have been thinking about some numbers related to our club life. I missed our last general meeting due to a head cold and many others also offered apologies in these torrid times. Paul chaired the meeting in my absence and managed to conjure up 24 souls which constituted a quorum. Greg reported our current financial membership at 281 which is very healthy indeed. The numbers attending our events are also very healthy in spite of the 'germ soup' that is laying waste across the land. We managed 26 at a very enjoyable Christmas in July in Kingaroy despite several of our regular attendees being unavailable. En route home from Kingaroy we had the mandatory stop at the Goomeri Bakery as did many other bikers on what was a crisp Sunday morning. The reason behind the large number of bikes with swags on board was the 'Frosty Dingo' Rally held that weekend at the Wondai Showground. Reportedly they had some 200 bikes attend which compares well with our Cane Toad Rally at Mt Perry. Could this inaugural 'Frosty Dingo' Rally have drawn from our own 'Frigid Digit' and 'Cane Toad' Rallies for it's naming inspiration? Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery according to Oscar Wilde.

Now the number 100 is going to be very important to the club next year - yes the centenary of the release of the first BMW Motorcycle was in **1923**. The first R32 motorcycle was unveiled at the Berlin Motor Show in September 1923. Your committee is working towards securing a central location in the city for a major concourse event to mark this occasion. Saturday 23 September **2023** is the preferred date. Cancel all of your overseas plans and put a big red circle on that date in your calendar. Wouldn't it be fantastic if we could have 100 BMW motorcycles on display! That number of bikes would require commitment from the whole club, not just a few. We will be looking to cover as wide a range of BMW models down through the ages as possible - singles, parallel twins, boxer twins, flat fours, across the frame fours, sixes, R bikes, F bikes, K bikes, HP, G, S or C bikes. Would your bike be suitable? Start thinking about that rebuild you currently have in the shed - you now have a deadline.

Also on the numbers front the numbers 100,000; 200,000; 300,000 and beyond are important. If you and your bike (must be currently owned) have achieved one of these mileage milestones, together, then we want to hear from you. The club will be recognising and making awards to members who have achieved one of these goals. Start to gather the details: purchase date & mileage, current mileage together with a good quality photo of you and your bike and send to [secretary@bmwmcq.org.au](mailto:secretary@bmwmcq.org.au). Remember the mileage must be the mileage you have done on the bike, not the bike's mileage alone and you must currently own the bike. Any brand of bike is eligible not just BMW motorcycles.

I cannot leave the numbers theme without recognising the Grey Ghost, our 2007 model R1200GS who rattled up this list of twos and threes on the way to the recent Sunny Coast Brunch gathering at Yandina. She has covered quite a few of those miles on club rides as well as overseas and remote parts of Australia - if only she could talk lol.

Tony.





## BMWMCQ Club Events for AUGUST 2022

Date	Start	Event	Details	Contact
<b>Thurs 4 August</b>	7:30pm	Club Monthly Meeting	Geebung RSL Club, 323 Newman Road, Geebung QLD. Meals from 6pm	<b>President Tony</b>
<b>Sun 7 August</b>	10:30am	Maggie's Biscuit Ride	Jubilee Park, Tenterfield	<b>Peter Todd</b>
<b>Sat 13 August</b>	10:30am	Sunny Coast Brunch Ride	Birches, Mt Mee	<b>Steve Maney - SC Riders</b>
<b>Wed 17 August</b>	9:30am	Mid Week Ride	Meet Caltex Springfield O'Reilly's, Lamington National Park. <b>BYO lunch</b>	<b>Events Coordinator Mark</b>
<b>Sun 28 August</b>	12:30pm	Monthly Lunch Ride	Country Life Hotel, Kin Kin	<b>Events Coordinator Mark</b>
<b>Tues 30 August</b>	6:30pm	German Club Dinner	Brisbane German Club 416 Vulture St, East Brisbane	<b>Events Coordinator Mark</b>

## EXTRAORDINARY EVENTS CALENDAR

Date	Event	Location	Contact
Sat 13 August	Off Centre Rally	Adels Grove, Lawn Hill National Park	
Sat 20 August	Dust Hustle #12	QLD Moto Park, Boonah	<a href="http://www.dusthustle.com">www.dusthustle.com</a> for more info
17 - 20 November	Walcha Motorcycle Rally	Walcha Showground	See the Club FaceBook events page for link to tickets

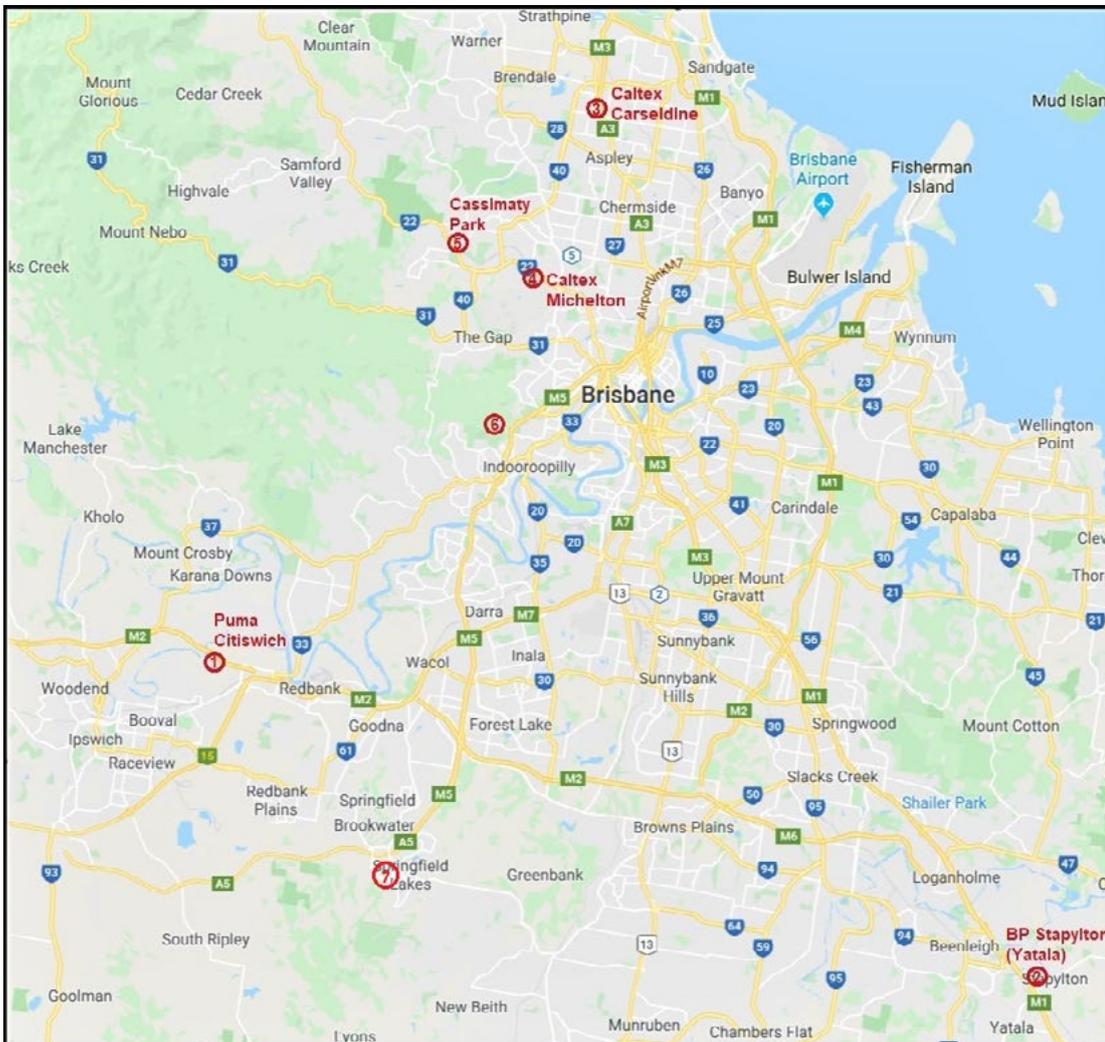


*Paul Hughes's photo from a Tuesday swan-about to Mt Tamborine. He wasn't complaining even though he was doing it tough. I mean just look at those white fluffy threatening clouds.*

## BMWMCQ Club Events for SEPTEMBER 2022

Date	Start	Event	Details	Contact
<b>Thurs 1 Sept.</b>	7:30pm	Club Monthly Meeting	Geebung RSL Club, 323 Newman Road, Geebung QLD. Meals from 6pm	<b>President Tony</b>
<b>Sun 4 Sept.</b>	9:00am	Club Led Ride	TBA - stay tuned!	<b>Events Coordinator Mark</b>
<b>Sat 17 Sept.</b>	10:30am	Sunny Coast Brunch Ride	TBA - stay tuned!	<b>Events Coordinator Mark</b>
<b>Wed 14 Sept.</b>	9:30am	Mid Week Ride	TBA - stay tuned!	<b>Events Coordinator Mark</b>
<b>Sun 25 Sept.</b>	12:30pm	Monthly Lunch Ride	TBA - stay tuned!	<b>Events Coordinator Mark</b>
<b>Tues 27 Sept.</b>	6:30pm	German Club Dinner	Brisbane German Club 416 Vulture St, East Brisbane	<b>Events Coordinator Mark</b>

### Usual departure points for rides, with a new one....



1	<b>Puma Citiswich</b>	Cnr Ashburn Rd &, Hawkins Cres, Bundamba QLD 4304
2	<b>BP Stapylton (Yatala)</b>	Cnr Pacific Hwy &, Stapylton Jacobs Well Rd, Stapylton QLD 4207
3	<b>Caltex Carseldine</b>	1754 Gympie Rd, Carseldine QLD 4034
4	<b>Caltex Mitchelton</b>	550 Samford Rd, Mitchelton QLD 4053
5	<b>Cassimaty Park</b>	1312 Samford Rd, Ferny Grove QLD 4055
6	<b>Brisbane Lookout Mt Coot-tha</b>	
7	<b>Springfield Central</b>	1 Main St, Southern Cross Cct



## Paul Hughes

## Vice President's Report

**A**s I have said elsewhere if you are not riding as much as you can in this perfect weather.... You're nuts.

I have been taking advantage over the last couple of months and it is just glorious out there. Wash the bike later, mow the lawn next week, walk the dog some other day, take a sickie.....just don't miss this perfect riding weather. Whilst you're at it take a few photos for the journal competition. The weather is looking great for the 23rd Frigid Digit , so haul out the camping gear and

come along.

The Christmas Party at Evans Head on 10th December is filling up nicely. If you want to be part of this I suggest you get cracking with accommodation as it is the start of the school holidays and it will be hard to find later on.

A reminder for the Facebook users. On the club group in events DO NOT use "Maybe" as it will be deleted and then your access to that event is automatically deleted. We only want to know if you are coming to allow for planning at venues. Also we would appreciate last minute and on the day acceptances don't occur. If you need to do that email/message the event organiser directly please. Some of our events require us to provide numbers to venues on a long lead-time.

Looking forward to Maggie's biscuit ride. A lot people coming to the dinner the night before at the Tenterfield Tavern. If you haven't advised Peter Todd you wish to attend the dinner please do so this week.

Some of our members are about to set off on the OCR, so safe travels and have fun.

Ride safe and often everyone.

## Paul





**Darryl Gowlett**

**Treasurer's Report**

**G**'day everyone,

The books are cooked for another month, and I still don't have a new bike!!!

