

**BMW Touring Club
of New South Wales**



**Member of the International Council
of BMW Clubs**

September 2019 **NEWSLETTER**



TTT Rally 2019

BMW

Touring Club of New South Wales



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NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Tony Conliffe
Al Peters

Club Website:

www.bmwtcnsw.org.au



Club Yahoo groups site

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bmwtcnsw>

CLASSIC REGISTRARS

South Coast	Steve Treloar	04397 39876 sthcoastregister@bmwtcnsw.org.au
North Coast	Damien O'Toole	0419 296 939 nthcoastregister@bmwtcnsw.org.au
Central West	No Current Officer	
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Sydney South	Graham Johns	0419 281 875 sydneysthregister@bmwtcnsw.org.au
Sydney West	Perry Gilseman	0418978781

REGIONAL RIDE CO-ORDINATORS

ACT	Dave Ramsay	02 6278 3895 actcoordinator@bmwtcnsw.org.au
Hunter	Rob Tiedeman	0425 777 461 huntercoordinator@bmwtcnsw.org.au
Mid North Coast	Position Vacant	Put your hand up if you're willing to take this on.
South Coast	Tony Schmidt	0407 494 229 sthcoastcoordinator@bmwtcnsw.org.au
Central West	No Current	centralwestcoordinator@bmwtcnsw.org.au

MEETINGS

Monthly Club Meetings	Held at 7:30pm at the Andrew Cook Hall, Toongabbie (corner Targo and Toongabbie Roads) on the last Wednesday of each month (except for December)
Sydney Social Sip	Held at 6:00pm on the last Wednesday of each month. Members gather at the Toongabbie Hotel for a chat and something to eat before crossing the road to attend the club meeting.
South Coast Social Sip	Held anytime after 6.30pm on the 2nd Friday of the month. Members gather at the Great Southern Hotel, 95 Queen St, Berry, for a chat and something to eat.
Newcastle Social Sip	Members gather anytime after 6pm on the last Thursday of the month. At the Hexham Bowling Club for a chat and something to eat.

CLUB POINT SCORE

<i>Organise a Ride or Event</i>	2
<i>Attend a Social Sip</i>	2
<i>Attend a Social night (Restaurant night, party, etc)</i>	3
<i>Attend a Maintenance Day</i>	2
<i>Attend a Day Ride</i>	6
<i>Attend a Weekend Run or Rally</i>	10
<i>Attend a Long Weekend Run or Rally</i>	12
<i>Self-written Newsletter article</i>	4
<i>Attend a Club Meeting – City Member</i>	4
<i>Attend a Club Meeting – Country Member</i>	6
<i>Attend a Night Run</i>	6



Ride & Events Calendar

Past Events August

Border Run. Carcoar Pub Stay. GP Track Run, Goulburn. Awards Night. TTT Rally.

September Events

Thur 12th	South Coast Social Sip; 2nd Thursday of the month & the location is The North Nowra Tavern 182 Illaroo Road North Nowra at 6pm	Tony Schmidt 0407 494 229	2
Fri 14 th - Sun 16 th	Dargo High plains Run. Talbotville Vic .		10
21 st – 22 nd	Far Cairn Rally – Hosted by BMW Touring Club NSW - Held at Tottenham Racecourse, approximately 3km from the town's centre. Funds raised support the Motorcycle Accident Rehabilitation Initiative (MARI)		12
Wed 25 th	Club Meeting 7:30pm. Last Wednesday of the month. Please join us for dinner before the meeting at Toongabbie Hotel from 6:00pm.	Jason Boyd 0412858880	4/6 *
Thur 26 th	Hunter Social Sip: Dinner meeting at Hexham Mossie Club (Bowling Club) Drinks from 6.00PM (last Thurs of the month)	Rob Tiedeman 0425 777 461	2
28 th – 29 th	Sidecar Rally, O'Connell, NSW	Alan Pennykid 0427393093	10

October Events

Thur 10 th	South Coast Social Sip; 2nd Thursday of the month & the location is The North Nowra Tavern 182 Illaroo Road North Nowra at 6pm	Tony Schmidt 0407 494 229	2
11 th – 13 th	37th Kosciuszko Rally – Hosted by BMW MCCA CT. Geehi Hut Campground on the Alpine Way, Snowy Mountains. Supplies can be purchased at Thredbo (43km) or Khancoban (31km). Entry of \$20pp includes a raffle ticket. Usual & unusual rally awards. Rally proceeds are donated to the RFDS (\$1000 in 2017). Firewood provided. Ever popular Germanic Kransky & salad + soft drink for \$8. Fresh egg & bacon rolls on Sunday morning with espresso or popper juice for \$6. Kosciuskzo National Park has entry fees & remember to please take your rubbish out with you.	TBC	10
TBC	Country Meeting/Get together White Hart Hotel, Murrurundi. NSW. See flyer in newsletter. Get together for a meal and drinks before meeting.	Rob Tiedeman 0425 777 461	6
Wed 30 th	Club Meeting 7:30pm. Last Wednesday of the month. Please join us for dinner before the meeting at Toongabbie Hotel from 6:00pm.	Jason Boyd 0412858880	4/6 *
Thur 31 st	Hunter Social Sip: Dinner meeting at Hexham Mossie Club (Bowling Club) Drinks from 6.00PM (last Thurs of the month)	Rob Tiedeman 0425 777 461	2

November Events

1 st – 3 rd	25th Trout Rally- Tumut Valley Riders; Jounama Creek Camp ground, opposite the Talbingo Turn off. 28km south of Tumut.	Dave Beers 0401 444 567	
1 st – 3 rd	38th Thunder Rally – Hosted by Ducati Owners Club NSW, Sheba Dam, Nundle. Date change confirmed by Aunty Mal	TBC	10
Thur 14 th	South Coast Social Sip; 2nd Thursday of the month & the location is The North Nowra Tavern 182 Illaroo Road North Nowra at 6pm	Tony Schmidt 0407 494 229	2
Sat 16 th	Movie night at Malaluka Caravan Park Spencer, BBQ dinner & breakfast at Spencer Store. Bookings 02 4377 1405, Camp it or Van it, it's up to you.	Marie Pennykid	
Wed 27 th	Club Meeting Auction night. 7:30pm. Last Wednesday of the month. Please join us for dinner before the meeting at Toongabbie Hotel from 6:00pm. *6pm COMMITTEE MEETING*	Jason Boyd 0412858880	4/6 *
Thur 28 st	Hunter Social Sip: Dinner meeting at Hexham Mossie Club (Bowling Club) Drinks from 6.00PM (last Thurs of the month)	Rob Tiedeman 0425 777 461	2

Newly & updated items are highlighted ORANGE.

