

BMW TOURING CLUB OF NSW



Member of the International Council of BMW Clubs

BMW Touring Club
of New South Wales



June 2016 NEWSLETTER

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www.bmwtcnsw.org.au

Club Yahoo Email site

(members mailing list - voluntary):
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bmwtcnsw>



www.bmwclubs.asn.au
www.bmw-clubs-international.com

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 | Lin van Copenhagen | 0417 098 255 midnthcoastcoordinator@bmwtcnsw.org.au |
| South Coast | Tony Schmidt | 0407 494 229 sthcoastcoordinator@bmwtcnsw.org.au |
| Central West | No current officer | centralwestcoordinator@bmwtcnsw.org.au |

Classic Registrars

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--|
| South Coast | TBA | |
| North Coast | Damien O'Toole | 0419 296 939 nthcoastregister@bmwtcnsw.org.au |
| Central West | No Current Officer | |
| Sydney North | Craig Hancock | 0419 557 014 sydneynthregister@bmwtcnsw.org.au |
| Sydney South | Graham Johns | 0419 281 875 sydneysthregister@bmwtcnsw.org.au |
| Sydney West | Perry Gilsenan | 0418978781 |

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 Friday of the month. At the Hexham Bowling Club for a chat and something to eat. |
| North Coast Breakfast & Social Sip | Quay Lime Bar and Grill, 18 Park St, Port Macquarie from 4:30pm. |

Club Point Score

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

President's Report

The **Annual General Meeting** will be upon us at the end of the month. Please nominate those that you would like to have as committee for 2016-17. Note the current Vice President, Editor and Regalia Officer, being Al, Wato and Mick are all standing down and these positions will need to be filled with fresh meat.

The **Annual Financial Report** is due out soon and I thought I'd just include a reminder of what a big year for the Club last financial year was. What is not reflected by a simple table of figures is the amount of \$8925.27 donated to MARI was the net proceeds of FCR 2012, 2013 and 2014 that were "held in trust" pending assessment of the viability of donating to St Vincents MARI or to MARI Australia. This is well documented in many club minutes proceeding the 2015 FCR as we had a club vote to donate the amount. Because of the carry-over has skewed this year's figures for FCR and the Profit/Loss statement.

Note that we have not as yet tallied or donated the net profit from FCR 2015 this will happen again for financial year 2016-2017.

Other large expenditures in 2015-16 included the donation of \$1000 (plus member contributions) to Dungong SES and the 50th dinner subsidizing approx. 80 meals at \$35 head shown in a manner reflecting this. So given the size of the donations and expenses last year to wind up down approximately \$7200 down on the previous year is actually quite a good fund raising effort and everyone involved with rallies, other events and merchandise deserve a great big pat on the back.

It would be nigh on impossible for any treasure to account for every receipt, sticker, dinner, badge or sub individually to any individual event without working on this about 45 hours a week. The number of transactions and purchases undertaken the Club has reached business level proportions. Bob has stepped into an unenviable position with minimal familiarity with the club or its' workings and has endeavoured to the job diligently.

Ian Ramsay is organising a **Constitution Review Committee**. A note to that effect should appear in this newsletter. Do contact him and get involved because this effects your Club.

Just a quick line to say thanks to Marie, al, Marianne and Mal for organising the **Movie Night** at Spencer. What a relaxing place to be! The days were nice and warm but night-time the temperature plummeted to remind us winter is nigh. We had an attendance of about 20, it was hard to count an accurate tally because no-one stays still long enough.

Have a great June of riding everyone, lots of good stuff is coming up.

Al Peters



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held at the Andrew Cook Room,
Toongabbie Community Centre, corner of
Targo and Toongabbie Roads, Toongabbie.

WEDNESDAY 29 JUNE 2016

8.30pm (after regular meeting)

**Presentation of Club Financial Records and
Election of Committee for 2016-2017**

Above: The latte set checking out the vibe at Spencer Village Store.