All the advertisers paid their dues by the end of the financial year, so nothing is outstanding there. And we now have 13 paid punters already in for the Xmas party. The Tools man and the Prez found soft drinks going cheaply, so we've stacked up there, and we provided nibbles at the Xmas in July function due to a catering mix up. The Cane Toad Account has been finalised and we sent a bit more to the RFDS with the bulk going to the Mount Perry Development Board Inc. These folk were really helpful in providing local support, and they're approaching Council to upgrade some of the facilities at Wolca Reserve.

That's it from me. Another lacklustre report from your taciturn treasurer.

*Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labours and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.*

Ciao, **Darryl**

**Trading statement as at: July 25, 2022**

BoQ Balance as at: May 28, 2022		\$ 20,928.98	Year to date		\$ 16,165.68
<b>Income:</b>	Membership	\$ 725.00	\$	6,567.00	
	Advertising	\$ 5,450.00	\$	5,900.00	
	Regalia	\$ -	\$	177.00	
	Tools	\$ -	\$	-	
	Events Xmas party	\$ 315.00	\$	6,685.00	
	Interest	\$ 2.44	\$	10.12	
	Sundry	\$ 6,492.44	\$	1,471.77	\$ 20,810.89
		\$ 27,421.42			\$ 36,976.57
<b>Expenses:</b>	Administration Corp return	\$ 58.60	\$	1,222.69	
	Website	\$ 385.00	\$	2,772.81	
	Paypal	\$ 10.15	\$	96.93	
	Regalia	\$ -	\$	645.00	
	Tools	\$ -	\$	-	
	Events Xmas in July & drinks	\$ 219.77	\$	3,076.47	
	Awards for service day	\$ -	\$	300.00	
	Sundry	\$ -			
	Mt Perry Dev Board	\$ 3,000.00			
	RFDS from CTR	\$ 125.52	\$ 3,799.04	\$ 5,240.29	\$ 13,354.19
<b>Balance</b>		\$ 23,622.38			\$ 23,622.38
<b>BoQ balance at:</b>	<b>July 25, 2022</b>	\$ 23,622.38			\$ 23,622.38
<b>Term deposit:</b>		\$ 20,541.79	\$	20,500.45	
Interest		\$ -	\$ 20,541.79	\$ 41.34	\$ 20,541.79
<b>Available:</b>		\$ 44,164.17			\$ 44,164.17
<b>RFDS donations</b>	CTR	\$125.52			\$1,833.27



**Geoff Hodge****Secretary's Report****BMWMCQ General Meeting Minutes – 7 July 2022****Venue: Geebung RSL**

<b>Meeting Opened:</b>	7:30 pm (Paul Hughes Chair)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Tony & Jane Gray, Don Grimes, Kate Farrar, Donna Wiltshire, Darryl Gowlett, Cindy & Duncan Bennett, Maggie Rafanowicz, Tony Malone, Merv Bone, John Allan.
<b>Minutes of Previous General Meeting:</b>	<b>Accepted:</b> Geoff Hamon <b>Seconded:</b> Gary Bennett
<b>Number of Attendees:</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>New Members (Name &amp; MC):</b>	Nil
<b>Visitors:</b>	Dave Oliver – Dave Oliver's Motorcycle Tyres
<b>Returning Members:</b>	Nil
<b>Treasurer Report:</b>	Funds all good – detailed report in July Journal.
<b>Editor Report:</b>	Nil – Apology for this meeting.
<b>Tools Report:</b>	Tools Service day 18 June at Rob Wynne's place had 32 attendees with 30 bikes. Good day had by all. Next Tools Day October/November  Geoff has had his eyes on a few new tools for members to use – Torque Wrench and Bearing Puller.
<b>Regalia Report:</b>	Buy more Cloth Badges - 1 for \$6.00 2 for \$ 10.00.
<b>Records Report:</b>	Currently 281 financial members.
<b>Events Report:</b>	Upcoming Club Lunch Ride to Killarney Hotel 10 July. 13 July Mid-Week ride to Wellington Point 16 July Christmas in July Kingaroy 30 July the 32 <sup>nd</sup> Frigid Digit start Mount Cootha 7 August the 13 <sup>th</sup> Maggie's Biscuit Run Tenterfield  Make sure to book for the Christmas Party 10 December at Evans Head.
<b>Secretary Report:</b>	Nothing to report. No Mail In/Out

<b>Dealer Liaison Report:</b>	Apology.
<b>Clubs Australia Report:</b>	We are starting to plan to celebrate the 100 <sup>th</sup> year of production of BMW Motorcycles in 2023. Major event will be a concourse at Southbank or Reddacliff Place in the CBD which have both been used in the past for BMW Concourse Events. Start getting your BMW ready if you would like to be involved in the display.*
<b>Vice Presidents Report:</b>	No report this month.
<b>President Report:</b>	Apology from Tony who is unwell. Written report read by Paul. Key points: A lot of illness about but don't let that stop you from being adventurous and doing what you love; Strong membership and plenty of good things happening in the club, get involved; Journal is our lifeblood so consider contributing an article and/or a photo for the picture of the month competition – you may win club regalia.
<b>General Business</b>	Dave Oliver gave a report on how hard it has been getting tyres in and at a fair price for the members and public.
<b>Buy / Swap / Sell</b>	Nil reported.
<b>Closed:</b>	8:10 pm, next meeting 4 August 2022

**\* Ed: Just so you don't go in with high expectations, Cindy's R1200C has already won the Best In Show, Hardest To Wheelie, and Worst Location For Battery categories.**



**Donna Wiltshire**

[regalia@bmwmcq.org.au](mailto:regalia@bmwmcq.org.au)

**Regalia Report**

**H**i all, check out the Club's catalogue. Should any other merchandise ideas come to mind, please let me know. Recently I had the pleasure of seeing Hayley and Jon Reid rockin' the latest regalia while out on a Club led ride.

There are plenty of cloth badges available for your purchase just send me a message.

Kind regards,

**Donna**



**Get your cloth badge by contacting Donna, \$6 each or 2 for \$10 - a bargain! They can be ironed or sewn on to your apparel of choice.**



## Geoff Hamon

This month has been a lot better riding weather. I have been able to get out and about a bit. Some early starts where I was very grateful for the excellent wind protection of the RS fairing. I hope you all have been riding also. Some committee members have been on great trips as have been documented in this Journal. I have actually had a call about a tool this month. You would not believe it, Gary Bennett was chasing the same tool for his F650GS.

I took my own tool over and with Graham Healy's expertise we assisted Gary to get the job done. I had only just changed the bearings on my RS so the how to was fresh in my mind. (Sort of).

My K75C project has been taking up some of my time & \$. I have finally got all panels to the painters & looking forward to getting them back and completing the reassembly.

The committee and myself are looking to get a wheel bearing puller for the club tools & Chris Lancaster has offered his torque wrench for the club use.

That's all for now, enjoy your Tooling Around :)

## Repair Manuals

The Club has various Repair Manuals available to borrow, mainly for older bikes.

## Tools for loan

There are special tools available including the GS-911WiFi and 3 pin diagnostic tools.

## Special Tools

- 34mm socket for rotating crankshaft
- Twinmax electronic carburettor balancer (Twin BMW engines)
- Vacuumate (electronic synchronisation of throttle valves up to 4 cylinders)
- Clutch alignment shafts (3 sizes)
- Compression gauge (cylinder pressure)
- Steering head bearing puller and seating tool
- Gearbox output flange puller
- GS-911 Wi-Fi Diagnostic tool (Wi-Fi and USB Version)

## Tool's Report

- GS-911 3 pin Diagnostic tool (for older bikes)
- Tyre Pressure Monitor Sensor (TPMS) tool
- Enduralast hall sensor tester
- Brake bleeding tool (suction bleeding via the brake caliper)
- Compression tester

### Club Tool Loan:

\$50 deposit (refundable) for GS911.

### Contact Tools Officer

**Geoff Hamon 0413 334 625**

*email:* [spares@bmwmcq.org.au](mailto:spares@bmwmcq.org.au)



*Doing what a tool man does!*





## Greg Gaffney

## Records Officer Report

Looking forward to this year's Biscuit Ride. Not far to travel with the motel where I'm staying, the Tenterfield Tavern for Saturday night dinner and Jubilee Park all in town! It will be great to see Maggie again and as the event is so popular you get to catch up with many of our members.

*Cheers Greg.*

[records@  
bmwmcq.org.au](mailto:records@bmwmcq.org.au)

### Welcome to New Members:

Chris Druery, VICTORIA POINT, R1200 GSA, R1250 GSA

Guy Harding, EAST BRISBANE, 1250GSA, 1200GS, 1100GS

James Moyle, WITTA



*Here is the German Club crew from Tuesday 26th July and the impressive Pork Knuckle feast of Greg's!*

*Consider coming along to the next German Club night on Tues 30th August - oh and the strudels are pretty amazing too.....*



## Lady Shirts



[2LPS](#) - \$32  
65% polyester  
35% cotton



[2LCP](#) - \$33  
65% polyester  
35% cotton



[7LPI](#) - \$33.50  
100% polyester  
*"Of course I was wearing one  
in the Oprah interview!" -  
Duchess of Sussex*



[ICE Tee](#) - \$26  
Cotton  
*"I wore one while boating  
on the Nile!" - Cleopatra*

## Bloke Shirts



[210](#) - \$32  
65% polyester  
35% cotton



[2CP](#) - \$34  
65% polyester  
35% cotton



[7PIP](#) - \$36  
100% polyester  
*"I bought 3 for my bestie  
Nick" - Novak Djokovic*



[ICE Tee](#) - \$26  
Cotton  
*"Those who fight corruption  
should be wearing a clean ICE  
Tee" - Vladimir Putin*

## Gender Neutral Hats & Bags



[AH695](#) - \$17  
Bucket Hat  
Sandwich Design  
(with trim)



[AH715](#) - \$16  
Bucket Hat.  
Not all that  
gender neutral.



[AH230](#) - \$15  
Cotton Cap,  
not as warm  
as a beanie.



[Ladies](#) Vests  
\$48.00



[Non-Ladies](#) Vests  
\$48.00

**AWESOME FOR  
WINTER!!!**



[Metro](#) - black/charcoal or black/royal - \$21  
[Swiss](#) charcoal- \$37.50  
**Note: a bag order small surcharge may apply - talk to Daniel!**



[AH742](#) - \$17  
100% Wool  
Beanie



[AH770](#) - \$17  
100% Cotton  
Beanie

**Look out people, you  
need these now!**



BMW Motorcycle Club  
of Queensland



## Club order form for shirts, bags and hats

Send this form to [daniel@goldstarembroidery.com.au](mailto:daniel@goldstarembroidery.com.au) or call Daniel on **0403 150 857**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

If delivery is required an additional fee is charged. Delivery required **Yes or No:** \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery address: \_\_\_\_\_

A minimum 50% deposit is required before the order is started. Payment in full is required if Gold Star Embroidery is to organise delivery. An invoice will be emailed after the order form is received.

### *Shirts/Vests order:*

<i>Shirt product code number</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Colour</i>

### *Bags order:*

Bag product name	Quantity	Colour
Metro		
Swiss		

### Headwear order:

Product code number	Quantity	Size	Colour
Cap AH230 - \$15 each			
Bucket Hat Sandwich AH695 - \$17 each			
Bucket Hat AH715 - \$16 each			
Wool Beanie AH742 - \$17 each			
Cotton Beanie AH770 - \$17 each			

There are also heaps more colours, styles and fabrics available through Gold Star Embroidery - check out the website at [goldstarembroidery](http://goldstarembroidery.com.au) and call Daniel - he knows all about BMW regalia!