4/6* City members attending a club meeting receive 4 points, country members receive 6 points.

If you have been to an event & wish to have your attendance considered for the Clubman Point score, or have suggestions for a club ride or event, please email: vicepresident@bmwtcnsw.org.au

Please also feel free to contact your local Ride Coordinator (details inside cover of newsletter)

BMWTCNSW General Meeting Minutes

31 July 2019

Chairperson – Jason Boyd

Meeting Opened – 7:40pm

Apologies – Malcolm & Marianne Cattermole, Al Peeters, Alex Spiteri-James, Rob Edgar, John Fryer & Dave Provey

Visitors – Bob Williams

Previous Minutes – June 2019

Accepted: Bob Madell with minor amendments

Seconded: Alan Pennykid

Correspondence - Not Available

Presidents report -

Jason elaborated on the items in the per previous newsletter. Requesting photos of events attended.

Committee meeting before general meeting next month.

Vice Presidents Report –

Dave Beers confirmed that the Awards Night trophy have been purchased.

43 people are attending, and the meals will be Roast Pork and Lamb, also three dessert will be available also.

Secretary's Report – No Report

Treasurers Report – as of 30 June 2019

Reserve Account: \$33218.91

Cheque Account: \$6828.19

Total Income – \$7209.09

Total Expenses - \$2331.18

Membership Secretary Report –

Marie requires more Patches for membership packs.

Memberships have been coming.

Editors Report -

A good month for articles and even a couple for next months magazine. More articles are always required.

Public Officer's Report – Not available.

Regalia – Woz will order the patches for Marie, only one XXL Jacket still available. More stock will be ordered when the current items have been sold. If any shirts or other regalia required contact the club.

Asserts & Archives – Not available

Clubs Australia –

Trevor Dean is ordering A Century of BMW as there is a 55% discount prior to the 31 July or 45% after the deadline.

Trevor will order a box and he took orders at the meeting and the club will make purchase for future prizes.

Anyone interested in the book contact Trevor Original Price is 88,00 € plus postage.

See below the minutes for information the book.

Webmaster – The domain renewal has been paid.

MCC Report – Bob Madell and Paul Loakimidis discussed items from the MCC July meeting.

Including maps of phone location on Oxley Highway and the Putty Road Suggestion of a Motorcycle Council Patrons some suggestions where made ie Duncan Gay and Ed Chapman

The Petition raised by Sonia Hornery MP, Member for Wallsend, for cheaper recreational registration and CTP insurance to dirt bike owners that will allow them to register their bikes for a reasonable cost and use them in State Forests and National Parks. To be presented to the Legislative Assembly.

Past Events – Several members attended the following rallies –

see the previous newsletter for more details

30th June - New Members Road

July

12th–14th Winter Rally.

20th – Sun 21st Apollo Rally, celebrating 50 years since man put foot on the moon

26th-28th Hat Rally.

Coming Events –

August

3- 4 Joint Ride with ACT to Carcoar details where discussed.

10 Awards night at Rylstone – meals have been organised.

23-25 TTT Rally

September

21-22 Far Carin Rally –Tottenham racecourse see General Business for comments. Early bird registration is open and payment into club account and forms are required to be emailed or posted.

General Business

Far Cairn Rally

Assistant is required to help organise this event. Jason has sent an email to the Committee for volunteers to take on tasks.

Prizes are being sort and any assistant in securing them would be appreciated.

Marie might even make sticky date pudding.

Facebook Protocol – after contacting some dealers for prizes for club events, Jason has received feedback regarding posts on the Facebook page. Historical slugging the BMW brand and the dealerships have some dealers asking why they should support us.

A reminder for all that the BMWTCNSW Facebook page represents the club and inappropriate pictures, comments and innuendos impact the clubs' image.

Jason is seeking guidance and support on this from the committee. Once the committee has consensus, guidelines will be communicated to members. The recommendation would be that Facebook moderators will remove post that are deemed to be contravene a favourable image.

Zero Tolerance might bring a stronger association with BMW dealers

Jason will check who can comment on the page and if it is a closed or public group.

Christmas Party in December

Henning discussed his suggestion for the Christmas Party. Proposed date 14 December to Greenethorpe NSW on the Olympic Way, visiting the Heritage listed Iandra Castle which they will open for us to inspect for a fee.

Meals at the pub and there is camping at the showground around the pub and limited other accommodation.

Other Items

Henning also explained the replacement of the Rectifier Diode Board which is in the previous newsletter.

Jason gave a photo presentation on Alex's and his trip from Melbourne to deliver a flat bed truck to WA with their bikes on board and the trip from Kalgoorlie to Uruala via the Great Central Road and home to Sydney

Meeting Closed at 9.30pm

About the book: A Century of BMW

<https://bimmerlife.com/2019/07/25/exclusive-deal-55-off-bmw-history-book-through-july-31/>