Ride Calendar

| | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|------|
| MAY | | | |
| Thurs 26 th | Hunter Social Sip: Hexham Bowling club 6.00 PM for Drinks and Chinese dinner from around 6pm (last Thurs of the month) | Rob Tiedeman 0425 777 461 | 2 |
| Sun 29 th | Lost in the Fifties is a private museum of 50 American They only open 10 days a year and bookings are required Cost \$20.00 Let me know and I will book http://www.lostinthe50s.com.au/memorabilia.html | Rob 0425 777 461 | 6 |
| JUNE | | | |
| Sat 4 th | Mid North Coast Monthly Breakfast, Abundance Garden and Café 274 Rawdon Island Rd, Sancrox, NSW from 8:30am | Lin van Copenhagen 0417 098 255 | 2 |
| Fri 10 th | South Coast Social Sip Great Southern Hotel 95 Queen St, Berry (6:30 2 nd Friday of the month) | Tony Schmidt 0407 494 229 | 2 |
| Sat 11 th – Sun 12 th | Alpine Rally, last year in the bog hole at Brindabella | | 10 |
| Sun 12 th | Coffee and day ride meeting 22 Patterson Road, Bolwarra. 9.00 Am for coffee. Possible ride afterwards to be decided on the day. | Cheryl 0408 074 214 | 2 |
| Sat 18 th | Hoppers dirty day ride commencing Lagoona | Hooper | 6 |
| Sun 19 th | Mid North Coast Social Sip, Quay Lime Bar and Grill, 18 Park St, Port Macquarie from 4:30pm. | Lin van Copenhagen 0417 098 255 | 2 |
| Sun 25 th | Dayride-lunch at Sutton Forest. Meet at McDonalds Eastern Creek Westbound on the M4 from 9:30am for a 10am departure. | Alan Pennykid 0427 393 093 | 6 |
| Wed 29 th | Club Meeting and Annual General Meeting from 7:30pm. Please join us for dinner before the meeting at Toongabbie Hotel from 6:00pm | Alan Peters 0414 660 890 | 4/6* |
| Thurs 30 th | Hunter Social Sip: Hexham Bowling club 6.00 PM for Drinks and Chinese dinner from around 6pm (last Thurs of the month) | Rob Tiedeman 0425 777 461 | 2 |
| JULY | | | |
| Sat 2 nd | Mid North Coast Monthly Breakfast, Abundance Garden and Café 274 Rawdon Island Rd, Sancrox, NSW from 8:30am | Lin van Copenhagen 0417 098 255 | 2 |
| Fri 8 th | South Coast Social Sip Great Southern Hotel 95 Queen St, Berry (6:30 2 nd Friday of the month) | Tony Schmidt 0407 494 229 | 2 |
| Sat 9 th – Sun 10 th | WINTER Rally, near Nerriga. Food, beverages, gymkhana, bands, large bonfire. Popular with many of our members | Alan Pennykid 0427 393 093 | 10 |
| Sat 16 th | Annual Awards Dinner, this year at Wallerawang. Maybe come along and pick up an award? See inside this magazine for further information. | Alan Pennykid 0427 393 093 | 10 |
| Sun 17 th | Mid North Coast Social Sip, Quay Lime Bar and Grill, 18 Park St, Port Macquarie from 4:30pm. | Lin van Copenhagen 0417 098 255 | 2 |
| Sat 23 rd – Sun 24 th | Royal Hotel Carcoar Contact the hotel for bookings call 0423713095 | Cheryl Ison 0412 901 811 | 10 |
| Thur 28 th | Hunter Social Sip: Hexham Bowling club 6.00 PM for Drinks and Chinese dinner from around 6pm (last Thurs of the month) | Rob Tiedeman 0425 777 461 | 2 |
| Sat 30 th – Sun 31 st | HAT Rally, near Araluen. Basic catering, mostly BYO. Beautiful campsite in the Araluen Valley | Alan Pennykid 0427 393 093 | 10 |
| AUGUST | | | |
| Sat 13 th | OCR (Off Centre Run), meet at Mungerannie to decide where the 2018 OCR will be. | | |
| 20-21 | Country Meeting, Cowra; more details to come, watch this space | Alan Peters | |
| SEPTEMBER | | | |
| 17 th -18 th | Far Cairn Rally | | |
| OCTOBER | | | |
| 1 st – 3 rd | Cane Toad Rally (QLD) | | |
| NOVEMBER | | | |
| 11-12 | BMW National Motorrad Rally (Bright, Victoria) | | |
| 4/6* City members attending a club meeting receive 4 points, country members receive 6 points | | | |

BMWTCNSW 27 April 2016

Chairperson – Al Peters

Meeting Opened – 7.44 PM

Apologies – Paul Evans, Dave Povey, Mal & Marianne Cattermole, Bruce Campbell, Ian Emmett, Rob Edgar and John Visser.

Visitors – Nil.

New Member – Gavin Kleinhaus.

Previous Minutes – The Minutes of March 2016 Meeting were tabled.

- Acc-Andrew Watson.
- Sec-Bob Madell.

Correspondence –

- Magazines from BMW Club: NZ, Queensland and VIC.
- Westpac statements x 2.
- St Vincents Curran Foundation April 2016 Newsletter
- Orbost Club Hotel letter from Tim Behan (ex Club member) promoting the Hotel.
- 2 x new member applications.

President's Report –

- President has been sorting out some paperwork to assist the Treasurer.

Vice President's Report –

- No report.

Secretary's Report –

- Secretary reported that application has been made to Lachlan Shire Council for the approval to hold the 2016 Far Cairn Rally at Tottenham Race Course on 16 to 18 September 2016.
- The Secretary advised the meeting that he will be overseas from 19 May to 9 July 2016.

Treasurer's Report –

- Reserve Acc \$26,561.62.
- Cheque Acc \$7,873.29.
- The Treasurer reported that stocktake figures have been received for regalia.
- Other Club assets will also be taken into account for the end of year financial report.
- The Treasurer requested information regarding the location of Club assets such as tools, etc.

Membership Secretary –

- Reported around 12 new and 1 returning member this month.

Editor –

- Noted that the magazine arrived early from the printers this month.

Public Officer

- Suggested changes to the Club Constitution have been sent to the Committee for review.
- Ian reported that he would like the changes to be dealt with at an extraordinary general meeting prior to the AGM.
- Ian also stated that he is concerned that Club records are not easily available to the Committee.

Regalia –

- No report.

Assets & Archives –

- No report.

Clubs Australia –

- Trevor Dean reported that the CA AGM will be held in Melbourne this Saturday.
- Trevor will be moving a resolution for a new set of model rules for CA.
- The model rules will be on the Club's website.
- There have been changes to the make up of the executive of CA.
- A resolution that CA be incorporated will also be moved.
- Members note that there are links in the Newsletter to information regarding the BMW 100years celebrations.
- Trevor noted that CA membership numbers have increased.

Webmaster –

- No report.

MCC –

- Bob reported that the RMS are proposing a 5 year cut-off for CTP benefits. This is being opposed by the MCC.
- Ernst & Young (accountants) have advised that the benefits paid out on CTP claims re distributed as follows: Victims 44%, Insurance Companies 34% and RMS 22%.
- Rider Training Scheme – apparently there is no one person responsible for the scheme, with the result that some improper training is being carried out.
- Peter Ivanov (ex HWP) is speaking at next Monday's MCC meeting. Members encouraged to attend.