## Mark Mustchin

## Event's Report

July was a good month for club events. We certainly got around South East Qld, with the Sunny Coast Brunch ride held at Fairhill Native Botanic Gardens Yandina, Xmas in July at Kingaroy, the Mid week Ride around the Southern Bay Area & the Club Led Ride to the Killarney Hotel. And let's not forget (although I would like to) the German Club Dinner at Woolloongabba. The Frigid Digit will have taken place by the time the journal gets published so you will all know the location for that event. I hope you all managed to keep warm. A big thanks to organisers & ride leaders of these events.

The 1st event for August is the Biscuit Ride and it looks to be very popular event, that is followed the following weekend by a Sunny Coast Brunch ride to Mt Mee and a mid week ride to O'Reillys - Lamington National Park.

The Dust Hustle is on Saturday 20th and on the 28th the Club Lunch Ride is to the Kin Kin Hotel. And let's not forget (although I would like to) the German Club Dinner on the 30th.

Two big events coming up are the Back to the Bush Ride on the October long weekend (organised by Kate & Don) & the Xmas Party in Evans Head (organised by Paul Hughes) so note these on your calendar, both should be very enjoyable events.

Happy & safe riding.

**Mark.**



**Mark after his R18 experience at Sirromet.  
Now a cruiser man, through and through.**

Teach your children  
to count bikes on  
car journeys...

...and they will automatically  
notice them when they  
learn to drive.

 Cheshire  
Fire & Rescue Service  
[www.cheshirefire.gov.uk](http://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk)

**Borrowed from another site, but a great  
game for the grandkids in the car maybe?!**

## **SPOILT FOR CHOICE**

JEGJul2022

*The Club calendar is full of great fun  
Some of us attend most & others just some  
Our annual party at Midnight at the Oasis  
Is "Christmas in July" at Kingaroy of all places  
Our hosts put on a magnificent spread  
A wonderful night where we're very well fed  
Following then is the mystery Frigid Digit  
It sounds a bit rude but is strictly legit  
Meet at Mt Coot-tha to learn where you're going  
It's bound to be cold but hopefully not snowing  
Next is Maggie's famous 13<sup>th</sup> Biscuit Ride  
Even though he's not here George is at her side  
This year we're all going to Tenterfield  
Can't wait to see all the biscuits revealed!  
So many varieties she's happy to bake  
Whatever's left over she begs us to take  
Mid-week & lunch rides plus Sunny Coast brunch rides  
Plus the German Club & monthly meetings besides  
July & August have so much to choose from  
Here's hoping you'll be able to find time to come*



***This month we put recently joined member Marcus Van Vugt under the spotlight - aside from his R1250RS he has a unique bike being a Piaggio Yourban MP3!***

I started riding some 40 years ago, dropped into the local country police station and asked for a license. I was limited to a 250cc for the first 12 months and ended up buying a Yamaha RD250LC, 30 odd horse power out of a two-stroke with a top speed that was well in excess of legal limits... I learnt as I went and as the bike wasn't suited to any distance I used it predominantly as my commuter bike which consisted of some 20 minute country / 10 minute city in and around Toowoomba.

My first exposure to a BMW bike was in 1986 when a friend of mine asked to swap my car for his K100T as his wife was pregnant and refused to get on the back. I had 6 months on the bike and loved every minute of it.

As most of us will have done, I ended up getting rid of the RD250 when I got into a serious relationship and needed to travel further than was comfortable on the bike.

Following on some 25 years.....and due to changes in my company's car park arrangements (we moved buildings), I was offered enough cash in compensation that allowed me to get a bike as well as a motorbike parking spot in our building (it was Sydney). Wins all around. This is where the Piaggio MP3 comes in. I woke one Saturday morning and announced that I'd go out and get something that I could commute on (rather than the bus / ferry arrangements that were occupying my commute).

Having decided that she wanted to come along my then wife and I trundled of to the local scooter shop and looked around. She spotted the MP3 (which incidentally stands for 'Moto Piaggio a 3 ruote' or more aptly Piaggio motorcycle with 3 wheels), announced that 3 wheels were more secure than 2 and left me to pay for it. Haven't regretted it, it's a wonderful way of getting around town and with the top-set box has enough room to store the groceries and helmet. The 300c pulls enough power to keep out of trouble and is nimble enough to lane filter and lane split where appropriate. (I spent the first 12 months back in QLD at Bribie so used the MP3 along the Bruce Highway.....)

Having now re-established myself in Brisbane I wanted to get something that I could take further afield. The charging options on EV's are still limited (particularly when living in an apartment with no car-park power options) so decided that a car was not it.



Living in Newstead my casual walks brought me past Morgan & Wacker so decided to investigate options. Not having a desire to go off-road (yet) I bypassed the GS's, the RT's were too big for around town and I liked the sound and feel of the boxer. With a 7-9 month delivery on a BMW order I pointed to the new R1250RS Sport on the floor and convinced them that it would be better owned by me than being used as a demo.

I have had the RS for some 3 months now and have spent this time honing my skills particularly given the much greater power and weight against the MP3. I did the Smart Rider program recently (both Level 1 and 2) – Thanks Julian! Additionally, I undertook some advanced training on slow control, cornering, and speed control through a training school in Calamvale which included a day at Lakeside Driver Trainer Centre.



In the meantime I have managed a few twisties including the Nerang – Murwillumbah and Mt Tamborine. I don't have a 'favourite' run as yet however every day I take it out brings a smile to my face. Part of the reason in joining the BMW Motorcycle Club was to find people with similar interests and who know the ins-and-outs of SEQ and beyond...including finding great places for lunch.

In addition to the bike, I invested in additional safety gear (as a scooter rider, you feel that this doesn't apply...) Looking forward to learning from all of you what works (and doesn't) on short and long rides.



***The Piaggio at the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride 2022 - it does gather a lot of attention!***



*This months winner for the Pic of the Month is Phil Gresham, with a great shot that adorns the cover. Congrats Phil, a regalia voucher is coming your way... A reminder of the criteria for the Pic of the Month:*

- "Pic of the Month", will run from March to December 2022.
- Each month members are invited to submit a photo that they have taken *during that month* - there will be no theme, so anything bike/riding/Club event/ bike travel related.
- Prize will be a voucher (\$30 value) with our regalia supplier Gold Star Embroidery. This can get you a t-shirt or a couple of caps or put towards one of the bags (see catalogue up front for inspo)!
- Entries can be submitted by emailing to the Editors at [editor@bmwmcq.org.au](mailto:editor@bmwmcq.org.au) with a description of the photo.
- We look forward to seeing your shots!



*Another of Phil's travel pics from Utah!*



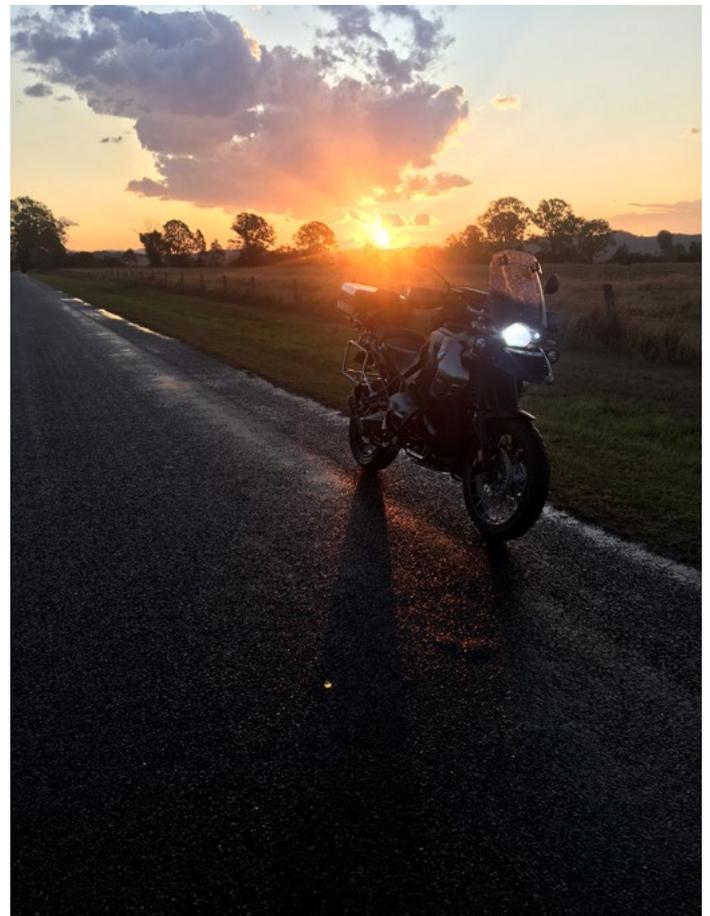
*Ken Madsen catching off-road legend Carol taking her bike for a small dip, and at left - giving the bike a bit of a rest! Lucky you are overseas Ken....*



*Tony Gray - "Shadow Boxers!" taken at Fisher's Lookout Bunya Mountains enroute to Kingaroy for Christmas in July.*



***Tony Gray - a rare pic, only bike at Mt Glorious Cafe on a Saturday afternoon returning from Sunny Coast Brunch at Yandina.***



***Ian Kite - A couple of snaps on the way home after a brief rain shower. Ian apologises for the iPhone quality only, but at least they are colour. Even Ansel Adams couldn't do that.***



## CANE TOAD RALLY Financial Statement - 2022

### Rally Income

Entry Fee @ \$25pp	Participants	246	\$6,150.00
Entry Fee @ \$20pp	Participants	0	\$0.00
Entry Fee. waived	Organisers	2	
	<b>Total attended</b>	<b>248</b>	
Screen Printing sales @ gold coin each	Shirts screened		\$109.80
Sticker sales @ gold coin each	Stickers sold		\$247.70
Miscellaneous receipts	Topbox Raffle		\$601.30
	<b>Total Rally Income</b>		<b>\$7,108.80</b>

### Rally Expenses

300 Badges	YN Badge		\$509.80
Rent	Nth. Burnett Council		\$1,240.00
Awards \$50 Gift Cards x5	Dan Murphy		\$250.00
Highest Club/Forum Attendance & Gymkhana Prizes	donated by Hotel		
Rum Hunt Bottles	donated by Hotel		
"Rally Ahead" Signs, Banner, Stickers & Art work	Natural Art		\$592.86
Hemming & eyelets in new Banner			\$35.00
Stationery	Officeworks		\$14.04
<b>Donation</b>	<b>RFDS</b>		\$958.80
<b>Donation</b>	Mt. Perry Development Board		\$3,000.00
<b>Donation</b>	Extra Donation to RFDS		\$125.52
Other	BMWMCQ for retention		\$382.78
Other			

**Total Rally Expenses \$7,108.80**

**This Rally profit or loss 0.00**

### Donations to RFDS & Community Groups - *since the restart of the rally in 2018*

**Donations after last years event \$4,455.86**

**Donations after this years rally (since 2018) \$8,540.18**





***By Cindy Bennett, Member #4170***

It was with great excitement that we watched the first of the re-born Compass Expeditions overseas trips commence in June. We had done the inaugural True North Alaska in 2019 and sadly due to pandemic issues Compass temporarily closed their doors, but luckily for us only temporarily!

Our good friends Peter and Michele from Bega were on this trip and Michele set up a private FB group for her friends to follow the trip. We were very excited for them, as this trip has everything for an adventure rider. Excellent scenery and roads, great food (think American diner breakfasts, yum) and acceptable coffee! Of course we watched the weather with interest, as that is highly variable this far north where you cross the Arctic Circle.

The pics we saw of Peter and Michele's brought back fabulous memories for us, and even though they couldn't do the sight-seeing flight over the Denali Range due to bad weather, they still saw unique and amazing scenery and wildlife. While perusing one of the group shots from this trip we recognised another couple of good mates who we rode Africa with. They are New York based and rode their own bikes up to Alaska to join the trip (Kathy on a Harley!!)