P residents Report

If ever there was a night to sip port beside a fire, our Awards Night was it. Unfortunately rather than that I treated my lady love Sandi to a 1 star (maybe) accommodation extravaganza in an onsite van at the Rylstone Caravan Park. I have no idea why she puts up with me? Thankfully the Awards ceremony and meal did not follow suite. I'm deliberately not saying too much about the award recipients a few were not able to attend and others may be making comment anyway, stay tuned! But a big thank you to the President of Vice, Dave Beers for finding the location and organising the event. Dave also did a cracking job of sorting out the trophies. Also a big thank you to Alison Ashby our Treasurer, keeping tabs on the attendee list and payment status. Bonus points to the Ladies and Gents that rode to the event in the snow and sleet... There was even a nomination for the Errol Flynn Award amongst the riders. This individual was hard-core enough to tent it... but forgot their tent poles. Ooops! In all a great weekend J. Now a little housekeeping... Facebook, I have a love hate relationship with it. Problems don't occur often, but paraphrasing Frank Cachia, if the wrong thing is posted it may have an impact for a LONG time, and he is right... Everyone loves when businesses support us with rally prizes (*please check the FCR sponsor's page*). Businesses may also support the Club with workshop events, training days, or discounts at other times. But if they see their Company, Brand or Corporate Profile being run down in an online forum, they ask themselves why would I? And of course, when the committee approach these businesses to ask for gifts of generosity, they make reference to that one bad post in a 1,000 from 12 months ago. That post may have been made out of frustration, or maybe they were just having some fun, but rarely is thought given to the potential impact on the Club. Please folks, post whatever you want on your own page, but remember that **the Facebook page represents the Clubs values and interests, not always yours, and we only want content that helps the club, not hurt it.** We are an official BMW Club so as a rule of thumb, if you wouldn't see it on an official BMW page, don't post it. If you think it might be inappropriate, it probably is. Only "safe for work" content please. Please don't make the Committees job any harder than it already is at prize time.

While on Facebook, a non- member mentioned that that they didn't know we were an actual club! I was genuinely surprised by this. Following is my response. So as a reminder here is my response (I am sure I have left things out, please remind me if I have).

"From a post yesterday I am surprised all "participants" of this FB page don't know the following, and that's on me for not getting this message out there... The BMW Touring Club of NSW is a real club, we have monthly meetings, newsletters and events. We have hospitality lists in the event you are on the road and need advice / help, we also have a number of BMW motorcycle specific tools available to club members for loan. The club was established in 1965 and has over 270 financial members with over 1,600 followers on our Facebook site. We literally have 1000's of years of riding experience within the club and of BMW motorcycles. We have strong affiliations with BMW Motorcycle groups in all states of Australia and many overseas. We also have strong ties to the BMW Car Club. We are an official BMW Club and try to support the official BMW Dealer Network. The Club is geared to providing information for riders that are looking to experience touring in Australia on a motorcycle. Our rally events help to support the local communities in which they are held, as well as other Not for Profit groups such as DRWINGS / MARI and The Royal Flying Doctor Service. Membership of the club is open to any interested motorcyclists. Ownership of a BMW motorcycle is not essential. If you are interested in finding out more contact me, or come along to our next meeting or to the Far Cairn Rally in September..."

So spread the word, celebrate the positives, congratulations to the Award winners and CYU all at the Far Cairn Rally!

Remember this is YOUR club and it is only as strong as the membership

Cheers, Jason
President, BMWTCNSW
Contact Email: president@bmwtcnsw.org.au

Welcome to the New members!

- Russell Paine, (Wollongong)
- Justin & Cailyn Dorward, (Lane Cover West)
- Leigh Hooper (Taree)
- Andrew Doyle (Nelsons Bay)



12th Far Cairn Rally



BMW Touring Club
of New South Wales



2019 Official Sponsors:

BMW Touring Club of NSW



The Grey Gum Cafe offers cafe style food in a country cottage atmosphere. Surrounded by massive gum trees and local birds and wildlife.
<https://greyguminternationalcafe.com/>



Sydney's oldest BMW Motorcycles dealer. Our philosophy has always been to put you the rider first. We are here to ensure you have the best riding experience possible.
<https://www.procycles.com.au/>



An Australian company who manufacture exhausts, steel mounting racks and alloy panniers. We also have soft bags, footpegs and lots of other brands available.
<https://www.barrettproducts.com.au/>



Andy Strapz specialises in motorcycle equipment. All Andy Strapz branded products are Aussie made.
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Mission: To provide Australian Adventure Bike riders with the best info they want and need
<http://www.advridermag.com.au/>

Editors Report



Welcome to the **September** newsletter. , thanks to all that made the effort and took the time to give me some material for the newsletter, it's always appreciated. This month I had some material held over from last month that wouldn't fit. If an article isn't time specific I can 'bank' them for later use. If its an article that relates to a recent event I'd rather run them as soon as possible while still in peoples memories.

Please send any material to editor@bmwtcnsw.org.au the format isn't too important as I do copy and paste any material sent into a new publisher file using the font size etc that use for the newsletter, I also have to fit the ads in around the content, trying to keep articles starting at the top of the page where ever I can. One thing you can do for me to make life easier is to put a placeholder in an article where a picture is supposed to be, if you leave it up to me it might end up anywhere or even left out completely (sorry). If I just receive a bunch of pics with no accompanying text/ article its very hard for me to figure out what to do with them and at best they'll just get dumped on a page with no sort of explanation at all (I don't know what the story is ei-

ther).

Also if you are receiving the paper magazine and you don't want to or you aren't receiving the paper magazine and you'd like to, please contact the membership secretary with the option that you'd prefer. Printing and postage of the paper newsletter is a major expense for the club, emailing the newsletter is better for the clubs finances overall.

Hopefully I'll see you at the Far Cairn Rally.

AI

A promotional banner for the Far Cairn Rally 2019. It features the event logo with a mountain peak and the number 12, the text 'FAR CAIRN RALLY MARI 2019 TOTTENHAM', and the BMW Touring Club of New South Wales logo. The event dates are '20-22nd September 2019' and the location is 'Tottenham Racecourse, Tottenham NSW The Geographic Centre of NSW'. A map below shows the rally route in red across the region, with Tottenham circled in blue.

A large advertisement for BMW GS motorcycles. The main image shows a rider in full gear on a BMW GS motorcycle performing a wheelie on a dirt road. The background is a scenic landscape with hills and a blue sky. In the top right corner, there is a box for 'Rock Motorcycles' with services listed: Sales, Service, Parts & Accessories, Rider Equipment, and Finance. Next to it is the BMW logo and the slogan 'The Ultimate Riding Machine'. At the bottom right, the text reads 'THIS IS GS COUNTRY. MAKE LIFE A RIDE.' Below this, contact information for Rock Motorcycles is provided: 175 Gordon Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444, T 02 65836655 1800 00ROCK, rockmotorcycles.com.au, and sales@rockmotorcycles.com.au.