Past Events –

- New Members Ride – 28 members attended. Another Ride scheduled for October. Bob Madell thought it was a great day organised by Marie, Mal & Marianne and Vanessa.
- Back to Bendemeer – Good weekend with 12 Club members and 3 past members as well as plenty of Queensland members attending.
- Bikebiz evening – excellent evening and well attended. Proposal to organize a Saturday afternoon Club BBQ at Bikebiz later in the year if possible.

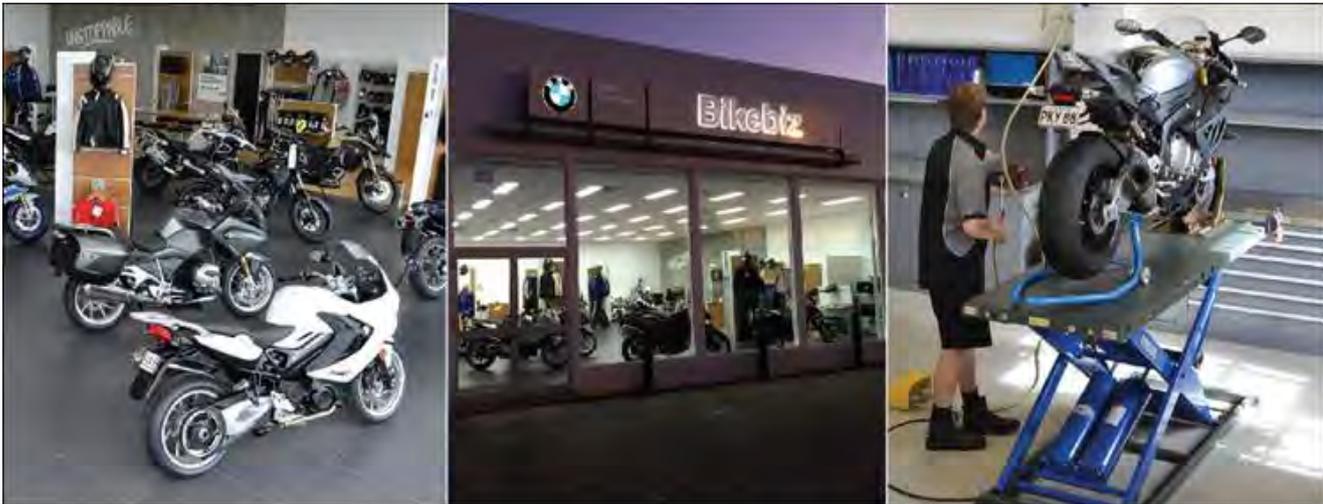
Coming Events –

- 30 April - Full Moon Camp at Mount Wilson.
- 14-15 May – Camping Weekend at Woko.
- Target Shooting Weekend at Ilford.
- 14-15 May Movie Night at Spencer.

General Business –

- Trailer Hot Water Service – Warren Buffet tabled a proposal to replace the existing trailer HWS with a new portable HWS at a cost of \$399.
- A motion was proposed that funds be allocated for the purchase of the new HWS up to a limit of \$1,000. Proposed by Ian Ramsey, seconded by Bob Madell. Motion carried unanimously.
- Christmas Party – It was proposed that Majors Creek, south of Braidwood, be the venue for the 2016 Christmas Party.

Meeting Closed: 9.16 PM



WELCOME TO BIKEBIZ BMW MOTORRAD

We are pleased to welcome you to our BMW Motorrad dealership in Sydney, Bikebiz Granville.

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New Members Ride – Wiseman's Ferry – April 17th, 2016

(Photo credits: Gus E Dalence)



Meeting at Berowra Shell

If you are a new member that would like to introduce yourself, if you are a rider interested in joining, if you are an existing member that would like to meet some of the newest members, or you just want to shake the cobwebs out of your bike/self; this hopefully is a ride for you. And bring a friend if you can. Not too challenging the aim is just an enjoyable ride with some socialising at the end.

Alan and I rolled into the meeting point early to find Cliff ready and waiting to go, keen as mustard. I had already had a couple of people drop out with concerns about the weather, but the ride was going ahead regardless.

By 10am, we had 19 people on 17 bikes ready to go. The ride was via Calga, Central Mangrove and Spencer, pleasant and uneventful, picking up another bike as we turned onto George Downes Dr. A few spots of rain, but mostly dry.

A group crossing on the ferry at Wiseman's, and into the park, where Mal and Marianne were waiting with our lunch. A few more riders met us here.

Attendees were: Steve Brine, Jamie Burke, Mal and Marianne Cattermole, Gus Dalence, Steve Dickson, Alan Eller and Chris, Paul Evans, Peter and Zina Fardoulis, Gavin Kleinhans, Steven and Sandy Korres, Bob Madell, Venesser Oakes, Damien O'Toole, Cliff Palmer, Alan and Marie Pennykid, Alan Peters, Ian Ramsay, John Rayner, Trevor Sadler, Michael Sarah, Adrian Selwyn-Smith, and Simon (?) a visitor.

Thanks must go to Mal and Marianne Cattermole for organising the food (yet again), to Mal, Alan Pennykid and Venesser Oakes for cooking and getting the food out, to all of those that help to get to food from the Patrol to the BBQ and back again, and those that helped in the clean-up.

And thanks to everyone for turning up and making it a great ride

Marie Pennykid – Membership Secretary



Parking at Wiseman's Ferry Park



'Cause I like it!



R 100 R



Having a chat.



Bob seems to be enjoying himself!



The cooks!