The perfectly camouflaged bike below (a V-Strom?) shows the problem with the wet roads and calcium chloride used to quell the dust - and why you hire bikes up there so someone else can wash them. Even Richard "I last washed a bike in 1978, at gun-point" Maher would have to unroll the hose and sacrifice someone's Armani crepe-cady blouse with back drawstring for this one.





## We are going back to Evans Head for this years Christmas Party!

**When:** Saturday 10th December 2022

**Where:** Lower Level Balcony, Club Evans RSL - 11 McDonald Place, Evans Head NSW

**How much:** \$45 per person for a 2 course meal and canapes prior

**How to book:** To confirm your booking you must deposit \$45 per head into the BMWMCQ bank account. Include your name and the number of people you are paying for in the deposit description.

**BSB 124030**

**Acc # 10243020**

and then email the club Treasurer with the details of your deposit and how many you have paid for. Then click "going" in Facebook (no maybe's please). Email of Treasurer Darryl is:

[treasurer@bmwmcq.org.au](mailto:treasurer@bmwmcq.org.au). *This is a very important step.*

### Accommodation options:

The Bowl Cabins (02)6682 4343 (*Party Central* - mention you are part of the BMW group)

### Pricing:

Hotel style room: \$119 per night

1 Bedroom Cabins \$149 per night

2 Bedroom cabins \$189 per night

3 Bedroom cabins \$249 per night

Reflections Caravan Park (cabins) (02) 6682 4212 (may require a 2 night stay)

Evans Head Pacific Motel (02) 6682 4318

Hotel Illawong (02) 6682 4222



**\*\*Note: Sat 10 December is the start of the QLD school holidays so booking early is advised!\*\***



By Tony Gray, Member #3905

**D**eep down in the files of club records I came across a Christmas card sent to Club Members on 1998 by that intrepid travelling duo and BMWMCQ members – Ken & Carol Duval. I have reproduced the hand written text:

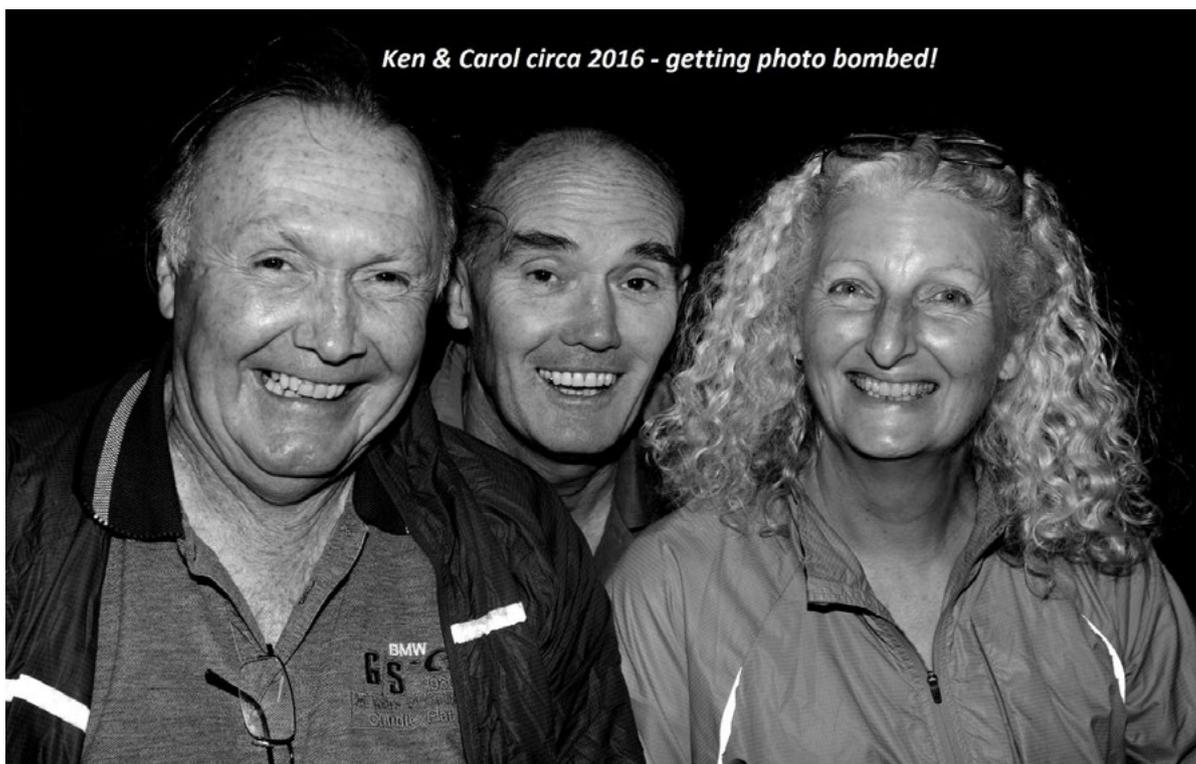
*Hi there Club Members. Our journey has once again brought us back to England to work and save for our extended trip. Looking back over the past few months we have covered many miles (in the rain) in the European summer. Ireland, Isle of Man, (where were you Alan & Joan Hore), France, Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, (met Pommie Dave – BMW Safari fame), Poland, Czech Republic, Austria, Slovenia, Northern Italy. So many roads, Whew! Bike still running OK. BMW batteries are crap. One lasted 7 months, the other 10 months. Would not recognize warranty over here. Time for a change.*

*Working now, saving our pennies and pounds. Our plan is to do the Mediterranean Countries this summer then the big one – Africa. Top to bottom and back. Maybe we will be tired enough to come home then, then maybe not. Anyone interested in the Isle of Man this year. Contact us soon, we can organize a few things and join you.*

*How about Africa? Anyone want to tag along? A big journey – once in a lifetime – expensive though. The Aussie Dollar is still weak.\* We are earning Pounds – that's great for us. Anyone wishing to drop us a line please write to the address on the back (TG: Barway, Ely Cambridgeshire UK). We are working for this company hopefully until June 1999. It is a Farm/Factory producing celery & lettuce for all of the major supermarkets in England. They own a farm in Spain also and that supplies the product during winter. A purpose built Hostel houses around 100 NZ, SA, Europeans & Aussies. Summer has this increasing to over 600 and they come from everywhere. Both Carol & I are quality controllers in the celery section (I'll never eat celery again).*

*Thought you would like to know that folks at Motobins are great. Very helpful and cheap parts to boot. Know us well.*

*Catch you later, Love & Best Wishes, Ken & Carol*



Ken & Carol circa 2016 - getting photo bombed!

\* Ken wasn't kidding about the exchange rate. At the end of 1998 when this was written the \$A was worth about 37p Sterling.

**By Cindy Bennett, Member #4170**

It was good to return to Kingaroy for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas in July event – although last year due to Covid we had to change it to August and it was re-branded Bubbles & Bowties.

This year we had 26 attendees and it was lovely to see our Port Macquarie members Meredith, Steve and Darrell attend. Members made their way via different routes including 6 of us who came the fun Western Branch Road from Linville. This year there was the added “fun” of having water across about half of the 38 crossings of the Brisbane River. Luckily none of us were a victim of mossy bottoms and taking our time paid dividends.

The evening started with nibbles and a complimentary drink by the pool, a dip of the finger in the water confirmed it was not heated and a fall or push in would be a very Arctic experience! We then moved indoors to the separate dining area complete with Xmas decos and a buffet dinner set out for us. The standout for me was the wonderful array of desserts, and of course I had to sample each one (they were a nice small guilt-free size luckily!)

The night wore on with much chatter amongst members old and new, and it was great to see those who got into the spirit of the evening with their outfit – shout out to Klaus and Kerry and Nic and Margreth in particular.

About 10:00pm the crowd was thinning and post-dinner spirits were making an appearance before the tired and full team retired for the evening.

Upon waking the next morning I looked at the weather app and it showed a 3 degree temp – wow. Definitely no hurry to get on the road.

Paul had found one café that was open on a Sunday morning and a delicious brekky was had at the Little Italy Café. The coffee was wonderful as well. Then onto the trek home via Nanango, Blackbutt (where a stop was required at the Avo farm stall to buy some of the local finest). A small incident just outside of Kingaroy when my GPS left its mount and despite my clutching at it, fell onto the road. A quick stop on the dodgy verge and the GPS was retrieved from the busy road before it was run over. Sadly when I tried to get my bike up it was on a steep slope and close to the traffic. Luckily for me Greg Gaffney went past and I flagged him down – Duncan was quite a way ahead not noticing my absence...Greg got me upright and back on the road again!

Please consider attending the event next year if you haven't been, it's a good night and it is always nice to support the regional communities of our great state.





# XMAS IN JULY PICS



*Local Kingaroy group leveraging off our success!*





*And a couple of pics of the dirt ride option on the way to Kingaroy!*





**By Richard Maher, Member #474**

## ***So you want to sell your motorcycle?***

**R**eluctantly I advise you'll have to clean your motorcycle, not something I'm known for but I hear it is possible.

Don't even attempt at selling a dirty motorcycle. Sure your motorcycle may have some battle scars but make an attempt to tidy it up as well as you can. Be honest.

Be realistic in your price expectation. Do some research and find prices on similar aged models in your area. These days you can see every motorcycle the same as yours on your phone in minutes.

Capture uncluttered images of the motorcycle from all sides and angles. This simple act will weed out stupid questions and get you much closer to finding a genuine purchaser.

Don't use silly catch phrases "I know what I've got" or "no time wasters or test rides"

You are always going to get time wasters, scammers, and low offers, be polite decline their offers. Don't take it personally.

Just state the facts and let your photos tell the story. Your mobile phone is perfectly capable of capturing suitable images if you understand how to use it effectively.

Here are some photo tips to present your pride and joy to the marketplace.

### **1. Remove the clutter from the background.**



Pic #1 has a tradie van in the background and a car passing through the image as well as a I-talian motorcycle tucked away in back. Also remove the helmet and the backpack from the 'bars. The prospective new owner wants to see as much of the detail of the 'bike so make it easy for them.

### **2. If you cannot remove the clutter, change your perspective.**



Pic #2a I took a few steps to the left and retook the image. It's now got the front wheel of Rex the Kwaka and the 700GS in the background but most of the 'bike is clear of any distracting imagery.

### **3. Crop out the crap (so to speak)**



Pic# 2b Has had a simple crop and a change of format from Landscape to Portrait. Every mobile device has this feature. Even though the helmet and back pack are still in shot its not so obvious and not as distracting as pic #1.

#### 4. Know your limitations.

If you have the skill to edit your image give it a go. It's not critical but it makes for pleasing images and shows the buyer you are genuine. Pic #3a and #3b are the same image with a basic crop and the removal of the editor and an ex-president who were standing behind the motorcycle being captured.



#### 5. Take a Hero Shot.

Plan an image to feature as the main image in your advertisement. Use a sunset or sunrise or find a location where your motorcycle is in a dominating position. The picture of the R1100GS was taken at sunset and is only a few feet away from the pics of Ian's R65 which was taken at 10am. Lighting and time of day can have a remarkable effect on an image.



The above pic of the 356 Porsche (German, air-cooled, boxer motor but too many wheels to be on the cover of this fine publication) was taken on the Port of Brisbane Motorway at 4.40pm on a winter night. It was a shot that owner used to advertise his \$200K car, it sold within two days of hitting the market.



The 1997 R1100GS above was in original condition, well cared for and sold at the upper end of the asking price despite it being a high miler.

Hopefully this article gives you some tips on selling your motorcycle. Or perhaps now you can now take a pleasing shot of your pride and joy that is worthy of going "straight to the poolroom".