Far Cairn Rally

BMW Touring Club
of New South Wales



20th to 22nd September 2019

The BMW Touring Club of NSW proudly presents the 12th Far Cairn Rally to raise funds in support of the Motorcycle Accident Rehabilitation Initiative (MARI).

The Far Cairn Rally is held at Tottenham Racecourse, approximately 3km from the town's centre. The course's grassy paddock is a great camp site, has hot showers and some under cover space. There is limited accommodation available at the Tottenham Hotel. Saturday night dinner and Sunday breakfast will be BBQ cooked by the local Lions Club. Breakfast is included in the entry cost along with a rally badge. Other meals are obtainable at the pub and take away shop. Grog is BYO and plentiful at the pub and supermarket. Saturday night will feature video presentations, raffle and a bonfire. Please, no fires in the grassy paddock.

Tottenham is approx 120kms north of Condobolin and 120kms west of Dubbo. The Centre Cairn monument is located 33kms out of town near Five Ways and marks the centre of NSW.



The locals are looking forward to the Far Cairn Rally as much as we are. Please remember we will be the guests of the Tottenham community, at all times please respect the township, its speed limits, showground property and the community amenities. The Far Cairn Rally is open to all motorcyclists who enjoy a relaxed ride into country NSW. Tottenham is accessible by sealed roads, as well as dirt roads for off road riders, from several directions. Please join us for dinner and drinks at the Tottenham Hotel on Friday night.

While paying entry fee is possible on arrival, please consider pre-entry and payment to help us with order quantities of badges, shirts and catering. Please ensure any pre-entries are received by xx August 2019.

Entrants Full Name:			
Pillion/Partner:			
Address/Contact details:			
Expression of interest for Friday night dinner <i>Optional</i> – Yes () or No ()			
Club (if any):			
Entry fee/ person (includes a Badge & Sunday breakfast)	\$25.00		\$
Rally Tee Shirt – SizeColour.....	\$25.00		\$
Rally Tee Shirt – SizeColour.....	\$25.00		\$
TOTAL			\$

**Please make cheques/money orders payable : BMW Touring Club of NSW
EFT available by arrangement.
PO Box 549
Ermington, NSW, 1700**

For more information: contact: **XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX**

Or visit our website : www.bmwtcnsw.org.au and follow the links for contacts.

Find us on Facebook : BMW Touring Club of NSW

For more information on MARI, have a look at this website: www.drwings.org.au

If you can't make it to the rally, please consider lobbying a donation MARI's way. Details on how to donate or get involved are included on the web page.



BMW Motorcycle Club ACT 38th Kosciuszko Rally 2019

Invites rallying motorcyclists to our 38th *Kosciuszko Rally* over the weekend 11-13 October 2019 at Geehi Flat (Hut) Campground in the picturesque Kosciuszko National Park that offers some of the best motorcycle riding in SE Australia.

[Geehi Flat Campground](#) is located on the Alpine Way with fuel and supplies available in Jindabyne 80km, Thredbo 43km (limited) or Khancoban 31km (limited) NSW.

Kosciuszko National Park (KNP) has entry fees for campers and please remember to take your rubbish out with you. You can check on local road conditions on the NSW Roads & Maritime Services website <https://www.livetraffic.com/desktop.html>.

It does cost money to organize and run rallies and we appreciate your support in buying a rally badge for \$20 that includes tea & coffee on arrival with firewood provided with grassy camping spots Swampy Plain River and on-site toilets.



Raffle tickets will be available for sale and your opportunity to win some great prizes including a BMW waterproof Roll Bag (rrp \$250) and pair of BMW Rallye gloves in your size* along with other great prizes. The Club donates proceeds of the Rally to the RFDS.



Whilst this is a back to basics rally, the Club will have a limited number of gourmet BBQ dinners and desserts on Saturday night and Egg 'n' Bacon roll breakfast Sunday with espresso coffee or juice. Soft drink and water will be available for sale. Make sure you pre-purchase your dinner or breakfast ticket at the Rally.

Need more information or have a question on the rally or Club?

- Check out the Club website www.bmwccact.org.au or [Kosciuszko Rally](#) page.
- Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BWMCCACT/>.

The BMWCCACT appreciates and thanks the support of BMW Group (Australia) and BMW Rolfe Classic Motorrad Canberra to the rally.

* T&C, BMW prizes are non-redeemable for cash or exchange and through BMWCCACT. The BMW Motorcycle Club ACT Incorporated is not responsible for any loss or damage to, by or from riders, pillion or participants attending the rally. See www.bmwccact.org.au.

19th Annual
**Pink Ribbon
Motorcycle Ride**
20TH OCT 2019



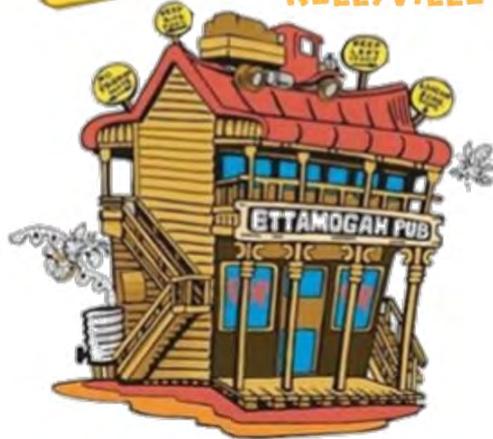
**CELEBRITY GUEST
AARON JEFFERY**



Blooms
THE CHEMIST



**THE
ETTAMOGAH**
KELLYVILLE



**Heaps of prizes to win
& a great day out
for the whole family!**

**9AM -
REGISTRATION
OR REGISTER
ONLINE
10AM - RIDE START**

**RAISING FUNDS
FOR**



WWW.PINKRIBBONRIDE.COM

BMW S1000xr (HP)

My Perceptions

-Gerry Bloemen



I guess it was my lucky day – rolled into City Coast Motorcycles, Wollongong to see what they'd give me this time. Paul (Sales manager) asked if I'd like to run a bike in for them and who was I to refuse – he asked if I'd wait awhile for them to register it and, to my joy he wheeled out a new BMW S1000XR (HP) in a spoozy colour scheme.....oh, joy!!!