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City Coast Motorcycles
 262 Keira Street, Wollongong
 T 02 4228 7392 citycoastmotorcycles.com.au

WEEKEND on the WILLIAMS RIVER

GLEN WILLIAM

The Hunter Group would like to invite all members to attend our annual camping weekend on Stuart and Kate's farm which is about 10 Km south of Dungog, on the Banks of the Williams River on the weekend of 15/16 October 2016.

Stuart & Kate's Farm is at beautiful Glen William, with an Ideal Camping spot by the creek on the Banks of the Williams River. There will be 3 kayaks available for a quiet paddle around. If driving up your welcome to bring their own canoe/kayak and try your hand at a spot of fishing.

For others, time to relax, have a beer and a chat.

Stuart has been collecting fire wood for a HUGE bonfire so we will not get cold.

This year Stuart & Kate will provide the food to save us the trouble of carrying our own and we will have a large group BBQ. BYO Drinks (Bottle shop 8km away) there will be eskies available to keep your drinks cool.

A portable toilet and plenty of Fresh water will be at the camping site.

New Members

Andrew Johnston
Steven Booker and Valerie Chang
Huw Davies and Iona Steinle

Derek and Hanako Manning
Andrew and Katherine Sherrard

Annual Awards Dinner

Date: 16th July, 2016
Location: Black Gold Country Cabins,
Wallerawang, NSW

Come along to celebrate the annual awards dinner, to be held at Wallerawang. Dress up for a change, spouses and partners very welcome.

The dinner is where we present the awards for our most active members (and some other awards):

THE AWARDS

- *Clubman and Runner-up* for the most active members in the club
- *Country Clubman and Runner-up* for the most active country members.
- *Most active new member:* for the most active newly joined member in the previous 12 months.
- *Presidents award*
- *Editors Award*

THE DINNER (alternate serves)

- *Entrée*
 - *Mini Duck Spring Rolls*
 - *Salt & Pepper Squid*
 - *Stuffed Mushrooms (v)*

- *Main*
 - *Crumbed Lamb Cutlets*
 - *Pan Fried Chicken Breast Fillets*
 - *Grilled Barramundi*
 - *(All of the above served with appropriate sides of chips & salad or vegetables & mash & sauce on the side)*
 - *Bruschetta Pasta (v)*

- *Dessert*
 - *Apple Pie*
 - *Panna Cotta*
 - *Cheesecake*

The cost of the dinner is \$50 per head, this should be booked with the Vice-President and paid to the club account or paid directly to the Vice-President on the night. The club will pay the venue in one payment for the dinner. Please RSVP the Vice President to inform you will be coming and how many by 13/7/16 so he can inform the venue of final numbers attending the dinner.

ACCOMODATION

To be booked individually and paid direct to the venue:

Black Gold Country Cabins, 121 Main St, Wallerawang:

Online bookings: www.blackgoldcabins.com.au, Phone: 02 6355 7305

*Please tell them you are with the **BMW Touring Club Awards Dinner** when booking*

- ***Motel Units*** includes \$10 Breakfast voucher / room \$140 extra person/s \$10ea (Queen & Single Beds/Queen & Double Sofa Bed, Bathroom, Small Kitchenette, Flat screen Television)
- ***Cabins – 3 or 4 Bedrooms*** \$195Min (Cabins either 3 or 4 bedrooms, full kitchen, Bathroom, dining, & lounge room) Pricing Varies on how many people you have staying in your cabin \$195 is for 3 or less, Extra adult \$45 per person & extra child is \$25 per person
- ***Villas– Two Storey 3 & 4 Bedrooms*** \$225 Min (Villa's either 3 or 4 bedrooms, Full kitchen, Bathroom, Dining area & lounge Room) Pricing varies on how many people you have staying in the Villas. \$225 is for 3 or less people any extra adults are \$55 per adult.
- ***New Deluxe 4 bedroom Villa two storey*** \$255 Min (2 bathrooms, 2 queen rooms, 2 king singles in each upstairs bedroom, kitchen & living area downstairs) Pricing varies on how many people you have staying in the Deluxe Villa \$255 is for 3 or less people any extra adults are \$65 per adult.

BMW CLUBS AUSTRALIA MOTORRAD RALLY BRIGHT, VICTORIA, 11th to 14th NOVEMBER 2016.

BMW CLUBS AUSTRALIA (CA) is the conduit body, which encompasses all BMW car and motorcycle clubs in Australia. Each year, through the assistance of one of its state clubs, CA sponsors a national event. Traditionally, this has been organised by one of the car clubs. However, in 2014, the BMW Motorcycle Club ACT offered to and ran a successful rally at Lake Cargelligo, NSW. Congratulations are due to the ACT club for running an event that was enjoyed by all that attended. Since that time, CA has indicated that this national event should be shared between the car and motorcycle clubs on a revolving biennial roster. When nominations were called for the 2016 motorcycle event, our own BMWCCVIC was quick to volunteer and offer Victoria as the host club. A small group of members got together to put this all together and this is their story (to date).

Whilst every state or territory in this great nation can boast of many fabulous locations for a rally, we in Victoria are specially blessed with options. When deciding on a destination for a national rally, consideration was given to the following major factors;

- The options in the region for various top quality road and off-road (GS) rides.
- The ride to the destination for not only our Victorian members but also for those of you travelling from all other states/territories. Remember, this is a national event.
- The destination. Somewhere where there are many other attractions apart from great rides. A town that welcomes visitors and caters for them.
- Adequate and attractive accommodation options for different requirements (camping, bunk house, shared cabins and motels).
- In general, a fun place to visit and remember.

Bright ticked all the boxes for our selection criteria and was favoured by all. The time of year was also critical and many factors had to be considered. Weather was critical and late spring is a wonderful time in the Ovens Valley, tucked up under the Victorian High Country. After the football season (whichever code) and before the Christmas rush and school holidays. Mid-November was an obvious choice.