*July mid-week ride was a jaunt around the roads of Mount Cotton before lunch at Wellington Point.*



*Daryl made full use of the Cleveland Point swings. Luckily for that waiting crowd of disabled orphans he was needed on the ride.*



*July Club ride was to Killarney Pub - led by Richard Price and TEC Frank Hills*





*The Sunny Coast Brunch ride was to the Fairhill Native Botanic Gardens at Yandina - a lovely spot worth another visit with the car to fit in some plant purchases perhaps.....*





**By Nougat the Much Travelled Bear, Member #1.326x10<sup>6</sup>, with introduction by Steve Herpich, Member #4294**

I know that a lot of you fellow riders travel with a passenger you don't talk about. You know, that stuffed furry riding companion that is not your significant other. Since Meredith and I have been riding together we have always had a little white furry bear named **NOUGAT** who has travelled with us on all our major trips. This is not by our choice he just seems to pack himself into the luggage. This is his story, so I will hand over to him.



I have been travelling with Steve and Meredith for nearly 20 years now, and I have helped them plan all their long trips. I would have to say my plans are far better than their plans made on the GPS. For example my plan of Tassie may look messy, but it was far better than that GPS stuff.



I usually travel in Meredith's top box which can make you quite dizzy, especially on those twisty roads they insist on doing. I have ridden myself of course. I practiced in the house when they were at work, I don't think they ever caught on.

When we travel we meet lots of different people. I have to say, if it wasn't for me they would never meet anybody. As soon as I get



out of the top box people come up to chat. For example here is Vincent, he was from France, I met him at the carpark at the Grossglockner, the highest sealed mountain pass in Austria. He invited me to stay with him at his Chateau. Needless to say I was not allowed to go. When we were in Italy I met up with a great bunch





of people. They were members of the Italian Vespa Club and were on a tour. We met them at a Fuel station where we had filled up with petrol and they had topped up with beer. As soon as I emerged I was instantly inducted into the club, given beer and invited along. Elisabetta wanted to take me, but Meredith would not let me go. They even begged Meredith to let me go. Meredith says it was a hot blooded Italian paying homage to a beautiful Australian Motorcyclist travelling in Italy. Sometimes we have to humour

her just to keep the peace!



It is not only on the motorbike that I meet people. When we caught the train to the top of the Jungfrauoch in Switzerland, the highest railway station in Europe, at 3,454 metres, I met some German tourists. They were very funny as I tried to teach them some Australian, and tell them about the dangerous Australian animals.



I have been very lucky to meet some of my relatives whilst travelling, like my Great Uncle Grizzly in Canada at Grouse Mountain, just out of Vancouver.





My cousins who live in a fancy hotel in Andorra with lots of old cars and bikes:



In Canada we were lucky to see many of my relatives, sometimes they got a bit too close. You know the old saying “does a bear poop in the woods”, well I can tell you it came very close to “does a bear poop in a top box” when we came across these relatives.



I have been very lucky to see some fantastic scenery when they let me out, but it always seems to be that I have to sit in the snow whilst they take a photo. A bear’s bum can get very cold. Here I am at Iced over Lake Louise, Canada.



The Grimsel Pass, Switzerland:



The Grossglockner, Austria:



I have also seen some rather disturbing scenes. This one in Montana USA is gruesome, so if you are of a weak constitution I suggest you not look at the photo. This is a massacre that occurred in Montana and was never reported in the press, I was so traumatised that I had to rest at the lookout later as Meredith calmed me down.



At the end of the day there is always food and drink, and I have been told that members of this club know all about that, so here are some food and drink photos. Black Forest cake in the Black Forest, Germany. Gelato with my friend Cherry in Florence, Italy. A beer in Italy.



I have many stories to tell and experiences to share, so I hope to meet you sometime soon.

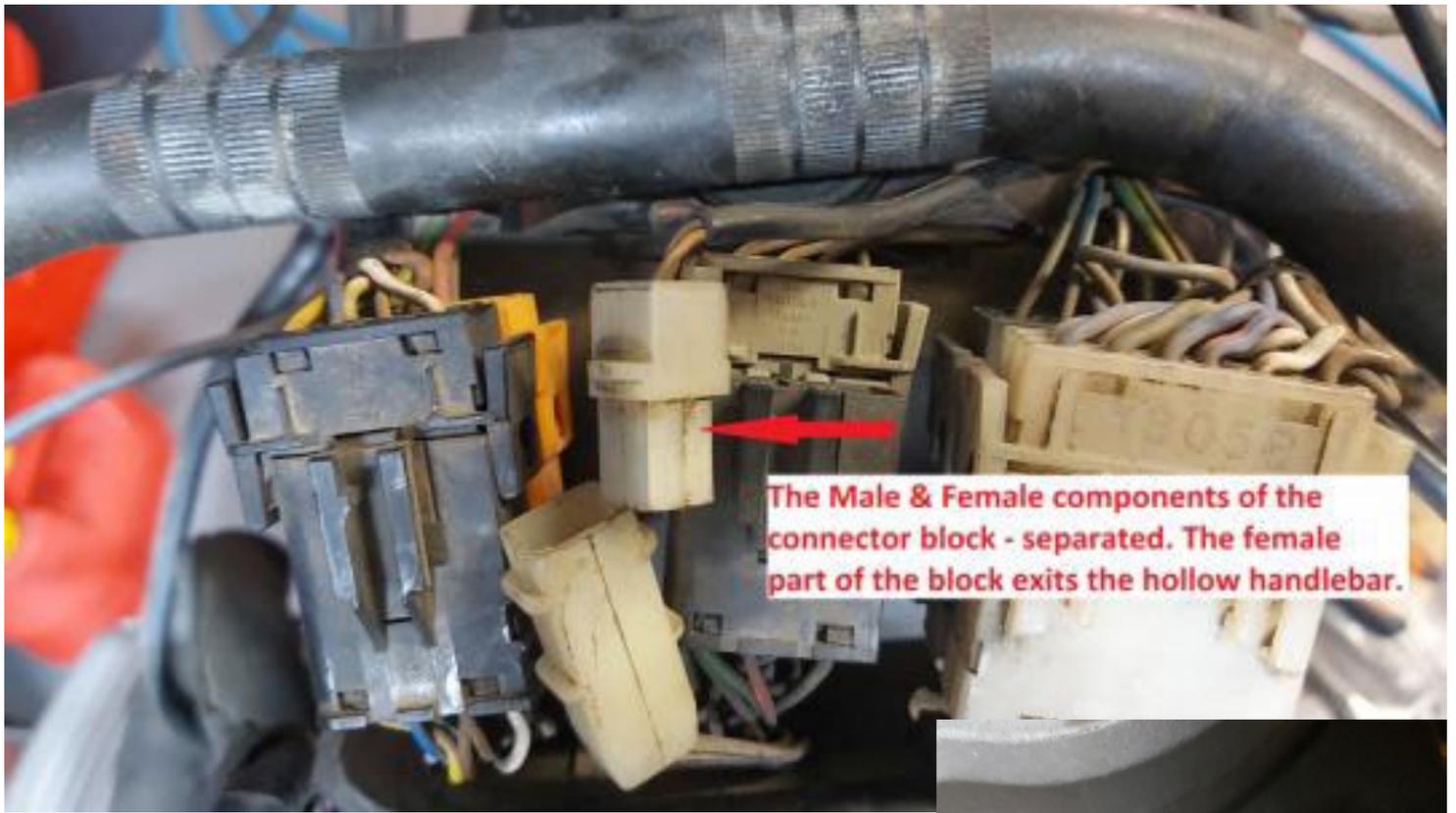
If you wish to see where we have been you can read our travel blogs at -

<https://www.travellerspoint.com/users/Mkaye/> Signed *NOUGAT* with the help of Steve

*By Tony Gray, Member #3905*

### **Wiring Connector...**

I was working on the R1100 and needed to feed the handlebar switch-gear wiring down the inside of the bar so I could remove the switches prior to stripping and repainting the handlebars. Unfortunately the plastic socket blocks were too big to fit down the bars.



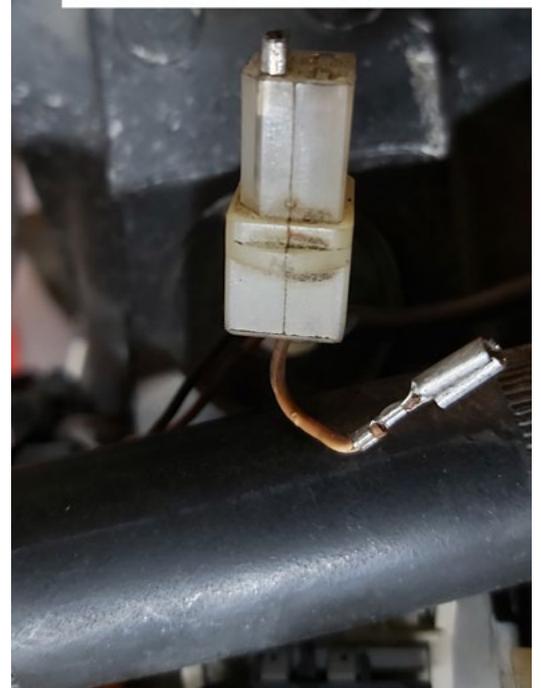
The Male & Female components of the connector block - separated. The female part of the block exits the hollow handlebar.

I could have cut them off and then refitted new spade connectors when reinstalling but chose this method instead:

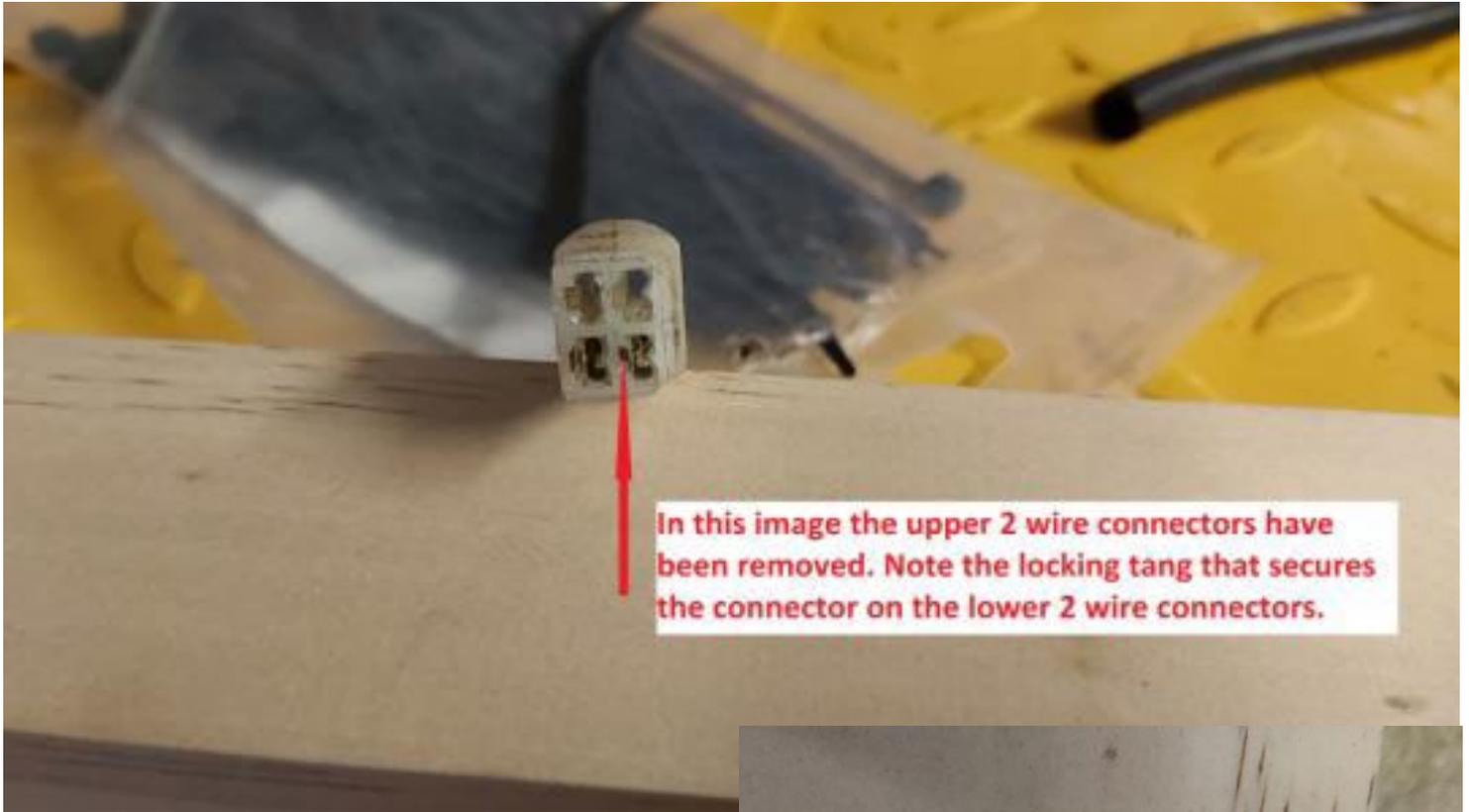
This type of connector was very common on older Japanese bikes that I owned (still have one) and the spade bits can be carefully removed from the plastic block in one of two ways in my experience. In this case I was able to push the spade bit from the rear of the block until it was fully clear at the front. Fine jawed pliers were required.