What he supplied me with was what, I believe is new to the XR mix and is the HP variant which came in tricolour Motorsport White/Blue/Red livery with all the go fast/handling farfles that BMW can put on a bike and was all I could conceivable ask for.

To be honest though, as much as I like the XR's I'd had some issues with them in the past and as good as they are they hadn't overly impressed me. What turned me off was the tingles/vibration through the handlebars – but who was I to look a gift horse in the mouth. But back to the buzz resonating through the handlebars, it seems BMW have taken this to task, have rubber mounted the bars on this model and consequently I hardly noticed any significant vibration – ya hoo!

I'm led to believe the BMW S1000XR (HP), has won some bike of the year categories, all good – but how do you sum it up? Is it a superbike based ADV with acute off-road intentions or a marriage between a GS and an RR, or a copy of a Ducati Multistrada? In appearance it looks similar to an adventure bike with sporty (17") wheels on it. But is it part superbike, part super moto and/or part dual sport – probably all of the afore-mentioned. The engine is borrowed from the 200hp S1000RR and is aimed at street-performance. It kicks out some 165 Horsepower with 114Nm of torque and is extremely quick, but still compliant – though running it in I was intensely wary about not overtaking it too much – would have loved to have unleashed the 165 thoroughbreds – maybe another time. Even being gentle with it, it still had more than plenty of get up and go.

It did feel very tall, but BMW does offer a lower suspension as a factory option. Otherwise the overall ergonomics were superb, and I couldn't fault the riding position in any way. The handlebars were quite wide which may have contributed to the way the bike handled, it was just so easy to throw it into a corner and hold it where you wanted it to go, at any

speed, plus the acceleration was just electric.

Everything wasn't perfect and I thought the dash was a little dated, a mixture of analogue and LCD, it still imparted all the major functions and was relatively easy to navigate through, but I thought the TFT dash on BMW's latter machines would be more appropriate - maybe on the next model?

The brakes are phenomenal with a positive sensitive feel, super impressive twin 320mm discs with radially mounted four-pot Brembos on the front and two-piston floating calipers on the rear.

Ah, the quickshift – probably the most super smooth silky operation of any I've had the pleasure to use – big fan of it.

Now, the big question – would I buy one – sh*t yeah! But at, for this one \$29,100 ride away, plus extras that I'd have to add, such as crash bars, panniers, top-box, tank bag, etc., etc., it may be a little out of my price range.....but who knows!!!

Needless to say, the bike is available at City Coast Motorcycles, Wollongong if in need of a thrill and as always thanks to them for making it available.

As an addendum – for the unwary/uninitiated, a warning re new tyres (including those on new bikes) – it still takes a few K's to wear off the tyre mould removal agent. I mention this as some say to take it carefully for the first 20 or so K's, I usually take it a little further – however, in this case I had a clear run up Bald Hill and so was probably a bit more enthusiastic than normal and on one of the corners the rear stepped out, even with well over 100K's on the bike – didn't do much for my atrial fibrillation or sphincter.

Gerry Bloemen



Altay Mountains Ride (Siberia)

In the end of June with several friends we went to Siberia, Altay mountains region, for a 10 days ride. Its 3500 km from Moscow and so riding there and back with own bikes from Moscow requires a lot of time, so we decided to rent bikes right in Siberia from local rental company, its name is Rusmototravel, link to their web site in the end of the article. Below is my short ride report about this trip.

Mike



Altay is a fantastic region, the pearl in the crown of Siberia and one of the most amazing and beautiful places in Russia. We have long wanted to come here and finally it happened. For this ride we got a nice small group of riders, Gregory from Slovenia, he just recently started travelling with a motorcycle. Marco from Holland, an experienced rider that have been almost everywhere in the world. Andrew and Julia – my family friends from Moscow. My friend Roman "Grom", a wonderful person and an experienced rider.

I want tell you short story about our journey, share emotions and of course, encourage you for new discoveries.

Day 1

On the previous day we all met in Novosibirsk, the capital of Siberia. It is 4 hours by plane from Moscow, there is international airport in the city with regular flights from Germany, Italy, South Korea, China and other countries. We got our bikes, packed our staff and had a nice dinner in the evening. In the morning we jumped on the motorcycles, left Novosibirsk in the direction of Biysk. Total distance for today is approx 400 km.

The Federal highway is not the most exciting place, but it is a great opportunity to roll in, get used to the bike and riding in a group. During the day we stopped at the Museum of the Chuya Highway, enjoyed some old Soviet vehicles (from motorcycles and cars to the airplane and locomotive) and had a great evening at the camp site near Belokurikha.

Day 2

This day road became really cool with picturesque foothills of the Altay Mountains with serpentines and beautiful views. In Gorno-Altai we visited the Anokhin national Museum, where we saw the "Princess of Ukok" - a mummy found in the 90s in one of the mounds on the Ukok plateau.

The Museum is large and very interesting. Then we had 150 kilometers of roads in a downpour with hail, which all courageously passed and it even added certain emotions and feel-

ings. In one of the villages, where we stopped to rest, we met with a very colorful locals who took pictures of each of our motorcycle. In the evening in Artybash, we had a delicious dinner with local food.

Day 3

Early in the morning we rushed to the pier, boarded the ferry and went for a 7-hour sailing on lake Teletskoye, from the North to the South shore. This lake called the younger brother of Baikal for its elongated shape, great depth and purity.



It looks like the Norwegian fjords, the lake is narrow, surrounded by overgrown with taiga, mountains with cascading waterfalls from them. We sailed through the clouds, hovering over the water and it was just fabulous moments left no one indifferent. On the southern shore we stopped at a camp site, went to the bath - it was especially interesting to our guests from Europe. And although on motorcycles we drove quite a bit, but the day was full of impressions!

Day 4

This day the real off-road adventures began! The Chulyshman river flows into the Teletskoye lake, flowing through a mountain valley, sometimes wide, and sometimes looks like a canyon, and along this valley there is a dirt road, with small fords, sand, steep climbs and descents. And here all finally broke free, rushed raising dust and spray, scaring grazing cows and horses! In my personal rating, this road is in the Top 3 most favorite motor roads. But our goal was uchar waterfall - one of the largest in Altai and one of the most beautiful.