To date, the organising sub-committee has been hard at it with a lot of arrangements already in place. We have secured firm accommodation options and have planned many rides, which will be offered as options, both on and off road. The traditional rally dinner will be held on the Saturday evening and, on the Sunday evening, we will enjoy an adventure film night that is being offered. In addition, for a limited number (based on first registered, best dressed), there will be an off road training course offered on the Saturday morning for those who wish to brush up their skills. Part of this training will be an afternoon GS ride on dirt roads, where the professional trainers will ride with the trainees and help fine-tune their techniques.

The main function of this early notice is to encourage those of you who need time to plan your leave around workplace dates and to plan for the rally timeframe. It is an "All weekend program". Registration at the event is in Bright from afternoon and evening of Friday 11th Nov. The rally will conclude on morning of Monday 14th Nov. after breakfast. For most, this will mean having the Friday and Monday made available for travel to and from the event.

Timely bulletins will be sent to each state club as well as being posted on the BMWCCVIC website (www.bmwccvic.org.au), the club members' forum and Facebook page with notices and reminders of updates. Expect to see notices and flyers in your respective club notices and websites during April. Pre-registration will open electronically on July 1st and close on September 25th.

A special note on accommodation

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Ride report on the Suzuki DL1000A Vstrom

Oh, baby you're the only thing in this whole world that's pure good and right,
And wherever you are and where ever you go, there's always going to be some light,
But I gotta get out, I gotta break out now before the final crack of dawn,
So we gotta make the most of our night together, when it's over you know, we'll both be so alone.
Bat out of Hell – Meatloaf – 1977

It all started innocently enough. I was on day 2, on a week long ride to Adelaide with Evan my son. We were at the start of the Great Alpine Way in Victoria, when the text came through. My wife's Mum had just passed away. I rang Gail immediately. She told me the details of her Mum passing. There was no indication of ill health or problems. At the end of the conversation, Gail said there was no need to come home. Yeah, Right. Maybe so, but I have to be with my wife in her time of need.

We made it to Wangaratta that evening. There was no quick way home from the Victorian Alps. Glenn and Evan weren't going to let me do the Hume Hwy shuffle after the ride we had just had. So it was decided that I would leave early the next morning, Glenn and Evan were to keep riding. At the time, I was riding a K1200GT 04 BMW. If you had to be home quickly, this was the FA-18 of motorcycles to do it. I won't say what speed I was doing on the Hume Hwy, but if I had of been caught and didn't have a sympathetic judge, I was going to go to jail and be walking for a long time at the very least. To tell you the truth, that ride scared me. I was in agony when I got home, as I was doing fuel to fuel stops only. The riding position really screwed with my knees, not to mention the pain in the rest of the body from high speed hauling. I'm a year shy of 60 and we old guys don't do that shit any more unless our Mother in Law passes away and we are in the Victorian Highlands.

This event played on my mind for months afterwards. I have ridden BMW sports tourers all my life and it was time to step back. The K1200 was the pinnacle of my BMW motorcycle ownership and I had owned R100s, a Honda Goldwing with sidecar, K100RS, K1100LT, R1100RS, two R65's plus a smattering of smaller motorcycles and my ST1100 that I gloriously destroyed on the 2nd Far Cairn Rally, launching myself into modern BMWTC club history.

One evening I mentioned to Gail that it was time for me to sell the K1200GT. It was now becoming way too much motorcycle for me and if I kept riding the way I ride, there was a darn good chance of me launching myself onto the Astral Highway. We had lost Ian Horsbrough last year to a dumb accident with an emu, so I wasn't keen on joining Ian in Valhalla just yet. Gail rounded on me in her very very occasional rendition of a pissed off guard dog.

“No more BMW’s, no European and definitely no American” she shouted. I was stunned, I had been riding BMW’s since before we met and owned BMWs for the 38 years since we have been together. Except for the time I binned a R65 coming home from work and we were that poor that I bought a \$1,000 CX 500 Honda to see me through the rough patch we were having.

“What choice does that leave me” I cried.

“You figure it out”

“Why”

“Because I’m sick of you throwing money at European Bikes, I have seen your mates throwing money at their American bikes. You are always fixing something on them and I am sick of forking out money for them.”

Glen and I were at the 2014 Motorcycle show in Sydney this year. I was looking for a replacement for



my K1200. Too American, too Cruiser, too European, too gay, too small, and all were too expensive. We happened onto the Suzuki stand. I have always had a soft spot for the Vstrom, since I had owned a DL650 Vstrom. That thing was a giant killer, butt ugly and on quite a few rides I was sneered at by the local sports bike riders who told me they don’t wait for slow riders. To which I shrugged my shoulders. By the end of the ride they were asking me what the hell has that 650 Strom got in it. “A good rider” I replied. Which funnily enough, I sold six years ago to buy the K1200.

I was looking at the DL1000 and I liked the cut of it’s jib, I wasn’t listening to the salesman at the time. Glenn said “Did you hear that?” I said, “Hear what”? 2014 DL1000A new Vstrom \$14,000, \$15,000 on road with a \$1,000 of extras to bring back the sale price to \$14,000. Before I knew it, I had signed on the dotted line and was the owner of a brand spanking new Vstrom. How simple was that. Now to tell Gail.

Anyway, Gail is talking to me now. You see I hit her with 100% get out of jail, husband clause. “You said, no BMW, no European and no American.” Well, all husbands know that look, where you have clinched the darling bride on a technical point, but best not go to sleep for the next few days.