Once clear of the block a 'folding' tang will be exposed. This tang is what locks the spade bit into the block. Using a small flat blade screwdriver fold the tang back down flat with the face of the bit. Now using your pliers push the spade bit back down the casing and out the rear of the block.

In this case it was possible to push the female wire connector from the rear of the block to allow the locking tab to be flattened and then to remove the wire and connector from the rear of the block.



When time to reinstall, pry the tang back out into an open position and push the spade bit back into the plastic block from the rear. The tang will again lock it in place. This isn't something you can do too often as metal fatigue will affect the tang and it will snap off then it will be time for a new bit.



In other cases I have encountered, the shape of the plastic connector block gives direct access to the locking tang from the front of the block - in that case it can be flattened with a small flat blade and the connector removed from the rear as previously described.

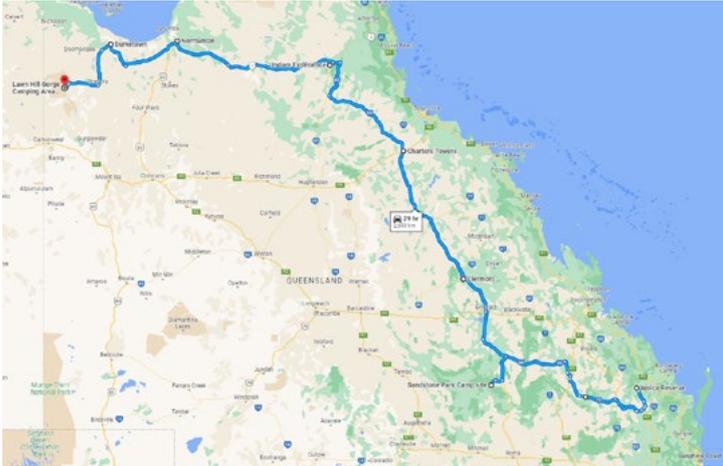
**Ed:** Another proven method for people less capable than Tony (i.e. pretty much all of us) when confronted with a fiddly task that involves motorcycle electrics is to take the motorcycle out into a secluded area along one of the back roads, roll it off the trailer, douse it with petrol, light it up, and report it stolen when you get home. "Youths in hoodies" ticks all the boxes.





## By Duncan Bennett, Member #4171

The plan was simple. Ride to The Rock a.k.a Uluru a.k.a Ayres in late April 2022. Could we leave earlier? Too wet and hot up north. Could we leave later? Too many grey nomads a.k.a Gomads. Late April decided as close to perfect, and the grand send-off aligned beautifully with the Cane Toad Rally. So Rally Ho!



### Part 1 Map – Cane Toad Rally to Lawn Hill

Plenty said about the Rally already in the May and June BMWMCQ Journals. Up early-ish on the 24th April with the other 250-odd campers, wait for tent to dry off enough to pack it, clear out a mystery large ant invasion of Cindy's Camelbak, and hit the road for the relatively big first day of +500km to Carnarvon Gorge. The weather had been a bit rainy and patchy at the Rally, however the assumption was that it must improve as we headed out into the reddening lands that are western Queensland.

There was no reddening sighted; as usual on our trips the green was relentless but the weight of the grey sky didn't seem to increase too much either as we bitumened through Eidsvold, Cracow, Theodore, Moura and eventually reached the totally unknown Rolleston. The plan had been to stock up in Moura to suit our extravagant needs in the totally unknown Carnarvon Gorge, but even a big town can totally shut down on a Sunday – nothing was open, so groceries (Pringles, salted peanuts, jerky) were purchased from the servo. The Rolleston servo was a nirvana of consumables by comparison,

and there was even a pub. When wine was asked for, the bar staff exclaimed “we don't sell much of that here!” but they managed to locate some dusty reds from a display to add to the luggage.



### Shelter from the grey sky under the grey wreckage from a C47B Dakota crash in 1943

The weather held off as we pulled into Carnarvon Gorge, with an exciting creek crossing to get into the camping ground. We were in a glamping tent with an ensuite, a decision that would later be proven very sensible. The shop contained a full selection of wines, and more Pringles, salted peanuts, and jerky so we didn't need to buy anything, but the dinner options were looking a bit sodium enriched. We pulled up to the glamp tent, deciding that no-one had specifically said we couldn't take the bikes through the fence and park them alongside.

That night the rain started, but it was the sort of rain that you can wander about in for a few minutes without getting very wet. A four hour walk the 10km in to see the Amphitheatre is a totally different matter though, especially for

those members of the party who had assumed that it didn't rain in May and whose umbrella therefore hadn't made the final packing list. The only waterproof gear available was the Gore-Tex riding stuff, so a bold decision was made to do the 10km in motorcycle pants and boots. The light puffy jacket was "light spray resistant" so was drenched 100m in, making the whole experience pretty jolly miserable. At least the Amphitheatre provided an opportunity to wring every sodden thing out and re-charge the electrolytes with chilli jerky. The rising water levels on the three creek crossings were noted on the way back, and it was some very foot-sore and dripping but relieved hikers who found themselves back in the glamp. The Jetboil was a saviour that evening.



***The rain in Carnarvon was mainly a pain***

That night the rain decided to take it up a notch – the likely thinking was we don't rain in May but now that we've started, we might as well avoid doing a half-arsed job. Around 1am the fact that we'd had to do a creek crossing to get into the camp was remembered and combined with the observed rising water levels during the hike, the remaining sleep-inducing atmosphere evaporated. At very first light an anxious scout borrowed the one umbrella for an inspection, luckily the water level had only come up a couple of inches but was flowing much faster. Both bikes side stands had pierced the mud and Cindy's bike was leaning up against the glamp while mine was leaning against a stump. Getting Cindy's upright again burned ½ a

pack of jerky, but eventually we managed to get everything packed and headed off. The feared creek crossing barely noticed, we headed north back through Rolleston for a coffee, and up to Emerald for a lunch, with the rain ending around Springsure.



***The crossing night horrors calmed by the cold wet light of day***

We were now in uncharted coal country and knowing how fickle accommodation can be in these sorts of places the ring-around the night's planned town of Clermont started in Emerald. The first option was a failure, but they kindly gave us the name of the only motel option likely to still have a room available. This set a trend for the rest of the trip, the ring-around was very scary for two not-particularly-weary-but-not-interested-in-putting-up-a-tent travellers.

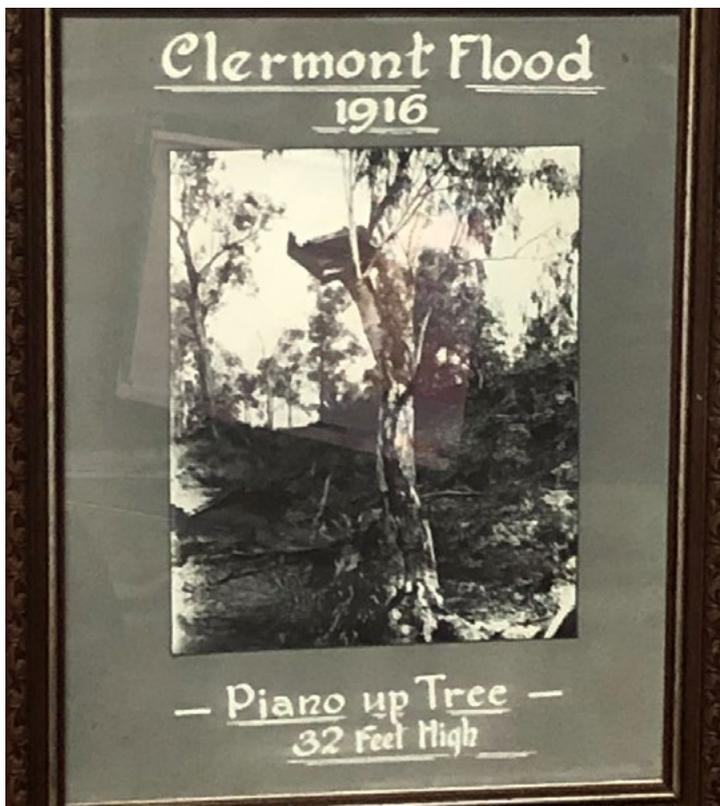
First plan in Clermont was to buy an umbrella, which would guarantee we'd never see rain for the rest of the trip. The most memorable thing about Clermont was dinner that night in



the motel, with the world's most formal waiter complete with bow-tie apologising for anything that wasn't absolutely perfect to people who were thrilled just not to be having to eat chilli jerky.



*Just about sums up the weather*



*Suppose the rain at Carnarvon Gorge could have been worse*

The commute north continued, with the expectation we'd cross the Tropic of Capricorn just out of Clermont and get the mandatory photo. No signs appeared, then the realisation dawned that we had actually crossed it just out of Emerald. Too late to turn back. The Gregory Highway is not dripping with major population centres, in fact there is only one at Belyando Crossing, which has no population. The coffee

was right up there with the best in any major population centre though, and the presence of two other Triumph riders resulted in a very long break chatting and sipping lattes.



*Triumph 1050 Twinsies*

Into Charters Towers for a late lunch and a visit to the camping shop to try to replace a tea cup with a hole in it, and we had one of the better nights of the trip at the Charters Towers Motel cooking up a feast on the BBQ. We had a few beers with the laid-back owners, a surer sign we were in the tropics than any Tropic of Capricorn crossing ritual.



*Wherever I wander my memory will dwell, on those happy 2 minutes at Three Rivers Hotel*

More northerly commute the next day to our first tourist experience since Carnarvon Gorge – the Undara Lave Tubes. Distances are fairly large up in this neck of the woods, it was still nearly 400km. Fortunately, we passed through two major population centres – Greenvale and

the Lynd Oasis Roadhouse. Greenvale was once a big nickel mine feeding a refinery we worked at in Townsville, shut down in the 1990's but the town has survived. The subject of a "popular with Cindy" Slim Dusty song, the pub was a necessary photo stop.