In order to get to it, you need to cross to the other side of the river and walk about 9 kilometers along a mountain trail, with crossings of logs through mountain streams and small crevices. The trail is very picturesque, but requires a certain



endurance, and on a hot day, which turned out to us - it was not easy. First, halfway turned back Marco, Julia did not reach just a kilometer, but Gregory, Andrew and I got to the goal and it was worth it!

Cascade waterfall with a roar falling between huge boulders is fascinating and it is deservedly popular with tourists. Admired, rested, went back and on the same road again rushed to the camp site. And here we can not say that the same road to go boring - in the morning and in the evening it appears in different lighting and return on it was no less interesting. And especially I want to mark Gregory. A man who had almost never moved off the asphalt before - very cheerfully and boldly drove the entire route, overcoming the sand and fords and deep pits, Bravo!

Day 5

From lake Teletskoye to the Katu-Yaryk pass - 70 kilometers along the Chulyshman river. In recent years, this road is expanded, rolled grader, which on the one hand makes it more accessible, but on the other hand, deprives the wild charm that were in it 10-15 years ago. This process is not very fast, but I advise you to hurry up before they start laying asphalt!

But while the road is still full of the spirit of adventure and ride on it a pleasure!

At the end is a mountain pass Katu -Yaryk , a length of 3.5 kilometers, rising from the valley of Chulyshman river on the mountain plateau where the road leads to Chuyskiy tract through the woods, fields and mountain passes which offer splendid views of snow-capped mountain ranges. Past the mountain lakes, past the horses grazing on the green meadows, through the taiga you will reach the Red Gate - a passage cut in the rocks, which preserved the historical inscription of the Soviet soldier returning from the war to his Homeland.

Many cars cannot independently climb the pass, as the lower part of it is quite steep and they are pulled by a tractor, but for motorcycles there is no special difficulty to climb it, but the pleasure of this part of the way will take a lot, especially since the top offers a stunning view!

At the intersection of the Chui and Ulagan tracts is the village of



Aktash, where we stopped for the night.

Day 6

Gregory said Chuysky trakt - the road created by the motorcycle gods. In recent years, it has been completely renovated and now it is a great quality track that crosses the entire Altay mountains. Turning from Aktash to the East, after 90 kilometers we reached the village of Kosh-Agach, near the border with Mongolia.

On the way we turned off the highway and drove into a picturesque place called Mars, named after the red-orange hills. Here, too, dirt roads, great views and a small route for walking.

Near to Kosh-Agach, on the road leading to the Ukok plateau is a religious building of the bronze age - Tarhatinsky megalithic complex. These are stones of different sizes, folded in the right circle and oriented to the sides of the sun, on which there are petroglyphs - ancient rock paintings. This place is sacred for the locals, shamans and Altaians make offerings to the spirits of

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Altai here. It is called Altai Stonehenge and it is filled with some of its own, special atmosphere. Along the road graze herds of camels, and motorcycles rushing through the steppe and leaving behind a long tail of raised dust, reminiscent of footage from the film MadMax.

We came back a little bit and drove to the Yurt Parking lot, where we listen to the traditional Altai throat singing, accompanied by playing national musical instruments. The singer-storyteller told us a little about this cultural feature of the Altai people and answered various questions. Interesting place and we all loved it.

We went further and turned into the Kurai steppe - a vast valley lying at the foot of the Northern Chui ridge and featuring stunning views. Flooded with sunlight, it makes an indescribable impression in different months, changing its shades, from green-blue in spring and early summer, to gold-blue in the second half of summer and early autumn. An amazing place that made a big impression on all of us.



And at the end of the day our group was divided - Gregory, Andrew, Julia and I went to the hot Spring lake, and an affair with Marco rushed to scout the way for Astashinsky repeater. Although the hot Spring lake to the geysers is not irrelevant, but the place is very nice and beautiful. This is a small pond in a swampy forest, where the keys are beating, creating concentric sand circles on the bottom. Beautiful place and very cozy.

Day 7

Near the village of Aktash there is a mountain with a peak at an altitude of just over 3000 meters above sea level and on which there is a repeater. In Soviet times it was a point of government communication with Mongolia, and now it is a cell tower, providing coverage of most of the surrounding area. This very place and the road to it - probably one of the most vivid impressions of the entire route and no one who went up there, does not leave indifferent. Only 12 kilometers to the top, but this short distance will require very good experience and training, "aggressive" tires and to some extent - courage.

At the side of the road leading up the spring river and its highly eroding and overcoming stones and pits requires a lot of skill, and even an affair with Marco - people who have very rich experience of off-road driving, was impressed! And this is where Marco - a man who has been in at least 20 tours around the planet, said Wow! Driving past abandoned mercury mines and rock dumps, climbing the steep gravel slopes, you will be rewarded - you will see a stunning view of the mountains and the Kurai steppe, and in good weather you will see in the distance Belukha - the highest peak of Altai and Siberia.

Because of the condition of the road, Gregory and Andrew with Julia in the morning left the bikes at the hotel and went up here in a minivan, which is much safer and the same remained under great impression.

After returning from the repeater, our team went down the Chuya Highway in the direction of Gorno-Altaysk. We stopped at the arrow Chya and Katun, photographed at Semenovsky pass and spent a wonderful evening at dinner in the hotel, standing on the island in the middle of the river.

Chuya Highway is not without reason included in the Top 10 best roads for motor trips, according to National Geographic and in the personal rating of Gregory - he took first place out of all the impressions of our journey. And I want to note the incredible purity - it is particularly struck Andrew and Julia, they have not seen anywhere else in Russia and it's really amazing! In addition to the fact that in the Altai Mountains there is no major industrial production and minimal road traffic, just on the

sidelines there is no garbage!

Day 8

As we did not want to say goodbye to Altai, but time is limited and our road lay in Novosibirsk. But we couldn't miss another great attraction - "bike post" of the Igor "Black African". This famous and wonderful man, welcomes all motorcycle travelers (and not only), providing them with shelter and a kitchen, garage and repair area with all the necessary tools. Igor has «golden hands» and many people he makes frameworks, cases or other things, especially necessary before departure to Mongolia. The man is very sincere and his «bikepost» has become a real Museum with a book of reviews and a lot of unusual artifacts. Will be in the Altai- be sure to look at him.