The Bike

As much as the world press touts the new DL1000 Vstrom as an adventure tourer, Suzuki themselves describe the bike as a road bike with off road capabilities. I think this refers to the old 1000 Vstroms though. The new model DL1000A is called the “Adventure”. That may be so, but what motorcycle company puts the oil filter and whopping big MACK truck radiator in front of the engine, unprotected, then says, “here I made an adventure bike”. Adventure usually means where does this fire trail go or I can cross the Simpson Desert on a tarted up highway motorcycle. Anyway, surely Suzuki could have thought of a better name, something like the DL1000 Vstrom Tsunami. Call me sceptical, but jees, Suzuki make the DR650, one of the all-time great dual sport bikes. The blood lines are there.

I have been asked to compare the Vstrom to a GS BMW, well to tell you the truth, I can't, because I have never ridden a GS. I don't intend to ride a GS and frankly I have no interests in GS's. As I have stated before, my heart lies with sport tourers. Still I acknowledge that GS's are a great bike and they are the top of the game on the Adventure bike scene, even though all other marquees seem determined to bring out their own versions of Adventure Bikes.

The new Strom comes with a bit of technical gear, two level traction control, which can be turned off on dirt roads, ABS, SCAS Suzuki Clutch Assist System for smoother down shifting (Slipper Clutch), 6 speed gear box, which is very smooth up and down the gear changes, excellent head lights, 19 inch front wheel, with Bridgestone Battle wing tyres as standard.

The instrument cluster has a huge tacho, digital speedo and gear indicator all nicely sized, but I don't see why a huge tacho is needed. It's not that sort of high performance bike, where you need to be checking your revs all the time. Also, on the instrumentation deck is a clock, fuel gauge, temp gauge, traction control setting, odometer and two trip meters, but they are too small to see for us elder gentlemen or people with poor eye sight to see clearly. Give me good old analogue gauges any time.

The thing that I'm still coming to grips with is the power range. The old saying of don't wish for something because it may come true rings true for the new Strom. It's not sports bike power that Suzuki are great at pumping into a motorcycle engines. Suzuki have made the power range between 4,000 to 6,000 revs, so it's a great bike for cutting traffic, over taking at legal speeds and generally a fun bike to ride at legal and slightly above legal speeds, but at anything above 140 kph, the thing is flat and very unexciting. Still, getting caught by ploddy at 140kph means your wallet is going to get a smacking.

Fuel tank is a 20 litres. Due to the design of the engine management system, you still get a good range of 300 klm, even the way I ride. It's a very tall bike and I find the upright position excellent for my hips and knees. The seat is good but could do with softer padding for those long rides, but it is a colder bike to ride than the excellently faired K. Winter riding will be interesting this year. Will be great in summer though.

I have also just fitted an aftermarket exhaust pipe onto the Strom. With the V-twin motor, it gives it a

nice deep throated rumble without shattering windows. Also the Strom runs much cleaner from the traffic lights now. Once again not earth shattering get away speeds, but it now has confidence getting away from the lights.

The original price was \$15,500 plus ORC, and everything else is classed as extras. So if you take the basic bike, then option it to a tourer, don't be surprised to be walking away with a \$20,000 Vstrom.

The most disappointing extras were the Vstrom panniers, \$1,800 and they are even smaller than the K1200GT panniers!

So what did I get with my \$1,000 package, Centre stand, taller screen, decal kit, radiator wings, oil filter guard, crash bars, Suzuki Vstrom bike cover. Not a bad deal for my \$14,000 if you ask me. As for carry gear, I use a gear sack for the back and soft throw overs for saddle bags, costing me around \$250 from MCA. That saved me a whopping \$1,550 on the



Suzuki pannier system. If not more because I haven't included a Suzuki top box. I bought a tank bag and an aluminium bash plate, costing me around \$500 and my bike is 100% ready to tour.

The Happy After Bit.

I have had the Vstrom for 6 months now. Honestly, it is not as refined as the BMW's I have owned. For example my K1200 was \$28,000 when first released, the XR1200, R1200RS and the R1200GS are all around the \$28,000 mark, when you include all the going to Church gear on them, excluding the variances. Base models are much cheaper. So if it was as refined as the BMW I would be surprised. I have ridden into Karuah on the Vstrom and it was excellent on the dirt. I am no Gaston Rahier, but it feel very safe and comfortable on the dirt. I got caught in a huge rain storm on the twisty roads between Dungog and Singleton. I set the traction control to setting one and I had no issues in the wet what so ever, in fact, I was riding quicker than the little hairs on the back of neck felt comfortable.

We just came back for a weeklong trip to Queensland crossing the ranges numerous times on the Oxley, Waterfall Way, Gwydir, Bruxtner Highways, Summerland Way and the Lions road, in the wet and perfect conditions and not once had a oh shit moment. The bike handled the rough, pot holed twisties excellently.

Overall the Vstrom may not suit most people, but if you are on a budget and you want to join the Adventure Touring market or just want some moderate fun, reliable and relatively cheap bike to run and maintain, the Vstrom is certainly worth a look.

Mick Furchert.

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Take Spares

It had been a great ride, an almost unhindered charge up the Putty Road and a fairly quick sprint Scone to Tamworth: clear skies, warm weather. A quick stop to refit a wayward visor and the proverbial hit the fan.

It started with a couple of hesitations under acceleration (felt like dirty fuel) and then evolved into triumphant backfires. A check of fuel availability and the security of the battery terminal bolts saw trouble-free progress for a few kilometres, then the issue reoccurred. Meanwhile, the other members of the crew had stopped for the traditional pee in the table drain and not so usual 'bark' in the gutter. Mate Woody was quite unwell after a day in the saddle of a Postie Bike.