**TractorHouse - for the discerning tractor buyer**

Two miracles occurred at the Undara Lava Tubes. The first was a large tour group had been delayed, so we scored an upgrade into luxury converted train carriage accommodation, and the second was a triumph of nature over wet clothes. The rising heat had demanded a swim while the washing went on in the communal laundry. No dryers, a clothes line, but no pegs. Most Gomads believe that the Black Death started when Beryl Harris borrowed Mavis Jones' pegs to string up her smalls outside the Jayco at the Cotton Tree van park in 1973, so little hope of borrowing any. Then a passing chap mentioned that Mother Nature herself had visited Undara at the end of her clean clothes cycle and had the same problem, so created the peg tree. The trees are everywhere, and the

round nuts with a big spilt are basically a clothes peg. Perfect.



**The laundry miracle; the peg nut**

The Undara lava tubes tour after the humungous bush breakfast was a great experience – geology, a ribbon of ancient flora, and bats. A learning was shown by the odd unfortunate kangaroo skeleton, apparently they cannot jump up broken rock slopes so if they end up in the tubes they simply die in there. The age of the tubes is surprising at only 190,000 years ago, by Australian standards this is very recent volcanic activity. The afternoon was spent at a more recognisably volcanic scene – the Kalkani crater, which was the top of a large volcano. Numerous volcano-looking hills that even a rank beginner Volcanology cadet could recognise dotted the landscape.



**The view from inside a lava tube. Empty obviously.**



**Harsh lava tube reality**



**A breather while circumnavigating the rim of the Kalkani crater. Green ribbon is the tubes.**

Pushing on the next day, we surprised Mt Surprise for the first stop and a light refreshment. Proceeding to Georgetown, a sign was noted coming in that said something about a mineral collection. After a spot of early lunch through the agency of servo dimmies, we rode through the back streets with the intention of just getting back to the highway and happened upon the Ted Elliot Mineral Collection. Expectation was overwhelmed by reality; this was not a dusty corrugated iron shed with a few rocks and an old Ford ute taking up half the space, this was a major and modern facility housing

4,500 specimens and a staff of two. Cindy loves mineral collections, and I could not stop her racing into the car park and into the building, although some names may have been changed there to protect the interested.



**Rare as rocking horse poo. Very exciting.**

The Gulf Development Road turned out to be dripping with population centres, a second lunch had to be taken at the old gold mining town of Croydon simply because towns of that size cannot be ignored when travelling that far north. Riding motorcycles with all our equipment strapped and stuffed on, we parked near an RV named Migaloo (the white whale). It was a proper full-sized luxury bus with no doubt extensive living areas for the two people seen getting in and out, but that wasn't all. It was towing a full-size 4WD so that the bus could be parked, creating a new apartment complex and driving up local real estate prices, and the 4WD driven around like every other tourist's out there. Given the price of diesel was around \$2.50/l out in the scrub, all eyes staring at Migaloo began watering when someone mentioned refuelling.

Into Normanton, it immediately became obvious that we'd beaten the mass of Gomas north when we checked into a mainly empty Normanton Tourist Park. The pool was once again priority 1, it was still rather bordering on very warm out on the highway. Refreshed, we decided a wander through town was in order to get a feel for Normanton, of which our collective knowledge was nearly zero. We had a drink in the Purple Pub to quench the heat-induced thirst

while learning a lot about the current staffing challenges in Normanton from the barman, then thought about having a meal. A visit to the life-sized statue of Kryz, the largest crocodile ever taken, then had us thinking about being a meal, but for an 8.63m (28 ft 4 inches in the old money) crocodile we'd only be a small part of a seven course degustation. A real understanding of what the people in Jurassic Park experienced.



**All aboard the Gullflander Mini Express**



**Life-size statue of Kryz. OMG.**

Existing mainly because of cows, and on a coastal area swarming with Barramundi, the dinner potential in Burketown was looking pretty good. The Albion Hotel was the recommendation, and indeed the Barramundi with chips was some of the best. Ever. Not exaggerating.



**Normanton night life – photographing cane toads under streetlights**

We'd booked the next night in Burketown off to the west. There are quite a few options available to get to Burketown from Normanton, with one falling into "the short way" category and the rest falling into "the long ways" category. Due to recent rain events "the short way" a.k.a. the Savannah Way road status was very confused on the QLD roads website – it seemed to be closed but that may have just been side roads. As we were gearing up to leave, some friendly pre-Gomads (they weren't very grey) came over for a chat. They described many of the roads out west but hadn't done the Savannah Way from Burketown. Lots of indecisiveness rampant, until the pre-Gomad clarifying statement – just go for it. Made sense, as it was "the short way" we had time to recover in case it went pear-shaped. At the turn-off onto the Savannah Way just out of town there was no road closed sign, but there wasn't one of those permanent road status signs either. Just keeping going for it. No problems early with about 40km of bitumen, and an interesting place; Burke and Wills Camp No.119, the final camp from which they tried to reach the Gulf through impassable mangrove swamp, probably falling between 5 and 10km short of open water.



**One of the trees blazed at final Camp 119**

Off the bitchyouman, the Savannah Way was dry, smooth-ish between ruts, and good riding. Road works is happening to upgrade it, and as it is Highway 1 time is ticking for remaining as dirt. The stressful bit was near the end. The QLD roads website was a bit like a WhatsApp High School group chat, it had very vaguely indicated that things might be happening around the Leichhardt River, but no-one had actually seen Wayne and Cheryl pash, so everything was just wild speculation. And then over a rise the “golly gosh we might have to turn around” situation; a 30m wide water crossing. Possibly the more confronting form of golly gosh was used, the version not tolerated if yelled in church. Hmmm, could be way deep, insane to ride straight in. Hmmm, we are in saltwater crocodile country, Angry Son of Krys possibly in the ‘hood. Worth the risk to wade in and check it out? Or just ride back 140km to Normanton and start again? Luckily I knew that no-one carrying a stick had ever been attacked by a crocodile, so the risk was practically zero-ish. Off with pants and boots, stick held in the stabbin’ position, I walked back and forth a few times to make certain there were no big holes.

Nothing over knee deep, out I came. There would be no turning around yet.



**When things look uncertain, be like Captain Cook and take your pants off**

Naturally whilst I was strolling around “sans pant” two 4WDs complete with young-ish ladies came from the other side. I gave the international indication of approximate depth/length, hoping they understood I was indicating depth, and not being a total creep. They came through no troubles giving the thumbs up, likewise hopefully not indicating approximate length.



**U-C1ND3 surfaces after a successful voyage**

The next crossing was only just down the road at the Alexandra River, a major tributary of the Leichhardt. This was the crossing that the QLD roads website had tried to suggest may be closed, but as we’d seen vehicles coming from that direction while pantless, it was obviously open. A bit like the Carnarvon Gorge camp creek crossing, it was flowing very fast over the concrete causeway but was shallow. A quick stop to check it out, then through. A freshwater crocodile raced over the causeway in front of me, this calmed any fear of saltwater crocodiles

as the two don't usually occupy the same areas. Still didn't get too close to the water's edge though.



**Alexandra River**

Into Burketown, happily right on lunchtime as it is only 230km between Normanton and Burketown. As it was a Sunday, everything was shut except the pub and the take-away across the road. Lunch consumed, we checked in at the Savannah Lodge. Reviews for the Savannah Lodge are almost suspiciously good, but in fact really don't do it justice. For example – early check in? No problems, we've had the air con on since this morning so it should be nice and cool. Just park right outside the room so you don't have to cart your stuff far. No problems with security, besides your bikes will be out of sight.



**Burketown's famous undrinkable bore**

Into the pool, then a walk down to the Burketown bore. Drilled in 1897, and running ever since, the water is very hot at 68°C and

unfortunately only drinkable by adult cattle who probably prefer something else as none were sighted. Cindy decided a wander into the wetlands was in order, oblivious to the danger of wearing plugged thongs in hot slimy mud.



**No pants, blown a thong. Literally in hot water.**

The pub shut at 5pm so dinner was back at the take-away after a few refreshing beverages with our host. Up the next morning for a nice breakfast, it was a true pity to have to leave, Burketown was definitely an unexpected highlight. It was a public holiday so still little open, but we managed to get fuel and get to the boat ramp on the Albert River, about as close to the gulf as Burke & Wills got. South the mere 120km to Gregory Downs, where hopes were very high for coffee. The Gregory Downs races and the annual canoe marathon had only just been held on the Saturday, and a sign saying "Best Coffee in the Gulf" had us swarming in. Shame we missed the disclaimer sign just below.



**Cruelty**



Off to Lawn Hill un-caffained and therefore a bit angry, I was nervous because I've driven this road twice for work, and it was a nightmare of corrugation the first time and only slightly better the second. Perhaps because we were early in the season lots of grading had been done to prepare for the Gomad swarms, and it was smooth and beautiful. Out to Adels Grove coincidentally reached at lunchtime, we were surprised to find the gate locked. Never mind, there was a work-around and we found a minimalist site reception/shop. The lady at the counter said they were rebuilding, and still had some time to go before opening. Never mind, we managed to score a tin of stew, eaten cold out the front, before heading into the Lawn Hill camping area. Advertised in some places as first come, first served, it isn't. Booking is essential, and we'd booked the only "bicycle accessible" spot, which means you can't park where the tent is.



### ***Lawn Hill camp minus any Lawn***

With the camp set up, there are only two things to do at Lawn Hill; swimming, and floating. There are canoes available, but cunningly the paddles are only available at Adels Grove. Discussion about carrying paddles on the bike was held but discounted as fundamentally stupid. So floating was off, swimming was the go. There are lots of fish in Lawn Hill gorge, including archer fish. The trick with these fish is to poke a toe just over the edge of the bottom step – they think it is food and will direct a high pressure blast of water to try to knock it into the water to eat it. They get a shock when their

water jet brings down +90 kegs of sub-prime, and scatter to avoid concussion injury, before re-grouping with mates to claim archer fish legendary status.



### ***Archer Fish in Lawn Hill gorge sky reflection***

There is a third thing at Lawn Hill; walking. So we did that up to the falls via the hard way, sweaty work that needed a swim or two to recover. The preceding week a motorcyclist had been attacked by a freshwater crocodile at the falls, but no-one seemed to be put off, especially more sweaty motorcyclists. After walking back the hard way again because we'd forgotten to bring the map, there was more swimming during the afternoon interspersed with relaxation under a shady tree. The neighbours were excellent at Lawn Hill, even offering beers in abundance to supplement our small stock of red wine.



### ***The Lawn Hill falls. Oh yeah.***

The journey north and west had been completed with four camping nights, no breakdowns, no bike drops, and no injuries except temporary wrinkled skin syndrome from spending too much time swimming in Lawn Hill Gorge. Time to head south and west back to where it all began for us - the Northern Territory.

## End of Part 1



*Mt Surprise ramped up the expectations*



*A tribute to Liezel Samuel - she said to pack a sewing kit, and it saved Cindy's backpack*



*A huge highlight of our trip; being nowhere near this flat tyre train-wreck on the way home from the Cane Toad Rally. We deeply sympathised before returning to TractorHouse magazine.*



## **A CRACKING PACE**

JEGJul2022

*Time has made him wise and hoary  
No-one really knows his true life story  
For he's never wanted any praise or glory*

*He stands back watching the world go by  
Others don't bother to ask him why  
Perhaps they think he's reserved and shy*

*He keeps to himself as much as he can  
Of crowded places, he's not a fan  
At times he seems a lonely man*

*He rarely laughs but he's not sad  
He never thinks his life too bad  
He's grateful for the times he's had*

*Til he takes himself to his "happy place"  
A beaming smile floods across his face  
Out on his bike he sets a cracking pace*

*He and his bike are one, you see  
There's nowhere else he'd rather be  
His mind is clear, his thoughts are free*

A recent email from **Richard de Groot, member #769** alerted us that former Club member and centenarian Harold Tapscott turned 101 on 18th July 2022, what an amazing achievement!