We all felt the atmosphere and friendliness of this place and it was the final chord in our trip to Altai. Back in Novosibirsk we had a farewell dinner.



Conclusion

It's been a great journey! We were lucky with the weather and with good people, we saw, though not all, but many of the beauty of Altai. We got invaluable experience and impressions and I hope Marco and Gregory really imbued with Russia, Siberia, its beauty and sincerity.

We all fell in love with Altai and that this journey will remain in your heart and memory forever. I hope more people will visit this region in the future to enjoy a fantastic ride.

Mike

p.s.: the company we rented our bikes from is Rusmototravel, web site is www.rusmototravel.com

I want to go Rally/Touring

-Gary Smee

Part 2 – riding gear

An occasional series intended for the new rider or current rider who wants to take up motorcycle rally/touring. It is not a definitive on how or what to do, rather provide you with a starting point to get out on the road, track or trail.

Disclaimer

Product and brand names are likely the ones I have used or using now but otherwise representative of the concept. There will be cheaper, equal or more expensively priced and other alternatives in the marketplace and therefore not a recommendation. Look around and talk with others, but definitely try them on or out.

ATGATT, All The Gear All The Time.

Helmets



My first helmet would have done Ned Kelly proud, made of fibreglass, heavy and with a narrow view port – it served me well, including through the crash that saw it written off and replaced. Head intact to my mother's joy until I went and brought another motorbike and new helmet.

There are Open, Full/Flip face, Adventure or Moto style variants. You will have a preference and often more than one

helmet to match the number and variants of motorcycles you own and ride, but medical professionals only ever advocate the full-face variants.

There is a saying "a \$10 helmet for a \$10 head" and whilst you can spend from <\$200 to >\$1500 for a helmet your helmet will be (1) new, (2) have an AS/NZS 1698 sticker (yes, there is parallel importing but for now), (3) fit properly and (4) you will look after it. If this is your first or new type of helmet, get someone in-store help to make sure you have the right shape and fit helmet for your head!

While we are here, AS/NZS 1698 does not allow for helmet attachments like cameras, lights etc. and picked up in the Australian Road Rules. So you may end up having a chat with the Police under the "do as I say not what we do" scenario. Better off to just unclip your accessory put it in your pocket, look contrite and put it back later on.

There is a price vs quality correlation. A quality helmet will fit better, be made of lighter material, have better quality liner (eg: removable and washable or have adjustment cheek pads) whilst generally quieter and subject your head/neck to less turbulence on the road.

I have tested a few helmets out on bitumen and gravel surfaces and all performed well but after a big knock, cut the strap off and throw it in the bin. They all seem to have a polystyrene liner (the crash absorbing part) between outer glossy shell and furry liner that goes hard, shrinks/compresses or cracks with time or when dropped or after bouncing down the road. Helmets are consumable like tyres – they wear out – and just another cost to our sport. Is your head really only worth \$10?

Funnily, some insurers have a separate funds bucket for riding gear and accessories to your comprehensive motorcycle insurance bucket, and encourage you to replace damaged protective gear. So check this out when you are next renewing insurance.



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Don't need to wear gloves? Then try rubbing your knuckles across the ground as fast as you can or remember what touches the ground first when you trip over. Now repeat that at 60+ kmh. There ends the lesson.

In ye olden days, winter meant heavy gloves with little tactile feel and summer saw the use of wafer thin leather or synthetic mesh gloves. I continue to see riders wear rigger and welding gloves; why is this so?

Modern gloves come in as many variants as helmets and jackets, so you will likely have and/or carry different kinds. The advent of heated grips means lighter gloves are an option for some and me all year round. Whilst the outer shell and palm continue to be the province of kangaroo skin, synthetic backing, liners and formed plastic knuckle protectors abound. Zips and or Velcro tabs will keep them on your hands and there are styles to suit the adventure rider, day rider and racer. You may laugh at the latest addition of the rubber 'wiper' blade on the index finger – until you have a pair and use it.

Waterproof and gloves is not a term that goes together that well and probably has as much to do with all the cut shapes and sewn joints. If this is a problem, there are plastic over gloves available – but do not look to them for tactile feel

Jackets & Pants



MotoCAP safety ratings assess how well garments protect a motorcyclist in a crash, based on impact protection, burst resistance and abrasion resistance.



BMW Club
A\$650.00 RRP



BMW Tourshell
A\$850.00 RRP



BMW AirFlow
A\$699.00 RRP

SAFETY	★★★★★	SAFETY	★★★★★	SAFETY	★★★★★
COMFORT	★★★★★	COMFORT	★★★★★	COMFORT	★★★★★

Ahh, the smell of Belstaff waxed cotton in high summer and everything covered in black wax. Fortunately times and materials have moved forward. As this is the Touring Club, I will limit this section to touring jackets, having four jacket variants in the seasonal cupboard.

Today textile touring jackets and pants typically comprise removable layers of inner warm and waterproof with built in armour and variable venting options. Priced from a low ~\$300 through to BMW Rallye Jacket at \$1300 (high season).

Good quality riding gear will save you a lot of pain in a crash, may enable you to simply dust off and ride away and if you decide to visit the ER department score some empathy – they still do not like motorcyclists, but we are good for business.

Exposed to the elements, your all-in-one riding suit lifespan is determined by exposure to the elements including ultra violet – sun, rain and abrasion. Therefore, someone's \$200 jacket only ever worn in summer and to three rallies a year may well be waterproof after 10 years. Whereas your \$2500 integral suit only lasted 3 years but you daily commute, are a regular GS & TS Safari participant in between 20 rallies including the Border Run and alternate year Off Centre Rally.

Like tyres, helmets and gloves, jackets and pants wear out.

Trivia: Having been scrapped off the road and transported to medical care, you will be pleased to know that the ER department is attune to the cost of riding gear and if you are conscious invite you to take your gear off (with assistance) before they cut it off. They do practise the blood rule and/or if unconscious may well find all your gear cut off and belongings thrown in the bin. For one person I know, this included their blood-covered phone; I thought a phone, wallet and keys may have warranted a sealed specimen bag, but no, to the hazmat bin it went. Have you backed up your phone lately?