This was meant to be Team R80 airheads weekend away at the property, but it was rapidly unravelling. We battle on with my R80 having spells of good operation and others of sheer intermittent power failure. Great as you approach slow corners unsure of whether there would be power or not. Not that an R80 actually has any power, however, the available donkey is useful. By the time we reached the bustling metropolis of Upper Horton, the engine had once more stopped. The battery was considered suspect and the dreaded Hall Effect 'can' failure distinct possibility. I don't hear of a Roff, Rooth or Harris failure (will not often), however, when the Hall Effect unit does go haywire, you are left beside the road.

We got going again. River and creek crossings are always a bit hairy at night. I had the vision of the R80 failing in the middle of the Horton River. Those obstacles passed without drama, but the Oregon Hill finally stopped the show. No fire Ma and not enough battery to turn the motor over. Mobile reception doubtful five kilometres from destination. Woody was despatched for assistance, and the one kilometre push up a hill commenced. Jacket and helmet off but the German junk is hardly light.

By the time we had reached the crest of the hill, reinforcements had arrived the 1999 Hi Lux workhorse Ug, daughter Amelia and Woody. We had some help but hoisting the junk onto the back was going to be a challenge with inadequate planks for the purpose. So we pushed (not happy to leave the bike in the paddock of a less than cooperative neighbour and black Angus cattle) and pushed, the lights of the Hi Lux showing the way. It became tiresome trudging through the night, but we made the five kilometre trip, then hooked up the battery charger and assembled for beers, rum and dinner.

Hopeful of an easy fix, deep down I know that nothing was going to be simple.

Sure enough, the battery failed to recover, Johnno (Moreena's manager) fired off into town to pick up some other gear and a replacement battery (of some sort). By midday, he returned with a battery, however, no amount of cranking delivered life to the engine. No spark, the Hall Effect can! fell under suspicion and the coil. We changed the can – no luck. Brian swapped ignition coils – no luck. Frustrated, he deduced the HE wasn't properly seated. At last the clatter of the R80. Some guesswork, timing and the junk was mobile. Brian, the ever willing spannerman, reassembled the various R80.

Woody kindly manufactured a new bracket for the trigger unit but it all got too hard.

It was time for beers, backyard cricket, red wine and a big beef roast as the sun settled behind the Nandewar Ranges. Of course, next day, Brian's bike refused to fire up once he was suited to leave – loose battery terminal.

It was a slow return (maximum speed 120 km/ph), but the fitment of the new matching trigger will solve that. Rain, sun, rain, cold. It was nice to turn into the back lane and kill the clatter. Thank goodness I'd grabbed the Hall Effect kit as I packed up for the weekend!

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Alpine Motorcycle Rally No 47

** Australia's Longest Running Rally * Since 1969 **

Last Rally to be Held at 'Tinut' Brindabella

Queens Birthday – June Long Weekend

11 - 13 June 2016

- All motorcyclists (no cars) are invited to be a part of the last rally to be held at 'Tinut' (private property), midway between Tumut & Canberra. The site is approx 8 km up the Brindabella Valley Road on the eastern side of the Goodradigbee River, just follow the signs and turn right into the 'Tinut' gate. 
- Please remember to bring some previous Rally photos for the albums and sharing. If you have videos or links please send to Henning (email below).
- Your presentation will be 9 am Sunday. The usual activities will be experienced.
- With this year being the last at 'Tinut' in Brindabella, it's been suggested that we show our appreciation to the owners, and as such, the entry fee has been slightly inflated to provide a small 'Thank You' for allowing us the use of their beautiful property over the years. In total, 11 Alpine Rallies @ 'Tinut' in 20 years.
- Also, to try and encourage younger riders to attend, this and other rallies, so we don't lose our tradition, the three youngest riders under 22 years of age will have their entry refunded (or free on the day)
- Note that the route has approximately 50 km of good dirt road
- Inclusive at site: weather, firewood, water, good mates and matettes!

DON'T FORGET TO BRING A TOWEL FOR YOUR LAST HOT BATH IN THE BUSH!

Alternative Routes for the adventurous:

For those of us who prefer a more challenging ride, one could consider travelling via Wee Jasper, Long Plain, Rules Point, Brindabella, Broken Cart, Tantargara Dam or Sue City, etc. Please obtain detailed maps prior to travel.

RALLY COST: Prepaid entries close 3 June 2016.

\$27 PREPAID and \$30 ON SITE.

Please send details to: Henning Jorgensen, 71 Marine Pde
NORDS WHARF NSW 2281
For more details, please phone –
Henning: 0457034488 or hpj333@gmail.com
or Phil on 0429 173353

As usual any profit will go to the Snowy Care Flight Helicopter Service

Website: <http://alpinerally.webs.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/AlpineMotorcycleRally>

No responsibility will be accepted by the organisers or land owners for any loss, or damage to persons or equipment.

APPENDIX 2

FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

BMW Touring Club of New South Wales Incorporated
(Incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act, 1984)

I, _____, Membership no: _____
(full Name)

of, _____
(Address)

Postcode: _____

being a member of the BMW Touring Club of New South Wales Incorporated.

Hereby appoint _____
(full name of Proxy)

of, _____
(Address)

Postcode: _____

being a member of that incorporated association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the general meeting of the club (annual general meeting or special general meeting, as may the case may be) to be

held on the _____ day of _____ 20____ and at any adjournment of that meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote in favour of/against (delete as appropriate) the resolution
(insert details)

To be inserted if desired

(Signature of member appointing proxy)

Date: _____

NOTE: A proxy vote may not be given to a person who is not a member of the association/club

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS
BMW Touring Club of New South Wales Incorporated

(Incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act, 1984)

At the AGM in June, all positions are declared vacant, and all nominations will be voted on by the membership present. It is not essential for all committee positions that you attend meetings regularly.