Richard keeps in contact with Harold's son Rocky who reports that Harold is still resident in St Vincent's Care Services (SVCS) facility at Maroochydore where he receives excellent care, however he sadly no longer recognises family members.

A photo recap below is from our August 2021 Journal which paid tribute to Harold's 100th, with 20 bikes in attendance for a ride past for Harold organised by Richard which was very well received by the family. The link to Harold's racing career including his Club membership is:

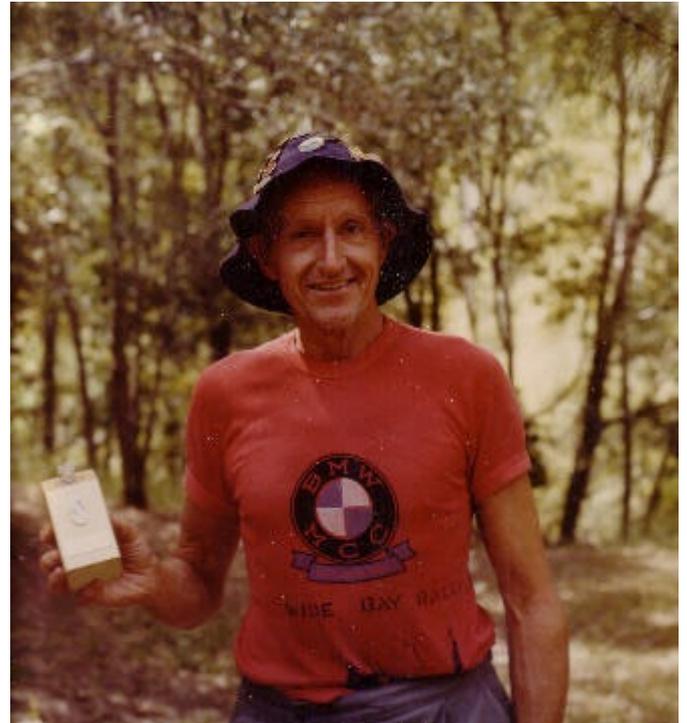
<http://haroldtapscott.com/>

The link to the story which ran on Channel 7 last year is [Harold Tapscott 100th - YouTube](#)

Thank you Richard for the update on Harold, much appreciated.



*Above - bikes riding past Harold last year.  
Right - Harold attending a Cane Toad Rally  
Below - Isle of Man 350 Clubmans Gold Star*



*The assembled group with Harold.*



**By Tony Gray, Member #3905**

This old maxim certainly holds true in the case of this photo taken at a Bikers B&B in the small village of Lauzun in the Aquitaine Region of southern France in 2012.



Let me set the scene: Jane and I were on Day 41 of a 121 day trip touring Britain and Europe on the Grey Ghost and were headed for the Loire Valley from our present location just outside of Brest on the French Coast. The beautiful sunny weather we had been enjoying had disappeared under a deluge of torrential rain coming in from the North Atlantic. We splashed our way in darkness into a key-coded unmanned chain hotel on the outskirts of Brest (we have never actually seen Brest). With everything hung out to dry and having raided the vending machines for dinner we set about replanning our next movements.



**The last sunny day in Brittany: Mont St Michel**

One of the advantages of having very loose plans is the flexibility that provides. Using the hotel internet we deduced that staying in Brest would require materials to start building an Ark so an alternative was required. The weather front was moving across the country to the east; we had just come in from the north so that left south unless we wanted to start swimming. Sunny icons were to be had around Bordeaux about 800km to the south so a search of a biker friendly B&B site came up with this place in Lauzun. One phone call and our plans for the next day were set.

That day was quite an unforgettable trip. We normally avoid the AutoRoute System in France (and every other country) but this day was an exception. The pelting rain was unrelenting so with Jane tucked tightly in behind, the wick on the Grey Ghost was wound up and we hit the highway south stopping only to take on some more 95PULP. The rain was unrelenting for the first 400km, then as the rain started to ease the wind took its place blowing in with ferocity off the Atlantic – thank goodness it was summer! The Grey Ghost was canted over at a jaunty angle and I don't think her needle dropped below the 130 mark – all entirely legal of course.



And so it was that we arrived in a small village we had never heard of, in an area we had never intended to visit and met our most friendly hosts Steve & Hazel who booked us into a delightful restaurant to wash away the days dramas with the local Pastis & wine.

Steve was an old school British biker whose current steed was a very smart yellow

Triumph Daytona 955. He and Hazel had run the B&B for about 8 years and were in the throes of selling to return to England where their children still lived. Steve was itching to get out for a ride and kindly offered to guide us around his local patch on roads unfrequented by tourists.



The country around Lauzun and Perigueux in the Aquitaine Region was rolling hills rich with crops of stone fruits and vegetables just on the edge of the rich wine growing regions of Bordeaux.



Steve was not a slow rider and assured me that the local Gendarme were not really interested in traffic control so we enjoyed a very exhilarating day covering some beautiful countryside.

We were lucky to strike one of the summer street parties held every other weekend where you can dine in the street and eat meals from the local shops, such as duck, barbecued steak, or moules frites. Needless to say these fine foods need to be washed down with copious quantities of beer and wine.

We thoroughly enjoyed our few days in

Lauzun, it is a delightful very French village, totally relaxed and away from the hectic tourist centre of Bordeaux. Steve & Hazel were great company adding to our enjoyment of this place we never knew existed.



Now back to the first photo. This clock which hung in the B&B was a Disc rotor off Steve's Daytona with a favourite BSA dbd34 Gold Star image as the centrepiece. Steve related how he had been riding over the local rolling terrain when a deer flashed across his path. The impact killed the small deer instantly and Steve somehow managed to stay upright albeit shaken and requiring a change of underwear. A little Renault van screeched to a stop – unusual for a Frenchman to offer to help or so Steve thought – no, Frenchie jumped out of the van, flung open the rear doors, threw in the carcass of the deer, doors shut and off all in a matter of seconds. Venison for a week!



The disc rotor had taken the impact and was warped so now makes a very nice wall clock with a story.



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**Tony Gray - President BMWMCQ**

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***Below is another of Mark's "on the road" shots from his trip out Darling Downs way.***





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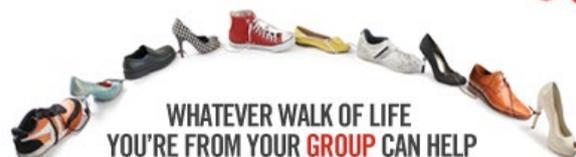
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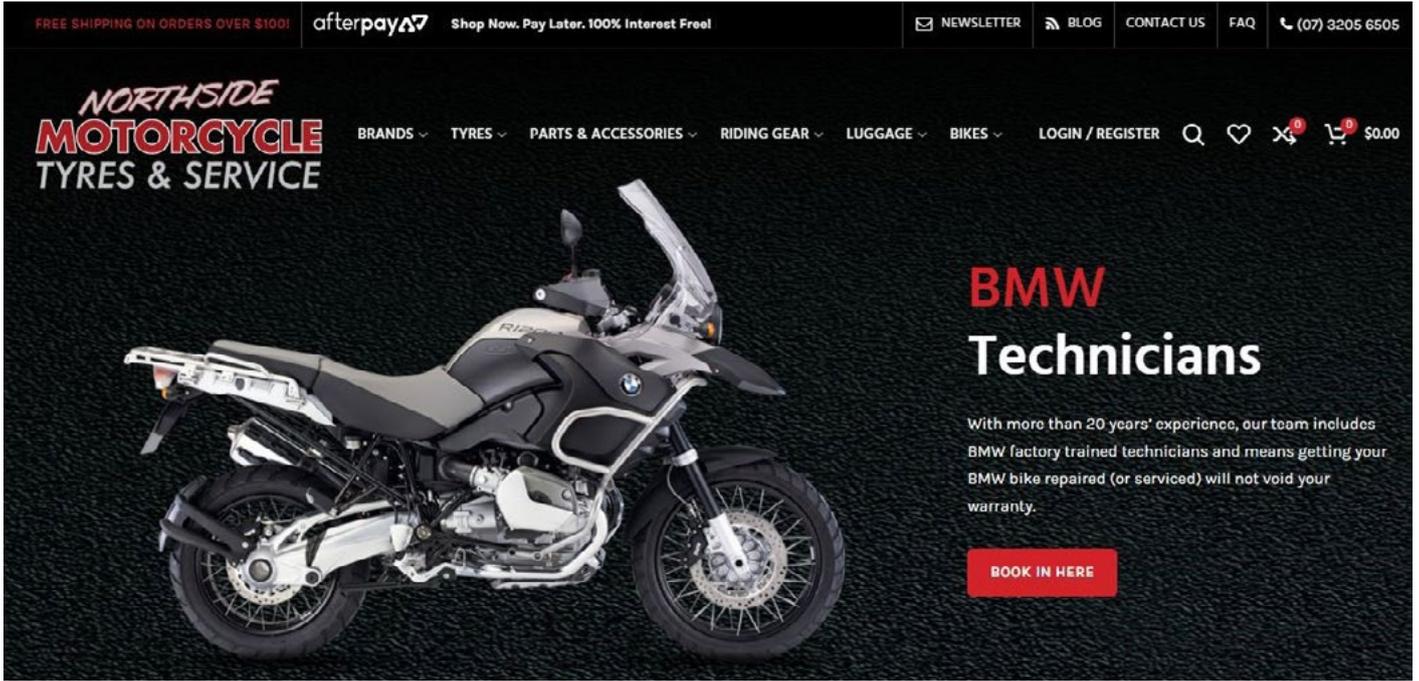


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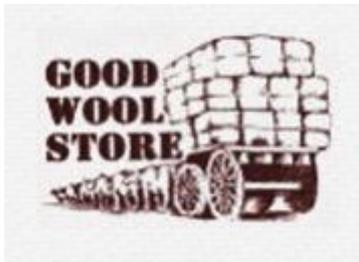
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## What the heck is a T.E.C?...

**Cindy Bennett, Member #4170**

**A**ppropriately for “The Last Word” segment I am reproducing a fun short description on the role of Tail End Charlie that was posted in an online female riders group that I am a part of!

*Who is this crazy person in hi-vis? Well that’s your average group ride T.E.C. (Tail End Charlie).*

*What is a T.E.C?*

- *The “mother hen” making sure all the chicks are together.*
- *Always the last rider*
- *The one that puts themselves between you and the traffic behind you. Your protector.*
- *The one that will stay with you at the back of the group if you’re uneasy, or just feel like going slow*
- *The one that will pull over with you if you decide you need a break (or a cry)!*
- *The one that will pull over and wait with you if you come off*
- *The one that will pull over with you, if you forgot to zip up your jacket, tie your laces or do up your helmet.*
- *We’re also the one that will pull over with you if you’re getting a ticket!*

*If you’re in a group ride and you have a T.E.C, just remember, they’re there for you. Don’t be afraid to pull over if you need to.*

**Interestingly, if you google “Tail End Charlie” the first definition states:**

**“a person or thing that brings up the rear in a formation” or**

**“a member of the crew of a military aircraft who operates a gun from a compartment at the rear”.**

**So fun either way really!**



*This T.E.C needs to put on her fluoro vest..... (cool boots tho :)*



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