The NSW government and partner agencies have set up Motocap to test and score motorcycle riding gear, check it out <https://www.motocap.com.au/>. They do not or have tested all products available in the marketplace, but will provide you a guide on brand, price and functionality.

Finally, consider having separate riding gear including undergarments and @ camp gear. There is nothing better than after a days riding to get your helmet, jacket, pants and boots off and change into rally/pub wear or go for a swim at the Club's Karuah River Rally. Having made camp, hang your gear up and let it air/dry out and if you are wet, change into dry clothes for the camp even if this means putting wet gear back on the following day.

Boots



BMW City Boots



Alpinestar Road Boots



Forma Adventure Boots

Sheepskin flying boots anyone? Fantastic when new; warm, comfortable and waterproof. They even allowed me to walk again after coming between my 3-day-old Honda CB750FA and a Volvo L along with the assistance of an orthopaedic surgeon and month stay in-hospital. With time however, they smell, get loose and flop around when walking.

Modern boots come in a range of types and styles depending on your use. I will dot point a few features but recommend boots that extend above the ankle to mid-calf. There are a host of brands and retail outlets so look around to find 'your' best fit.

Road: Leather or mix of leather & synthetic stretch panels with zipper and Velcro cover flap. Regular use of leather protectant will keep them in top condition and aid in their softening and shaping to your foot. Boot toe sliders are under no risk from me, but you can get replacements. Cheaper brands have a more generic fit and you will get a wet foot, the more expensive brands will have a taper fit, waterproof liner membrane and be more comfortable if you are planning on walking.

Adventure: A typical leather, synthetic, hard plastic and two or more buckles to ensure a secure and best fit. If you are planning on walking and riding, then shop around as with some brands you can walk all day whilst others will

not get you to the servo counter. Go up in price for more features, better quality materials and increased likelihood of having dry feet.

There are rubber over boots available and if you are trying to get your wet weather pants on; try putting a plastic bag over your foot or foot + boot.

Staying warm/cool

Layers are your friend here or have you succumbed to the heated vest phenomena or is that a clique? And remember the charging cord as the batteries have a 6-hour span.

The choice of synthetic or merino undergarments is a matter of personal preference but perform better if a firm fit and 'wick' moisture away from your skin – to heat or cool.

Followed by socks, shirt, pants and jumper. From experience, synthetic materials are easily rinsed and dry in no time. Wool looks more stylish and a must for costal stops, flannelette is okay for the hinterland, Alps and interior.

Neck warmers and bandanas. A matter of personal preference. Touring jackets will often have a collar, day/road jackets less so but in either case, these will afford protection against insects and slow that cold wet trickle of rain down your back. On hot days, when wet provide a useful means of cooling the neck and blood vessels.

Top layer. See jackets and pants, but all the modern touring jackets have vent zippers and removable waterproof and warm inner layers.

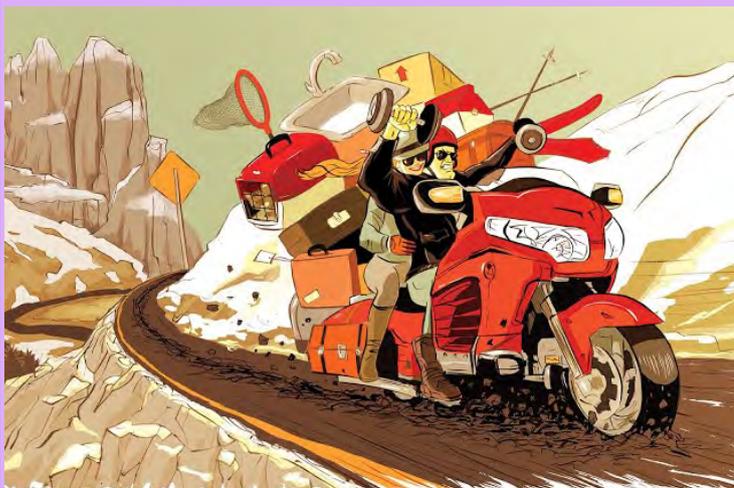
Hydration



A short note on hydration. You will always be losing moisture when riding and more so if off through your breath, sweat or simple evaporation/transpiration. Do not under estimate the fatigue factor from riding whilst dehydrated in hot or cold conditions and do not leave it to the first beer at the rally before you re-hydrate.

Options include Camelback worn bladders or take bottles of water in the pannier.

Garry Smee



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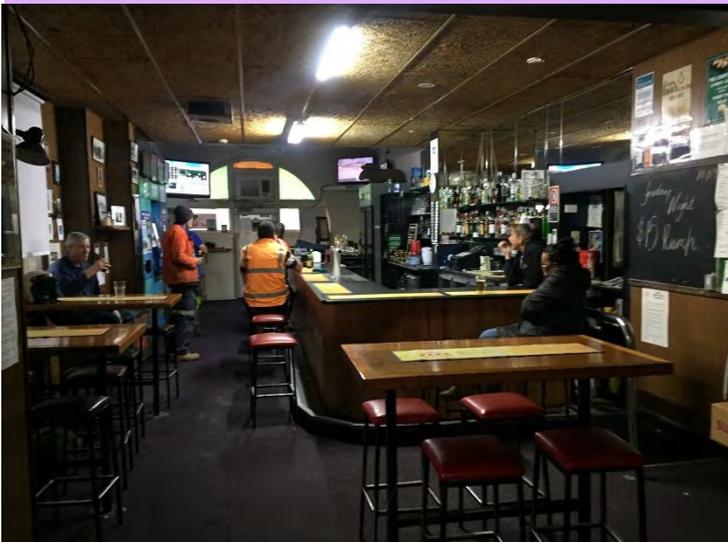
Contact: Henning hpj333@gmail.com

Club Christmas Party Proposal:

Henning is proposing Koorawatha Hotel for this years Christmas Party, with a side trip to Iandra Castle if enough people are interested (the owner will open up for a fee). Further information when its available.



The hotel



The Castle



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1st-3rd Nov Thunder Rally

16th Nov Movie Night at Spencer