All nominations must be accepted by the nominated person.

President:

Responsibilities include chairing meetings and representing the Club. Currently held by **Al Peters**.

Vice President:

Responsibilities include keeping track of the Club members' points score and looking after the presidents' responsibilities when the president is not available. Currently held by **Al Pennykid**.

Secretary:

Responsibilities include looking after incoming/outgoing communications with the Club, keeping the minutes of meetings. Currently held by **John Rayner**.

Treasurer:

Responsibilities include keeping all financial records of the Club's operations. Currently held by **Bob Madell**

Membership Secretary:

Responsibilities include keeping records of the club membership. Currently held by **Marie Pennykid**.

Editor:

Responsibilities include preparing and publishing the Club's monthly newsletter. Currently held by **Andrew Watson**.

Assets and Archives Officer:

Responsibilities include managing the security of; and access to Club assets. Currently held by **Mal Cattermole**.

Regalia:

Responsibilities include selecting, sourcing and selling Club regalia items. Currently held by **Mick Furchert**.

Public Officer:

Responsibilities include preparing and filing the Club's documents with the Department of Fair Trading. Currently held by **Ian Ramsey**.

Editorial Assistants (not fixed):

Responsibilities are various and negotiable. Currently held by **Tony Conliffe**, (Distribution), **Vacant** (Magazine and Web Advertising).

BMW Clubs Australia Representative:

Responsibilities include liaising with the BMW Club umbrella body. Currently position **Trevor Dean**.

NSW Motorcycle Council Representative/s (up to 2):

Responsibilities include representing our club within the NSW MCC and reporting NSW MCC activities back to our Club. Currently represented by **Bob Whitehead and Mick Goodwin**.

Regional Ride Coordinator role:

These roles are not elected committee positions. The role is voluntary and filled by a person interested in organising rides for Club members in their region. It is the channel that local members can propose rides via the coordinator, so that they arrive in the calendar via the VP and with minimal or nil conflict with other Club events.

| BMW Touring Club of NSW Inc NOMINATION FORM | |
|--|--|
| Your Name : | |
| Your Signature : | |
| Your Membership Number : | |
| <i>Position Nominated</i> | <i>1. Nominated Member 2. Nominated Member's Signature</i> |
| President | 1. 2. 3. |
| Vice President | 1. 2. 3. |
| Secretary | 1. 2. 3. |
| Treasurer | 1. 2. 3. |
| Membership Secretary | 1. 2. 3. |
| Editor | 1. 2. 3. |
| Assets & Archives | 1. 2. 3. |
| Public Officer | 1. 2. 3. |
| Regalia | 1. 2. 3. |
| Editorial Assistants | 1. 2. 3. |
| BMW CA Representative | 1. 2. 3. |
| NSWMCC Representative/s | 1. 2. 3. |

Nominations must be received by **22 June 2016**.

Please post without delay to:

BMWTCNSW PO Box 549, Ermington, NSW 1700

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL



APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

BMW Touring Club of New South Wales Incorporated
(Incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act, 1984)



The BMW Touring Club of NSW was founded in 1965, with an initial membership of 15 and we celebrated our 50th anniversary in November, 2015. The aim of the club is to provide a social medium for BMW riders and motorcycle touring. It is not necessary for you to own a BMW motorcycle to join the club. There are a wide range of activities throughout the year, ranging from regular day rides, rallies (local, interstate and other BMW club rallies), runs with interstate BMW clubs and camping weekends. We have gained a large number of trophies from our attendance at rallies. The club also has regular maintenance days (where you can tap into a vast range of knowledge from our members). We have spare parts available at a slight discount for members and a variety of special tools for use when servicing, repairing or replacing components. We also have social evenings, an annual presentation night/dinner and a Christmas party. The club encourages family involvement in all events.

Current Membership Number: _____

I, _____ and _____
(full name of applicant) (additional person/s)

of _____

(Address) Postcode: _____

Preferred Telephone Numbers. 1) _____ 2) _____

E-Mail: _____ Do you wish to be on the Club's E-Mail list? Yes/No

Motorcycle/s Make, Model & Year: _____

I hereby apply to join/renew my membership of the above named incorporated association and I agree to be bound by the rules of the club for the time being in force.

(Signature of Applicant) Date: _____

I, _____
(Full Name & Membership No.)

a member of the BMW TC of NSW or a BMW dealer, nominate the applicant to the committee, for membership of the BMW TC of NSW.

(Signature of Proposer) Date: _____

I, _____
(Full Name & Membership No.)

a member of the BMW TC of NSW, second the nomination of the applicant, for membership of the BMW TC of NSW.

(Signature of Proposer) Date: _____

If an existing member introduced you: Introduced by: _____

Is this a Renewal New Application or Joint Application (please circle one)
 Joining fee \$ 10
 Annual Membership fee \$ 50 per year (city or country membership)
 Total amount payable \$ _____

Mail to:
BMW Touring Club of NSW
PO Box 53
Rydalmere BC
NSW 1701

(Make all cheques and money orders payable to **BMW Touring Club of NSW**)

NOTE: 1/ All membership fees are due by 1st July each year.
 2/ Membership not renewed by 1st August will be considered as a resignation of membership.

If undeliverable return to:
BMW TOURING CLUB OF NSW
PO Box 549
ERMINGTON NSW 1700
Australia

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Watch out for:

11th – 12th June

Alpine Rally

29th June

AGM

20th August

BMW 100 years

11th – 14th Nov

BMW Clubs Aus Rally